



Newsletter of
The Cathedral of Hope

Reaching Out

www.cathedralofhope.org



February 2007

East Liberty Presbyterian Church, 116 South Highland Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Vol. 26,

ELPC Black History Month Celebration and Luncheon

The ELPC Community Mission Committee invites the congregation and the East Liberty community to our Sixth Annual Black History Month Celebration on Sunday, Feb 18 in the Social Hall, following the 11 am worship service. This year we are honored to have with us the Rev. Dr. Larry Pickens. Dr. Pickens is an ordained Methodist minister and attorney specializing in church law, General Secretary of the ecumenical body Churches United in Christ, and a member of the National Board of Oikocredit. He will be both our guest preacher for the 11 am worship service and speaker at our celebration

event, with a presentation on "Faithful Responses to Today's Challenges."

Chef Jay and his staff are planning a special luncheon for us featuring traditional Soul Food. A donation of \$8 per person (\$5 for children 10 and under and seniors) will be appreciated.

No reservations are required, but to help us plan how much food to prepare, please call 412/441-3800 x30, by Tuesday, Feb 13 to let us know how many in your family plan to attend. This is your opportunity to come and enjoy a wonderful meal, a creative presentation and to

Sunday Morning Services

**Celebration of the Lord's Supper.*

8 am Good Samaritan Worship
* Feb 4 The Rev. John Burgess, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.
Feb 11 John Nelson, ELPC Elder.
Feb 18 Ted Brooks, ELPC Member.
Feb 25 TBA

9 am Morning Glory Worship
* Feb 4 The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy.
Feb 11 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.
Feb 18 Deborah Marx, ELPC Staff.
Feb 25 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.

11 am Sanctuary Worship
* Feb 4 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.
Feb 11 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.
Feb 18 The Rev. Dr. Larry Pickens.
(see Black History Month Celebration)
Feb 25 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.

Koinonia Service of Praise
7 pm—2nd Sunday each month
Feb 11 Kathleen Kyle, service leader.

Holy Ground Service of Wholeness and Healing
6 pm—3rd Sunday each month, March–Nov

Labyrinth Prayer Walk
Mondays..... 10 am to 3 pm
Wednesdays..... 10 am to 9 pm
Feb 21 Ash Wednesday, imposition of ashes at the labyrinth, 5:30 pm.

Taizé Prayer
Wednesdays..... 7 pm

ELPC 2007 LENTEN THEME: "Traveling Mercies"



In this day and age when long-distance travel is quite common, we forget how throughout most of history, leaving home to visit another city or land was quite risky. There were dangers on the road, unsure routes to be plotted, and the constant need for hospitality along the way if you were to reach your destination safely. Before leaving home, it was common to wish someone "Godspeed" and "traveling mercies," spoken prayers to accompany loved ones as they journeyed. Author Anne Lamott in her book, *Traveling Mercies*, summarizes it as a prayer wishing someone these sentiments: "Be safe, notice beauty, enjoy the journey; God is with you."

On Ash Wednesday (Feb 21), another year's Lenten journey begins for us. We will travel for over 40 days to reach our destination of Easter Sunday. It is meant to be a time for spiritual journeys—to reflect on our lives, our souls, our hopes in relation to the promises of our faith. But there are many things that impede our ability to "travel well," such as fear, losses, busyness, and doubt. During Lenten worship, we will name some of these impediments that affect all travelers as well as consider resources that can help us complete our journeys of faith. To-

East Liberty Presbyterian Church

The Cathedral of Hope
116 S. Highland Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Tel: 412/441-3800
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Office Hours:
Monday – Friday, 9 am to 5 pm
Sunday, 9 am to 12:30 pm

STAFF LEADERSHIP

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
Pastor

Linda Addlespurger
Director of Hope Academy

The Rev. Christiane Dutton
Minister of Taizé Prayer

The Rev. Cynthia I. Jackson
Interim Director of Christian Education

Pamela M. Kimmel
Business Administrator

Dr. Lois M. Lang
Associate in Ministry for Spiritual Life,
Stephen Ministry and Older Adults

Chef Jay G. Ritter
Dining Services Director

The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy
Director of Mission Ministries

Luke Stevens
Projects Manager

The Rev. Dr. J. Richard Szeremany
Director, Worship, Music & The Arts

Geri L. Toth
Communications Director

Heather Tunney
Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Howard Turner
Chief of Security



Pastoral Message

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush, Pastor

“With God all things are possible.”

I am closing in on my first year’s anniversary here at ELPC. It was in March 2006 that we moved to Pittsburgh and my first day in the church office was on March 15. A lot has happened in the past 11 months. We’ve seen 4th of July fireworks from the riverbank and a Pirates game in PNC Park. We’ve enjoyed the museums, zoo and aviary, ice skating, plays and symphony concerts. We’ve been up the

incline, through the tunnels, over the bridges, and around the salad bar at Eat ‘n Park. It has been a new adventure and an affirming call to ministry in every way since we arrived in Pittsburgh.

