



BRIGHTON HEIGHTS  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
3830 CALIFORNIA AVE.  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15212  
(412) 761-8545



2020

visit us at  
[www.brightonheightslutheranchurch.org](http://www.brightonheightslutheranchurch.org)

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## Why Lent?

Lent gives us the opportunity to recall the consequences of sin and the assurance of being loved by God in Jesus, the Christ. It is a special gift for those who seek a deep walk with God. It gives us the opportunity to also tell others (do we need any special opportunity?) about the central facts of our Christian faith - **the life, death and resurrection of the Son of God** to atone for the sins of the world - by inviting them to worship with us.



The message of Lent is what a spring is to a watch, what an engine is to an automobile. If we take the message of **the life, death and resurrection of Jesus** out of our Faith, we are left with an empty shell. The message of Lent is the message of St. Paul (1 Corinthians 15: ESV): ***“Christ died for our sins...”*** In Lent we ask God to speak to us at this particular time, so we know Jesus, not merely as a concept, but as our Lord and Savior.

**History:** Around the year 300 A.D. Christianity became “legalized” and Lent became a season of preparation for all Christians, originally lasting only 40 hours. Over centuries, Lent became 30 days, then 36 and, finally, in the reign of Charlemagne, about 800 A.D., Lent lasted the 40 days from Ash Wednesday until Easter. Sundays are not actually days “of” Lent, since they are weekly celebrations of the resurrection. In the church liturgical year, Ash Wednesday (this year February 26<sup>th</sup>) marks the beginning of Lent, a time for all to reflect upon our redemption through the cross and resurrection of Jesus.

So counting on the calendar from Ash Wednesday until Easter (and skipping Sundays) we have exactly 40 days, suggested in the Bible by Moses’ fast on Mount Sinai (Exodus 24:18), by Elijah’s fast on his journey to the mount of God (1 Kings

19:8), and Jesus' fast in the desert before beginning His earthly ministry (Luke 4:2).

The date for Lent is determined by the date for Easter. In 325 A.D., the Council of Nicaea determined that Easter would be celebrated on the first Sunday following the 14<sup>th</sup> day of the Paschal moon. To start Lent we backup 40 days from Easter. This makes the earliest Ash Wednesday on February 5<sup>th</sup>, 1818 and the latest will be March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2038..

Lent comes from the old English word for Spring, *Lenten*. The day before Ash Wednesday is called Shrove Tuesday, celebrated in many parts of the world by feasting (not fasting) on the foods disallowed in Lent. The French call this Mardi Gras, we German Christians call it Faschnacht (think of beer, wurst, potato pancakes, and sauerbraten).

This feasting comes from the old custom of using up all the household fats prior to the 40days of Lent fasting when no fat is used.

### Liturgical Practice:

Several important facets of our liturgy assist the worshipper to experience the depth of the season's meaning.



In the Ash Wednesday service, after Invocation, worship begins with congregational reading of Psalm 51. In churches with certain paraments the Alleluia Banner is then solemnly removed from the sanctuary. For us the reading symbolizes the entrance into the awesome season of Lent. By tradition, the "Alleluia" is not sung or spoken again until Easter.

Following our confession of sins on Ash Wednesday, there is no spoken Absolution. This is **NOT** because we are unforgiven! Rather, this is to underscore the penitential nature of the **entire** Lenten Season. The absolution given on Maundy Thursday is the response to Ash Wednesday. The Absolution is

however given at the confession on Lenten Sundays, as these are not technically part of the Lenten Season.

Ash Wednesday is named for the practice of imposing ashes on the foreheads of believers. The use of ashes as a sign of repentance is mentioned often in Holy Scripture (Jonah 3:5-9; Job 42:6; Jeremiah 6:26; St. Matthew 11:27). The early Christian Church adopted the use of ashes as an external mark of penitence. Today, ashes symbolize several aspects of our human existence and our need for God’s redemptive work:

- Ashes remind us of God’s condemnation on account of sin, as God said to Adam, “Dust thou art and to dust thou shall return.” (Genesis 3:19)
- Ashes suggest cleansing and renewal. Ashes were used in ages past, in the absence of soap. .
- Ashes remind us of the shortness of human life. In our funeral liturgy, “We commit his/her body to the ground: earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust.”

The imposition of ashes is a sign that we have confessed our sinfulness, and an outward sign of inward repentance, and recognition that we ourselves will return to ashes.

However, **it is the cross**, traced with ashes on our foreheads that remind us of our hope through the merits and passion of Christ our Lord and Savior.

Alive in Christ!

