

In the Spirit of New Beginnings ...



A Bluefield State College Renaissance Celebration

The Erma Byrd Higher Education Center
Sunday, May 19, 2019
2pm - 5pm



Bluefield State College—Beckley
**Renaissance Celebration...in the
Spirit of New Beginnings**

May 19, 2019

"It's time to expose the world to our exceptional gift."

Garry D. Moore, Sr.
BSC BOG Chair's Remarks
October 18, 2018

Renaissance is a term that describes renewal, reawakening, or new beginnings. Committed to our rich heritage and original mission to serve all the citizens of the region, Bluefield State College, an Historically Black College/University (HBCU), is delighted to begin again by reaching out to those we serve locally in our black and faith-based communities who may be underserved or underrepresented—African-Americans, non-traditional adults, first-generation and/or low-income. The time for the Renaissance is now.

From its meager beginnings as a high-graded school with a starting enrollment of eight students to its present day status as an accredited four-year College of five schools, Bluefield State College has proven its resiliency against the social, political, and economic odds since its establishment in 1895 and continues its mission offering quality educational opportunities to underrepresented groups of southern West Virginia and beyond.

Bluefield State welcomes you to learn more about your postsecondary options and the resources available to make earning a degree possible. Whether you started college and stopped out, or never began the journey you always dreamed you could, we'll be with you every step of the way to **Reach New Heights**.

Join the Bluefield State Renaissance Celebration for good fellowship, good music, and good food on May 19, 2019 from 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Erma Byrd Higher Education Center
300 University Drive
Beckley, WV 25801

Register Now at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bluefield-state-college-beckley-renaissance-tickets-60232636437>

For more information contact renaissance@bluefieldstate.edu or 304.929.5458.

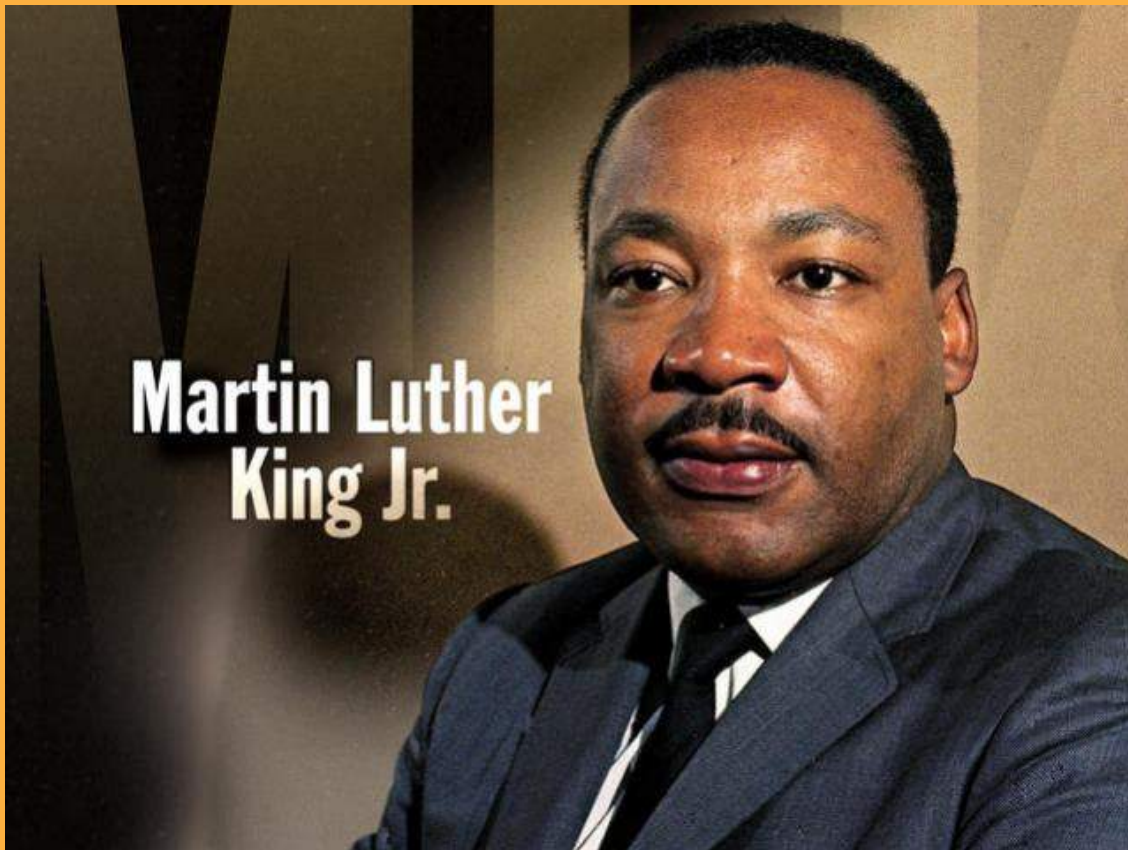
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Bluefield State College Renaissance Celebration