As the first year together draws to a close, it is appropriate to reflect on what the coming year holds for us at ELPC. I hope we will continue to balance innovation with continuity, holding onto and strengthening the things we do well while being open to new programs and ministries that build on our congregational strengths of diversity, inclusivity, and faithful witness. We currently touch many lives through our various worship services, and provide opportunities for spiritual growth through our Sunday School, Adult Education, Youth and Young Adults, and Spiritual Life programs. We provide a place where important community mission occurs and generously give of ourselves and our resources to share the love of Christ with others both near and far. We host an array of cultural events, from Hope Academy’s work to concerts we present, that improve the overall quality of life in our community, while also providing a safe place for 12-step programs or tutoring sessions to occur. We welcomed over 50 new members in 2006.

The Session has worked well together as we’ve tackled big topics like moving toward a balanced budget, deciding on a staffing plan that fits our ministry goals, and improving communication between the church’s groups and committees. You will learn more about many of these efforts at our Annual Meeting later this month (which I strongly encourage everyone to attend). We have honored the decision of the Budgetary Strategic Planning Committee by keeping a flat budget for 2007 while working for significant reductions in 2008. We are also considering an Associate Pastor position as well as several new ecumenical initiatives. (Keep your eyes open for information about an East End housing rehabilitation project this summer to assist first-time home owners.) We have established a “Prophetic Voices” Speaker Series committee and an “Arts Committee”, the latter of which will help us welcome back our renovated organ. And we hope to continue building on the spirit of volunteerism, finding ways for all of you to share your God-given gifts as partners of ministry.

In the spirit of State of the Union and State of the State addresses, let me say that

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Randy Bush of the
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Reaching Out Newsletter

Annual Congregational Meeting Set for Feb 25

ELPC's annual congregational meeting will be held in the Social Hall on Sunday, Feb 25, following the 11 am worship service. A luncheon will precede the meeting. Cost is \$5. Please call Gloria at 412-441-3800 x22 for luncheon reservations.

The agenda for the meeting includes: a review of 2006, presentation of the 2007 budget, and election of officers and nominating committee.

Photos and information about nominees for church officers will be posted on the bulletin board at the Highland entrance after Feb 11. Annual Reports will be available in the church office by Sunday, Feb 18. Following is the slate of nominees:

Deacons (class 2010)

Karen Beasley, Todd Hoffman, Barb Krimmel, Pat Krimmel, Rose Massaquoi, Eric McCarty, Judy Roberts, and a Youth Deacon, Charles Meyers.

Elders (class 2010)

Nadine Banks, Tim Benedict, Cynthia Boyce, Peta Cole, Jim Gaylord, Carol Hoehn, Emily Rosenthal, Jim Russ.



Ash Wednesday

Feb 21

ELPC will observe the solemnity of Ash Wednesday by offering to any who so desire the imposition of ashes and brief prayers at the following times:

- 9 am Chapel. Worship led by ELPC staff members.
- 12 noon Chapel. A 30-minute time of reflection, scripture, prayer and music.
- 5:30 pm Social Hall. At the Laby-



Musical Extravaganza Fundraiser for Hope Academy

Unsure how to best celebrate Valentine's Day this year? All are invited on Friday, Feb 16 at 7 pm for a "Love & All That Jazz" concert here at East Liberty Presbyterian Church. Join us for a fun evening of music and readings on the ever-fresh topic of love. The music will range from classics to jazz and Broadway show tunes.

This fundraiser for Hope Academy will feature singers including—Etta Cox, Brad Yoder, Denise Sheffey-Powell, Rob Frankenberry, Anna Vogelzang, Beth Johnstone Bush, Jim Critchfield, Peter Bianchi, Gail Novak and Mary Randolph; pianists Randy Bush and Suzanne Polak; the Renaissance City Men's Choir; some surprise celebrity readers, and the Hope Academy "Voices of Hope" vocal ensemble. Bring your Valentine to this special program!

Suggested ticket donations are \$10 for adults and FREE for children and

ELPC Mardi Gras Celebration

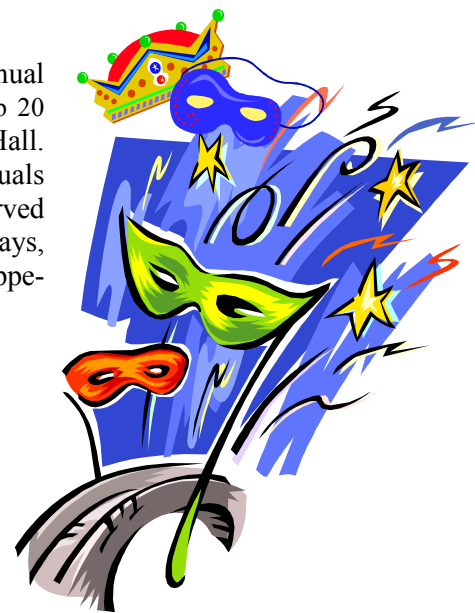
All are invited to join us for our Annual Mardi Gras Celebration on Tuesday, Feb 20 from 5:45 until 8:45 pm in the Social Hall. This is always a fun night for individuals and for families. There will be food served buffet style from 6 until 7:15 pm (as always, a variety of goodies for a variety of appe-

