



Corner of Beaver & Burrowes



# A-B NEWSLETTER

• ALBRIGHT-BETHUNE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH •

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Blannie Bowen, Editor; Volume 25, Number 8, August 2018

## From the Desk of Pastor Pamela Ford

Dear Friends in Christ,

August! Yikes! I know this is a time of transition for many in our community. This year will bring a big shift for me as both my local grandkids will be in school! I've had one or both of them with me a couple days each week for almost 8 years! There are mixed feelings for sure as I enjoy seeing them grow up and move on to new things, but now I will have to move on to a different rhythm in my life. I'm grateful that Owen comforts me with the knowledge that there will be frequent sleepovers at Grammy's.

You have such times as well. Joy and tears. New chapters begin. The old and familiar come to a screeching halt. Some changes are sought after and welcome; others we never would have chosen! Even good change involves a sense of loss. In a town like ours with people coming and going with some frequency, faces at the table and in the pews will change. Wherever we are, we can look around and see the signs of folks regaining their balance in "new normal" situations. In our A-B neighborhood the signs will come in the form of boxes being unloaded, long lines at Target and Walmart, and parents getting into empty cars for the drive home!

Let this be a challenge for us! Even as we go through the transitions of our particular season of life, let's be aware of others around us: new students and colleagues, empty-nesters, folks with health challenges, the recently bereaved. Can we take a moment to listen to the stories of the journeys of both our longtime neighbors and the new people in our midst? Can we offer support whether it be in the form of a listening ear, a cup of coffee, or a promise to pray?

My prayers are with all of the A-B family in this time of increasing activity and new commitments! May you know the presence of the Lord with you, and may you rest in the knowledge that, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." (Hebrews 13:8)

Walking with you - **Pastor Pam**

- **M**OVE-IN DAY - Once again, Albright-Bethune members and worshippers will help PSU students on Saturday, August 18, as they move into the apartments near our church. You can help! Cases of water may be brought to the church on Sundays, August 5 and 12. On these two Sundays, there will be a sign-up sheet for people to volunteer to give out water and greet folks on the 18<sup>th</sup> between 9 a.m.-2 p.m. If you can give even an hour, it will be a big help! **India Warren** is coordinating the volunteer schedule. We will permit parking in our lot for students unloading their belongings.
- **C**DG PICNIC - The Community Diversity Group (CDG) of Centre County is hosting a family potluck picnic on Saturday, August 18, from 3-5 p.m. at Sunset Park on McKee Street. Please plan to attend and bring a dish to share. Call (814) 574-1302 if you have questions about the picnic.
- **A**CTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING - A Centre County Houses of Worship Active Shooter Response Training will be held on August 17 from 9-noon and from 1-4 p.m. at Centre Lifelink located at 125 Puddintown Road. All participants must register no later than one week before the class. Registration is limited to 60 participants and early registration is recommended. Go to [www.scmrtf.org](http://www.scmrtf.org) and locate the course under the Events Calendar; registration information will be found there. Upon submission of the completed registration form, an email confirmation will be sent to you. This 3-hour training will provide "Active Shooter: Preparation and Response" information based on Department of Homeland Security (DHS) best practices tailored for Houses of Worship or other open venues.
- **B**IRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES - Congratulations to these individuals who celebrate special days this month: August 3 – **Milea Perry's** Birthday; August 5 – **Niki Dickerson vonLockette & Paris vonLockette's** Wedding Anniversary; August 5 – **Abby Jones' Birthday**; August 16 - **Christopher Roser Jones' Birthday**; August 16 – **Andrew & Victoria Jackson's** Wedding Anniversary; August 19 – **Dawn Witherspoon's** Birthday; August 21 - **Donald Ferrell, Jr.'s** Birthday; August 21 – **JoDee & Mark Dyreson's** Wedding Anniversary; August 22 – **Deborah Atwater & Bill Asbury's** Wedding Anniversary; August 24 – **Tara Scales Williams' Birthday**; August 24 – **Alexa Saunders' Birthday**; August 25 – **Rev. Kathleen and Wayne Danley's** Wedding Anniversary; August 27 - **Josephine Ferrell's** Birthday; and August 27 - **McClane Dyreson's** Birthday. Give Blannie your special dates so we can honor you (call 237-5131 or email [blanniebowen@gmail.com](mailto:blanniebowen@gmail.com)).
- **L**EADERSHIP SUMMIT - A Global Leadership Summit will be two days of inspiring, challenging, and life-changing teaching that God can use to shape our lives and light up our world. You are invited to join Faith Church of Bellefonte on August 9-10 for world-class leadership training from pastors, authors, and business leaders. Registration forms are for one day; payments can be made by cash, check or credit card. Contact Pastor Andy at [andy.morgan@bellefontefaith.com](mailto:andy.morgan@bellefontefaith.com) or call (814) 355-3358 for more information.
- **R**ECEPTION OF MEMBERS - As we continue to create an accurate roster of Albright-Bethune members, it's clear that some who worship here regularly have not taken the step to become church members or transfer membership from a former congregation. If this is your situation, you are invited to let the pastor know that you are ready to promise your "Prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness" through the ministry of this congregation!
- **A-B** WEBSITE - With the help of Paul Cassarly of Cassus Media, our A-B website is now current! Please visit [www.albrightbethuneumc.org](http://www.albrightbethuneumc.org) to view our church calendar, listen to the sermons, and learn more about the congregation and the ministries we support.

