

Bethel United Methodist Church

1st Sunday After Christmas

December 26, 2021

Pastor Ralph Wrightstone

Music Director: Travis Oaks

Lectionary Scriptures

This Week: 1 Samuel 2:18-20,26; Psalm 148; Collosians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52

Next Week: Jeremiah 31:7-14; Ps 147:12-20; Eph 1:3-14; John 1:(1-9),10-18

Prelude: "Sing Alleluia to the Lord"

Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

***Hymn:** "Angels We Have Heard on High" UMH 238 (1,3,4)

Lighting Third Advent Candle

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

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

***Gloria Patri**.....UMH 71

Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

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

OT Scripture Reading: Psalm 148

Joys, Concerns, Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Message: "The Favorite"

Scripture: Luke 2:41-52

***Hymn:** "Something Beautiful" UMH 394

***Closing Chorus & Benediction** "Bind Us Together"

**Please stand if able*

The poinsettias are placed in memory of Dorothy Carr by her daughter Diane

Call to Worship

Leader: Let us enter God's house this day to praise and worship the Lord!

People: God heard our pleas and in Jesus came sharing the joy of divine love.

Leader: In Jesus we saw God with us and the world would not hear His word.

People: God's wisdom confounds even the wise among us, yet God loves us each one.

Leader: Then let us celebrate with joyful hearts the wonderful gift of Christ.

Prayer of Confession: O God, so often we have thought too highly of the wisdom by which we have chosen to live, and we have failed to seek Your wisdom and Your guidance in our lives. When we have prayed seeking Your guidance, too often we have still chosen to ignore Your will and go our own ways. Forgive us, Lord, and give us the strength and courage to seek and follow You. In Christ we pray. Amen.

Calendar of Events

Today: Christmas Sunday, Jan/Feb devotionals on table in the narthex

Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday After Christmas, Communion

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, 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, Sarah Brown, Gina Davis, Ellanore Goater, Kendall Hall, Robyn Keeler, Carol Koski, Family & friends of Sylvia Marsh, William McCloud, Fred & Cindy Moore, Travis & Tina Oaks, Carol Painter, David Plate, Tom Plate & family, Tina & Greg Rucker, David Trimble, Cindy Westmark, Eddie White, Lon & Lucy Wright

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

Heifer Fund: "Youth Message" offering goes to support Heifer International

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

Pastor phone: 591-9785;

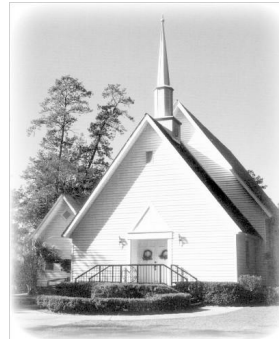
email: wrightstone@embarqmail.com



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


For
UNTO US
a child
IS BORN, UNTO US
a Son is Given.
AND HIS NAME WILL
be called Wonderful, Counselor,
MIGHTY GOD, THE EVERLASTING FATHER,
the Prince of Peace.
ISAIAH
9 VERSE 6

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