

Bethel United Methodist Church

10th Sunday after Pentecost

August 6, 2023

Pastor: Ralph Wrightstone

Music Director: Travis Oaks

Lectionary Scriptures

This Week: Gen 32:22-31; Ps 17:1-7,15; Rom 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21

Next Week: Gen 37:1-4,12-28; Ps 105:1-6,16-22,45b; Rom 10:5-15; Matt 14:22-33

Prelude: "Sing Alleluia to the Lord"

Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

***Hymn:** "Your Grace is Enough" W&S 3106

***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

Joys, Concerns, Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Special Song "This is Amazing Grace" Travis Oaks

Message: Will you Forgive? Tina Oaks

Scripture: Mathew 18:21-35

Holy Communion

***Hymn:** "Change My Heart O God" TFWS 2152

***Benediction and Closing Chorus:** "Bind Us Together"

**Please stand if able*

Call to Worship

L: Sing praise to God who rescues us when we fall .

P: Sing praise to God who walks with us on all our journeys!

L: Even though we fail, God lifts us and places us on paths of peace

P: Even though we stray, God finds us and brings us back to lives of hope

L: Thanks be to God, whose love is continually with us

P: Thanks be to God, whose mercy is all over us all.

Prayer of Confession: Lord, we thank you for the freedom you have given us through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. But we confess today that we often live like slaves. Instead of receiving your grace as a gift, we try to earn it with our efforts. Instead of accepting your forgiveness, we prefer our chains. Instead of pursuing your purposes, we cling to our ways. Forgive us. Cleanse us. Heal us. We ask this in Jesus Name. AMEN

Calendar of Events

Today: 10th Sunday after Pentecost; Communion

Next Week: 11th Sunday after Pentecost, covered dish dinner after the service

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; Tina Rucker; Sylvester and Jean Shields; 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



**1470 Bethel Church Road
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**"Seeking The Life In Grace As The Way of Life"
Welcome home!**