Festivities will also include:

- u the ever popular band, the Dixie Land Dudes;
- u arts and crafts for the young ones as well as for the adults. Be creative! You, too, may win a prize!);
- u a special children's show;
- u non-combative piñata competition;
- u a costume parade;
- u crowning of the Mardi Gras King and Queen!

And then, you can continue dancing to the sweet sounds and infectious rhythms of the Dixie Land Dudes until they pack up their horns and head on home!

Tickets: \$5 for adults, children



12 years and under \$2.50, and a maximum family price of \$15 (covers food and program).

To help us plan, advanced reservations are encouraged. Call Norma Meyer at 412/441-3800 x11.

Volunteer Help Need for the Event We can use help with the celebration beginning at 4:30 pm on Tuesday, Feb 20 to assist with set-up,

Changes in Our Church Office

The front office here at ELPC has been undergoing some changes since Jan 1, 2007, and a few more are on the way.

- u The position of receptionist was eliminated and Doris Cook has retired after more than 20 years of faithful service. The Security staff at the Highland entrance now answer all telephone calls, as well as continue to be the first to greet and direct people as they enter the building.
- u Our telephone system was reprogrammed to offer a directory of staff and extensions should a call be answered by the church's main voicemail box. This voicemail box is checked several times during the workday for missed messages.
- u Security staff have received a refresher course in business telephone use.
- u The next big change will be on Sundays. Beginning March 4, there will only be volunteers in the front office on Sunday mornings from 9 to 11 am and perhaps for half an hour after the 11 am service. Their main purpose will be to take messages and give information. We are hopeful that with some understanding and support from you, the congregation, this change from paid workers on Sundays to a volunteer force will be successful. If you would like to be on a rotat-



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ELPC pipe organ restoration project's Jan 10, 2007 pic-o-the-day. The toe stud rail mounted in the console. It's starting to look like a cockpit for sure!

ELPC Pipe Organ Update from Indianapolis

The Rev. Dr. Richard Szeremany

Things in Indianapolis continue to go well and we see the progress from the "pics-o-the-day" that we receive each week from the Goulding and Wood Organ Company. These photos and their captions, while perhaps not fully understood by everyone, do show how this monumental instrument is progressing from the drawing board, and piece-by-piece and pipe-by-pipe to its glorious conclusion. You too can look at the progress photos on the ELPC website, www.cathedralofhope.org.

And, speaking of conclusion, I want to bring you up to date on the proposed ELPC trip to the Goulding and Wood Organ factory to see and to hear our completed organ before it's transported back to ELPC. This may be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see first hand what an organ factory is all about, and to visit with the artisans who have crafted all of the organ's thousands of parts and pipes and wind chests, etc.

Because of an unavoidable delay in the completion and delivery of the organ, and when traveling weather will be more dependable, our trip has been tentatively rescheduled to take place the week or two after Easter. As of last December, a list of approximately 20+ people indicated their interest in going to Indianapolis. Soon we will be sending out a response card in the mail to these folks, asking them to confirm their intentions to still go with us. If you were on our list and

Trip to Taizé, France

We are again exploring the possibility of a group going to Taizé, France for a first-hand experience of the worshiping community there. Tentative dates for this trip are from May 12-19, 2007. Pastor Randy Bush will be helping lead the church group. Anyone interested in learning more about this opportunity should contact Christiane Dutton or Gloria Knopp at

World Day of Prayer: "United Under God's Tent"

World Day of Prayer (WDP) will be celebrated Friday, March 2, in some 170 countries. WDP Paraguay wrote the service and developed the theme "United Under God's Tent." This year's WDP service for our

area will be held at Third Presbyterian Church, 5701 Fifth Avenue in Shadyside, from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Come, worship and learn about Paraguay and have a Paraguayan lunch.



Spiritual Life Ministry

Dr. Lois M. Lang, Associate in Ministry for Spiritual

Class Series on Father Richard Rohr's *Everything Belongs*

The Spiritual Life Committee is sponsoring a three-week series of classes with Sue Bailey as the facilitator, based on three CDs by Father Richard Rohr which highlight the contents of his book, *Everything Belongs*. The CDs present a coherent view of the struggle that we all face to be in the place where "everything belongs." The classes will be held on three Sundays, Feb 11, March 4 and 11 in Room 234 from 12:30 to 2:30 pm.

