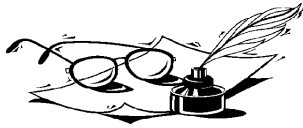




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# A-B NEWSLETTER

• ALBRIGHT-BETHUNE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH •

**Rev. Paul R. McReynolds, Pastor**

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Blannie Bowen, Editor; Volume 29, Number 5, May 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. We are in an amazing time of the year where we celebrate graduates and give thanks to our Mommas. This is a season of celebration and I am excited to share that with you this year. From our very own **McClane Dyreson** who will be graduating on May 7th! Congratulations to you, McClane, in completing this matriculation through Penn State. Let us also send our congratulations to **Matthew McQuillan** on his decision to attend the Northwestern University Law School. This is an exciting time in the lives of our young people. On May 8th we celebrate our mothers who loved us and cared for us. I'm hoping to see you on that Sunday for an amazing worship experience.

I want you all to know that my lovely girlfriend, Ariel, said yes and I'm excited for our future together. We are in the planning process right now and will have more information coming soon. Our wedding date is set for September 10, 2022, in Santa Ana, CA. Also, every morning we will have a prayer and devotional time on Facebook Live with Pastor Paul starting at 7:30 a.m.

I am so excited about the opportunity to build a partnership with Dr. Grace Hampton so seasoned saints and young people could engage in two intergenerational conversations about some difficult topics. Dr. Hampton received a Gen2Gen and ENCORE national fellowship to support her concept of Weaving Wisdom – Let's Talk About It. The first session was held on April 8 around the theme of **Racism Revealed: Then vs Now**. The second session on April 29 focused on **Social Justice: We Shall Overcome, But How?** Participants in both sessions discussed a set of guided questions and then shared in a caring open forum. Light snacks and drinks were served afterwards. Thanks to everyone who attended and made these sessions successful. Sincerely, [Paul McReynolds](mailto:Paul McReynolds)

- **D**EATH - Larry Young, one of Albright-Bethune's former members and worshippers, died on April 26 in Arizona. Larry served as the Director of Penn State's Paul Robeson Cultural Center for 22 years before he retired in 2004 and moved to the Phoenix area. Larry was an active member of Albright-Bethune and he served in several roles and capacities. He was a champion for Penn State students and an eloquent speaker who could address various topics and issues. He was the inspiration behind the annual Larry Young Fish Fry, which financially benefitted the Lawrence Young Scholarship at Penn State. Larry requested that there be no funeral or memorial service.
- **S**PRING GRADUATES – Congratulations to **McClane Dyreson** who is graduating from Penn State this month with a degree in economics. McClane plans to pursue employment in the financial sector. If you know others who are graduating from high school or college in May or June, we also want to honor them and celebrate their accomplishment. Please contact **Blannie Bowen** at 814-777-6550 or by email at [blanniebowen@gmail.com](mailto:blanniebowen@gmail.com) with your information.
- **P**HONE ADDICTION SESSION - On April 24, **Zan Dyreson** led a program and session at Albright-Bethune about telephone addiction and some tips and tricks to avoid getting addicted. During the screening and discussion, lots of helpful information was shared. If you have questions or want more information, please contact Zan. She is completing her first year at Penn State.
- **L**AW SCHOOL STUDENT - Congratulations to **Matthew McQuilla**, one of our former worshippers from Columbia, SC, who has decided to attend law school at Northwestern University. Matthew was admitted to several prominent law schools, but he chose Northwestern because of its ranking and capacity to offer the types of law that he wants to pursue. This summer, he will complete an internship with a law firm in Boston before he starts classes this fall at Northwestern. In May of 2021, Matthew graduated from Penn State with his Master of International Affairs degree. Matthew is a faithful participant in our church's Wednesday Zoom meeting.
- **S**TUDY ABROAD - **Braden Dyreson** is making plans to study abroad in Germany this summer. Braden plans to spend about a month enhancing his skills. He is a junior at Penn State and is majoring in philosophy. Braden is regular contributor to the Penn State *Daily Collegian* student newspaper.
- **E**ASTER EGG HUNT – On April 16, our church again held its annual Easter egg hunt at the Bowen home. The weather cooperated and almost 40 children, teens, and adults participated in our first egg hunt since 2019. Special thanks to **Carla Roser-Jones** who provided most of the leadership in organizing and conducting this event. Also, thanks to **Jo** and **Don Ferrell** who stuffed almost 400 eggs before the egg hunt. On the morning of the hunt, special thanks to **McClane, Zan,** and **Katie Dyreson** for hiding the eggs and placing the signs and directions.
- **E**SPN APPEARANCE - On April 18, **Mark Dyreson**, one of our faithful members and worshippers, appeared on the ESPN documentary entitled *The Paterno Legacy*. The E60 program was about the legacy of Penn State football coach Joe Paterno 10 years after he was fired because of the Jerry Sandusky scandal and conviction for molesting boys. Mark is a Penn State faculty member and sports historian who offered his thoughts about how Coach Paterno's legacy is now perceived. Paterno's 409 victories are the most in major college football, but his stellar reputation and legacy have been tarnished by the actions of Sandusky who was one of his long term assistant coaches.

