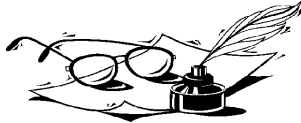




+Corner of Beaver & Burrowes



# A-B NEWSLETTER

• ALBRIGHT-BETHUNE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH •

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

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Blannie Bowen, Editor; Volume 28, Number 10, October 2021

*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 yours. As we enter into the month of October, we are now experiencing the fall. I am excited about the opportunities to do ministry in the life of the church and the community. I want to make everyone aware that on Wednesday, October 5, at 7pm Nikole Hannah-Jones will be presenting virtually at Penn State. She will be speaking on the 1619 Project and the legacy that built the nation. The link is below so you can register and attend.

Volunteers Needed! Albright-Bethune has an opportunity to bring in extra resources via sharing our parking lot to our community to use during home football game days. This is a great opportunity for us to be building bridges of hope in our community. We are not just sharing our parking lot, we are greeting our neighbors, and welcoming them to our home. We have 3 games left on October 23, November 13, and November 20. We open the lot from 7 am-1 am and will have two shifts from 7-9 am and 10-12 pm. Please contact Pastor and **Jason Adams** if you would like to assist.

Also, I am excited to announce that Youth Sunday School will begin this upcoming Sunday on October 3. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to **Mrs. Carla Roser-Jones** for more information: ([carla.roseljones@gmail.com](mailto:carla.roseljones@gmail.com)). In addition, I will be leading a Bible Study starting on October 20 at 7 pm here at A-B. I hope to see you there. This will be a 4-part series on the Book of James. Blessings upon each of you!! Sincerely, [Paul McReynolds](#).

**Nikole Hannah-Jones Registration:**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdISLTYcGUvagLFYVgIk\\_wZ3Z4AiVlt\\_xeCXC8clSw3y-AZ6A/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdISLTYcGUvagLFYVgIk_wZ3Z4AiVlt_xeCXC8clSw3y-AZ6A/viewform)

- **BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES** - Congratulations to these individuals who celebrate special days this month: October 2 – **Juliet Jones**' Birthday; October 18 – **Campbell Jones**' Birthday; October 18 - **JoDee Dyreson's** Birthday; October 20 – **David Nembhard's** Birthday; and October 28 - **Darrin Ferrell'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.
- **DEATH** - Alan Payne, one of our former worshippers, died September 11 at Mount Nittany Medical Center. On September 21, a viewing and visitation were held at Albright-Bethune before his funeral service. Thanks to everyone who assisted with the preparation and conduct of the service that Pastor McReynolds officiated. Alan worked at the Applied Research Lab (ARL) at Penn State for almost 40 years. He was also very active in the Forum on Black Affairs (FOBA) campus organization. Alan served as FOBA's president and was active on several committees. He graduated from Morehouse College and studied mathematics. Alan's wife of 55 years and one of our members (Margie) died last year. Memorial contributions may be directed to the T. Alan Payne Penn State Engineering Scholarship to benefit engineering students in need via the secure webpage at [www.facebook.com/paynescholars](http://www.facebook.com/paynescholars).
- **FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBER** - The United Methodist Foundation of Western Pennsylvania (Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference) and The United Methodist Stewardship Foundation (Susquehanna Annual Conference) have agreed to merge. **Cathy Bowen** has agreed to serve on the board of the newly formed foundation, effective October 1. An orientation meeting for this board was held September 29. The foundation's role will be to complement and reinforce the stewardship ministries of the UM churches, agencies, and programs primarily in Pennsylvania. See Cathy if you have questions about this board.
- **LAITY SUNDAY** - Our congregation will celebrate Laity Sunday on October 17. On this day, members of the congregation will play increased roles in conducting our worship service. Laity Sunday is an invitation for the whole church to remember that all of the baptized, lay, and clergy together are the people of God. Our English word "laity" comes from the Greek word "laos" meaning, "people." Laity Sunday celebrates the ministry of *all* Christians to love God and neighbor
- **FIRST AMERICANS MUSEUM** - The Native American experience during and after colonization has been told before, often inaccurately. The [First Americans Museum](#) in Oklahoma City aims to get it right, at least the Oklahoma part. The \$175 million, 175,000-square-foot facility is an effort to cover the history of Oklahoma's 39 federally recognized tribes. Its grand opening on September 18-19 drew thousands to get a first look. The Rev. Chebon Kernell, a United Methodist elder and executive director of the denomination's [Native American Comprehensive Plan](#), attended a groundbreaking for the museum more than 15 years ago. It has faced numerous delays, mostly around funding, through the years. His priority in being involved is "to ensure that the story is being told from the perspective of Native American/indigenous peoples. United Methodists from the [Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference](#) are involved with various facets of the museum (From article by Jim Patterson, UM News).
- **IMPACT OF PANDEMIC** - Hartford (CT) Seminary has been awarded a five-year, \$5.3 million grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. to fund research into how congregations are changing, innovating, and establishing new ministry practices because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Hartford Institute for Religion Research will assist the Faith Communities Today project as it tracks the pandemic's effects on churches. United Methodist Communications, a member of Faith Communities Today, will be inviting United Methodist leaders and members to participate in the study (From the UM News Service - [Read press release](#)).

