

BRIGHTON HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
3830 CALIFORNIA AVE.  
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(412) 761-8545



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

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



## **HAPPY NEW YEAR**

### **A WHOLE YEAR LIES AHEAD OF US!**

There is something special about the turning of a year. It puts things behind us—brings to a conclusion. There are things that I had to do in 2016 that I hope I never have to do again. But the new year also places new things before us—brings new beginnings. There are things that I hope to do in 2017 that I have not been able to do so far. The turning of the year is a special time to take stock and to make plans.

It seems that I am never satisfied with how much was accomplished during the outgoing year. I know I will not accomplish all that I intend for the oncoming year. Your accumulated and anticipated accomplishments may not be as disappointing as mine always seem to be—but I'll bet you experience the same sort of thing. The excuse I usually use is that the year goes by too fast. The year is just not long enough for me to do all I strive to accomplish.

### **IF THERE WERE ONLY MORE DAYS IN THE YEAR!**

This year, as I thought about this, I came up with a great idea. Why not go where the years are longer. If a year is the period of time needed for a planet to go around the sun,

I figured that the further from the sun you could live, the longer the year. When I looked this up on Wikipedia, I found I was right. On Earth, which I have always called home, a year is 365.26 days. But if I were to move to our closest neighbor—Mars—the year would jump to 686.98 days. That’s 321.72 extra days in the year. Just think about how much you or I could get done with all that. But why stop there? If I move to Saturn there are 10,755.7 days in a year. That’s more than 29 times as many days. That means I could get 29 times as much stuff done. But if I was going that far, I might as well go to Pluto, our last planet. On Pluto there are 90,553 days in a year. That’s 248 times as many days as there is in an earth year. In just just the time I have been the pastor at BHLC, I would have had as many days as there have been in the last 5,206 years. That would be farther back than Abraham in Genesis, chapters 10-25!

### **SPACE TRAVEL IS NOT AN OPTION**

Even though there is some company selling tickets to go to Mars as soon as it can be done, I suspect that passanger flight to the red planet will not happen in my lifetime. But even if I live to see that, I will certainly never see pasanger flights to Pluto. So I am stuck here in Pittsburgh with a paltry 365 days to a year. Since I can’t add to the number of days, perhaps I should concentrate on better using the number of days that I do have. The writer of Ecclesiastes (3:1-8) tells us that there is a time for everything.

*For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:*

*a time to be born, and a time to die;*

*a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;*

*a time to kill, and a time to heal;*

*a time to break down, and a time to build up;*

*a time to weep, and a time to laugh;*

*a time to mourn, and a time to dance;*

*a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together;*

*a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;  
a time to seek, and a time to lose;  
a time to keep, and a time to cast away;  
a time to tear, and a time to sew;  
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;  
a time to love, and a time to hate;  
a time for war, and a time for peace.*

But it takes wisdom to know what it is time for and how to match the activity to the proper time. Actually it takes more than wisdom. It takes the work of the Holy Spirit in our hearts and in our lives. So the first step in better using our days is to ask the guidance of God, our Father, in knowing what to do and when to do it.

### **JESUS, THE CHRIST, IS LORD OF TIME**

You see, God is not restricted by time. God invented time! God is above, beneath and behind time. God sees beyond time. God knows beyond time. This past fall my family and I went to a place where there was a corn field maze. You know what I mean and cornfield where pathway are cut into the tall stalks; some of the pathways connect to others—some are dead ends. You can't see over the top or through the thick growth of corn stalks. From the hill above the maze we could look down into it and see the whole thing. We could see which were the ways out and which were the dead ends.