***Pastor Bill***<sup>+</sup>

ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 26<sup>TH</sup> AT 10:30 AM SERVICE there was a dedication of the Communion Vessel stands and Commemorative plaques for Janet & Bob Fullerton



PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

SHUT-IN: Rohma Kropf, Bonnie Furman, Gloria Davis, Betty Lou Moore, Shirley Harman, Flora Storm, Michelle Anderson

FOR HEALING AND WELL-BEING: Susan Spriggs, Donna Erdner, Chad Lowe, Don Aurin, Pauline Aurin, Melissa Stapinsky, Roy & Janice Engleman, Skip Lagaila, Barb Cinkan, Luke Recker, Paul Lichauer, Brianna & Haley & Jenn Reiley, Diane Scott, Carl Hendrickson, Chantel Burns, Thomas Kaiser, Bob & Peg Berg, Nick Libby, Jerrick & Robin Dorsey, Jim McMahan, Gage Thrasher, Gary Mihlfried, Everly Mae, Donna Krass, Carol Martinez, Donna Smola, Bridget Breneman, Braxton Wells, Chuck Kempf, Burt Noll, Georgia Reilly, Doris Didolce, Marilyn Brown, Tony Lesick, Forrest Engelman, Celeste Spriggs

FOR COMFORT IN TIME OF LOSS: the family of Cheryl Hargaves, for the family of Betty (Dobransky) Gray Priest Nalepa (mother of Bev Oliver)

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

*Please call the office 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.*



## FEBRUARY ALTAR SERVERS

### FEBRUARY 2

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1 Ushers: Bob Fink

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Acolyte: Michael Scott

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Lector: Ben Blobaum

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2 Comm. Presenter: Patty Ireland, Linda Lugalía

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Comm. Helper: Dave Fink

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### FEBRUARY 9

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1 Ushers: Rich Stewart

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Acolyte: Nick Hammel

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Lector: Opal Kunz

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2 Comm. Presenter: Lynn & Joe Pelcz

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Comm. Helper: Jan Krepp

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### FEBRUARY 16

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1 Ushers: Ben Blobaum

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Acolyte: Michael Scott

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Lector: Jan Krepp

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2 Comm. Presenter: Kim Spriggs, June Baginski

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Comm. Helper: Patty Petrusch

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### FEBRUARY 23

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1 Ushers: Dave Fink

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Acolyte: Nick Hammel

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Lector: Patty Petrusch

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2 Comm. Presenter: Jan Krepp, Patty Ireland

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Comm. Helper: Ben Blobaum

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# february

## BIRTHDAYS

3	John McCue
4	Johanna Yoho
8	Dereon Greer
10	Michael Dummer
17	Nick Errett
19	Lisa Gyure
22	Joann Beerhalter
26	Chad Lowe
29	Rohma Kropf



### DISCOVERING MEMBERSHIP

Do you know anyone who is interested in becoming a member at Brighton Heights Lutheran, after all membership has its privileges. Invite them to come to “DISCOVERING MEMBERSHIP” ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2020, IMMEDIATELY AFTER WORSHIP SERVICE, IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL. This is a great opportunity to learn more about Brighton Heights, the NALC, and our Lutheran Faith. You will also meet other new potential members and some current members. We will start with a nice luncheon together. Topics for the afternoon include: beliefs and practices, BHLC ministries, expectations of members and answers to all questions. Those who decide to become members will be received at the 10:30 worship service on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. To register for “Discovering Membership,” please contact the church office at 1-412-761-8545.

MARDI GRAS SUNDAY WILL BE SUNDAY FEBRUARY 23 2020, 12

*Mark your Calendar* NOON TO 4 PM. SET UP WILL BE ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22 AT 10AM. DESSERTS ARE NEEDED!!!

Just a friendly reminder that ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CEMETERY IS PART OF BRIGHTON HEIGHTS LUTHERAN



CHURCH. The cemetery is located on Buente St on the Northside of Pittsburgh. We offer very competitive rates. Discount rates for veterans. Give us a call at 412-761-8545

CHECK THIS OUT - we now have a bulletin board in back of the church. Each month we will have the monthly benevolences with literature about it.

**HEALTHCARE KIT**

- ONE bath towel
- ONE wash cloth
- TWO bars of soap, in original wrapping
- ONE toothbrush
- ONE pack of dental floss
- ONE tube of toothpaste (two if sample size)
- ONE comb
- ONE deodorant

Also for the NALC DISASTER we are having for the month of February a health care kit. A list of items they need are attached . please put the items in the back of the church.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2 IS SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY.



Brighton Heights Lutheran Church is kicking off the Souper Bowl with donations for Northside Common Ministries Food Bank. Bring in your donations and put them in the back of the church.

