



*The Bethel*  
STAR 

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### 2022 THEME

*Living into the Vision*

### MOTTO

*Trusting God for a  
Breakthrough in 2022*

### AUGUST SCRIPTURE

Luke 12:32-40

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**L**ORD

*make me an instrument of your peace,  
Where there is hatred let me sow love.  
Where there is injury, pardon.  
Where there is doubt, faith.  
Where there is despair, hope.  
Where there is darkness, light.  
And where there is sadness, joy.*

**O** divine master grant that I may  
Not so much seek to be consoled as to console;  
To be understood as to understand;  
To be loved as to love  
For it is in giving that we receive ~  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned.  
And it's in dying that we are born  
to eternal life.

*AMEN*



## *From the Pastor's Desk*

### *"Follow the Yellow Brick Road"*

I greet you in the powerful name of Jesus the Christ:

One year while a District Superintendent, I asked that the churches be creative in presenting their Charge Conference so it would be a celebration and a testimony to what God was doing in the life of the church and where they felt God was leading them in the next few years. One church presented their reports "Following the Yellow Brick Road" as experienced in the Wizard of OZ. There were paper yellow bricks throughout the sanctuary. Fun was had by all. The overarching message was if you follow God's Word, it will lead you, empower you, and strengthen you in the direction you should take in your life and most of all, Jesus' Church!

The Bible is our map to God, to salvation, to ordering our lives, to wisdom and finally to eternal rest. It is hard to believe that I am in my 3<sup>rd</sup> year as the Lead Pastor of Bethel--The House of God! We have served through COVID, technology changes, grief, celebrations and embarking on new ventures. We have not always agreed on the path of the yellow brick road; like Dorothy and her friends, we have been distracted by many things. Now we embark upon the most challenging mission of the life of this church, second only to transitioning to reflect a community that was changing in hue.

We inherited a building that was already paid for, and it seems a path already chosen for us. But now we have dared to dream our own dreams and envisioned a new future for Bethel. Not an aging church but on a path to renewal, reaching new age groups and generations in this community and investing in it ourselves. When I first came to Atlanta, one of our home church friends had moved here and was a member of Cascade UMC, close to the West End, a church that they too had inherited from a Euro-American congregation. But unlike Bethel, it was an aging facility. I was struck by the song they sang at the end of their service, a scripture – Philippians 4:13 – We Can Do All things through Christ Who Strengthens Us!! I believe they too dreamed of a new facility that was their own and I believe that scripture gave them strength to move us and to build the Cascade we know of today. They followed their own yellow brick road.

There is still much more that God has for Bethel to do. I like Paul in Philippians 4:<sup>4</sup> *Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!* <sup>5</sup> *Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.* <sup>6</sup> *Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.* <sup>7</sup> *And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

Do not be anxious about anything. Let instead be that gentler, kinder, joyous church by prayer, petition, and thanksgiving to which Paul is hoping for. To whom much is given much is required. Let's remember the 10-finger prayer, "We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us."

In addition to the outdoor worship on July 31, we hope you will join us again for the final outdoor series on Sunday, August 28, at 10am. Dress casually and bring blankets and picnic baskets for lunch on the lawn after service.

Yours In Partnership with Christ,

*Pastor Tucker*

Pastor Tucker  
Breaking through in '22

## BETHEL BIBLE INSTITUTE FALL OFFERINGS

Join us for the Bible Institute this fall. Wednesday noon on August 10 we will continue our journey through the OT, in 1 & 2 Samuel. Please sign up now so a book can be ordered for you. Send your information to Connie Smith @ [resces2bellsouth.net](mailto:resces2bellsouth.net).

On Tuesday, August 30, 7pm orientation for Disciple Fast Track 1 – OT in partnership with Atlanta First UMC. This has already been sent to you via email with registration portal. Wednesday, September 7 @7pm – Revelation Study – Breaking the Code – six-week study – register [Bethelumchurch@aol.com](mailto:Bethelumchurch@aol.com) and Thursday, September 8 @11am, Difficult Words of Jesus – six-week study. Atlanta First UMC will send out registration portal!

Don't miss out on these opportunities to follow Christ' Yellow Brick Road!

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## WHAT CAN YOU DO TO LIMIT OR AVOID FRAUDULENT CALLS?

