

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



2017

visit us at
www.brightonheightslutheranchurch.org

Brighton Heights Lutheran Church

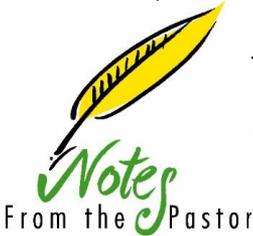
Pastor: Rev. Brian F. Shirey

Music Director: Ms. Janet Fullerton

Custodian: Steven Cvetkovic

Secretary: Mrs. Jo Ann Pomietto

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



Lately there has been a lot of news about protests and counter-protests over the removal or non-removal of municipal statues depicting Confederate military and civilian leaders from the civil war. Recently a near-riot broke out in Charlottesville, Virginia. During this turbulent clash of extremists, one of the white-supremecists protesting the taking down of such statues committed the despicable act of plowing his vehicle into a crowd of people protesting the white-supremecists protest. A number of people were hurt and one person—by all accounts a very fine person—was killed. In speaking about this tragedy President Trump, with all the finesse of a reality television star, handled himself in a way that pleased almost nobody. President Trump's distracters were ready to pounce. Suddenly what could have been a teachable moment for our nation dissolved in the dirty waters of contemporary politics. The only thing I saw exhibited was pomposity and self-righteousness on every side.

Self-righteousness seems to be the order of the day in our contemporary society. People self-righteously disregard the sensitivities of others in order to exercise their 'rights'. People disregard laws that are not agreeable to them with a self-righteously, subjective notion of justice. People even shoot other people without remorse because they self-righteously see themselves as wronged. But self-righteousness, as our nation's founders clearly understood, is not compatible with the rule of law.

Let's go back to the statues and monuments. Slavery was an unspeakable evil and any who fought to protect and extend this evil still to this day deserve our collective scorn. Nor is slavery the only shameful part of our national history. The way native-Americans were persecuted and deceived—often with deadly result—was and is an unspeakable evil. The Jim Crowe laws, the lynchings and segregation of African-Americans was and is an unspeakable evil. The rounding up and interment of Japanese-Americans during World war II was, and is, an unspeakable evil. I can come up with plenty of other examples. There have been many times when we, as a nation, have gotten it wrong. Repentence for such national sin should always be a part of our national mindset. And that which celebrates or honors such national sin should be removed. But it should be removed by our constitutional processes at work. They should not be removed or protected by self-righteous individuals and mobs who think they are wiser than the rule of law which makes it possible for 323.1 million people to live together.

I was and I am an advocate for the removal of confederate flags from any public facilities or any public symbols. I am and have always been an advocate for the removal of any statues of honoring those who fought to preserve slavery, and racial inequality in our nation. But I also believe that this should be done within the our political and legal structures. Mob or vigilante action is, in effect, saying that the rule of law is inadequate. Mob or vigilante action proclaims that what Lincoln called 'the government of the people, by the people and for the people' just doesn't work.

It is a lot easier to make decisions when you are one person than it is when you are 323.1 million people. Our system of representational democracy can be slow and cumbersome. But it must be to protect the rights and safety of all. Nobody would claim that democracy (especially representative democracy) is perfect. It is not. But as Winston Churchill once pointed out, "Democracy is the worse form of government, except for all the others."

I hear you asking, “What has this to do with the church?” Many would say that the doctrine of Separation of Church and State should disqualify a pastor from such comments. Of course I am a Christian and I pray that all I say and do will, first and foremost, glorify my Lord and Savior. But I am also an American. So are the members of BHLC. As Christians we should be quick to see self-righteousness at work. We should be slow to slip into it ourselves. And we know the cure for self-righteousness. It is called by us **The Golden Rule:**

“So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.”
(Matthew 7:12)

I hope you have had a happy, peaceful, restful, and thoughtful summer. God bless you all.

