



Bethel United Methodist Church
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Monday, March 3, 2025

Jill Patterson Hicks, Mayor
The City Of Roanoke
809 Main Street
Post Office Box 1270 (Mailing Address)
Roanoke, AL 36274

Dear Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers:

Request for Support of Bethel's Community Garden Initiative

I greet you in the spirit of unity and shared purpose as a proud member of the Randolph County community. I am writing on behalf of our church family here at Bethel United Methodist Church, where we are actively launching a heartfelt and hopeful initiative called "Bethel's Community Garden" —a mission-centered project dedicated to nourishing both body and soul.

The goal of Bethel's Community Garden is to cultivate more than just fresh fruits and vegetables. We are planting the seeds of education, self-reliance, fellowship, and food security—especially for the underserved, the elderly, and families who need it most in our local communities. This garden will serve as a hub for teaching sustainable gardening practices, promoting wellness, and building bridges across generations.

This aggressive initiative is partially funded by way of a Grant called the "Servants Like Jesus Grant" awarded to our church by the North Alabama Conference of the United Methodist Church. However, because the Grant was not 100% funded, we already know before the word "GO" that we will need a lot of help from the communities that surround the church.

We are reaching out today to ask for your wholehearted support and partnership in this endeavor. As a local government leader, your support is vital in helping us meet the needs of our neighbors in meaningful, lasting ways. We humbly ask that you consider any materials, resources, equipment, surplus supplies, soil, compost, seeds, tools, water access, fencing materials, or other items that your department or office might be able to donate or gift to this cause.

No contribution is too small. Every shovel, seed packet, or word of encouragement moves us closer to our shared goal of a healthier, more resilient Randolph County. We would also welcome guidance on grants, inter-agency collaborations, or county programs that could assist us further.

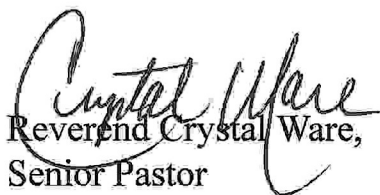
This is not just a garden—it is a legacy in the making. With your support, we believe this space will blossom into a beacon of hope, healing, and harvest for years to come.

We would be honored to discuss this project further with you at your earliest convenience and welcome the opportunity to share more about how we envision this garden becoming a blessing to our entire community.

Thank you for your time, your leadership, and for considering our request. May we continue to work together in building a stronger, more united Randolph County.

With respect and gratitude,

BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Reverend Crystal Ware,
Senior Pastor



Kathy Pate, Chairman
Administrative Council/Council On Ministries

CW/KP/cacf

cc: Mayor Pro Tempore, Tammi Holley, Councilman John Frank Houston, Councilwoman Kesha Johnson, Councilman Bronwyn Bishop, and Councilman Mike Parmer