Spiritual Life Lenten Gift

During the week of Feb 25 at the end of each worship service, the Spiritual Life Committee will be distributing something for your Lenten journey. Be sure to look for a committee member distributing Lenten gifts at the doorways following each service.

Lenten Bible Study — "Follow the Prayer Path of Jesus"

Join Judy Menk Sunday afternoons in the Second Floor Parlor following 11 am worship until 2:30 pm for a Lenten class series based on the first 3 chapters of the book, *Traveling the Prayer Path of Jesus* by John Indermark. Each of the 3 chapters includes daily readings and spiritual exercises. Gospel texts will also be used. Sundays, March 18, 25 and April 1. The focus for the first two classes will be on the movement of Jesus from times of prayer-

"Responding to the War in Iraq" — *New ELPC Web Page*

How shall we respond, as people of faith? The prophet Micah voices our answer: "What does the Lord require of you? To do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God." (Micah 6:8)

Following the stirring sermon from the Rev. Randy Bush, "Beyond Iraq" (Jan 14), we have created a web page and connected pages on our website to explore how we shall act, as vital and compassionate children of God. Within

these pages you will find links to local and national peacemaking initiatives, the sermon by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "Beyond Vietnam", Rev. Bush's "Beyond Iraq" sermon, and ways to respond by writing or by calling your elected officials, caring ways to pray for and support our country's leaders and those who are serving in the military, and more to come.



Taizé Prayer

Rev. Christiane Dutton, Minister of Taizé Prayer

Taizé Prayer and Ash Wednesday

A Taizé Prayer candlelight service is held very Wednesday at 7 pm in the Chapel. On Feb 21, Ash Wednesday, our service will include the imposition of ashes.

After-Taizé Classes

Wednesdays at 8:15 pm, following the 7 pm Taizé Prayer service.

Feb 7 Taizé Videos. "A Week at Taizé" and "The Taizé Community."

Feb 14 Taizé Video. "Praying with the Songs of Taizé."

Note: Rev. Bush is preparing to lead a trip to Taizé May 12-19, 2007 (see article on page 4). If you are considering joining him, or if you would just like to learn more about the Community of Taizé, join us on Feb 7 and 14 as we watch some videos of introduction.

Feb 21 No class.

Feb 28 Celebrations. If you celebrate a birthday, milestone or an anniversary in February, write your name on a piece of paper and put it in the offering plate during the month. After our Taizé service, stay to join us for celebration cake.

Bread & Soup Meal

All are invited to join us in the McKelvy Room on the last Wednesday of each month from 5:45 to 6:45 pm for a bread and soup meal and fellowship (\$2.50

Family Fellowship

Family Fellowship is held the 3rd Sunday of the month in the Harambe Room immediately following the 11 am worship service. Families with children 5th grade and younger are invited. Beverages and snacks will be provided. This is a good opportunity to greet other families, share ideas or concerns, and to learn more about ELPC. Our next gathering will be on Sunday, Feb 18. Join us for this time of sharing and getting acquainted. Sponsored by the Christian Education Ministry.

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Inquirers' Class

Learn what it means to become a member or friend of ELPC by attending our next Inquirers' Class, Saturday, Feb 24 from 9 am to 3 pm.

Led by the Rev. Randy Bush and members of the Membership & Growth Committee, this is a chance to hear from members and staff about what it means to be a person of faith and the ministry and vision of our church. Lunch is provided and there is time for sharing stories



Christian Education

The Rev. Cynthia Jackson, Interim Director

CHURCH SCHOOL

Sunday mornings, 9:45 to 10:45 am

ELPC welcomes you to come and grow your relationship with God. We have many personalities, and come from diverse backgrounds, but we are all connected through the transforming love of God made known to us in Jesus Christ. All classes are wheelchair-accessible and near wheelchair-accessible restrooms. More information about CE classes is available on the "Welcome Table" on the 2nd floor or by contacting the Rev. Cynthia Jackson.

FOR CHILDREN

- u Young Children's Ministry: Infants–2 years. 1st Floor Nursery. The young children will be learning that God is Love and Jesus Loves the little children.
- u Pre-school: Ages 3, 4, and 5 years. Room 240. The children will be learning that God's love is all around us.
- u Kindergarten and Grade 1. Room 336. In an open classroom that emphasizes awe, wonder, and the holy, the children will learn about the life of Jesus.
- u Grades 2 and 3. Room 338. In an open classroom, the children use interactive materials to engage in the Bible story and discover how God comes to us in Jesus.
- u Grades 4 and 5. Room 335. The Bible lessons from Seasons of the Spirit. The children will encounter Jesus and God's glory in a variety of experiential ways.