Brian F Shirey

 IN OUR 
Thoughts and Prayers

SHUT-IN: Rohma Kropf, Bonnie Furman, Gloria Davis, Arta Mae Camino, Betty Lou Moore, Loraine Andrzejwski

FOR HEALING AND WELL-BEING: Zoey, Susan Spriggs, Will Lugaila, Betty Kirby, Kimberly Mason, Donna Erdner, Don Hoffer, Diane Stiegler, Chad Lowe, Bonnie Guest, Evan Ray, Bernie Kirk, Bonnie Klem, Raymond, Mary & Mahala Linnabary, Kathy Smith, Sandra Flourney, Chuck Skalos, Nanette McHue, Monica Weisensee, Alicia Jacobs, Judy Ingram, Victoria Kromp, Valerie Chiesa, Diane Jackobowski, Christian Reilly, Haylee Flory, Linda Collins, Betty Heover, George Lucas, George Meyer, Donna Krass, Debbie Hankins, Don Aurin, Steve Aurin, Stacey Dorsey, Gloria Davis, Trevor Gibson, Garrett Francis, Roberta Axton, Carol Stewart, Denise Labella, Alfred Hunt, Chantel Burns, Baby Claire, Ken Axton, Paul Lichauer,

Paul Reilly, Sherry Kinslow, Barry R, Pat Stella, Mike, Eddie Nagel, Scott Tegler, Anthony Zoller, Michelle Pop, Carol Baland, Earl Weaver, Heather Ann, Alan Campbell, Melissa Stipinsky, Pat Zokies, Jim Wilson, John Pfsipter, Gage, Tylor, Kim Turkovich, Leona Weaver, Carol Martinez, Ruth Ann Stevens, Roland Reynolds, Georgia Rielly, Patty Gates, Ruth Dorsey, Ramae Mazza, Rhoma Myers, Nancy Lee, Patrick Ireland, Denise Gates, Shirley Harman, Sequoia White, Jess, Katie Cerny, Al Prem, Kim Behr, Michele Frankenberg, Patricia Cole, Ezra Shirey, Steve Weaver, Ainslee Atkins, Will Spade, Ruth Nucz, Janet Fullerton, Jim Kunkl, Bonnie Signs, Mindy Rice, Rick Fagan, Don Brown, Tara Gottschalk

FOR COMFORT IN MY TIME OF LOSS: Family of Tim Horcick, Rienhardt Family, Eich Family, Family of Ed Smith



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

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.



SEPTEMBER 3

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
| 2 Ushers: | Al Calhoun, Rich Dummer |
| Acolyte: | Shane Lundy |
| Lector: | Kathy Dearth |
| 2 Comm. Presenter: | June Baginski, Kathryn Skeva |
| Comm. Helper: | Johanna Yoho |

SEPTEMBER 10

2 Ushers: Bob Fink, Dave Fink
Acolyte: Nick Hammel
Lector: Jan Krepp*
2 Comm. Presenter: Linda Lugalìa, Kim Spriggs
Comm. Helper: Jan Krepp

SEPTEMBER 17

2 Ushers: Rich Stewart, Al Calhoun
Acolyte: Shane Lundy
Lector: Ashley Scott
2 Comm. Presenter: Carol Stewart, Jim Stewart
Comm. Helper: Dave Fink

SEPTEMBER 24

2 Ushers: Rich Dummer, Bob Fink
Acolyte: Nick Hammel
Lector: Johanna Yoho
2 Comm. Presenter: Rich & Mary Ann Stewart
Comm. Helper: Kathy Dearth



SING TO THE LORD A NEW SONG

Join the choir! Sing praise to God! Choir rehearsal will begin on Wednesday, September 13th at 4:30 - 6:00pm. The time of rehearsal has been changed. Come and Join us! The choir works hard but has a good time. Hope to see some new faces and hear new voices.

Next COUNCIL meeting will be
MONDAY, September 18 AT
7PM.



BRIGHTON HEIGHTS CHURCH PICNIC is on Sunday, September 17, at 11 am service followed by fellowship at Evergreen Community Park (3430 Evergreen Road, Pgh. PA 15237). Mark your calendar and join your church members for a relaxing day of friendship

*NO SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 SERVICE AND NO SERVICE AT THE CHURCH ON THE 17TH.

CONGRATULATIONS to Amanda Rice and Zachary Walls on their wedding on Saurday, August 19, 2017



BRIGHT HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH DAY CAMP was the week of July 17th. The campers and councils all had a good time. There are photos are in back of the church and a photo is included in this newsletter.

BRIGHTON HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH is making YARD CROSSES. They are a \$10.00 donation. Let's show our friends and neighbors that we want to be counted as belonging to Jesus Christ. See Rich Stewart or contact the church office.



