

Bethel United Methodist Church

Third Sunday of Lent

March 20, 2022

Pastor Ralph Wrightstone

Music Director: Travis Oaks

Lectionary Scriptures

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

Next Week: Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinth 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Prelude: "Sing Alleluia to the Lord"

Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

***Hymn:** "Holy Ground" TFWS 2272

***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: *Isaiah 55:1-9*

Joys, Concerns, Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Message: "Fertilize Your Faith"

Scripture: Luke 13:1-9

***Hymn:** "Soon and Very Soon" UMH 706

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

**Please stand if able*

Call to Worship

Leader: Even though crises are not always caused by sin, the truth remains that we must repent of our sins, or face a worse crisis.

People: **We believe in god's final judgment, but we still excuse ourselves from sincere repentance.**

Leader: Jesus illustrated our condition with a fruitless fig tree that was given a final chance to bear fruit.

People: **We do not want to wait until it is too late. May God help us to turn from our sinful ways.**

Prayer of Confession: **Lord, we know we are not without sin, but our life has seemed adequate without the need of repentance. We live in a society that has lowered its standards to accept us. Forgive us for our superficial expression of the Christian way. Enable us to turn around in our living, and begin a new life with Christ our Redeemer, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

Calendar of Events

Today: 3rd Sunday of Lent, *First Day of Spring*

Next Sunday: 4th 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, 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, The Families of Mary Gray and Michelle Culbertson, Gina Davis, Ellanore Goater, Ryan Gorean Family, Kendall Hall, Robyn Keeler, Carol Koski, Nan Lindsey, Michael, Donna & Michael jr., William McCloud, Fred & Cindy Moore, Travis & Tina Oaks, Carol Painter, David Plate, Tom Plate & family, Tina & Greg Rucker, Esther Shore, 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

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



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

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