Think of time as that maze. While we are in it we can't see much beyond where we are standing. But God is standing above time—above the maze. He sees it all. He planted the corn. He cut the pathways. He sees what is beyond. If someone yelled up to me on the hill to ask how to get out I could have yelled back directions. In the maze of time we don't need to yell. Even a softly spoken prayer is heard by God above. And God will answer you perhaps even more softly and gently—or more urgent and imperative if we need it. God will not always give the answers we want to hear. But God will give us the answers that are true. If we let Him guide us, God will take us on the path that Jesus trod. God will take us down

the well-worn path the the church has been travelling for nearly two milinia. If I God will guide me—if I can walk with Jesus, I don't need to go to Pluto to find more time. God will have given me all I need. It only waits for me to use it to the glory of Jesus my Lord.

My prayer for you and yours is a happy, healthy, safe and faithful NEW YEAR!

*Brian F Shurey*



**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MEMBERS  
AND FRIENDS**

SHUT-IN: Rohma Kropf, Loraine Andrzejwski, Bonnie Furman, Gloria Davis

FOR HEALING AND WELL-BEING: Zoey, Richard Diltz, Annie Wagner, Lucas Paul, Susan Spriggs, Leynee Donaldson, Jan Markovich, Rose Dunn, Ava Mulchen, Michele Frankenberg, Karen Metzger, Nicol Cavano, Earl McCabb, Will Lugaila, Ruth O'Donell, , Ruth Perluck, Mary Hays, Paige Bishop, Lynn Clarks, Linda Hartwick, Betty Kirby, Helen Zak, Betty Lou Moore, Arta Mae Camino, Lori George, Mason Carlson, Julie Chender Varas,Irene Kelly, Mark Stasenکو, Kimberly Mason, Jennifer Danzi, Donna Erdner, Julie & Ryan Campbell, Don Hoffer, Dan Cutters, Diane Stiegler, Harold Hatcher, Brandon James Hoffman, David Calhoun, Michele Yanke, Chad Lowe, Kalub Bartoles, Judy McGregor, Bonnie Guest, Keith Roberts, Evan Ray, Patricia Aberson, Bernie Kirk, John Dovcak, Bonnie Klem, Raymond, Mary & Mahala Linnabary, Kathy Smith, Sandra Flourney, Emily Cummings, Chuck Skalos, Betty Stephens, Nanette McHue, Monica Weisensee, Alicia Jacobs, Patti Noll, Judy Ingram, Victoria Kromp, Valerie Chiesa, Diane Jakobowski, Brandon Blackman,

Christian Reilly, Haylee Flory, Annamae Lichauer, Linda Collins, Bob & Avis Lipkowski, Barb Atkins, Betty Heover, George Dearth, Cathy Gornich, George Lucas, George Meyer, Donna Krass, Debbie Hankins, Susan Dziubinski, Don Aurin, Steve Aurin, Pauline Aurin, Marilyn Brown, Charlie Brown, Stacey Dorsey, Gloria Davis, Cindy Fraser, Trevor Gibson, Garrett Francis, Roberta Axton, Carol Stewart, Devin Cinkan, Denise Labella, Alfred Hunt, Chantel Burns, Baby Claire, Ken Axton, Paul Lichauer, Dick Johns, Paul Reilly, Sherry Kinslow, Barry R., Pat Stella, Mike, Eddie Nagel, Scott Tegler, Darryl Strickland, Anthony Zoller, Kathy Gornick, Michelle Pop, Carol Baland, Bob Pojak

FOR COMFORT IN MY TIME OF LOSS: Niel Family, Family of Amy Helffrich, Family of Jaye Cawkens

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

For The Success Of Lamb Of God, Lion Of Judea, Christian Church Center & For Their Pastors Arthur And Mervery Green.

