



Corner of Beaver & Burrowes



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. (Matthew 25:34-36, Luke 4:18-19)

Family, I pray all is well with each and every one of you as we are still reeling with the pandemic becoming apart of our everyday lives. Our little ones are going back to school and our grandchildren and sons and daughters starting new chapters in college. To some of us as teachers and leaders being in uncharted territory stepping into places that are completely different, we are in the era of new norms. In the midst of all that we are experiencing, I want to encourage each and every one of you today. The text that speaks loud in my spirit on today and this season is, Joshua 1:9 which says, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." Keep on pushing during the journey we are just at the beginning of a new route the Lord is leading us on.

I am excited to be engraining myself in the community here in State College. I am the new Chaplain for the Alpha Fire Department. I will have some updated information coming soon. I am excited to serve and to be a part of something that I love. I served as an EMT for nearly 5 years back home in California. I am loving the fact that I can still serve but in a different capacity

I have met with some of you already and so many I have not met yet. I am excited we are moving forward on our first 100 days initiative. I would love to meet with each of you. Please look for the emails from Jason Adams in the coming days. There is still a lot of time. Family, I also want to let you know that you can reach me at the church Monday/Wednesday between 10-2 pm at 237-4404. You can also reach me at home at (814) 308-9099. My cell is (657) 245-6651 after my office hours. After 7 pm, calls will go to my voicemail and I will respond appropriately when it's an emergency and will call you the next day. Fridays are my day off. I will not respond unless it's an emergency. Please leave me a message. Thank you all for being understanding and know that I am here for you and want to be the best Shepherd to this amazing flock the Lord has entrusted to me.

I am so humbled and honored that my dear brother and friend Ray W. Allen III will share the word with us on Sunday, September 13. I want to share some details about my brother Ray who is a native of Memphis. He graduated from the G.W. Carver HS in South Memphis where he grew up. Upon graduating from high school, Ray received a full music scholarship to Wiley College in

A-B NEWSLETTER

• ALBRIGHT-BETHUNE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH •

Rev. Paul R. McReynolds, Pastor

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Blannie Bowen, Editor; Volume 27, Number 9, September 2020

Marshall, TX, home of the *Great Debaters*. During his matriculation, he was a part of the A Cappella Choir under the leadership of Stephen L. Hayes. Upon graduating with his BA in Business Management, he was awarded a full scholarship to Gammon Theological Seminary. He recently graduated with his Master of Divinity with a concentration in Pastoral Care and Counseling from Gammon at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta. Ray continues to let his light shine while serving as Assistant Pastor at Cliftondale UMC in College Park, GA. His favorite scripture is: **Psalms 27:1** *The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?* Blessings family, **Pastor Paul Ryan McReynolds**

- **JOINT WORSHIP SERVICE** - Pastor McReynolds is conducting one online worship service at 10:30 for both worshippers at Albright-Bethune and Park Forest. Rather than repeat a worship service and sermon without any interaction with worshippers, both congregations decided to hold a single service that alternates between the two church buildings. This approach to worship will continue until it's safe to hold services in the two church buildings. You can watch our worship service from the Facebook link on our church's homepage.

- **ARTICLES & PODCAST** - **Braden Dyreson**, one of our long term and faithful worshippers, is continuing to develop his skills as a journalist while he completes his studies at Penn State. This year he is a sophomore majoring in philosophy. Braden is also an opinion columnist and podcaster for the *Daily Collegian*, the student newspaper. Please take the time to read some of his articles at <https://www.collegian.psu.edu/users/profile/braden%20dyreson/>. Also, you can watch his podcast at this site: <https://www.collegian.psu.edu/search/?l=25&sort=relevance&f=html&t=article%2Cvideo%2Cyoutube%2Ccollection&app=editorial&nsa=eedition&q=We+Are...+Trying+Our+Best>. If you have questions about his articles or the podcast or want to contact Braden, you can reach him by email at bsd5216@psu.edu.

- **PUBLICATION** - Congratulations to **Matthew McQuilla**, another faithful worshipper, who recently published a conceptual paper with Larry Catá Backer, a Penn State Law professor. Their paper is entitled, *The Algorithmic Law of Business and Human Rights: Constructing a Private Transnational Law of Ratings, Social Credit, and Accountability Measures*. Their paper is available at SSRN at https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3684196. If you have questions about the paper, contact Matthew at mbm6380@psu.edu. Congratulations to Matthew who is completing his master's degree in International Affairs at Penn State.

- **OFFICE HOURS** - Pastor McReynolds has office hours at Albright-Bethune on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9-2. You can also reach him by email at pmcreynolds@susumc.org or call the church office at (814) 237-4404 during office hours. At other times, you can reach Pastor McReynolds on his home phone at (814) 308-9099.

- **CHURCH ZOOM MEETINGS** – Do you miss seeing and hearing other Albright-Bethune members and worshippers? Well, our congregation holds weekly meetings on Wednesday nights from 7-8 p.m. using Zoom. Given the uncertainty of the pandemic, the meetings will continue. This is an excellent opportunity to see and hear each other, socialize, and stay aware of church activities. An email is sent each week with the process for connecting. You can also participate by audio. Please see Pastor McReynolds or Jackie Peagler if you have questions.

- **BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES** - Congratulations to these individuals who celebrate special days this month: September 5 – **Harriet & David Nembhard's** Wedding Anniversary; September 15 - **Cathy Bowen's** Birthday; and September 23 – **Charlotte Nembhard's** Birthday Give Blannie your special dates (call/text 814-777-6550 or email blanniebowen@gmail.com).

