

BRIGHTON HEIGHTS
LUTHERAN CHURCH

3830 CALIFORNIA AVE.
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212
(412) 761-8545



2018

visit us at
www.brightonheightslutheranchurch.org

Brighton Heights Lutheran Church

Pastor: Rev. Brian F. Shirey

Music Director: Ms. Janet Fullerton

Custodian: Steven Cvetkovic

Secretary: Mrs. Jo Ann Pomietto

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
9 am – 2 pm

A message from the Pastor:

My little dog is very expressive. She manages to communicate to me what is on her mind very well. If we consider talking to be the sound that comes out of one's mouth, then her barks aren't talking. No matter what she is thinking, her barks always sound the same to me—high-pitched, loud and annoying. She can't talk but she can express herself. It is as though the barking is to get my attention and then her eyes, face and actions do the communicating.

I, as a human being, can talk. I express myself in words. She can understand a few of these words even though she can't repeat them. If I say the word, "go," or "walk," she immediately heads for the door. If I say the word, "food" or "dinner" she heads for the place where her food is kept. And if she hears the human word, "bath" she looks for a place to hide. I give her full credit for knowing a small vocabulary of human words. But she just can't replicate them. Since nobody else in my house will listen to me when I talk about the things I really enjoy talking about, I try telling these things to my dog. She should know about events stretching from the Exodus to the tearing down of the Berlin wall. She should know religious concepts ranging from monotheism to predestination. But she doesn't. If I say, "Who wants to know the history of the King James Bible?", she pays no attention whatsoever. But if I even whisper the question, "Who wants to go for a walk?", she is at the back door barking her head off.

My dog communicates in barks and tail-wagging. We human beings communicate in words. With what does God communicate? God communicates not simply with words. God communicates with THE WORD. Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior. Jesus Christ is God's Word! God—our creator—intended for us to know God's Word without human words. God intends to restore us to that condition. Perhaps you remember this from the first lesson read at worship recently:

³³ For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."
Jeremiah 31:33-34

But the reality of sin turns God's perfect creation into a broken creation. We cannot know the heart of God without some link between us and God. We might be able to pick up a word here or there, but that is not enough to make the level of communication for which we were made. I can't understand dog language because I cannot become a dog and communicate in dog language. But—don't ask me how—God can become a human being and communicate in human language. God becomes human being in Jesus of Nazareth. The book of Hebrews says: tempted just as we are without sin. I think that it is orthodox Trinitarian doctrine to say that the Holy Spirit is the means of communication between God the Father and God the Son. Jesus extends the Holy Spirit to us as well. It's like God sends the Holy Spirit to the Son and the Son sends the Holy Spirit out to everyone on his Facebook friends list.

Now, I don't know much about Facebook. I guess I have a page, but it is only my wife that looks at it. I don't even know how to get to it. I may not know much about facebook, but I know enough about God, to know that Jesus is our way of knowing God, in fact, the only way we can truly know God. Jesus said, *"I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."*⁷ *If you had known me, you would*

have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” John 14:6b-7

Of course, the whole system breaks down if Jesus is dead; if Jesus is not there to send the Holy Spirit, who is the Third Person of the Trinity, on to us. That is precisely the victory that sin, death, and the devil thought had been achieved over Jesus at the crucifixion. Jesus—the way, truth and life—was dead. There was nobody to link us to God. There was nobody for us to befriend, nobody to send us the Holy Spirit.

However, Easter Morning is God’s great revealing of the truth. Jesus is not dead. It’s not that Jesus somehow pretended to be dead or fooled the world into thinking He was dead. Jesus was dead. But Jesus is not dead. God’s Word is not ended—nor will it ever be! The resurrection initiates a new reality. It is God’s reality; and, after all God is the author of all reality. The resurrection turns one world into another world. When, in joy, we shout, “Jesus is risen, He is risen indeed”. We are not only proclaiming historical fact. We are proclaiming our own existential reality. Sorry about the philosophical language. What I am saying is this: When we believe in Jesus’ resurrection we are living in a different world than the one we see around us. This world becomes an illusion. It is the new world we enter with the resurrected Jesus that is real. It has taken the Church 2,000 years to try to understand this. But I can express it in only two words: **HAPPY EASTER!**

God bless you and may you truly celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus our Lord with Joy.

