Bethel United Methodist Church

First Sunday of Lent

March 9, 2025

Pastor: Ralph Wrightstone Music Director: Travis Oaks

Lectionary Scriptures

This Week: Deut 26:1-11; Psalm 92:1-2,9-16; Phil 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35 **Next Week:** Genesis 15:1-12,17-18; Psalm27; Phil 3:17-4:1; Luke 4:1-13

Prelude: "Sing Alleluia to the Lord"

Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

*Hymn: "It is Well with My Soul" UMH 377

*Responsive Call to Worship: on opposite page

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

*Gloria Patria UMH 71

Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

*Doxology......UMH 95

OT Reading: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Youth Message: A Scarecrow

Joys, Concerns, Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Special Music

Message: Breaking Bad

Scripture: Luke 4:1-13

*Hymn: "Give Thanks" TFWS 2036

*Benediction and Closing Chorus: "Bind Us Together"

Call to Worship

Leader: Hear what God's word says: I will save those who love me. When they call to me, I will answer them; when they are in trouble, I will be with them.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Your name, O God, is to be spoken with reverence and hope. We have spoken it irreverently at times and not at all when we might have called upon you with expectation of your presence and help. We know you are present but put you out of our minds when we worship wealth and power. Most of us would not acknowledge ourselves devil worshipers and yet succumb to temptations that Jesus resisted with the strength of your Word. Forgive our lack of faith in your saving power wanting to be saved only from the consequences of our sins and not from the sins, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Calendar of Events

Today: First Sunday of Lent

Next Sunday: Second Sunday of Lent

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; family & friends of Betty Brumbley; family and friends of Ellen Brown; Judy Goreau; Ryan Goreau and family; Savannah Lantz; Abby McDonald; Annabelle Pafford and family, David Plate and family; Tina Rucker; Melanie Worley Sanders; Don & Pat Singletary; Paul Sawyer; Austin Smith; Heidi Wagnon; 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

<u>Devotionals:</u> 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

^{*}Please stand if able







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



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