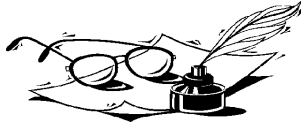




Corner of Beaver & Burrowes



A-B NEWSLETTER

• ALBRIGHT-BETHUNE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH •

Rev. Paul R. McReynolds, Pastor

Email: pmcreynolds@susumc.org; Home Phone: (814) 308-9099

Church Phone: 237-4404; Email: albrightbethuneumc206@gmail.com

Church Website: www.albrightbethuneumc.org

Blannie Bowen, Editor; Volume 29, Number 4, April 2022

From Pastor Paul's Desk.....

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, the Healer of the Soul, and our Everlasting Redeemer. I am so excited about what the Lord has in store for us at Albright-Bethune. We have an amazing opportunity to be a bridge in the community by mending their souls with the word. Engaging their hearts in stewardship and prayer. All of this is done by a Beloved Community engaging in planting the seeds of Jesus Christ, our Hope. Building Bridges of connections throughout the community. (Matthew 25:34-36, Luke 4:18-19).).

Hello Family. I pray all is well with you and your family. As we engage in this Lenten season, we have several exciting activities to participate in and fellowship. We have two more Wednesday Worship Experiences for Lent on April 6 and 13. On the last evening of the Worship Experience we will be taking up an offering for the Preacher's Aid Society (<https://www.preachersaid.org/what-we-do>). Also, we are having a joint Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Service (April 14 & 15) with Emmanuel Lutheran starting at 6:30 pm on both evenings. Plus, every morning during Lent we will have a prayer and devotional time on Facebook Live with Pastor Paul starting at 7:30 am. Also, we will be meeting on April 15 and 22 (Fridays) for our prayer service at 7 pm in-person and on Zoom.

I am so excited to share a special event with you. Below is a brief write up of the event that we have partnered with Dr. Grace Hampton. We are looking to have seasoned saints and young people engage in two intergenerational conversations at Albright-Bethune on April 8 and 29 at 7 pm. I pray that you are able to join us and are able to bring some young and seasoned saints to join the conversations.

Racism Revealed: Then vs Now is the focus for the first conversation on April 8. The conversation is free and open to the public. The doors to our church will open at 6:30p.m. This will be an evening of intergenerational conversation woven together by history as seen through fabric, poetry, and music. This will be a gathering of community, a celebration of diversity, and a discussion of common interests and shared experiences. You will learn the meaning, value, and lessons of traditional Adinkra Symbols and Kente Cloth as the lens to view history. You can listen to "Penn State W.O.R.D.S." students share an offering of art through their poetry. Then you can discuss with those around you a set of guided questions and share in a caring open forum. Light snacks and drinks will be served afterwards.

Social Justice: We Shall Overcome, But How? will be the focus for the conversation on April 29 that is also free and open to the public. This will be another gathering of community, a celebration of diversity, and a discussion of common interests and shared experiences. You can also listen to Essence of Joy and Dr. Anthony Leach sharing an offering of music through songs and spirituals of the African and African American tradition focused on social justice. Then you can discuss a set of guided questions and share in a caring open forum. Light snacks and drinks will be served afterwards. Sincerely, [Paul McReynolds](#)

- **EASTER EGG HUNT** – On Saturday, April 16, at 11 am, our church will hold its annual Easter egg hunt outdoors at the Bowen home. See Blannie or Cathy if you need directions to 2459 Chatham Court in the Saybrook Subdivision. Children, teens, and children at heart are welcome. **Carla Roser-Jones, Jo Ferrell**, and several assistants will organize the event that will be lots of fun for all ages.

- **BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES** - Congratulations to these individuals who celebrate special days this month: April 1 - **Marcus Bowen's** Birthday; April 4 - **Courtlyn Roser-Jones' Birthday**; April 13 – **Rev. Paul Amara's** Birthday; April 14 – **Deborah Atwater Asbury's** Birthday; April 17 - **Donald & Josephine Ferrell's** Wedding Anniversary; April 25 – **Tobin Wilson's** Birthday; and April 26 - **Blannie Bowen's** Birthday. Give Blannie your special dates (call/text 814-777-6550 or email blanniebowen@gmail.com) so we can honor you on your special dates.

- **THE LAST SEVEN WORDS SESSIONS** - Albright-Bethune is partnering with Summerdale UMC of Summerdale, PA to present the last seven words of Christ on six Wednesday nights that began on March 9. You can watch the last two sessions from our Facebook.com/AlbrightBethuneUMC site or the Summerdale Facebook site at Facebook.com/sdaleumc203. In addition, you can participate in-person when the last session on April 13 will originate from Albright-Bethune. On the last Wednesday service, an offering will be taken for the preacher's aid society of the UMC. **Pastor Leah Williams** and **Pastor Bobby Jones** of Summerdale UMC are assisting Pastor McReynolds with the sessions. See Pastor Paul if you have questions about the sessions that are listed below:

- April 6 at 7 PM: **"It's Finished"** - Summerdale UMC - Pastor Paul McReynolds;
- April 13 at 7 PM - **"Homecoming"** - Albright-Bethune UMC - Pastor Leah Williams.

- **PRAYER SERVICE** – Our church is holding a prayer service on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month at 7 p.m. You can participate in the service either in the sanctuary or virtually via `Zoom. You can join the service by Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82042213923>. Please contact Pastor McReynolds if you have any questions or want more information.

