

Bethel United Methodist Church

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 19, 2025

Pastor: Ralph Wrightstone

Lectionary Scriptures

This Week: Jer 31:27-34; Psalm 119:97-194; 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5; Luke 18:1-8

Next Week: Joel 2:23-32; Psalms 65; 2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18; Luke 18:9-14

Prelude: “*Sing Alleluia to the Lord*”

Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

***Hymn:** “*Stand By Me*” UMH 512 1,2,3

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

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

***Gloria Patria** UMH 71

Offerings of Praise, Thanksgiving

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

OT Scripture: Proverbs 10:15-21

Joys, Concerns, Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

***Hymn of Preparation:** “*Majesty*” UMH 176

Message: “*Jesus, Your Merciful Friend*”

Scripture: John 5:24-30

***Hymn:** “*Precious Name*” UMH 536 1,4

***Benediction and Closing Chorus:** “*Bind Us Together*”

**Please stand if able*

Call to Worship

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Be glad and sing for joy,

People: because God judges the peoples with justice and guides every nation on earth.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: God of law and love, your Son came preaching that the law was made for us and not that we were made for the law. Forgive us if we have made commandments for others to follow where you have not made any. Excuse any zeal that commands what he taught rather than teaches what he commands. Recall us from any thoughtless talk and speculation, without the guidance of the Holy Spirit, that disturbs the faith and peace of mind of others. Prevent us from adding unnecessary burdens to ourselves and others when Jesus calls us to bear an easy yoke and carry a light burden, for his sake. Amen

Calendar of Events

Today: 19th Sunday after Pentecost

October 25: Investment Committee meeting, 10:00 am, at Janie's house

October 26: Will Graham Revival Tour, 7:00pm at Tallahassee Car Museum

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, those in Military Service, Police, Fire, EMS first responders, Healthcare professionals and home caregivers, Teachers, Students; FSU Family; Pastor Ralph & Judy Wrightstone; Kathie & Al Adams; Lexie Allen; Ryan Goreau; Kaylee; Savannah Lantz; Annabelle Pafford; Don & Pat Singletary; Holly Snelgrove; Heidi Wagnon; Lawson Wooley; Lon & Lucy Wright; Howard and 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.

Contact: Church phone: (850) 576-1454 email: bumctlh@gmail.org

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



Established 1834

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

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