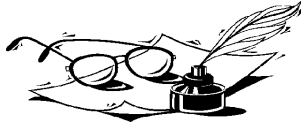




Corner of Beaver & Burrowes



A-B NEWSLETTER

• ALBRIGHT-BETHUNE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH •

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Blannie Bowen, Editor; Volume 29, Number 7, July 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).).

Family, I pray all is well with each of you!! As we are approaching summertime fun and much awaited vacation trips out of town, I want to say thank you to each one of you for allowing me to be your Pastor. Let us keep our church family in your prayers. Let us be in continued prayer for the Peagler family as well as for Ms. Cheraine Stanford and her family. Let us be in prayer for Mother Ireen Jones and let's keep Momma Jo Ferrell in our prayers. Share with friends and family to come out to our service or worship with us on Facebook Live every Sunday. Also, be aware that we are planning a Church Picnic/Worship Experience on July 31 at Tudek Park beginning at 11 am. Finally, let us be aware that we will join Park Forest Village UMC for vacation bible school on July 18- 21. The theme will be Discovery on Adventure Island. See below article for more details.

Dear Lord, it is our will to surrender to you everything that we are and everything that we are striving to be. We open the deepest recesses of our heart and invite Your Holy Spirit to dwell inside of us. Lord, we offer our heart, mind, body, soul, and spirit. We surrender to you our past, present, and future problems. Lord, we ask you to take hold over every aspect of our lives. We surrender to You all our hurt, pain, worry, doubt, fear, and anxiety, and we ask you to wash us clean. We release everything into Your compassionate care.

Please speak clearly, Lord. Open our ears to hear Your voice. Open our heart to commune with You more deeply. We want to feel Your loving embrace. Open the doors that need to be opened and close the doors that need to be closed. Please set our feet upon the straight and narrow road that leads to everlasting life. Amen. **Pastor Paul McReynolds**

• **M**OVE-IN SATURDAY - On August 20, many Penn State students will move into their apartments and dorms and we want to welcome them and their families. They will be allowed to use our parking lot to unload their vehicles. We will also give them water and information about our church. See Pastor McReynolds if you would like to assist with Move-in Saturday.

- **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** - Park Forest Village UMC is again inviting our congregation to participate its annual Vacation Bible School that will be held July 18-21. A light supper will be served at 5:30 pm and VBS will be held from 6-8:15. Participants are being sought who are age 5 thru 5th grade. This year's theme is Discovery on Adventure Island. You can register at www.pfvumc.org/vbs and also get more information by calling 814-238-2657. Volunteers are being sought to assist with VBS.
- **CHURCH PICNIC & OUTDOOR WORSHIP** - Our church has reserved Pavilion #1 at Tudek Park from 10-3 on July 31 so we can have our worship service outdoors at 11 and then a picnic. Please put this date on your calendar and plan to participate. Also, invite a friend or relative. More information will be provided as the date gets closer.
- **SPIKES GAME** – Our church plans to again attend a State College Spikes baseball game. **Wally Richardson** has agreed to again lead this effort and will reserve tickets. Wally will provide more details about the date and ticket price once they have been confirmed. This promises to be pleasant, safe, and enjoyable outing for our members and worshippers.
- **NEW POSITION** - The Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) has named **Cheraine Stanford** its Vice President for Television Content Strategy effective June 21. Cheraine will plan, lead, and execute projects and strategic initiatives that advance a mission-focused pipeline of public media content for national distribution across a diverse range of broadcast and digital platforms. For several years, she worked at WPSU where she served as Content Strategy Director and was responsible for developing and implementing the strategy for the station's original productions across digital, radio, and television. She also served as Chair of the PBS Digital Media Advisory Council. Her work garnered four Mid-Atlantic Emmy Awards, a George Foster Peabody Award, and several Mid-Atlantic Emmy nominations. Congratulations on your new position. Cheraine is one of our dedicated worshippers. Please continue to worship with us virtually as you relocate to the Washington, DC, area.
- **BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES** - Congratulations to these individuals who celebrate special days this month: July 4 – **Paul Amara, Jr.'s**, Birthday; July 7 – **Azalea Stevenson's** Birthday; July 26 – **Kadie Amara's** Birthday; July 29 – **Niki Dickerson vonLockette's** Birthday; July 30 – **India Warren's** Birthday; and July 31 – **Jacob Amara'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.
- **FEATURED IN ARTICLE** - On June 29, **Wally Richardson** was featured in a *Harrisburg Patriot* article about how a Penn State academic advisor inspired him to sharpen and practice his communications skills. In the article Wally also credits his parents for instilling his desire to learn and perform up to their standards. You can read the article at: <https://www.pennlive.com/pennstatefootball/2022/06/off-topic-how-a-psu-academic-advisor-inspired-wally-richardson-30-years-ago-to-maximize-his-words-jones.html?fbclid=IwAR0SEuO7W5ahPPh3md4tPqTUyn3q8LeDWMJ7KerCbgVrKZTKKh4rcGGTB4M>
- **AWARD** - **Michelle Torregano** recently received the Dr. Caryl J. Sheffield Award of Teaching and Mentoring during the California University of Pennsylvania's Hip Hop Conference. Michelle was also a panelist on a session about Critical Race Theory. Congratulations on the award. We are proud of your accomplishments. Michelle is a professor at California and has been associated with our congregation since she was a graduate student at Penn State.

