

Bethel United Methodist Church

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 7, 2023

Pastor: Ralph Wrightstone

Music Director: Travis Oaks

Lectionary Scriptures

This Week: Acts 7:55-60; Psalm 31:1-5,15-16; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

Next Week: Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 66:8-20; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

Prelude: "Sing Alleluia to the Lord"

Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

***Hymn:** "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" UMH 133

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

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

***Gloria Patri**.....UMH 71

Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

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

Scripture Reading: 1 Peter 2:1-12

Joys, Concerns, Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Message: "The Way"

Scripture: John 14:1-14

Holy Communion

***Hymn:** "On Eagle's Wings" UMH 143

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

**Please stand if able*

Call to Worship

Pastor : Jesus said: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me" (John 14:1).

People: You are the way, the truth, the life. We are the ones who still wander in shadow. Cast your light on our path so we may walk with confidence towards our heavenly home. Amen.

Prayer Of Confession: Lord, you told Thomas we should know the way you are going. We are thankful he admitted he wanted to know more. We want to know more. In our tired land we feel lost and alone. You are the way, the truth, the life. Walk with us. Bear with us. Bide with us. AMEN!

Calendar of Events

Today: Fifth Sunday of Easter, Communion

Next Sunday: Mother's Day and Heritage Sunday at the pond

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; Mark Carlson and family; Paula Cooksey; Judy Goreau; 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 & Ruth 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

Pastor phone: (850) 591-9785; email: 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

*Jam
the Way,
the Truth
and the
Life*
John 14:6

**1470 Bethel Church Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32304
(850) 576-1454**

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