• **BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES** - Congratulations to these individuals who celebrate special days this month: May 4 - **Donald Ferrell's** Birthday; May 5 - **Douglas Bowen's** Birthday; May 13 - **Sara Roser-Jones'** Birthday; May 28 – **Pastor Paul & Kadie Amara's** Wedding Anniversary; and May 28 - **Alexandra Dyreson's** Birthday. Give Blannie your special dates (call/text 814-777-6550 or email [blanniebowen@gmail.com](mailto:blanniebowen@gmail.com) ) so we can honor you on your special dates.

• **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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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).

• **UNIVERSITY CHOIR PERFORMANCE** - **Braden** and **Zan Dyreson**, two Albright-Bethune members, are also members of the University Choir at Penn State. On April 24, the Oriana Singers and the University Choir gave a performance on campus that was enjoyed by all who attended. Thanks Braden and Zan for sharing your musical talents.

• **PRAYER SERVICE** – Our church is holding a prayer service on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

• **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://umcmision.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).

• **WESLEY'S BIRTHDAY** - As John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement, grew older, on his birthday he often commented how he was still in good health because God had blessed him. His birthday reflections give us a glimpse into how he viewed his life, health, and ministry. United Methodists around the globe celebrate Wesley's birthday on June 28.

- **M**ENTAL HEALTH MONTH - May is Mental Health Month. If you are looking for information to review or share with a friend, family members, the congregation, and others, go to this [website](#) which has various types of resources. Also, May 10-15 is Mental Health Awareness Week. Please consider making an offering to support mental health events in our Conference. The special offering number 4050. Let's work together to create caring communities whose doors are open to everyone (From the Susquehanna UMC Conference *QuikLink*, April 30, 2021).
- **A**SCENSION 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 40<sup>th</sup> 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.
- **A**NNUAL 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/>.
- **P**ENTECOST – Pentecost is derived from the Greek word “pentekost” meaning 50<sup>th</sup>. It is commemorative of the descent of the Holy Ghost on the apostles. It is held 50 days after Easter and 10 days after Christ's ascension. In 2022, Pentecost will be celebrated on June 5. The Jews also celebrated 50 days after Passover in a feast called Pentecost.
- **F**INANCE CORNER - Each month the amount our church collects via offerings is posted in this section of the newsletter. Our April collections totaled \$14,216.71. See Cathy Bowen if you have questions about our church's finances.

Also, are you interested in learning more about biblical principles related to managing personal finances? If yes, I have an extra copy of *Meditations for Financial Freedom* by Deforest B. Soaries (65 pages). The book offers daily meditations that inform and inspire on financial issues related to saving, investing, retirement, and employment. It's yours for the asking. Call or text me @ 814-574-8346. Submitted by Cathy Bowen

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

<b>Calendar</b>	
May 1-31	Mental Health Month
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