- **FAMILY SEPARATIONS** - The UMC Council of Bishops has joined other faith organizations in a statement urging the U.S. government to stop its policy of separating immigrant families. The statement was also signed by dozens of other faith organizations. Bishop Kenneth H. Carter, president of the UMC Council of Bishops, signed the statement on behalf of the Council (From UM News Service).
- **MEALS FOR CHILDREN** - Volunteers are needed to serve meals to children on Tuesdays and Thursdays through August 16 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Abba Java Coffeehouse at St. Paul's UM Church. All food and supplies are provided by the Penn State Healthy Bodies Project through the USDA's Summer Food Service Program. Meals are provided to all children without charge. Volunteers must have Safe Sanctuary clearance. To volunteer, contact **Renae Schunk** at [rschunk@stpaulsc.org](mailto:rschunk@stpaulsc.org).
- **MISSIONARIES RELEASED** – UMC bishops are praising God that the three young UMC missionaries detained by the Republic of the Philippines were allowed to leave and are now reunited with their families. American Adam Shaw reached his parents' home in Ohio on July 4; Zimbabwean Tawanda Chandiwana landed in Zimbabwe on July 6; and Malawian Miracle Osman was allowed to join her parents in Malawi on July 11. Chandiwana had been incarcerated for eight weeks, while Osman and Shaw were prohibited from leaving because of visa and passport red tape. They came under surveillance when they took part in February in an international investigation of alleged human rights violations on the island of Mindanao, which is under martial law. They and UMC leaders in the Philippines denied any wrong doing (From UM News Service).
- **LITURGISTS & TEACHERS NEEDED** – Please consider playing a more active role in our congregation. Volunteers are being sought to be Sunday School teachers and our liturgist during worship. Contact **Carla Roser-Jones** if you are interested in either or both opportunities. You can reach Carla at (814) 880-9302 if you do not catch her before or after our worship service.
- **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 Ford 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 found in Genesis or other Biblical texts.
- **GRADUATE** - If you are graduating from high school or college this month, we want to honor you and celebrate your accomplishment. Please contact **Blannie Bowen** at 237-5131 or by email at [blanniebowen@gmail.com](mailto:blanniebowen@gmail.com) with your information. Remember your congregation if you are moving away from the area. Be sure to worship with us when you return for a visit. If you are staying in the area, please continue to worship regularly with us.

- **HISTORICALLY BLACK UMC COLLEGES** – There are 11 Historically Black Colleges that are affiliated with the United Methodist Church. Do you know a graduate of these institutions? Several are regular worshippers in our church. The list of institutions includes Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach, FL; Bennett College in Greensboro, NC; Claflin College in Orangeburg, SC; Clark-Atlanta University in Atlanta; Dillard University in New Orleans; Huston-Tillotson College in Austin, TX; Meharry Medical College in Nashville, TN; Paine College in Augusta, GA; Philander-Smith College in Little Rock, AR; Rust College in Holly Springs, MS; and Wiley College in Marshall, TX.
- **YOUR 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>	
August 8	Penn State Classes End
August 11	Penn State Summer Commencement
August 14	Albright-Bethune Administrative Council Meets, 7 p.m.
August 18	Penn State Move-in Day, 9-2 p.m. Community Diversity Group Picnic, Sunset Park, 3-5 p.m.
August 20	Penn State Classes Begin
September 3	Labor Day
September 11	Albright-Bethune Administrative Council Meets, 7 p.m.
October 7	Albright-Bethune Visioning Session; World Communion Sunday
October 9	Albright-Bethune Administrative Council Meets, 7 p.m.
October 21	Laity Sunday
November 4	Daylight Savings Time Ends
November 11	Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday (Give Life)
November 12-18	National Bible Week
November 13	Albright-Bethune Administrative Council Meets, 7 p.m.
November 18-24	Penn State Thanksgiving Holiday Break
November 22	Thanksgiving Day
November 25	United Methodist Student Sunday
December 2-24	The Season of Advent
December 7	Penn State Classes End
December 11	Albright-Bethune Administrative Council Meets, 7 p.m.
December 15	Penn State Fall Commencement

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**• Birthday, Anniversary, & Special Dates •**

Please share your birthday, anniversary, and other big dates. Complete this form and give it to an usher. If you prefer, send it to Blannie Bowen at [blanniebowen@gmail.com](mailto:blanniebowen@gmail.com) or call 237-5131.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_\_\_  
 Wedding Anniversary \_\_\_\_\_ Other Dates \_\_\_\_\_