Brian F Shirey

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

THERE WILL BE A SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING TO CONSIDER FUNDING FOR REPLACING THE FLOOR IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL, WHICH WILL BE THE ONLY MATTER CONSIDERED. IT WILL BE HELD AFTER WORSHIP ON APRIL, 22, 2018.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

SHUT-IN: Rohma Kropf, Bonnie Furman, Gloria Davis, Betty Lou Moore, Loraine Andrzejewski

FOR HEALING AND WELL-BEING:

Susan Spriggs, Will Lugaila, Kimberly Mason, Donna Erdner, Don Hoffer, Diane Stiegler, Chad Lowe, Judy Ingram, Victoria Kromp, Valerie Chiesa, Diane Jakobowski, Christian Reilly, Linda Collins, Betty Heover, George Lucas, George Meyer, Debbie Hankins, Don Aurin, Pauline Aurin, Trevor Gibson, Garrett Francis, Roberta Axton, Carol Stewart, Denise Labella, Chantel Burns, Baby Claire, Paul Reilly, Sherry Kinslow, Mike, Eddie Nagel, Scott Tegler, Anthony Zoller, Carol Baland, Earl Weaver, Heather Ann, Alan Campbell, Melissa Stipinsky, Pat Zokies, Jim Wilson, John Pfsipter, Leona Weaver, Carol Martinez, Roland Reynolds, Georgia Rielly, Ramae Mazza, Rhoma Myers, Nancy Lee, Denise Gates, Shirley Harman, Sequoia White, Kim Behr, Michele Frankenberg, Will Spade, Janet Fullerton, Rick Fagan, Tara Gottschalk, Patrick Ireland, Kathryn Ann Plumley, Mark Woodke, Janice & Roy Engleman, Kathy Romine, Dionne Blackwell, Tom Lennon, Janice Cici, Dave Adams, Jeff Kaiser, Steve Hill, Larry Stephens, Tiffany's unborn baby, Frank Greco, Billy Ireland,



Chuck Skalos, Mindy Rice, Elaine Santora, Wilma Blythe, Eileen Lundy, Stella Bass, Claire Panico, John Koerbel, Nanette McHugh, Sara Upchurch, Jackson Coulter, Chuck Kempf, Skip Lagaila, Butch Burgoon, Jacqueline Langer, Barb Cinkan, Jan Krepp, Betty Stephens, Jacinta Dorsey, Marley, Luke Recker, Scott Fink

FOR COMFORT IN TIME OF LOSS: Family of Chuck Wilde, Family of Steve Aurin, Family of Ken Axton, Family of Arta Mae Camino

SERVING THE MILITARY: Erik Kunkle, Stephen November, James Thompson, Matthew McPaul, Jason Fullmer, Jason Cole (Kuwait), Jessie Strickland, Shaun Seguin

Please call the office or tell the Pastor if anybody should be taken off the prayer list. Also if you or a loved one are in the hospital, please contact the office if you wish a visit.

APRIL 1 EASTER

2 Ushers: Dave Fink, Rich Stewart

Acolyte: Nick Hammel

Lector: Jan Krepp

2 Comm. Presenter: Linda Lugalía, Kim Spriggs

Comm. Helper: Bob Fink

APRIL 8

2 Ushers: Rich Dummer, Bob Fink

Acolyte: Shane Lundy

Lector:

2 Comm. Presenter: Rich & Mary Ann Stewart

Comm. Helper: Kathy Skeva



APRIL 15

2 Ushers: Dave Fink, Rich Stewart

Acolyte: Nick Hammel

Lector: Jan Krepp

2 Comm. Presenter: June Baginski, Kathryn Skeva

Comm. Helper: Dave Fink

APRIL 22

2 Ushers: Rich Dummer, Bob Fink

Acolyte: Shane Lundy

Lector:

2 Comm. Presenter: Linda Lugalía, Kim Spriggs

Comm. Helper: Jan Krepp

APRIL 29

2 Ushers: Dave Fink, Rich Stewart

Acolyte: Nick Hammel

Lector: Jan Krepp

2 Comm. Presenter: Rich & Mary Ann Stewart

Comm. Helper: Bob Fink

BHLC could use your help!

Interested in being involved with worshiping? We could use you as an Usher, Acolyte, Lector, Communion Presenter or Communion Helper. If you want to know more about these opportunities in your church, ask Pastor Brian or call the office.



April BIRTHDAYS

4	Robbie Wojciechowski Tammie White
5	Mary Koerbel
6	Ann Beerhalter Patricia Ireland
7	Aidan Stewart Gloria Davis
10	John Dummer Paul Lichauer
11	Ashley Scott
13	Glenn Shirey
16	Sandy McCue
23	Brian Shirey
26	Diane Scott



CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Last Saturday School will be Saturday, April 7. All those who attended the past

Saturday School enjoyed their day with one another and their "Journey with Jesus"



MARK YOUR CALENDARS: DAY CAMP WILL BE JUNE 18TH THRU THE 22ND

BRIGHTON HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH IS HOLDING A SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER FOR THE NORTHSIDE COMMON MINISTRY'S FOOD BANK. It will be held on Saturday, May 19th from 3pm to 7pm. Donation of \$8.00 and children 8 and under are \$5.00. We are also asking for donations of desserts for this event and items and baskets to raffle off.



