

# Bethel United Methodist Church

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 26, 2023

Pastor Ralph Wrightstone

Music Director: Travis Oaks

### Lectionary Scriptures

**This Week:** Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

**Next Week:** Matthew 21:1-11; Psalm 118:1-2,19-20; Matthew 26:14-27 or 27:11-54

**Prelude:** "Sing Alleluia to the Lord"

**Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries**

**\*Hymn:** "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High" TFWS 2088

**\*Responsive Call to Worship:** *on opposite page*

**\*Affirmation of Faith** (Apostle's Creed).....UMH 881

**\*Gloria Patria**.....UMH 71

**Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings**

**\*Doxology**.....UMH 95

**Scripture Reading:** Romans 8:5-11

**Joys, Concerns, Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer**

**Special Music** "Holy Water" Trisha and Travis

**Message:** "When Time Stands Still"

Scripture: John 11:1-45

**\*Hymn:** "I Surrender All" UMH 354

**\*Closing Chorus & Benediction** "Bind Us Together"

*\*Please stand if able*

### Call to Worship

Pastor: Let all who would seek the love and power of the Lord be welcome.

**People:** For we were all once lost and each of us in Christ received new life.

Pastor: Each of us was once dead to the Lord, but in the Cross we now live.

**People:** Then let us all come together and sing praise unto God's holy name.

Pastor: And let all who would know of Christ come join us and worship.

**All: Blessed be the name of the Lord!**

**Prayer Of Confession:** Lord, so often we have sought to please those in the world around us and in the process we have little by little allowed the world's standards to become our standards. Forgive us, Lord, as we come ever closer to Easter we invite You to show us again where we have allowed the ways of the world to replace Your ways and lead us home. In Christ we pray. Amen.

### Calendar of Events

**Today:** 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

**All Week:** Keep Safe and Pray

### Worship, Educational and Outreach Opportunities

**Today:** *Interactive Online Service thru link on Bethel Web Site, Service page*

### Prayer Concerns

Bethel UMC, The UMC, Our Country, all of those affected by the storms, those in Military Service, Police, Fire, EMS first responders, Healthcare professionals and home caregivers, Teachers, Students; Pastor Ralph & Judy Wrightstone; Kathie & Al Adams; Lexie Allen; Georgia Bubner; Ken Hirsekorn; Nan Lindsey; William McCloud; Travis and Tina Oaks; the Oaks family; Darren Plate & parents; Pat Singletary; Candy Trimble; Lawson Wooley; Lon & Lucy Wright; Howard Zody  
*Please use a prayer request form, in the narthex, to submit requests for adding to the Prayer Concerns in the worship bulletin*

**Devotionals:** *The Upper Room* and *Our Daily Bread* are daily devotional booklets that are available in the Narthex. Please take one or both and enjoy!

**Bethel Website:** <http://www.bethelumctlh.org>

Recordings of recent sermons are available on the web site

Recordings of sermons or services are available on CD by request

**Heifer Fund:** "Youth Message" offering goes to support Heifer International

**Contact:** Church phone: (850) 576-1454 email: [bumctlh@gmail.com](mailto:bumctlh@gmail.com)

Pastor phone: (850) 591-9785; email: [wrightstone@embarqmail.com](mailto:wrightstone@embarqmail.com)



1940's



1960's



Today

### The History of Bethel UMC

The earliest historical record of Bethel Methodist Church is that in August of 1834, a campmeeting was held on the banks of Bethel Pond. Church meetings were held in neighborhood homes following this. In good weather brush arbors provided meeting places for these early worshippers. Later, services were held in a small log schoolhouse about a mile north of the present church.

On March 17, 1847, Joseph and Thirza Hale deeded two acres of land to the Methodist Episcopal Church with the provision that Bethel Meeting House be built in the center of the two acres. A small frame church with wooden shutters was built where our Sunday School rooms are today.

In 1909 the congregation started building the present sanctuary. The church building was originally roofed with wooden shingles. The windows contain the original panes with the imperfections of early glass. The interior of the church was not completed until 1947. The narthex was added in 1970 and the steeple in 1972.

The furniture in the Church constitutes one of the most interesting parts of its history. The Pulpit was used by Bishop Joshua Soule on February 6, 1845 when he convened the first Florida Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in Trinity Methodist Church, Tallahassee, Florida. Trinity gave the pulpit to Bethel Church circa 1895. The chancel rail, communion table and two of the pulpit chairs were part of Trinity Church during the 1800's and were given to Bethel in 1946. The larger pulpit chair was a gift of John Sullivan, friend of our Church.

*(history prepared for bulletin cover by Thelma Royce, church historian)*



*"Surely the Lord is in this place! This is none other than the house of God"* Genesis 28:16

# Bethel United Methodist Church



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**"Seeking The Life In Grace As The Way of Life"**  
Welcome home!