***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.***



# WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



## JANUARY 1

2 Ushers:	Bob Fink, Dave Fink
Acolyte:	Destiny Stewart
Lector:	Celeste Spriggs
Comm. Presenter:	Rich & Mary Ann Stewart
Comm. Helper:	Kathy Dearth

## JANUARY 8

2 Ushers:	Al Prem, Rich Stewart
Acolyte:	Shane Lundy
Lector:	Ashley Scott
Comm. Presenter:	Jan Krepp, Linda Lugalía
Comm. Helper:	Dave Fink

## JANUARY 15

Ushers:	Al Calhoun, Rich Dummer
Acolyte:	Kaylee Stewart
Lector:	Johanna Yoho
Comm. Presenter:	Kim Spriggs, Celeste Spriggs
Comm. Helper:	Kathy Skeva

## JANUARY 22

Ushers:	Bob Fink, Dave Fink
Acolyte:	Jacob Lundy

Lector:	Kathy Dearth
Comm. Presenter:	June Baginski, Kathryn Skeva
Comm. Helper:	Jan Krepp
<u>JANUARY 29</u>	
Ushers:	Al Prem, Rich Stewart
Acolyte:	Dereon Spriggs
Lector:	Jan Krepp
Comm. Presenter:	Carol & Jim Stewart
Comm. Helper:	Bob Fink

## **CHURCH ACTIVITIES**



### **Holy Baptism**

Rejoice!! We rejoice in the baptism of Nickolas James Hammel at the Saturday Evening Service on December 3, 2016.

We welcome him into the family of God. With his baptism Nickolas also becomes a member of Brighton Heights Lutheran Church.

Lisa Gyure, Nickolas' mother, will be joining our congregation by affirmation of faith at the time Nickolas is baptized. He also welcome her to BHLC.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES** are in the back of the church, please take your box.







**ANGEL TREE:** There are many heavenly angels and ones on earth also. Thank you to all of you for being so generous with your time by purchasing, wrapping and delivering the gifts. All the families and seniors were so grateful! Have a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

**BREAKFAST WITH SANTA** was on Saturday, December 10. We had a lot of fun and a great breakfast, thanks to Kim Spring and all who helped make this a great event. Please plan to come next year.

**CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE:** NorthSide Food Bank received the food that BHLC collected during the past month. Thanks to all who contributed to this ministry.



**MARK THE DATE!** Mardi Gras Sunday will be Sunday February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Before the somber and penitential season of Lent begins, let's indulge in a little merry-making, Mardi Gras. We are starting our planning and are asking for donations for our gift baskets. Please drop off your gifts donations to the parish office.

We hope you will join us for this Mardi Gras celebration!

JANUARY MONTHY BENEVOLENCE will be Lutheran World Relief



## **COMMUNITY NEWS:**

Brighton Heights Citizens Federation next general Membership meeting is Thursday, January 12, 2017 at 7pm at the Morrow Auditorium (corner of Davis and Fleming Avenues).

*Remembering our loved ones in  
memory, honor and thankfulness  
with Christmas Flowers*



IN MEMORY OF:	BY:
Paul & Caroline McCleary	Edie & Dave McCleary
Paul McCleary Jr.	Edie & Dave McCleary
Vera Butler	Edie & Dave McCleary
Amber, George, Robert Kallstrand	Kenneth Kallstrand
James F. Augustine	Linda
Blanche & Al Hendrickson	Carl & Phyllis Hendrickson
Petrusch Family	Petrusch Family
Mulder Family	Petrusch Family
Joyce Westman	Krepp Family
Gladys Westman	Krepp Family
Ray Krepp	Krepp Family
Flora (Suzie) & George Lichauer	Children
John & Jean Koerbel	George & JoAnn Lucas
George & Margaret Lucas	George & JoAnn Lucas

