

Join us at Bethel on October 1<sup>st</sup> at 2 pm for Blessing of the Pets. All animals are welcome.

On October 7<sup>th</sup>, from 9 am – 12 pm, we will be hosting a BED BUILDING EVENT that aims to give children without beds a good night's sleep by providing them with new beds and bedding. We hope that you will join us.

## Prayer Requests

Arthur Cummings  
Mary Cummings  
Libby Davenport  
HJ Fleming  
Mary Hall  
Cathy Hanks  
Art Hartzog

David Holder  
Toni Holder  
Jerry Holland  
Jerry Reitzel  
Maxine Reynolds  
Terry Trnavsky



Scan to visit our website



Invite. Grow. Send.

### Church Office Hours

Monday – Thursday: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm

Friday: 8:30 am – 2:00 pm

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Brad Gray  
*Executive Pastor*

Megan Gray  
*Pastor of Discipleship &  
Belonging*

Chad Deetz  
*Youth Minister*

Dale Fischer  
*Director of Music*

Jana Mathis  
*Director of Children's  
Ministries*

Jennifer Bartless  
*Children's Ministry  
Assistant*

Dr. Kristine Lee  
*Organist*

*To all who are weary and need rest; To all who are burdened and need relief; To all who are lonely and need friends; To all who are looking for something that only God can provide; To all who sin and need a Savior; To whosoever will come, Bethel UMC, the House of God, opens her doors, and in the name of Jesus Christ says, "Welcome!"*

September 17, 2023

16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

11:00 AM Worship Service

Prelude "Brethren, We Have Met to Worship" arr. Kenon Renfrow

Trinity Chimes

Welcome & Announcements

\*Call to Worship

Children of God, when we face strife, upset, and harm in our midst, we so often turn to God and ask:

**How many times should I forgive?**

When Jesus answers that we should forgive again and again, we are tempted to repeat the question:

**How many times should I forgive?**

Until God turns the question around: "How many times have I forgiven you?"

**Seventy times seven.**

"How many times have I loved you?"

**Seventy times seven.**

"How many times has my grace been sufficient for you?"

**Seventy times seven.**

Let us learn, then, how to forgive not out of our own power, but out of God's, who forgives us that we might be free to learn to live with one another well.

**Amen.**

\*Passing of the Peace

\*Hymn "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven" UMH 66

\*Affirmation of Faith *The Apostles' Creed* UMH 881

\*Gloria Patri UMH 71

\*Psalter Reading *Psalm 114* UMH 835

Offering

Offertory "O Store Gud – How Great Thou Art" arr. Jerry Ray

\*Doxology "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH 95

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Children's Time

Hymn of Preparation "O How I Love Jesus" UMH 170  
*During the hymn, you are invited to the altar to join the pastor in assuming a posture of prayer. All are welcome.*

Prayers of the People

Leader: The Lord be with you.

Response: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

Anthem "Think on These Things" Ron Sprunger  
Sanctuary Choir

Scripture Reading Matthew 18: 21-35

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *How Many Times?* Rev. Megan Gray

\*Hymn "Freely, Freely" UMH 389

\*Benediction

\*Postlude "My Hope is Built" arr. Mary Sallee

*\*Please stand if able*

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**A nursery** is available on the First Floor for infants and children under 3 years.

After Children's Time, preschool and kindergarten are invited to **Wee Church** and 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to **Children's Church**, both in the Children's Wing.

**Ushers:** Blair Mathis, Mike Woodrum, Gene Foust & Chris Moore

**Altar Flowers:** The flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God and in memory of Aubrey H. Mauzy by his sister, Suzie Mauzy.