- **T**HANKS FROM THE AMARAS - Pastor Paul and Kadie Amara continue to adjust to Williamsport and their new surroundings. They said that words are not enough to express their sincere thanks to all for your love and care of their family while they were in State College. Also, they said that knowing you has been a great blessing for their family.
- **H**URRICANE LAURA - Rev. Angela Cooley Bulhof evacuated with her family to Houston ahead of [Hurricane Laura](#), but word reached her quickly that her church, University UMC in Lake Charles, LA, took a big hit from the powerful storm. [A handful of other UMC buildings](#) in southwest Louisiana, including University UMC's satellite campus, were damaged to varying degrees. Louisiana Conference Bishop Cynthia Fierro Harvey expressed gratitude that the hurricane caused less storm surge flood damage than had been feared. Hurricane Laura brought winds of up to 150 miles an hour as it made landfall along southwest Louisiana and southeast Texas on August 27. Laura is blamed for 17 deaths and left thousands without power. Aerial photos confirmed the devastation around Lake Charles, including destroyed homes and businesses. UMC clergy in that city and elsewhere in southwest Louisiana joined other residents in evacuating before the hurricane and were scrambling from afar to get reports on their churches and residences. Bulhof shared photos of badly damaged homes of University UMC staff and members. She had an encouraging early report on her home but knew that the Day School of University UMC was clobbered, and that church campus damage was widespread generally (By Sam Hodges, UM News).
- **W**OMEN'S RIGHT TO VOTE - Crowds jammed into the Tennessee state capitol on a hot August morning in 1920 for what all expected to be a momentous day. The question on everyone's mind: How would the Tennessee legislators vote on U.S. women's right to vote? Ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution required 36 states' approval, and 35 states were already in hand. However, ratification was far from assured. [Most of Tennessee's southern neighbors](#) had rejected the measure. The state's legislature faced pressure to do the same and begin sounding the amendment's death knell. Suffragists in the gallery that morning knew that only 47 of the 96 legislators present were committed to their cause. They had little hope that eastern Tennessee Rep. Harry T. Burn, the state's youngest legislator at age 24, would join their ranks. The suffragists could see that Burn's lapel bore a red rose, a symbol of opposition to the women's vote. What they could not see was the letter in his pocket - carrying advice from his Methodist mother. "Dear Son: Hurrah, and vote for suffrage!" Phoebe "Febb" Burn wrote from the town of Niota, Tennessee, where she attended what is now [Niota United Methodist Church](#). "Don't keep them in doubt." Her son's sudden "aye" tied the vote and emboldened fellow legislator Banks Turner to give the decisive 49th assent. Thus, Tennessee secured women citizens a voice in their nation's democracy, including in that year's presidential election (By Heather Hahn, UM News).
- **M**EETINGS WITH PASTOR MCREYNOLDS - During his first 100 days as our pastor, Rev. McReynolds wants to meet in person (via phone/Zoom) with every member, worshipper, and family of Albright-Bethune. This meeting is to get to know you and gain your perspectives, and individual and congregational needs. Several emails have been sent with the specifics about scheduling a meeting. If you have not already replied, please check your email inbox and reply. If you have deleted these emails, please send an email to our church and request to have the sign-up process sent to you again. Our church email address is albrightbethuneumc206@gmail.com. Also, if you do not use email, please call our church at (814) 237-4404 and leave a message that you want to schedule a meeting. Be sure to leave your phone number so our church staff assistant (Jason Adams) or Pastor McReynolds can contact you. Pastor McReynolds wants to conduct all meetings by October 8.

- **ANNUAL CONFERENCE** – Our 2020 Susquehanna Annual Conference will be held October 3 in Williamsport. See Pastor McReynolds or Jackie Peagler if you have questions.
- **FINANCE CORNER** - Each month the amount our church collects via offerings is posted in this section of the newsletter. Our August collections totaled **\$3,384**. See Cathy Bowen if you have questions about our church’s finances.

Thanks for your continued support by sending paper checks to PO Box 153 (16804) or by sending them electronically using **Vanco** and **Cash App**. Here are more details on the options.

Vanco

1. Use the link on the [church website](#) to donate online. You can (a) send the same predetermined amount on the same day each week or month or (b) give sporadically whatever amount you like.
2. You can also download the **GIVE +** (Give Plus) app that is associated with **Vanco** and send money from your smart phone whenever you like. When donors are logged into their **Give +** account, they can review their giving history, and manage recurring donations. An advantage of using **Vanco** is you receive confirmation of each donation and have easy access to a yearly record of your giving.

Cash App

Download **Cash App** from your smartphone App Store and search for *\$albrightbethune* to donate. You will receive a text message from Cathy Bowen to acknowledge that your donation has been received.

If you need help using these options, don’t hesitate to ask me. Submitted by Cathy Bowen

- **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	
September 1	Albright-Bethune Administrative Council Meets, 7 p.m.
September 7	Labor Day
October 4	World Communion Sunday
October 6	Albright-Bethune Administrative Council Meets, 7 p.m.
October 18	Laity Sunday
November 1	Daylight Savings Time Ends
November 3	Albright-Bethune Administrative Council Meets, 7 p.m.
November 8	Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday (Give Life)
November 26	Thanksgiving Day
November 29	United Methodist Student Sunday
Nov. 29-Dec. 24	The Season of Advent
December 1	Albright-Bethune Administrative Council Meets, 7 p.m.
December 11	Penn State Classes End
December 19	Penn State Fall Commencement
December 25	Celebrate the Birth of Jesus
January 1	New Year’s Day – Welcome 2021