Main Street United Methodist Church

162 Main Street, Bay Saint Louis, Mississippi

One of the oldest churches on the Gulf Coast, Main Street United Methodist Church has a long and colorful history. The church was organized in 1852 by a teacher-preacher, E. D. Pitts, who also established schools in Napoleon, Mississippi, and Bay Saint Louis. The land for the church was donated in 1889, construction of the church building began in 1895, and the church complex has grown steadily since then.

Despite its location in a hurricane zone, the church contains some of its original stained glass windows. It features, as well, a window installed about 1932 and attributed by parishioners to Louis Comfort Tiffany. Most of the windows were designed and executed by Milton Pounds, a prolific artist in the late twentieth century from Covington, Louisiana, whose studio opened in 1970. The newest window, in the office, was given in memory of Betty Sanders, who served as voluntary church secretary for 22 years. Colorful gold-and-red diamonds shapes fill the windows lacking figurative glass

Needlepoint kneeling cushions are a highlight of the sanctuary. Created in 1991 by the ladies of the church, these were designed by Margee Farris of New Orleans to complement the stained glass windows.

**Windows**

St. John with Scriptures Musical Symbols

Jesus, Our Shepherd Cross & Anchor

Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane

Jesus with child

St. Paul on the road to Damascus St. Peter with symbolic key

*Visited September 30, 2000*

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