- **NOTHING BUT NETS** – Since 2006, the UMC has been fighting malaria as a founding partner of a group called *Nothing But Nets*. The UMC, the United Nations Foundation, and various partners have built this grassroots movement to end malaria and over 13 million bed nets have been sent to families in Africa. Just \$10 buys a bed net, distributes it to a family, and provides education on how to use it. The partners have raised over \$70 million. You can learn more about Nothing But Nets at [About Us – Nothing But Nets](#). Also, you can see **JoDee Dyreson** about how you can contribute to this project during college basketball's March Madness.

- **SERVICES WITH MENNONITE CHURCH** – Since 2000, Albright-Bethune and the University Mennonite Church have held joint worship services during Black History Month. This year our 22nd annual service was held on February 27 when the Mennonite Church joined our Albright-Bethune service. Also, on March 20 Albright-Bethune participated in the Mennonite service. See Pastor McReynolds if you have questions about the services.

• **HUMANITARIAN SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE** - United Methodists and others wishing to provide humanitarian assistance to the Ukrainian people in the wake of the Russian invasion may contribute to Advance #982450, UMCOR International Disaster Response and Recovery. This fund will provide direct assistance to those in Ukraine as well as assistance to Ukrainians fleeing to neighboring countries. Gifts to support can be made in the following ways:

- Online at <https://umcmission.org/advance-project/982450>
- By toll-free telephone: 888-252-6174
- By check with "Advance #982450-Ukraine" written on the memo line, either mailed and addressed to Global Ministries/UMCOR, GPO, P.O. Box 9068, New York, NY, 10087-9068 or given at or through any United Methodist church

One hundred percent of all Advance contributions go to the designated cause. The UMC community in Ukraine, though quite small, is actively engaged in assisting neighbors in need. Global Ministries is in touch with the church's leadership as well as with church leaders in countries welcoming those who are fleeing from the violence (From UM Committee on Relief).

• **HUMOR MONTH** - April is National Humor Month. Enrich the life of someone by doing an activity or something humorous. Send a humorous thinking about you card or watch a funny movie or program. Do an act of kindness for a friend or family member. Humor is frequently shown to reduce stress and enrich the lives of individuals.

• **SPRING GRADUATES** - If you are graduating from high school or college in May or June, we want to honor you and celebrate your accomplishment. Please contact **Blannie Bowen** at 237-5131 or by email at blanniebowen@gmail.com with your information. Remember your congregation if you are moving away. Be sure to worship with us when you return for a visit. If you are staying in the area, continue to worship regularly with us.

• **MOTHER'S DAY** - Greece gave birth to Mother's Day, but the mother of Mother's Day in the US was Ann Marie Reeves Jarvis, the wife of a West Virginia Methodist pastor. Her daughter, Anna, led a campaign to have Mother's Day become a national holiday. Anna heard her mother express hope that a memorial would be established for mothers, living and dead. After her father's death in 1902, Anna, her mother, and sister moved to Philadelphia. After Ann's death in 1905, Anna began a drive to fulfill her mother's wish. On May 10, 1908, a program was held at Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton and in Philadelphia, launching a memorial day for mothers. The church later observed Mother's Day on the 2nd Sunday each year making Andrews the mother church of Mother's Day. The church, no longer an active Methodist congregation, was incorporated as an international shrine in 1962. Mother's Day will be celebrated in 2022 on May 8 (From UM News Service).

• **ASCENSION DAY** - Did you know that, as promised, Jesus appeared to His disciples 40 days after his crucifixion? Christians traditionally celebrate His ascension into heaven on the 40th day of Easter (May 26 in 2022). This event is followed by the Day of Pentecost to celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit in whose power this happens.

• **ANNUAL CONFERENCE** - Our Susquehanna UMC Annual Conference will be held June 1-3 at the Hershey Lodge. The business of our Conference will be conducted and many speakers will offer messages. Clergy, lay leaders, and lay members will attend. Please contact **Pastor McReynolds** or **Jackie Peagler** if you have questions about Annual Conference. You can also learn more about the Conference at <https://www.susumc.org/annual-conference/>.

• **F**INANCE CORNER - Each month the amount our church collects via offerings is posted in this section of the newsletter. Our March collections totaled \$4,514.75. See Cathy Bowen if you have questions about our church's finances.

• **Y**OUR ITEMS - Send, email to blanniebowen@gmail.com or give your items to **Blannie** by the **20th** of the month. Send your birthday, awards, church presentations, writings, etc.

Calendar

April 6	Last 7 Words – It's Finished , 7 p.m. (Facebook Live)
April 8	Racism Revealed: Then vs Now Conversation, 7 p.m.
April 13	Last 7 Words – Homecoming , 7 p.m. (A-B UMC & Facebook Live)
April 14	Maundy Thursday Service With Emmanuel Lutheran, 6:30 p.m.
April 15	Good Friday Service With Emmanuel Lutheran, 6:30 p.m.
April 16	Easter Egg Hunt, Bowen Home, 11 a.m.
April 17	Easter Sunday
April 19	Albright-Bethune Administrative Council Meets, 7 p.m.
April 29	Social Justice: We Shall Overcome Conversation, 7 p.m.
	Penn State Classes End
May 1	Native American Ministries Sunday
May 5	National Day of Prayer
May 6-8	Penn State Commencement Exercises
May 8	Mother's Day
May 10	Albright-Bethune Administrative Council Meets, 7 p.m.
May 26	Ascension Day
June 1-3	Susquehanna UMC Annual Conference, Hershey Lodge
June 5	Day of Pentecost
June 14	Albright-Bethune Administrative Council Meets, 7 p.m.
June 19	Father's Day; Juneteenth Day
July 4	Independence Day