- **SUPREME COURT RULING** - United Methodists with were alternately stunned and satisfied after the Supreme Court ruled that Roe v. Wade would no longer be the law of the land. The Court released the 5-3-1 [opinion](#) on June 24, but a leaked version of the ruling in May had already made the likely decision apparent. Justice Samuel Alito wrote the majority opinion. The Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization decision, which overturns the landmark Roe v. Wade ruling the high court made in 1973, gives the go-ahead to states to formulate their own policies on abortion. Some have already done so in anticipation of the ruling. Texas last year effectively outlawed abortion after the sixth week of pregnancy and allows almost any private citizen to sue anyone who helps a pregnant women terminate her pregnancy (From UM News, By Jim Patterson).
- **AFRICA UNIVERSITY GRADUATION** - On June 11, the academic achievements of 712 graduates from 18 African countries were recognized as they garnered degrees and top honors at Africa University’s 28th graduation ceremony. The event, held at the main campus in Mutare, focused on the theme, “Celebrating 30 Years of Excellence and Leadership Transformation in Africa.” The class represented the following nations: Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Congo, Côte d’Ivoire, Eswatini, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Africa University is a UMC related institution located in Zimbabwe (From UM News).
- **GRANT TO UPGRADE BATHROOMS** – A United Methodist Foundation grant proposal written by **Cathy Bowen** and submitted for funding has been approved. Rev. Edward Bailey informed Albright-Bethune on May 26 that this grant proposal would be fully funded in the amount of \$25,000. The grant monies will be used to remodel our basement social hall men’s and women’s restrooms. We will update them and make them accessible to individuals with physical limitations. A committee is seeking estimates from contractors and would appreciate suggestions. Before the work begins, plans will be shared with the congregation. The grant proposal included a matching amount (i.e., cost sharing) of funds from past and present members and attendees. Letters asking for special contributions towards this project will be coming soon. See **Carla Roser-Jones** if you have questions or want to offer suggestions.
- **SUMMER GRADUATES** - If you are graduating from high school or college this summer, 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.
- **EACH ONE, BRING ONE!** - Many individuals will soon move to the area when classes start at Penn State and in the schools. Some individuals will seek a church home to have a fulfilling religious experience. Take the time to share your worship experiences and then bring one of these individuals to church with you. Next, nurture and keep that person involved in our church. Don’t underestimate the impact that you can have if each one of us brings only one new person into our congregation. If each Albright-Bethune member and worshipper brings only one new person into our church family, we can begin a serious growth mode. See Pastor McReynolds for ideas that you can share with an un-churched person.
- **SUMMER OPTIONS** - Try the following to make your summer more enjoyable. Go outdoors to experience God’s creation. Have a class outside, take a hike or picnic, or pick-up litter in a park or along a roadside. Try a family weekend of camping at nearby sites such as Shaver’s Creek or Black Moshannon. Also, volunteer to take some children to recreational areas. These are excellent opportunities to teach our children about the creation stories.

- **BOY SCOUTS & THE UMC** - The UMC will continue to partner with the Boy Scouts of America, but in a new relationship that should lighten the load for local churches. That's a message denomination leaders are working to get across after a difficult two years that has included [the BSA's child sex abuse-related bankruptcy](#) proceeding and the pandemic. The practice of local churches serving as chartering organizations for Scouting groups will disappear. Instead, churches will have the option of entering into an affiliation agreement. Essentially, they will be promising to provide space and lots of support to Scouting groups, but supervisory responsibility will rest with local BSA Councils. The UMC and predecessor denominations have been a partner to the BSA for more than 100 years. Many local churches have not only been the headquarters for Scouting troops and packs, but also have recruited and screened adult leaders. In May 2022, about 6,600 Scouting units were chartered by UM churches in the US. However, in 2020, over 10,000 were chartered. The UMC remains the largest partner of BSA programs (From Article by Sam Hodges, UM News).
- **FINANCE CORNER** - Each month the amount our church collects via offerings is posted in this section of the newsletter. Our June collections totaled **\$5,188.50**. See Cathy Bowen if you have questions about our church's finances.
- **YOUR 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

July 4	Independence Day
July 12	Albright-Bethune Administrative Council Meets, 7 p.m.
July 18-21	Vacation Bible School at Park Forest UMC
July 31	Outdoor Worship & Church Picnic, Tudek Park, Pavilion #1
August 9	Albright-Bethune Administrative Council Meets
August 13	Penn State Summer Commencement
August 20	Move-In Day at Penn State
August 22	Penn State Classes Begin
September 5	Labor Day
September 13	Albright-Bethune Administrative Council Meets, 7 p.m.
October 2	World Communion Sunday
October 11	Albright-Bethune Administrative Council Meets, 7 p.m.
October 16	Laity Sunday
November 6	Daylight Savings Time Ends
November 8	Albright-Bethune Administrative Council Meets, 7 p.m.
November 13	Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday (Give Life)
November 20-26	Penn State Thanksgiving Holiday Break
November 24	Thanksgiving Day
November 27	United Methodist Student Sunday
Nov 27-Dec 24	The Season of Advent
December 9	Penn State Classes End
December 13	Albright-Bethune Administrative Council Meets, 7 p.m.
December 17	Penn State Fall Commencement