- Do not answer the phone if you do not recognize the number and block it on your phone if you later determine it was a call from an unwanted caller.
- If you do answer a call from an unknown or fraudulent-looking number, hang up immediately. The more you engage, the more the scammer will call your number. If the caller claims they are from a company or governmental agency, hang up and call them back on the number listed on your account statement or on the company's or governmental agency's websites. If you owe them a payment, they will contact you in writing.
- Avoid providing bank account, credit card, and Social Security information.
- You can use call-blocking apps for your cell phone and gadgets for your home phones.
- Add unwanted calls to the Do Not Call Registry. (Keep in mind that, while it may deter legitimate companies in the U.S. from disturbing you, it is unable to deter overseas marketers and scammers).
- Report spam calls such as unwanted and spoofed robocalls to the FCC.
- If your phone number is being spoofed or your calls are mistakenly being labeled as blocked or as potential spam by robocall blocking services or apps, you may also report this to the FCC.

## ERNEST PERRY IS ELECTED NEW PRESIDENT OF THE NGCUMM



Ernest Edward Perry is a business consultant with over 45 years of combined professional experience in the field of employment services, sales, project management, marketing, communications, public and civic relations, business development and training. Since 2012 he has worked the medical field as a Healthcare Electronic Medical Records Implementation Consultant. Ernest holds an Associate degree from Marshall University, Bachelor of Arts degree from Michigan State University and a Certificate of Project Management from The Mack Robinson school of Business at Georgia State University.

Ernest has been a faithful member of the United Methodist Church for thirty years, having membership at Hoosier Memorial UMC and Bethel UMC. He has served on the Administrative Council, Board Trustee Chairman, College Park District Trustee, and is the Immediate Past President of the United Methodist Men at Bethel United Methodist Church. Ernest has been an active scouting adult volunteer for 23 years and was a Boy Scout when he was a teenager growing up in West Virginia. He has served as a Scouting Religious Commissioner for the Atlanta-College Park District of the United Methodist Committee on Scouting for over a decade He also serves the Committee Executive for Pack & Troop 532 and the Nominations Chairman for the SW Atlanta District. Ernest has held practically every volunteer leadership position in Scouting, including Scout leader, Cubmaster, Committee Executive member, Board of Review member.

At the District level his roles have included: Chairman of "Friends of Scouting," "Pinewood Derby" Chairman, Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner, and Cub Scout Day Camp Program Coordinator, Unit Commissioner, and Nominating Committee Chairman. Ernest participates in training and recruiting Boy Scouts and leaders, coordinating and planning district-wide activities, community service programs, fundraising, public speaking, and civic and religious events. "If we are to be effective in our roles as leaders we must be informed, trained, and be on the same page in terms of how we communicate and implement the Boy Scout Mission."

Ernest has also collaborated with Georgia State Representative Roger Bruce for the last 15 years as the Scouting Coordinator for the Annual Family Fun Day & Catfish Rodeo at Sweetwater Creek State Park. In 2007 he received one of the Boy Scout of America's highest volunteer awards, District Award of Merit. In 2011 he was awarded the Whitney E. Young National Distinguished Service Award; in 2013 Ernest was recognized by the Atlanta City Council District 4 with the Community Service Award in Celebration of President Barack Obama's National Day of Service on Martin Luther King, Jr Holiday and in 2019 he was presented the "Flame & Cross Award" for his work within the United Methodist Committee on Scouting.

Ernest has been married to his wife, Catherine, for 35 years. They have two children, a daughter, Veronica, and a son Aaron. His hobbies are sports, travel, listening to good music, cooking, writing, and volunteering. Ernest is a forty-seven-year member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. and currently serves on the voter education, social action committees, and is the State of Georgia Chairman of the High School Talent Hunt Program.

**Favorite Quote:** "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong, because during some point in your life you will have been all of these. —George Washington Carver

# BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Dear Bethel Family,

Since the vote in May to approve our construction loan, the Building Committee has been busy updating various aspects of the Community Center project. Due to the drastic change in economic conditions over the last few months, the general contractor has had to resolicit bids for subcontractors. This is currently in progress and should be completed in the next few weeks.

During the period from our initial Round Table Conversations in February until our final vote on May 22, the building permit from the City of South Fulton expired. We will reapply for a new permit once we determine the delivery schedule for the prefabricated building steel.

The paper work for our loan application with the Georgia United Methodist Foundation is essentially complete. We only need to have the documentation signed and submitted. The amount approved by the May 22 Church Conference vote was not to exceed \$750,000, which is the amount requested.

