

Bethel United Methodist Church

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 10, 2024

Pastor: Ralph Wrightstone

Music Director: Travis Oaks

Lectionary Scriptures

This Week: Numbers 21:4-9; Rpsalm 107:1-3,17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

Next Week: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12; Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33

Prelude: "Sing Alleluia to the Lord"

Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

***Hymn:** "Mighty to Save" W&S 3038

***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 Reading: Numbers 21:4-9

Joys, Concerns, Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Special Song

Message: "The Serpent's Tongue"

Scripture: John 3:14-21

***Hymn:** "From the Rising of the Sun" TFWS 2024

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

**Please stand if able*

Call to Worship

Leader: Come, all who would walk anew in the presence of the Lord!

People: But our sins are so many and our hearts are burdened and heavy.

Leader: In God's eyes through Christ we are all washed as white as snow.

People: But can the soiled be made fresh or the old be made new again?

Leader: All things are possible with God so lift up your hearts in praise!

Prayer Of Confession: Lord, so often we see only our sins and failures and not Your mercy and grace. So often we focus on the destruction and damage in life, feeling hopelessness and despair rather than choosing to accept the healing and hope in life You would give to us. Forgive us, Lord, and help us accept Your new life for us that our lives might praise You. In Christ we pray. Amen.

Calendar of Events

Today: Fourth Sunday in Lent , DST Begins

March 23: Community Easter event

March 31: Easter Sunday; Sunrise Service 7:15; dinner after the service, egg hunt

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; Cathy Allen; Lexie Allen; Family of Sara Carter; Paula Cooksey; Judy Goreau; Savannah Lantz; Nan Lindsey; Travis and Tina Oaks; the Oaks family; Darren Plate & parents; Todd Qualls family; Tina Rucker; Jean Shields and family; Pat Singletary; Candy Trimble; Kathy Walker; Dave Watson, Eddie White; Family and Friends of Patsy White; Lawson Wooley; Lon & Lucy Wright; Wayne Wyatt; Howard & Ruth Zody; Family and friends of Karen Alford;

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!**