PIRATE GAME WAS ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 4, even though there was a 2 hour rain delay those who attended enjoyed the game and cheered the Bucos to VICTORY and also enjoyed the Band, Chichigo.



OCTOBERFEST IS
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15



NALC

North American Lutheran Church

WOMEN OF THE NORTH AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH is sponsoring a day retreat titled

“Getting to know Luther”.



WNALC Day Retreat is Saturday, September 23rd. at Crooked Creek State Park, Ford City, PA 16226. The retreat includes breakfast at 9:30am followed by Morning Prayer, Trivia, Luther Discussion, Lunch, Park Ranger Talk, Crafts, and Walks. It wraps up at 4:30 pm. Cost is \$25.00. Any questions should be directed to President Jackie Waterson at jkwatson8@gmail.com or 724-548-8492.

NALC LAUNCHES HOLY FAMILIES! (INITIATIVE)

Holy families! - Discipleship resources for the home. - The North American Lutheran Church has launched its Holy Families! initiative. Holy Families! offers discipleship resources for families to use at home. The Holy Family Time devotional was written with these key emphases in mind:

1. Solid Biblical Content
2. Child-and Family-Friendly Readings.
3. Lutheran Theological Perspective.
4. Questions Asked by the Children.
5. Employing Luther's Three-fold Approach to Scripture: Prayer, Study, and Struggle.

For more information visit Holy Families! - Discipleship Resources for the Home at <http://www.holyfamilytime.com/>



Embracing our COMMUNITY

BRIGHTON HEIGHTS CITIZEN FEDERATION General Membership Meeting is Thursday, September 14 at 7pm at John Morrow Elementary

 **Nextdoor** NEXTDOOR BRIGHTON HEIGHTS: There is a website devoted to the Brighton Heights area. It works like Facebook. The site gives information on the crime, lost animals and you can post if you need items to be done (grass cutters, painters, babysitters etc.) Type in address window, Next door Brighton Heights to sign up

The family of Sequola White, a 16 year old girl diagnosed with lung cancer and pancreatitis infection, thanks everyone for their cards and prayers. Sequola recently came home from the hospital and was advised she is CANCER FREE!!!



CCAC is looking for *volunteers* to tutor adult students who are working to improve their academic skills and earn a Commonwealth Secondary School Diploma (formerly GED) in CCAC's Bridge to College and Career Pathways Program. For more information, contact ABE-GED@ccac.edu or 412-237-4479 or visit ccac.edu/bridge_to_college.aspx



GYNECOLOGICAL CANCER SUPPORT GROUP forming for newly diagnosed or survivors. The first meeting will be held on Thursday, September 14 from 5-7pm at the GYN/ONC Waiting Room at 300 Halket Street, Suite 1750, Pgh. PA 15213. For more information contact Christine Kalinik, LCSW at 412-641-4469 or kalinikc@upmc.edu

THE WOODLANDS, A NONPROFIT IN WEXFORD serving individuals with disability and chronic illness invite you to volunteer at our annual Autumn Open House, Fall Fest, on Saturday, October 21st. This is an opportunity to gain service hours with your local school, youth or community group. For more information contact Patrick Joyal at pjoyal@woodlandsfoundation.org.



EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH (one of the newer NALC Congregations) located in State College, PA. is reaching out to NALC students who attend PSU. They are inviting students to their Thursday night fellowship time (dinner and Bible study) and to include them in other special events. Emmanuel Lutheran Church is asking for assistance in contacting families and students of Penn State University Park Campus. For more information about Emmanuel Lutheran Church and their ministry you can contact Pr. Chris Milarch at: prchrism@gmail.com or 570-502-3450 or via their website <http://emmanuelnalc.org/>



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|----|----------------------------------|
| 1 | Brandon Vardzel |
| 4 | John Schnepf Charles Wilde |
| 7 | Michelle Calhoun |
| 10 | Chantel Burns |
| 16 | Anthony Scalisi |
| 22 | Amanda Andrews |
| 26 | Janice Engelman |
| 30 | Kimberly Spriggs Lydia Walton |

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARY

| | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 7 | Michelle & Alvin Calhoun |
|---|-----------------------------|

FYI

September 1 is Emma M. Nutt Day - Emma was the first woman telephone operator in America. Emma worked for 33 years. Telephone Operators have been replaced by automation in the telephone system.