In the spirit of new beginnings, the Bluefield State College Renaissance Celebration was spearheaded by Dr. Sarita A. Rhonemus, Director of Multi-locations and Regents B.A. Degree Program and Dr. Robert Hayes, Regional Youth Network Developer, FMRS Health Systems, Inc., with the purpose of reaching out to black and faith-based communities who may be underserved or underrepresented—African-Americans, non-traditional adults, first-generation and/or low-income. As a Historically Black College/University (HBCU), Bluefield State College is committed to its original mission to serve all citizens of the region.

"It's time to expose the world to our exceptional gift."
~Rev. Garry D. Moore, Sr., Bluefield State College Board of
Governor's Chair, October 18, 2018.

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The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education.

~Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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The Meaning of HOPE at Bluefield State College

H is for...

Home - near **home** so you don't have to leave the area;
Help - here to **help**, guide and assist you as you complete
your entrance exams, admissions and financial aid
applications; Here - always **here** to give you needed
support to be a successful student.

O is for...

Offerings - courses we **offer** to build your future career;
Opportunity - the **opportunity** to complete a 2-year,
4-year degree and beyond; be the first in your family to
enroll in college and graduate; Ownership - take control
of your life and own up to your responsibilities to be the
best you can be.

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P is for...

Potential - the **potential** inside you as an individual to be your best, to be somebody, anybody; Possibilities - the sky is the limit - full of **possibilities** that begin here with you; Persistence - the ability to learn from your mistakes; to have the **persistence** and stick-to-it-ness only to become stronger as your journey in pursuit of your degree; Parents - **parents** wanting a better quality of life for themselves and family.

E is for...

Excellence - always striving to be and do your very best especially when no one is watching; strive for excellence; Education - your education is never over unless you want it to be; success is lifelong learning, even from our mistakes and failures; Expectation - you have to expect it of yourself, value it, and most of all be passionate about obtaining it.

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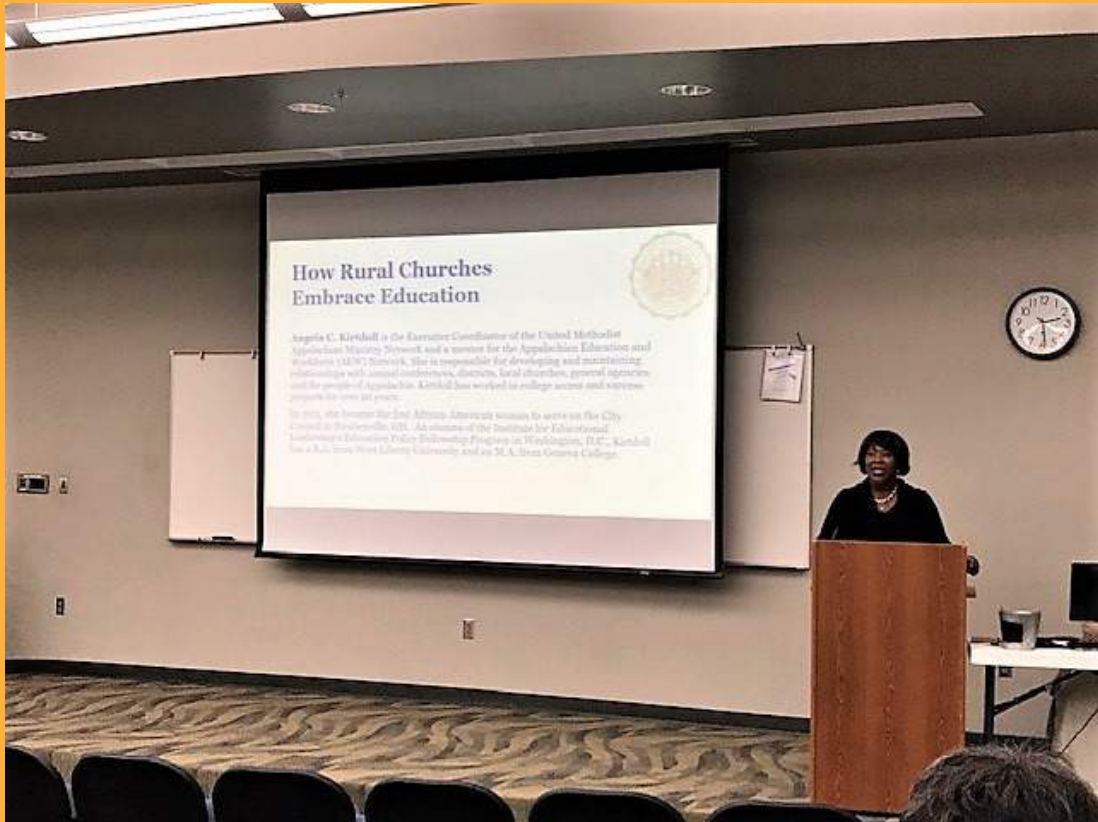
Bluefield State College Renaissance Celebration