Helen Gates	Rich & MaryAnn Stewart
Don & Mary Cinkan	Rich & MaryAnn Stewart
Jean & Bob Fink / mom & dad	David Fink
Dorothea & Fred Schmidt / grandma& grandad	David Fink
Robert & Betty Collins	Lowe Family
Donald & Pat Lowe	Lowe Family
Jean (wife)	Chuck (husband)
Wilma (sister)	Chuck (brother)
June & Al Cronin	Baginski Family
Uncle Clarence Mack	Baginski Family
Parents & Grandparents (Jim & Bill Bookser, Zilla & Pete Lugoila)	Lugaila Family
Grandma & Grandpa Vogel	Flora & Eloise Shirey
John Suscovich	The Shirey's
Garnet Hoffer, Glenn & Margaret Shirey	The Shirey's
IN HONOR OF:	BY:
Marilyn & Charles Brown	Krepp Family
Donald Hoffer	The Shirey's
Captain Erik Kunkle	The Shirey's
IN THANKFULNESS FOR:	BY:
Zachary	Mom
My family & friends and their love and support	Kim Spriggs
Brooke & Riley Livengood	George & JoAnn Lucas
Flora, Eloise, Lula and Ezra	Pappy & Gram





## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

8	Rick Lowe
10	Mary Ann Lowe
14	Gerald Maier Flora Storm
21	Debora Shirey
22	George Lichauer
27	Daniel Stephens
30	Elmer Lichauer
31	Karsen Koah MaryAnn Stewart

## JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

6	John & Eileen Snyder
9	Ronald & Susan Errett



### IDEAS FOR NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS:

- Eat better
- Exercise more
- Attend church more frequent
- Be helpful to others
- Speak nicely of others
- Pray daily

MEMORY TEST! Answers are in the December Link!

1. What is the shortest day of the year?
2. When the northern hemisphere is experiencing it's shortest day, what hemisphere is enjoying the first day of summer?
3. Is Brighton Heights Lutheran Church on the web?
4. Who visited BHLC in December? He also visited you home in December.
5. What did we collect in December and who was it for?



\*The Epiphany is held on January 6 in honor of the coming of the three kings to the infant Jesus Christ

\*Are you superstitious? Then, Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> is a day you may look forward to with fear! Throughout most of recorded history, the number 13 has been seen as an unlucky number. If you live in fear of the number 13, you suffer from Triskaidekaphobia.

\*Martin Luther King Jr. was born on January 15, 1929. His birthday became a National Holiday by an act of Congress in 1983. It is celebrated on the third Monday of January and it is

considered a day to serve you community. Martin Luther King Jr became the youngest person to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

\*Winnie the Pooh and friends was created by A. A. Milne. He was born January 18, 1882 as Allan Alexander Milne. Take a moment this month and read a Pooh book to your children or grandchildren.

\*Opposite Day is a topsy, turvy day when everything you say, do, see and hear are the opposite. This special day is celebrated primarily among school children. Sponge Bob Square Pants had an episode containing the whimsical nature of the day. Opposite day was also mentioned in the book "Alice in Wonderland"

\*Spouse' Day is a time to enjoy and appreciate your better half. Take the time to show you spouse that you care and appreciate all of the things that he/she does for you and for the household.

\*January 28 is the date of the Chinese New Year or also known as "Spring Festival". It is a 15 day celebration, beginning on the first day of the new moon and ends on the full moon, Chinese culture is among the oldest in the world. While the rest of the world is in the early years of the third millennium, Chinese culture is in their fifth millennium.

\*Compliment Day is a great opportunity to say something positive about the people you come into contact with.

\*National Handwriting Day is an opportunity to reintroduce yourself to a pen, pencil and a piece of paper. With modern technology more information is sent via keyboard or text. January 23<sup>rd</sup> was chosen because this is the birthday of John Hancock, the first person to sign the Declaration of Independence.

From [holidayinsights.co](http://holidayinsights.co)

happy  
new  
year!

The text 'happy new year!' is rendered in a decorative, calligraphic font. The letters are black with white dots at the top of the vertical strokes. The word 'happy' is on the top line, 'new' is on the middle line, and 'year!' is on the bottom line. The 'e' in 'happy' and the 'y' in 'year!' have long, flowing tails. Two black megaphones are integrated into the design: one is positioned to the right of the 'w' in 'new', and another is to the left of the 'y' in 'year!'. The overall style is whimsical and celebratory.

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3830 California Ave.  
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