

Bethel United Methodist Church

Third Sunday of Lent

March 23, 2025

Pastor: Ralph Wrightstone

Music Director: Travis Oaks

Lectionary Scriptures

This Week: Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9

Next Week: Acts 10:34-43; Ps 118:1-2,14-24; 1 Cor 15:1-11; Jn 10:1-18 or Mk 16:1-8

Prelude: "Sing Alleluia to the Lord"

Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

***Hymn:** "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart" TFWS 2140

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

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

***Gloria Patria** UMH 71

Youth Message: "A Second Chance"

Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

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

OT Reading: *Isaiah 55:1-9*

Joys, Concerns, Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Special Music

Message: *Repent or Perish*

Scripture: *Luke 13:1-9*

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

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

**Please stand if able*

Call to Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP: Seek the Eternal One who may be found. Call upon God while the Spirit is near; forsake wicked ways, and unrighteous thoughts; return to the Eternal One, who will have mercy on you, and to our God, who will abundantly pardon.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, how exalted are your ways! Holy Savior, how sinless is your life! Holy Spirit, how pure is your nature! Whatever progress we have made along the road of righteousness, we are far behind the advance of your Son Jesus. Continue to call us back when we go off on a tangent and recall us to the upward way for we would more nearly follow Jesus Christ. Amen.

Calendar of Events

Today: *Third Sunday of Lent*

Next Sunday: *Fourth 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; 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

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

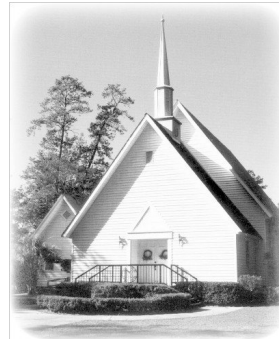
Pastor phone: (850) 591-9785; email: wrightstone@embarqmail.com



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!**