

Bethel United Methodist Church

Epiphany Sunday

January 05, 2025

Pastor: Ralph Wrightstone

Music Director: Travis Oaks

Lectionary Scriptures

This Week: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalms 72:1-7,10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

Next Week: Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17,21-22

Prelude: "Sing Alleluia to the Lord"

Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

***Hymn:** "Shout to the Lord" TFWS 2074

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

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

***Gloria Patria** UMH 71

Youth Message Twelve Days of Christmas

Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

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

OT Reading: *Proverbs 10:15-21*

Joys, Concerns, Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Special

Message: What Were the Gifts?

Scripture: *Matthew 2:1-12*

Holy Communion

***Hymn:** "Humble Thyself in the Sight of the Lord" TFWS 2131

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

**Please stand if able*

Call to Worship

Leader: We are all God's children who deserve to live in peace and abundance.

We are all God's partners whose skills and abilities can share the struggle to raise the level of compassion in the world. We are all one family called to lift up the crushed members of God's family. We renew our covenant to work together as the people of your Kingdom!

Prayer of Confession: We prefer to hoard our belongings and to focus on matters of self-interest. Move your Spirit among us, O God, so we might notice and then protect those who cannot manage by themselves. We prefer to think we have little influence on world matters. Move your Spirit among us, O God, so we might become aware of the hurts of those close to us and resolve to help. In the name of Christ. Amen.

Calendar of Events

Today: *Epiphany Sunday, Communion*

Tomorrow: *Epiphany*

Next Sunday: *1st Sunday after Epiphany, 2nd Sunday dinner after the service*

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; Family & friends of Eddie White; 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

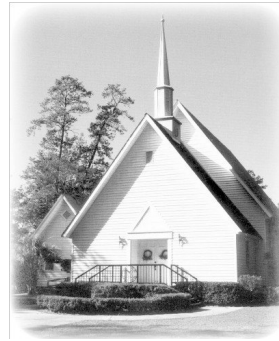
Pastor phone: (850) 591-9785; email: wrightstone@embarqmail.com



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



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

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