

Bethel United Methodist Church

Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

February 9, 2025

Pastor: Ralph Wrightstone

Music Director: Travis Oaks

Lectionary Scriptures

This Week: Isaiah 6:1-8,9-13; Psalm 138; 1 Cor 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11

Next Week: Jeremiah 17:5-10; Psalm 1; 1 Cor 15:12-20; Luke 6:17-26

Prelude: "Sing Alleluia to the Lord"

Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

***Hymn:** "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" TFWS 2129

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

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

***Gloria Patria** UMH 71

Youth Message "Fishing"

Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

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

OT Reading: *Psalm 138*

Joys, Concerns, Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Message: Go Deep

Scripture: *Luke 5:1-11*

***Hymn:** "Shalom" UMH 666

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

**Please stand if able*

Call to Worship

Leader: For God's love and faithfulness, let us praise God's name. For the promise of God is as wide as the heavens.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God-in-hiding, you catch us unawares. In frightening circumstances, we find ourselves saying: "What did I do to deserve this?". In incredibly good times, we find ourselves saying, "What did I do to deserve this?" Whenever we encounter you unexpectedly, a sense of guilt may catch us and we want you to go away. But we would rather have your forgiveness than your absence, your purging than your rejection. Forgive our sins and prepare us to serve you, through Jesus our Savior. Amen.

Calendar of Events

Today: *Fifth Sunday after Epiphany; 2nd Sunday dinner after the service*

Friday: *Valentine's Day*

Next Sunday: *6th Sunday after Epiphany,*

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; Ellen and Don Brown; Judy Goreau; Ryan Goreau; Savannah Lantz; Abby McDonald; David Plate; Tina Rucker; Melanie Worley Sanders; Don & Pat Singletary; Paul Sawyer; Austin Smith; 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

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

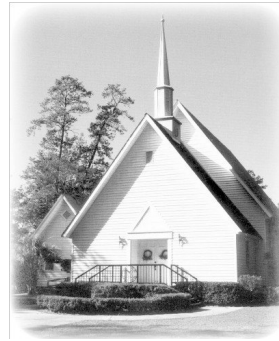
Pastor phone: (850) 591-9785; email: wrightstone@embarqmail.com



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



Established 1834

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

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