Extended Session — February's Focus on Black History Month

During the Extended Session time with children on Sunday mornings (offered during the 11 am service) the children will hear about life during slavery, the Underground Railroad, the Civil Rights Movement, and the life of Ruby Bridges, a pioneer for Integration. Every family will be given a book about Ruby's life. In addition, Ms. Nadine Banks, ELPC elder, will read a story about Harriet Tubman. Families are encouraged to find library books, special events, or to visit a bookstore and learn more about Black history.

Volunteer. Parents, grandparents and other adults are needed to help several times a year. If interested, contact the Rev. Cynthia Jackson.

FOR YOUTH

For Church School classes offered for youth in grades 6 through 12, see page 7 for details.

FOR ADULTS

Parenting Circle

Parents, grandparents, adoptive parents—anyone involved in parenting—are welcome to join the caring circle that gathers on the first floor in the Harambe Room. Recently the class discussed "Dealing with Differences in



Stewardship Committee

Planned Giving Seminar
on "Legacy Gifts"

The Stewardship Committee will host a seminar on Legacy Gifts in the Second Floor Parlor following the 11 am worship service on Sunday, Feb 11 at 12:30 pm. Phillip Blake, Development Officer with the Presbyterian Foundation will be our

Parenting Styles.” What would you like to discuss? Come and share your ideas or concerns. Prayers, support, and acceptance are offered every week. Facilitator: Frances Irvin, ELPC Elder.

Journey with Scripture Class

This class studies and reflects upon the Bible while reading scriptures appointed for the Revised Common Lectionary. What is God saying to us individually or as a community? Printed copies of the weekly scripture lessons are available for study and meditation. Prior familiarity with the Bible is not necessary. Second Floor Library.

Feb 4 “A Surprising Catch.” Encounter with God precedes calling by God. It is an old story often repeated. God chooses unlikely ones, whose sense of unworthiness yields to the response, “Here I am.” Miracles and ministry follow where trust overrides skepticism. Simon Peter sets aside his need to be in control in order to be opened to, and by, God’s word that assures: we need not fear. *Isaiah 6:1-8, (9-13); Psalm 138; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11.*

Feb 11 “Surprising Teaching.” Jesus begins to teach about the life of discipleship, turning conventional human understanding upside down. In speaking of blessings and woes, Jesus surprises and challenges. Our readings affirm that all who trust in the promises of God are blessed. *Jeremiah 17:5-10; Psalm 1; 1 Corinthians 15:12-20; Luke 6:17-26.*

Feb 18 “God’s Glory.” The light that shone over Bethlehem to reveal Jesus’ birth, now shines in Jesus’ transfiguration. With disciples of all times and places, we are called through Christ to a new way of life. As we follow, we join in the celebration of God’s glory. *Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2; Luke 9:28-36, (37-43).*

The beginning of Lent

Feb 25 “A Joyful Remembrance.” Lent begins in joyful remembrance that all we have flows from God. God’s love, purpose, and power in the wilderness—for the people of Israel and for Jesus—reveal such providence. experiencing God’s grace beckons us to open what we have and who we are in thanksgiving to God, and in sharing with our neighbor. Let us celebrate the good God gives. *Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16; Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13.*

Contemporaries Class

An intergenerational community of caring adults united in their focus upon Bible reading and meditation. Individuals at all stages of faith are welcome! Second Floor Parlor.

Feb 4, 11, 18, 25 “Living the Christian Life... Faith and Works.” As Protestants, we believe with Paul in Romans 5 that Christ offers everyone the free gift of God’s grace. The question is “How do I live as a Christian in today’s world?” We understand that we also have a call to do good works to witness to our belief. Many organizations do good works, but they are not religiously informed. How do we choose what to do so that our witness shines through our works? Readings from the Gospels, Paul’s letters, the Book of James, and *The Peaceable Kingdom* by Stanley Hauerwas will serve as a framework for discussions. (Used copies of the book are available on EBAY and from AMAZON.COM for less than \$10.) Led by Jim Russ, ELPC Elder.



Linda Addlespurger, Di-

Hope Academy Students Compete in Shakespeare Monologue & Scene Contest

Twenty-seven Hope Academy's Shakespeare Workshop students (including 4 from ELPC: Sarah Overby, Camden Copeland, Alex Hart, Manny Cotton) have been preparing for the Pittsburgh Public Theater's Shakespeare Monologue and Scene Contest since early fall. The preliminary round of competition will be held on Tuesday, Feb 6 at 3:45 pm.

This annual competition encourages students in grades 4 through 12 to work for recognition and applause by preparing and performing monologues and scenes from the 37 plays of William Shakespeare. Close to 1,000 students from the tri-state area will compete in the semi-final round; from that group around 30 students will be selected to perform in the "Showcase of Finalists" on Monday, Feb 12 at 8 pm at the Pittsburgh Public Theater. This event is free and open to the public. It is an evening of theater not to be missed!