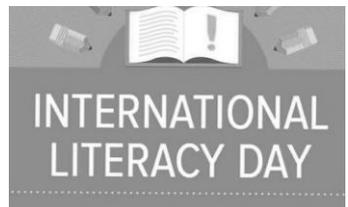
September 4 Labor Day in the United States is a public holiday celebrated on the first Monday in September. It honors the American labor movement and the contributions that workers have made to the strength, prosperity, laws and well-being of the

country. It is the Monday of the long weekend known as Labor Day Weekend and it is considered the unofficial end of summer in the United States. The holiday is also a federal holiday.

September 6 is Read a Book Day. Take time out of your busy life, and relax with a good book. Cozy up on a chair, indoors or out. If you doze off along the way, that's fine. Reading is a great lifetime hobby. It offers so many positive attributes. It's relaxing and therapeutic. It's educational. Its entertaining. And, a whole lot of other good things, too.



September 8 is International Literacy Day. It celebrates and promotes literacy all over the world. The day was created by the United Nations. It is promoted by the UN's UNESCO. According to their website: "The aim is to highlight the importance of literacy to individuals, communities and societies."



September 10 is Grandparent's Day. It is the day of the year that is set aside to honor grandparents. It is time to celebrate those special people who are always there with a hug, a kiss, a cookie, something special, or take us somewhere. If you can, enjoy the day with them. That is the greatest gift they can receive from you. If you can't see them,



call them, skype or facetime.

September 11 Is A Date To Remember
911 Remembrance I doubt anyone will ever forget where they were on the morning of September 11, 2001, when they heard of the attacks on the twin World Trade Towers in NYC and the Pentagon in Washington. This horrible and tragic day is etched forever in our memories. Like the attack on Pearl Harbor that brought us into World War II, the 911 attacks led us into a new war... the war on terrorism. It also touched and changed forever, the lives of each and every American.



September 12 is National Video Games Day.



It celebrates popular video games that stormed onto the market, and changed the way kids play games. From Atari to Nintendo to Xbox, video games provide all too many hours of playing time on your television set.

September 13, Uncle Sam Day, we celebrates a symbol of America. Uncle Sam is certainly one of America's most recognized symbols. He appears on everything from military posters to cartoon images to advertising media. He is perhaps, the most recognizable symbol in the world. His image was first used in 1813.



September 15 is POW/MIA Recognition Day. It is a day of remembrance and hope for the speedy and safe return of American Prisoners of War, and those still Missing in Action. It also seeks the return of the remains of fallen soldiers.



September 16 is American Legion Day. The American Legion was granted its federal charter by Congress on this day in 1919. It was established to support and assist veterans returning from World War I. Since then it has grown and supported veterans of all wars, and veterans of peacetime as well.



September 17 is WIFE APPRECIATION DAY. This day is for wives without children to receive appreciation from their husbands. Mother's Day is for wives with children. So, today is an opportunity for husbands in a

childless marriage, to recognize the value of their wife. Let her know how important she is to you, and how much she is appreciated. It is a day that she truly deserves.

September 21 is International Peace Day. This day was established by the United Nations. The goal for this day is “a day of non-violence and cease fire”.



September 22 is Autumn Equinox, Fall begins! The Autumn equinox signals the beginning of Fall. It is the point where there is exactly 12 hours of daylight and 12 hours of darkness at the equator. If you live anywhere else, however, you will see a little bit more or a little bit less than 12 hours of daylight. The daylight hours are dwindling and will continue to do so until we reach the Winter Solstice, the shortest day of the year and the start of winter.



September 26 is Johnny Appleseed Day.

Johnny Appleseed Day honors one of America's great legends. Johnny Appleseed was a real person, John Chapman. He was among the American settlers who were captivated by the movement west across the continent. As Johnny Appleseed travelled west, he planted apple trees along the way, and sold trees to settlers. With every apple tree that was planted, the legend grew.



Above Information taken from Holidayinsights.com

COLOR JOHNNY APPLESEED



REASON TO JOIN THE CHOIR!?





Brighton Heights Lutheran Church
3830 California Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

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