

Bethel United Methodist Church

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Independence Day Weekend

July 5, 2026

Pastor: Ellyn R. Fox

Lectionary Scriptures

This Week: Gen 24:34-38,42-49,58-67; Ps 72; Rom 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19,25-30

Next Week: Gen 25:19-34; Ps 119:105-112 or Ps 25; Rom 8:1-11; Matt 13:1-9,18-23

Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

***Opening Hymn:** *“To God be the Glory”* UMH 98

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: Lamentations 3:22-23

Joys, Concerns, Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Message: “Trust in God!”

Scripture: Jeremiah 29:11 and
Deuteronomy 31:6

Holy Communion

***Closing Hymn:** “Blessed Assurance ” UMH 369

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

**Please stand if able*

Call to Worship

Leader: Come, beloved community, and gather in the presence of our loving God
Who is the Beginning and the End.

People: We come to remember the faithfulness of God through the years gone by.

Leader: We give thanks for the roots that have held us steady, for the wisdom of those who came before, and for the stories that shaped our faith.

People: We honor the past. It has brought us to this moment.

Leader: Yet God is doing a new thing—springing up like fresh shoots from ancient soil, calling us forward into hope and possibility.

People: We open our hearts to the new work of God in our lives.

Leader: Let us worship the God who holds yesterday, today, and tomorrow in loving hands—the God who makes all things new without letting go of what is good and true.

All Together: We come with gratitude for the past, faith for the present, and hope for the future. Let us worship the Lord!

Calendar of Events

Today: *Sixth Sunday After Pentecost, Communion*

Next Week: *Seventh Sunday After Pentecost*

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; the Homeless, Pastor Ellyn Fox; Pastor Ralph & Judy Wrightstone; Kathie & Al Adams; Lexie Allen; Don & Tracey Bitner, Mark Carlson, Lake Goreau, Ryan Goreau; Kaylee; Savannah Lantz; Annabelle Pafford; Darren Plate; Don & Pat Singletary; Holly Snelgrove; 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.com

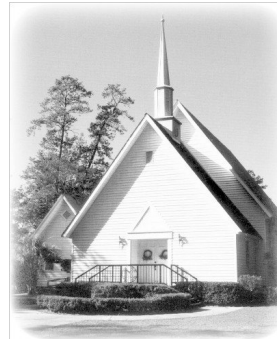
Church Office hours: 9am-1pm, Mon-Thurs



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