Shopping at Amazon.Com Benefits Hope Academy

If you shop online, please consider making your purchases at Amazon.com through a link on the Hope Academy blog. Just click the Amazon link in the right hand column of the HA blog page. A percentage of the sales from any purchases you make while shopping on the Amazon site will be donated



Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Heather Tunney, Director
412-441-3800 x14

YOUTH (grades 6—12)

Sunday Church School, 9:45 to 10:45 am
"Seasons of the Spirit" curriculum.

Sunday Youth Group
Open to youth in grades 6-12, Sundays, 12:30 to 3 pm. We will meet for lunch, Bible Study and fellowship in Room 51 (ground floor).

Youth Basketball
Youth Basketball is held on Saturdays from 5 to 8 pm in the ELPC Gym. To participate, contact Heather.

Friday Fun Night at Schenley Park Skating Rink
Youth in grades 6-9 are invited for an evening of fun and fellowship at Schenley Park Skating Rink on Friday, Feb 9 from 7 to 9 pm. Join us for an opportunity to visit with friends, old and new. We will meet at ELPC at 6:30 pm and return by 9:30 pm. More details to follow on the February youth calendar.



Career Conference for Sr. High, Recent Graduates and College Students
Learn more about: discerning God's call through times of change, how your "personality type" influences your decisions, how to choose a college, developing your leadership skills. . .and much more! ELPC Youth and Young Adult Ministries is hosting a FREE day-long conference called "Transitions" at ELPC on Saturday, Feb 3 from 10 am to 3:30 pm. Registration begins at 9:30 am.

Through a keynote address, workshops and a panel discussion, we will explore important spiritual and practical issues facing youth and young adults who are approaching (or dealing with!) times of great change in their lives. There will be workshops available to parents as well.

While this event is free, registration is required. For details and to register, please call Kelly Stanfill at 412-441-3800 x19 or visit our website at www.cathedralofhope.org and look under Programs, Youth & Young Adult Ministries. . .and, feel free to invite a friend!

Jubilee Conference for Recent High-School Graduates and College Students
Recent high-school graduates and college students are invited to participate in the Jubilee Conference, Feb 16-18 at the Pittsburgh Hilton Hotel. This conference, sponsored by the Coalition for Christian Outreach, is an event created to provide "a vision of and for life" to help followers of Jesus grow in living out their faith in every area of life.

Come and discover the public implications of your own personal transformation and explore what it means to be faithful to God in your studies,

work, and vocational path that will follow. RSVP to Heather by Monday, Feb 5. Participants may either stay at the Hilton or commute. Cost is \$100 for those staying at the Hilton and \$60 for commuters, ELPC will pay the rest. Participants must also bring spending money for food and snacks. For more information, or to RSVP call Heather.

YOUNG ADULTS (in their 20s and 30s)

Young Adult Study Group
Young adults in their 20s or 30s are invited to join us for a time of study, prayer and fellowship in the Pastor's Conference Room every other Tuesday from 7 to 9 pm (except when noted).

Monday, Feb 12. We conclude our current study series regarding God's covenants with humanity with a discussion of "The Kingdom to Come—God's Promise for Christ's Coming Reign." Note:



SUNDAY, FEB 11

KOINONIA FELLOWSHIP
6 pm, Second Floor Parlor

All are invited to join us for fellowship and a pot-luck supper. A main course will be provided, but please bring a side dish or dessert to share. RSVP to Heather Tunney.

KOINONIA SERVICE OF PRAISE
7 pm, Third Floor Music Room

A contemporary worship service to praise and worship God, the center of our community of faith.



Justice & Global Concerns

The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy
Director of Mission Ministries

COMING OUT OF HIDING



Interfaith Spiritual
Expression
Celebration for
GLBT Seekers,
Friends and Family

Join us on Saturday, Feb 3 from 9 am to 3:30 pm in the Social Hall, for an interfaith spiritual expression celebration for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered (GLBT) seekers, friends and families. The day's events will include worship, group sharing, workshops—Living Boldly, Mandalas, Understanding the Labyrinth, Reaching People of Color, PFLAG Meeting, Spirituality through Art, Experiencing Taizé Prayer, Centering Prayer, Extending Grace, Building Your Puzzle, Non-violent Communication—celebrations, and lunch. This is a free event, with a suggested donation of \$10 for lunch. Registration will be held between 9 and 9:30 am. Spon-

Poverty Taskforce

Food Donation Baskets Now Available at All ELPC Entrances

"If you can't feed a hundred people then feed just one." This message from Mother Teresa is symbolic of our efforts to care for our neighbors. While we may not (yet) be able to eradicate poverty in our community, as good neighbors we have an obligation to do whatever we can. In part, that means filling the EECM food baskets to overflowing each and every week. To assist you, there are now 4 baskets available near the following entrances to the church where you may place your non-perishable food items: Highland Avenue, Whitfield Street, Penn Avenue, and near the main staircase on the second floor.

