

Bethel United Methodist Church

Second Sunday of Advent

December 8, 2024

Pastor: Ralph Wrightstone

Music Director: Travis Oaks

Lectionary Scriptures

This Week: Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17

Next Week: Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 40:1-11; 1 Cor 1:1-9; John 1:29-42

Prelude: "Sing Alleluia to the Lord"

Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

***Hymn:** "Go Tell it on the Mountain" UMH 251

Lighting of Advent Candle Betty and Phillip Brown

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

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

***Gloria Patria** UMH 71

Youth Message "A Secret to Have a Great Year"

Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

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

OT Reading: *Isaiah 40:1-5*

Joys, Concerns, Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Special Hymn: "Majesty" UMH 176

Message: "The Move of God!"

Scripture: *Luke 3:1-6*

***Hymn:** "Silent Night" UMH 239

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

**Please stand if able*

Call to Worship

Leader: Baptism is the rite of passage into the family of God. We are baptized not only with water, but with the Holy Spirit. In this time of worship, let us strive to understand the full meaning of Baptism, as we mark the Baptism of Jesus.

Prayer Of Confession: **Forgive us, God, if we ever take lightly our baptism. On that occasion, your Spirit came upon us, and when we have ignored it, we have failed you and ourselves. Keep us ever mindful of our own responsibilities as your children, and strengthen us in our resolve to keep your commandment to make disciples -- baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Calendar of Events

Today: *Second Sunday of Advent*

Next Week: *Third Sunday of Advent*

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; Judy Goreau; Ryan Goreau; Savannah Lantz; Nan Lindsey; 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

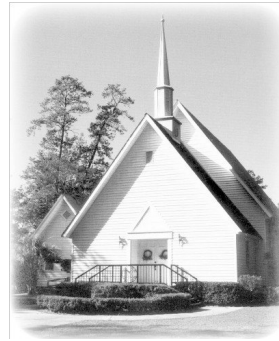
Pastor phone: (850) 591-9785; email: wrightstone@embarqmail.com



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)

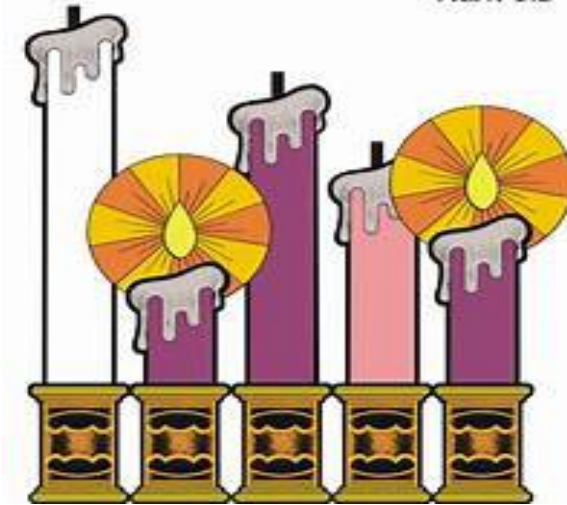


"Surely the Lord is in this place! This is none other than the house of God" Genesis 28:16

Bethel United Methodist Church

PREPARATION

The voice of one crying out in
the wilderness:
"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight."
Mark 1:3



**1470 Bethel Church Road
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**"Seeking The Life In Grace As The Way of Life"
Welcome home!**