Pictured above: Dr. Sarita Rhonemus, Director of Multi-locations and Regents B.A. Degree Program at Bluefield State College, welcomed visitors to the Erma Byrd Higher Education Center for the Renaissance Celebration 2019!

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Pictured above: Angela C. Kirtdoll, Executive Coordinator of the United Methodist Appalachian Ministry Network and mentor for the Appalachian Education and Workforce (AEW) Network, served as the keynote speaker addressing the audience on how rural churches embrace education. She has worked in college access and success projects for over 20 years.

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Pictured above: Dr. Ted Lewis, Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs, Bluefield State College, discussed program offerings available at the college; and, welcomed potential parishioners to share opportunities available with their congregations and communities.

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Pictured above: Dr. Sarita Rhonemus, Director of Multi-locations and and Regents B.A. Degree Program at Bluefield State College, provided invaluable information about the Regents B.A. Degree Program; as well as, the importance of a college education. She further shared her personal story with the audience as a testimony to overcoming obstacles in the pursuit of a higher education.

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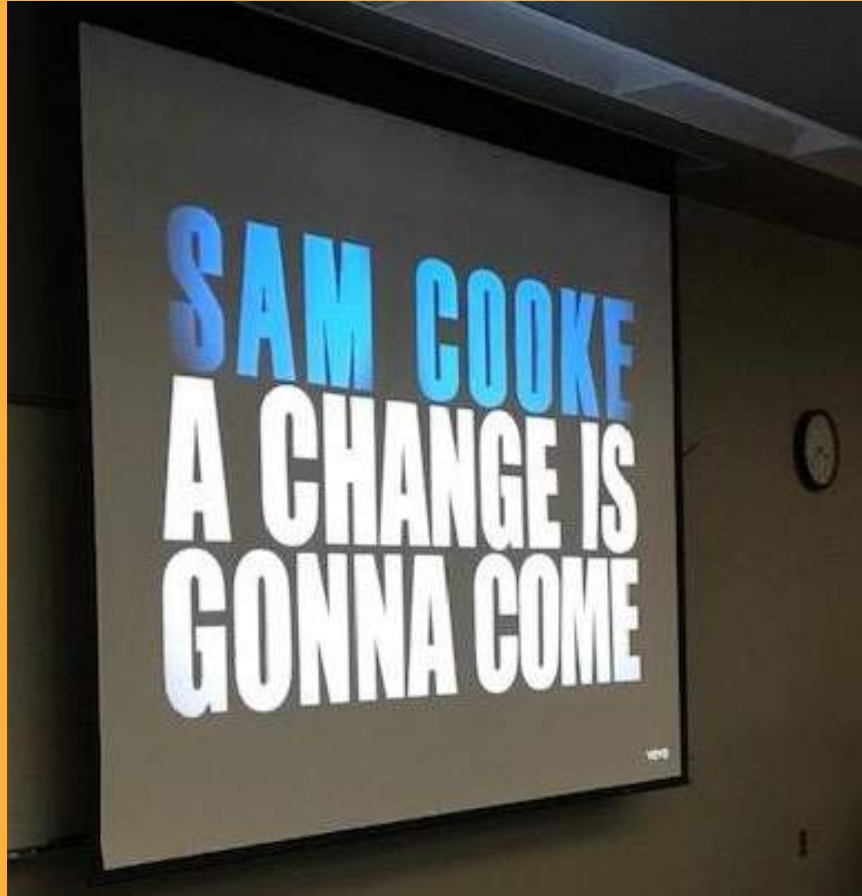
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Pictured above: A sampling photo of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Quilt made by Dr. Dotty Heady. And, although, the above picture does not provide enough clarity, the purple arrow (above center right) points to an embedded cross woven into the quilt. This picture was shown after powerful testimony provided by Pastor Marvin J. Lockett.

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Pictured above: A powerful video of Sam Cooke's "A Change is Gonna Come" was played illustrating a universal message of **HOPE**.

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Prayer, Reception, and Fellowship



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For where two or three are gathered in my name,
there I am in the midst of them. ~Matthew 18:20

Document created by Lisa Moten, Director, Erma Byrd Higher Education
Center & Allied Health Wing

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