

Bethel United Methodist Church

4th Sunday of Epiphany

January 29, 2023

Pastor Ralph Wrightstone

Music Director: Travis Oaks

Lectionary Scriptures

This Week: Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12

Next Week: Isa 58:1-9a(9b-12); Ps 112:1-9(10); 1 Cor 2:1-12(13-16); Matt 5:13-20

Prelude: "Sing Alleluia to the Lord"

Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

***Hymn:** "Here I am to Worship" W&S 3177

***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 15

Joys, Concerns, Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Special Song Travis Oaks

Message: "Happiness"

Scripture: Matthew 5:1-12

***Hymn:** "Open Our Eyes Lord" TFWS 2086

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

**Please stand if able*

Call to Worship

Pastor: One of our greatest goals in life is to find happiness.

People: We do not enjoy being unhappy. But the more we strive for happiness, the less we seem to have.

Pastor: Perhaps our attempts to be happy work against what our Lord does to make us happy.

People: Our concept of happiness needs to be redesigned by our faith. May God give us the joy of true happiness.

Prayer of Confession: Life is full of joy, Father, but too often we make ourselves satisfied with that which is only superficial happiness. Forgive us for spending life in a struggle to be happy when true happiness can be ours by putting our trust in you. Grant us the blessings that belong to those who gladly live as your children, that joy may become our true nature. In our Savior's name we pray. Amen.

Calendar of Events

Today: 4th Sunday of Epiphany

February 12: 2nd Sunday "Love Luncheon" after church

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 Hurricanes, 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; Georgia Bubner; Ken Hirsekorn; family & friends of Carol Koski; Nan Lindsey; William McCloud; Travis Oaks; Travis and Tina Oaks; the Oaks family; Pat Singletary; Candy Trimble; Lawson Wooley; 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: (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



Established 1834

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

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