CALLING ON ALL LUTHERANS TO SHARE IN GOD'S GRACE THROUGH THE GIFT OF MUSIC THAT MOVES THE SOUL. *"Dear Christians, One and All Rejoice- a Martin Luther Hymn Festival"* will be held at 7 pm on Sunday, April 29, 2018 in Heinz Chapel at the University of Pittsburgh. As a continuation of celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation, the Festival will be celebrated among the three major Lutheran denominations in western Pennsylvania: Southwestern PA Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; Mid-Northeast Mission District of the North American Lutheran Church; English District Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and Eastern District LCMS. Luther was both a great hymn writer and musician and six of his hymns are to be sung at the Festival. This will be a great day for everyone to enjoy God's gift of music in the light of the Lutheran Reformation!



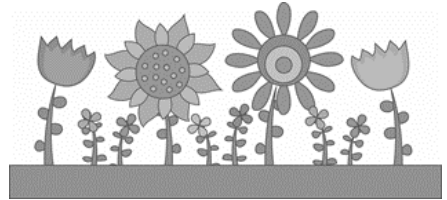
Embracing our COMMUNITY



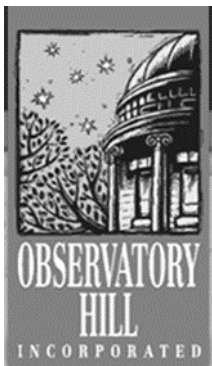
BRIGHTON HEIGHTS CITIZEN FEDERATION will be holding its annual "Spring Cleaning" of the neighborhood on Saturday April 21. Trash and debris will be picked

throughout the whole neighborhood. Volunteers are need. Those who wish to volunteer can meet at the Brighton Heights Office, 3629 California Avenue, at 9am till 11am.

MORROW GARDEN CLUB is having a flower sale. It starts April 2 and ends April 13. Delivery day of flower orders is Monday, May 7. All money raised will go towards planting,

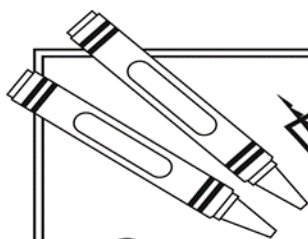


purchasing materials and maintaining of the gardens. All order forms and money (cash only) must be turned in by the end of the school day april 13 to Mrs. Langford in room 204. Order forms can be found in the back of the church or on our web site www.brightonheightslutheranchurch.org



OBSERVATORY HILL INC. is hosting a fundraiser for the victims of the landslide in Observatory Hill. OHI will have a Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, April 21 from 4pm to 7pm at Riverview United Presbyterian Church at 3505 Perrysville Avenue. Dinner includes: spaghetti, choice of meatballs or marinara, toss salad, dinner rolls, dessert and beverage cost \$10 and \$5 for children 4-12 and children under 4 eat free. OHI also started a GoFundMe page

<https://www.gofundme.com/support-cessy-and-jean-paul>








PUZZLE

Spring's Beauty

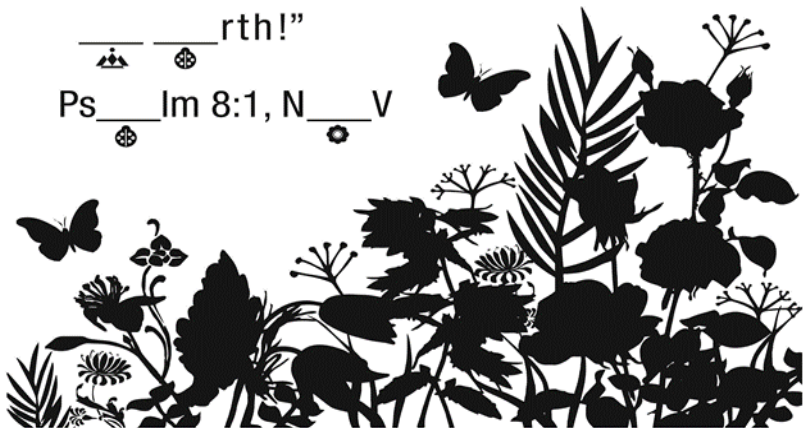
During springtime, the beauty of God's creation emerges in many ways.

Directions: Use the vowel code below to complete Psalm 8:1, NIV.


A =  E =  I =  O =  U = 

“L__RD, __ __ r L__rd, h__w
m__ j__ st__ c __ s y__ __ r
n__ m__ __ n __ ll th__
__ __ rth!”

Ps__lm 8:1, N__V




Answer: “LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!”
Psalm 8:1, NIV



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Pittsburgh, PA 15212

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