

Bethel United Methodist Church

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2024

Pastor: Ralph Wrightstone

Music Director: Travis Oaks

Lectionary Scriptures

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

Next Week: (*Palm Lit*) Mark 11:1-11; Psalm 118:1-2,19-29

Prelude: "Sing Alleluia to the Lord"

Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

***Hymn:** "Open the Eyes of My Heart" W&S 3008

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

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

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

Youth Message "Drawing Power of Jesus" John 12:30-32

Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

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

OT Reading: Jeremiah 31:23-34

Joys, Concerns, Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Special Song

Message: "The Great Reveal"

Scripture: John 12:20-36

***Hymn:** "Surely the Presence" UMH 328

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

**Please stand if able*

Call to Worship

Leader: Let us gather as God's people, centered on the cross, certain of our salvation, calm in our convictions, steady in our assertion that Jesus alone is Lord.

Prayer Of Confession: Lord, today we offer our heartfelt prayer that you will call us to your ministry of peace and reconciliation. Let our offering of humble and contrite hearts become the pathway for hope to the world. Multiply our lives beyond our imaginings. These things we pray in Jesus' name.

Calendar of Events

Today: *Fifth Sunday in Lent, Saint Patrick's Day*

Wednesday: *First Day of Spring*

Saturday: *Community Easter event, 11:00 am -1:00 pm*

Next Sunday: *Palm Sunday*

March 31: *Easter Sunday; Sunrise Service 7:15; flowered cross; dinner after worship*

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; Wendy Barber, 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; Debbie Tomkinson, 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

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**1470 Bethel Church Road
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(850) 576-1454**

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