**REMODELING EXPO**

Brighton Heights Lutheran Church has COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS for the 2020 Pittsburgh Remodeling Expo on February 7<sup>th</sup> thru the 9<sup>th</sup> at Heinz Field UPMC Club Lounge (enter Gate B). Each ticket is good for one adult admission, children 17 and under do not need a ticket. If you are interested in attending and want a free admission contact the church office at 412-761-8545

## LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS



Join our friends at Northside Common Ministries at the Pittsburgh Public Theater. Tuesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> to see Little Shop of Horrors. Tickets are \$75 per person and the price includes a pre-show dessert reception. To order tickets please go on line to <https://goodwillswpa.salsalabs.org/littleshopofhorrors2020> (please do not order thicketts through the theater) All proceeds from ticket sales go to help operate the homeless and hunger programs at Northside Common Ministries.

SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER FOR THE SOWERS FAMILY who lost everything to a fire in their home on January 20<sup>th</sup>. This fundraiser is to help them rebuild and replace what was lost. It will be held on Sunday, February 16, 2020 at Knights of Columbus at 450 Lincoln Avenue, Bellevue from 11am to 4pm. The cost is \$10 per person, \$5 for children 6-12 and children under 5 free.



Spaghetti Dinner

## LENT 2020 QUIZ

1. How many days are counted in Lent?  
A. 30    B. 40    C. 46
2. What color is traditionally associated with the lent season?  
A. Green    B. Purple    C. White
3. Which day of the week is NOT included in the lent season?  
A. Friday    B. Saturday    C. Sunday
4. The main reason Christians give up coffee, chocolate or Facebook during Lent is:  
A. Because they are bad for you  
B. To make space for Jesus  
C. To save money to donate

5. Some Catholic countries give up eating what during lent?  
A. Meat    B. Shellfish    C. Chocolate
6. Maundy Thursday or Holy Thursday commemorates what?  
A. Jesus trials    B. The last supper    C. Jesus' execution
7. What food is often eaten on *Shrove Tuesday*?  
A. Shroves    B. Pancakes    C. Bread and wine
8. What is traditionally done on Ash Wednesday?  
A. A cricket match between Australia and England  
B. Clean out the chimney  
C. Put ashes on your forehead
9. On Palm Sunday, Jesus rode into Jerusalem on what?  
A. A horse and cart  
B. The shoulders of his disciples    C. A donkey
10. What word is not meant to be said or sung during Lent?  
A. Alleluia    B. Amen    C. Jesus

**REMINDER:**

Check on you elderly neighbors and church members during this wintery time. They may need something from the store or offer them your friendship or a precooked meal.



**ANSWERS FOR THE LENT QUIZ:**

1. B - Jesus spent 40 days fasting and being tempted in the desert.
2. B - Purple means both sorrow (because we do wrong) and royalty.
3. C - Sunday, because the Lord's day cannot be a day of fasting.
4. B - to make space for Jesus
5. B - Meat
6. B - The Last Supper
7. B - Pancakes. On Shrove Tuesday, people used up all their rich food (eggs, butter) to prepare for the limited meals and fasting during Lent. 'Shrive' means to confess, they were encouraged to say sorry to God before the beginning of Lent.

8. C - Put ashes on your forehead. The ashes are often from the burnt remains of last year's palms.
9. C - Donkeys were viewed as animals of peace while horses were viewed as animals of war.
10. A - Alleluia. This exclamation of praise was not said so it would remain special and used to celebrate and praise God on Easter Sunday.

**Brighton Heights Lutheran Church's**  
**23rd Annual**  
**Mardi Gras Celebration**

**WHEN:** Sunday, February 23 12PM - 4PM  
**WHERE:** Brighton Heights Lutheran Church  
3830 California Ave. Pittsburgh PA 15212  
Call the church office with your questions: 412-761-8545

Join us for great food, fellowship, and live music by  
"The Blues Orphans." Just bring a free will offering and  
a non-perishable food item\*.

**Weekly Soup/Service on Wednesdays during Lent**  
Beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 26th thru April 1st  
Dinner from 5:30pm to 6:30pm and Service at 6:45pm to 7:30pm.  
Followed by Bible Study from 7:45pm to 9pm

**All are Welcome!**



\*All money collected will go to NALC mission churches in our mission district.  
All food items donated will go to the Northside Common Ministry's food bank.

Interim Pastor: The Rev. Dr. William G Beck, STS  
Custodian: Steven Cvetkovic  
Secretary: Mrs. Jo Ann Pomietto  
Musician: Jesse Crownover  
Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday  
9 am – 2 pm



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