Going forward, we expect that there will be increased costs associated with this project due to the record inflation rate the country is now experiencing. So, we know that fundraising will be a critical part of this effort. Due to the uncertainty surrounding the project prior to our Church Conference, we realize that many pledges were put on hold. But now that the congregation has voted affirmatively, we ask that those who were on the sidelines would now move forward with fulfilling your pledges. There will likely be additional fundraising initiatives as we go into next year but for now, we are requesting that all members and even friends of Bethel continue or begin contributing to the Community Center whether you have made formal pledges or not.

We know that some were opposed but we do not consider there to be winners or losers. Instead, through the Church Conference vote, we have acknowledgement that we are following the will of the church and the will of God. As we move forward we invite everyone to support Bethel's mission of "A Church in Unity Reaching Out to the Community." I'm reminded of Proverbs 16:3 which says, "Commit your work to the Lord and your plans will succeed."

Peace and Blessings

Ike Lockett, Building Committee Chair

# OUTREACH

Marilyn Sullivan, Outreach Chairperson  
Louise Foster, Contributor

**On Saturday, July 16, 2022, six Bethel United Methodist Men enthusiastically participated in serving at “My Sister’s House” (MSH). MSH is a shelter for displaced and sometimes battered women and children.**

**Gerald Carter was instrumental in suggesting this particular activity there. The men who cheerfully served were: Lanny Alexander, Roland Foster, Ray Leaphart, Ernest Perry, Robert (Bob) Smith and Troy Smith. The men offered words of encouragement and uplifting greetings as they passed out the fruit snacks and chips they carried with them to enhance the residents’ lunch.**

**Roland Foster was excited to spear head this mission out-reach effort and is gearing up for the September Trinity project.**

**A big shout-out goes to Bethel’s Women United in Faith. Jessie Bell, Erma Freemont, Marilyn Sullivan and Brenda Tuggle were ready with just a moment’s notice and sent clothing, shoes, toiletries, calendars and other items to the ladies. In fact, Linda Brooks-Cooper rallied her troop and other women were on standby in case the men fell short of the help they needed. What an outpouring of togetherness.**

**Thanks, everybody.**



## FROM THE TRUSTEES

Gerald Carter, Contributor

Used grease and cooking oil disposal have plagued Bethel for over 20 years. On June 7, 2022 Bethel signed a perpetual, "non-profit" agreement with Liquid Recovery Solutions. Under our relationship, LRS has stationed a container on our property for collecting and disposal of used grease and cooking oils. The second best part of our relationship is the waiver of their \$50 monthly disposal fee.

We can thank and pray for Mr. Artem Kamalov, LSR's Director of Strategic Partnerships, for setting the terms of our relationship.

Call with any questions or recommendations. Thanks!



# Christian Care MINISTRY

Joyce Spaulding Hix and Barbara Lastra

Bethel members born in the month of **AUGUST** are encouraged to please show love and concern for Bethel's sick and shut-in during this month. These expressions may be in the form of visits, phone calls, cards and prayer.

Let us help to lift the spirit of those in need of healing and Christian care. Please refer to the sick and shut-in list in the weekly emails.

Bethel United Methodist Church

# August 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Green denotes Birthday</p>	<p>1</p> <p>4:00PM—Worship</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6PM—Prayer</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:30PM—SPRC</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Ambur Fuller</p>	<p>6</p> <p>8AM – UMM 9AM - UWF</p>
<p>7</p> 	<p>8</p> <p>First day of school—Fulton County</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6PM—Prayer</p>	<p>10</p> <p>4:00PM—Older Adult Ministry 12PM—Bible Study Resumes</p> <p>Clyde Lord, Sr.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:30PM—NLDC</p> <p>John Hawkins Helen Jones</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Angelique Ball</p>
<p>14</p> <p>C&amp;Y Sunday</p> <p>Maria Johnson</p>	<p>15</p> <p>7:00PM—Trustees</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6PM—Prayer</p> <p>Emma Brock Louise Foster Annette Mitchell</p>	<p>17</p> <p>12PM—Bible Study</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:30PM—Church Council</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Newsletter Deadline</p>
<p>21</p> <p>Stanford Moore</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Ronald Braithwaite, II</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6PM—Prayer</p>	<p>24</p> <p>12PM—Bible Study</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Sandra Taylor</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Pearl Adams</p>
<p>28</p> <p>10AM—Outdoor Worship Service</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6PM—Prayer 7PM—Disciple Fast Track</p>	<p>31</p> <p>12PM—Bible Study</p>			