• **VISIT BY NEW BISHOPS** - On September 1, **Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi** and **Bishop Sandra Steiner Ball** began Episcopal oversight of the Susquehanna Conference. Both Bishops are excited to begin this new assignment as they replace Bishop Jeremiah Park who has retired. For the Bishops to begin to become acquainted with our Conference and its seven districts, there will be clergy/laity gatherings in each district. All clergy and laity are invited to attend one of the district gatherings. At least one of the bishops will be in person at each gathering. The gathering for our State College District will be held on October 16 from 2-4:30 pm at Mount Nittany UMC. The agenda has been planned by our Bishops and will include:

- Gathering worship and Renewal of Baptism
- Sharing of who each Bishop is (Their call stories, leadership styles, and hopes and dreams for the continuing the UMC)
- Facilitated conversation and sharing of the hopes and dreams of the gathered community
- The most critical things our new Bishops need to know about the district
- Q & A

These gatherings will not be live-streamed. However, there will be videos of the gatherings on the website after all have concluded. Because of the increase in the COVID variant, all participants will be expected to wear masks and social distance as much as possible. Registration is essential to make sure there is adequate space. To register for the gatherings please go to: <https://susumc.org/bishops-district-gatherings/>

• **STRESS REDUCERS** - With the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays approaching, now is a good time to reflect on an issue of A Christian Perspective newsletter that offered 7 ways to reduce stress and make your life more enjoyable. **(1)** Allow time everyday for privacy, quiet, and introspection. **(2)** When you face an unpleasant task, do it early in the day. **(3)** Delegate responsibility to capable individuals. **(4)** Take a lunch break to get away from your problems. **(5)** Count to 1,000 (not 10) before doing or saying something to make matters worse. **(6)** Have a forgiving view of events and people because we live in an imperfect world. **(7)** Have an optimistic outlook because most people do the best they can.

• **FALL OPTIONS** - Try the following to make your transition from summer to fall more enjoyable. Go outdoors to experience God's creation and watch the leaves begin to change colors. Have a class outside, take a hike, go on a picnic, or pick-up litter in a park or along a roadside. Try a weekend of camping at nearby sites such as Shaver's Creek or Black Moshannon. Also, volunteer to take children to recreational areas. These are excellent opportunities to teach children about the creation stories in Genesis or other Biblical texts.

• **DEVOUT METHODIST** - Jackie Robinson, the baseball star who integrated Major League Baseball in 1947, was a devout Methodist. Robinson had a little-known ally helping him stay stoic and perform well through the fierce resistance he faced: his faith. "After a tense day at the ballpark, Robinson would head to his bedroom, get on his knees and pray for strength and courage," says his wife, Rachel Robinson. Read more in the book "**Jackie Robinson: A Spiritual Autobiography**," by Michael G. Long and Chris Lamb (Westminster John Knox). You can order it from [cokesbury.com](http://cokesbury.com) (From the August 6, 2021 Susquehanna **QuikLINK**)

• **WORSHIP SERVICE** - Our Sunday worship service begins at 11 a.m. and is available both in-person in our sanctuary and on Facebook Live. Masking and social distancing are expected by all who attend our in-person worship consistent with CDC recommendations and State College Borough mandate.

**Holy Club (HC): Hour of Power**  
Lesson Plan for Monday Night Live

**OVERVIEW & PURPOSE**

Pastor McReynolds is leading an experience at Albright-Bethune on Monday nights from 6-7 p.m. that will give students the opportunity to slow down for a moment and process their experiences thus far in the week. The group will be using the Holy Club Questions and given the opportunity to teach and lead this activity. Pastor McReynolds will do an 8-minute bible study or homily for our fellow community members. This experience will give us an opportunity to build a consistent prayer and bible study time while also engaging our peers and community with the Word of God.

**OBJECTIVES**

Jude 1:1b *“To those who are called, wrapped in the love of God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ.”*

- Word - The Word is central in what we do and how we will guide ourselves through the Journey of Life.
- Response - In our debrief, we will engage each other by our response to the word in song, stories, and life learned lessons.
- Attitude - When we engage each other, it will be done with respect, love, and kindness.
- Prayer - Prayer is essential to who we are. It is our place of intimacy with God, the Father, our Savior, and the Holy Ghost. This is our foundation in all that we do.

John Wesley's 21 Questions that we will use for this experience can be found at:

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/586d5ea920099e929f4f959d/t/58e677d3414fb51e91034f08/1491498963468/Wesley%27s+21+Questions.pdf>

- **F INANCE CORNER** - Each month the amount our church collects via offerings is posted in this section of the newsletter. Our September collections totaled **\$\$4,957.20**. See Cathy Bowen if you have questions about our church's finances.

**Calendar**

October 3	World Communion Sunday
October 10	Disability Awareness Sunday
October 12	Albright-Bethune Administrative Council Meets, 7 p.m.
October 16	Bishops Visit State College UMC District, 2-4:30 p.m.
October 17	Laity Sunday
November 7	Daylight Savings Time Ends
November 9	Albright-Bethune Administrative Council Meets, 7 p.m.
November 14	Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday (Give Life)
November 21-27	Penn State Thanksgiving Holiday Break
November 25	Thanksgiving Day
November 28	United Methodist Student Sunday
Nov 28-Dec 24	The Season of Advent
December 10	Penn State Classes End
December 18	Penn State Commencement