While you are encouraged to donate the item of the month, donations do not need to be limited to just those foods, but please assure that all donations are nutritional. A coupon clipper and frequent contributor to the food baskets states that he takes advantage of BOGO-free items for contribution, as well as purchases many items with coupons that would otherwise be thrown away. That's a great strategy for preserving our own resources while increasing those of our neighbors.

"Just Neighbors" — Examining the Roots of Poverty and Our Response

All are invited to join us for our next in a series of educational and interactive workshop—*Just Neighbors*—Saturday, Feb 10 at 5:30 pm in Room 234 when we examine the topic "low-income workers, does working work?" with Damon Bethea presenting. We will gather for fellowship, faith exploration and a pot luck supper prior to our workshop. Sponsored by the Poverty Taskforce of the Justice & Global Concerns Committee.

Childcare (by reservation) will be available during the program portion of the evening (6 to 8 pm). Call Kelly Stanfill, 412-441-3800 x19 to let her know how many children.

Women & Children's Taskforce

Women & Children's Taskforce Meeting

Our next meeting will be on Sunday, Feb 4, at 12:30 pm in the third floor Music Room. If you would like to join with other church members in working on behalf of women and children locally, nationally and globally, please join us. Newcomers are always welcome. For more information, call Judy Menk at 412-798-8569 or JAMenk@comcast.net.

Field Learning Project — Volunteer Helpers Needed

The Field Learning Project sponsors monthly fields trips designed to help recently arrived Somali-Bantu and Burmese children make connections with the cultural institutions and diverse people in their community. For each month's field trips, we are in need of chaperones, volunteer drivers, and helpers with breakfast preparation.

February's field trip, for a group of elementary-age children to the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh, is scheduled for Saturday, Feb 17 from approximately 9 am to 1 pm.



If you would like to volunteer to help with this event, please contact Junghwa Oh at 412-401-5745 or fieldlearning@hotmail.com. Note: Please do not contact Judy Menk for February's event.

To explore future volunteer needs connected to the Field Learning Program including future field trips (dates are tentative): March 17, April 21, May 5, June 16, contact Junghwa Oh or Judy Menk at 412-798-8569 or JAMenk@comcast.net.

FREE Legal Forum for Women

All are invited to a FREE legal fo-

New Orleans Mission Opportunity — Blitz Builds

Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church is organizing two trips to New Orleans where they will be staying at area churches and doing blitz builds on a number of already gutted homes. Hosanna Industries will be joining them on the first trip scheduled for March 17–24, with the second trip planned for March 31–April 7. They still have space available on both trips, the cost of which is projected to be \$450 (includes round-trip airfare to New Orleans and most meals); scholarships may be available from Fox Chapel. If interested in participating, please con-

Pittsburgh Presbytery Malawi Mission Trip

Is God calling you to the "warm heart of Africa"? (Malawi). The Pittsburgh Presbytery 2007 trip to Malawi will take place on June 14–29, 2007. Trip details and application forms are now available by



Map of Malawi

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Presbyterian Women

Heather Lawrence, Moderator

Horizons Bible Study

All women at ELPC are invited to participate in this year's Presbyterian Women's Horizons Bible Study—"In the Beginning: Perspectives on Genesis" by Celia Brewer Sinclair—based on 9 lessons. Choose to attend a time that fits your schedule best. Second Floor Parlor.

Lesson #6 *Perspectives on Sacrifice* (Genesis 22:1-24)

Feb 6, Tuesday MORNING, 10 am to 12:30 pm

10 am. . . .sharing, prayer time, opening devotions

10:30 am. . .Bible Study

11:30 am. . .Lunch, soup provided, bring bread, salad or fruit to share

Lesson #5 *Perspectives on the Outsider: Hagar* (Genesis 16; 21:1-21)

Feb 27, Tuesday EVENING, 5:45 to 7:30 pm

5:45 pm. . . .fellowship and a soup-and-bread meal

6:30 pm. . . .Bible Study

Heather Lawrence (Presbyterian Women Moderator) at 412-486-0826, Mary Alice Lightle at 412-682-1504 or Kay Shissler (for the evening study) at 412-681-2047.

Prayer Breakfast at Bethany Presbyterian Church

Presbyterian Women in the Pittsburgh Presbytery will be sponsoring a Prayer



Mission Ministries

The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy, Di-

Community Mission Committee

2007 East End Blitz Partnership

ELPC is partnering with nine local congregations, several community organizations (including ELDI and EECM) and Hosanna Industries to comprehensively rehab 8 vacant, abandoned or blighted houses in the East End this summer. These houses will then be made available to low-income, first-time homeowners.

Important aspects of this partnership are the committed relationship between the client and sponsoring church, as well as continued care for the household providing on going support and ministry as they take on the responsibility of home ownership. Members of ELPC's Community Mission Committee are working on all aspects of this project.

Currently underway is the acquisition of properties and the identification and selection of clients. We are hoping that ELPC will be able to supply 30–50 volunteers during one week each in May, June and July to help with actual rehab work days. The dates of May 19–24, June 11–15, and July 9–13 are being considered. Once confirmed, more information including a sign-up



ELPC People
 Good News, Thanks and Prayers

Thank You

Thank you to the following generous folks who freely share of their God-given and Spirit-directed gifts for the benefit of us all.

Chuck Carson for creating the four Advent banners depicting the four stanzas of the Advent hymn "When God Is a Child" (Hope, Peace, Joy and Love).

Gloria Knopp for her part in sewing the hems and framing of the banners.

Deborah Marx for the design of the beautiful seasonal decor that graced the Sanctuary and entrances of the building during Advent and Christmas.

Mark Palmieri (Deborah Marx's son) who assisted in the installation of these weekly enhancements.

Dan and Patsy Siemasko for the Walk-By-Retreat on the Spiritual Life bulletin board, and for the four beautiful banners depicting four stages of our spiritual/faith journey. These new banners were dedicated at the Morning Glory worship on Jan 21 and at the Sanctuary worship on Jan 28.

Prayers

Our prayers and sympathies are with *Nancy Wright* on the death of her sister Ann Curran on Dec 29, 2006.

Our prayers and sympathies are with *Madeline Elliot and sons Raymond and Dwayne* on the death of her husband and their father William Elliot on Jan 6,

R&B Singer "Kelley Hunt" Fundraiser Concert for Hope Academy

National recording artist, R&B singer/songwriter Kelley Hunt will be making her Pittsburgh debut on Thursday, March 8 at 7 pm at the Kelly-Strayhorn Theatre. Kelley will bring her musical talents as piano player and passionate blues vocalist to town in a concert that will benefit ELPC's Hope Academy of Music & the Arts, a non-profit program providing musical and cultural educational opportunities to over 250 children and youth in the East Liberty and surrounding Pittsburgh neighborhoods.

Hunt's popular live performances over the last several years and her critically acclaimed three CD releases have won over scores

of blues and roots music fans. She is a perennial crowd favorite at over 100 blues and music festivals across North America.

Tickets are \$10 and will be

Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh Concert at ELPC

The Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh will present works by Bach, Haydn, Bernstein, Mendelssohn, and Argento on Sunday, Feb 4 at 3 pm at East Liberty Presbyterian Church, with the Academy Chamber Orchestra, Betsy Burleigh, Music Director, conducting. For ticket information, call the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh at 412-561-3353 or by email to



Calendar Highlights

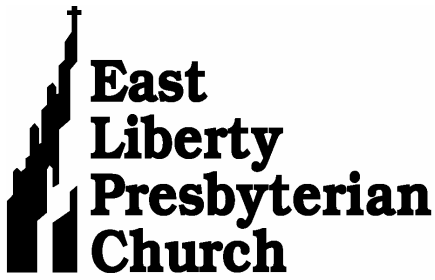
February

- 3 Youth & Young Adult Career Fair
- 3 "Coming Out of Hiding" Inter-faith Spiritual Celebration
- 4 Communion
- 4 Mendelssohn Choir Concert
- 10 J&GC "Just Neighbors" Workshop
- 11 Legacy Gifts Seminar
- 11 Koinonia Fellowship & Supper, 6 pm
- 11 Koinonia Service of Praise, 7 pm
- 16 Love and All That Jazz Benefit Concert for Hope Academy
- 18 Black History Month Celebration and Dinner
- 18 Family Fellowship
- 19 Church Building Closed
- 20 Mardi Gras Celebration
- 21 Ash Wednesday, imposition of

Church Building Closed
 Labyrinth also unavailable for walking
 Monday, FEB 19, 2007

Corrections

Last month's issue of the *Reaching Out* under "ELPC People" section—Eri Fujita was born in 2005, not 2006; Ruo Han Lou was born in 1997 not 2006; Winston Hass is the adopted son of Joanne Haas.



The Cathedral of Hope

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www.cathedralofhope.org

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ELPC Reaching Out Newsletter u February 2007

ELPC Black History Month Celebration & Luncheon

Sunday, Feb 18, with special guest preacher and presenter

the Rev. Dr. Larry Pickens

Mardi Gras Celebration

Tuesday, Feb 20



ELPC 2007 Lenten Theme:
"Traveling Mercies"

Inside this issue. . .

Ash Wednesday and the Imposition of Ashes

"Love and all that Jazz" Fundraiser Concert

Changes in the Church Office

ELPC Pipe Organ Restoration Update

New ELPC Web Page: "Responding to the War in Iraq"

Church School Classes, February Topics

Stewardship Seminar on Legacy Gifts

Family Fellowship

Class Series on Richard Rohr's *Everything*

Belongs

Video Series on the Community of Taizé

Interfaith Spiritual Expression Celebration

Event

New Orleans Mission Opportunity

East End Blitz Partnership