



Reaching Out

newsletter of east liberty presbyterian church

January 2012

Winter Rally Day

On **Sun., Jan. 8**, we resume our regular worship and Church School schedule. We begin the New Year with a special intergenerational Church School hour together, from 9:45–10:45 am, in the Social Hall. In this season of new beginnings, it is fitting that we explore new beginnings in our Lectionary Texts for this Sunday—God’s creation of the universe and Jesus’ baptism in Mark’s Gospel (Gen. 1:1–5 and Mark 1:4–11). Join us for an exploration of these texts through discussion, movement, prayer, drama, worship, crafts, music and more! Learners of all ages are invited to learn God’s Word by attending any of the various activity stations as an opportunity to deepen our understanding of our scripture as a community of faith. Several activity stations will be a part of our 11 am Worship Service.



There will be a light breakfast served as well. The Christian Education Committee will provide juice and fruit for the morning, and the congregation is asked to bring breakfast breads to share.

Communion on Sun., Jan. 8

With New Year’s Day falling on a Sunday, the decision was made to have communion celebrated on the second Sunday of the month, Jan. 8. This allows communion to coincide with the church year, special days of Epiphany and the Baptism of Christ. Remembering not only the birth and revelation of God in Christ as well as the beginning of his earthly ministry when he was baptized by John the Baptist, it is fitting for the church to tell those stories while we gather around the Lord’s Table and celebrate communion. Join us for this special day!

“For the upcoming New Year, it is my wish that our congregation continues to do the good work of furthering God’s Kingdom on earth. Particularly, with our emphasis of being an intentionally inclusive church, it is my hope that we can be a model for Christian love in the greater Pittsburgh community. Through our many acts of service to God and to one another, it is my hope that ELPC can live out our faith together as a church family. I hope to get to know more of the people at ELPC, and grow together as we listen for God’s call in how we can continue to be a beacon of light in the East End. I am grateful to be able to serve such an amazing church. Praise God!” – Erica McIlroy, PTS Seminary Intern



Editor’s Note

This month’s theme is *Hope for the New Year*. Look for articles written by members of our faith community, identified by this symbol.



Sunday Morning Services

** Celebration of the Lord’s Supper*

Good Samaritan Worship • 8 am

Liturgists: Clark and Bill Johnson

- Jan. 1 Rev. John Welch, *Dean of Students, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary*
- Jan. 8* Jay Poliziani, *ELPC Deacon and Director, North Side Common Ministries*
- Jan. 15 Will Scott, *Student, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary*
- Jan. 22 Ray Anthony, *ELPC Deacon*
- Jan. 29 Southminster Youth Sr. High Youth Club

Journey Worship • 8:45 am

- Jan. 1 No service
- Jan. 8* Rev. Dr. Randy Bush
- Jan. 15 Darren Belajac, *seminary intern*
- Jan. 22 Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
- Jan. 29 Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

Sanctuary Worship • 11 am

- Jan. 1 Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
- Jan. 8* Rev. Dr. Randy Bush
- Jan. 15 Rev. Dr. Randy Bush
- Jan. 22 Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
- Jan. 29 Rev. Dr. Randy Bush

Labyrinth Prayer Walk

Mondays • 9 am–1:30 pm
Wednesdays • 9 am–9 pm

Taizé Prayer Service

Wednesdays • 7 pm
Rev. Christiane Dutton

Note: Our service on **Wed., Jan. 4**, will be a celebration of Epiphany. Please join our procession as we follow the Three Kings / Wise Men on their journey to Bethlehem.

East Liberty Presbyterian Church



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Pastor

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Associate Pastor for Educational Ministries

Linda Addlespurger
Director of Hope Academy

Jane Anabe and Darren Belajac
Seminary Interns

The Rev. Brian Diebold
Coordinator, Youth Ministry

The Rev. Christiane Dutton
Minister of Taizé Prayer

Wil Forrest
*Coordinator, iSERVE and
Young Adult Ministry*

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

Pamela M. Kimmel
Business Administrator

Paul Martin
Facilities Manager

Katie Mohr
Educational Ministries Assistant

Dr. Edward Alan Moore
Music Director and Organist

The Rev. Dr. Robert Chesnut
Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. Dr. J. Richard Szeremany
Music Director Emeritus

Reaching Out Newsletter

Reaching Out is a monthly publication of East Liberty Presbyterian Church and is free to members and friends. Deadlines are the first Thursday of the preceding month.

Pastoral Message

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush, Pastor



A visitor to the United States wrote the following words: "In America I saw the freest and most enlightened [people] placed in the happiest circumstances that the world affords; yet it seemed to me as if a cloud habitually hung upon their brow, and I thought them serious and almost sad, even in their pleasures...It is strange to see with what feverish ardor the Americans pursue their own welfare, and to watch the vague dread that constantly torments them lest they should not have chosen the shortest path which may lead to it." It is a fascinating critique of contemporary culture—the cloud hanging over us even in our times of pleasure, and the vague dread that we have not chosen the shortest, easiest path to our personal goals of happiness. It is an astute comment on life today, and even more intriguing in that it was written 170 years ago by Alexis de Tocqueville (*Democracy in America*, vol. 2; 1840).

The first month of the year is traditionally a time for self-reflection and goal-setting. (Also, because the weather is generally cold and miserable, there's not much to distract us outdoors!) One feature of contemporary life is that the "restless temper" noted by de Tocqueville long ago is still alive and active in life today. We have a tendency to move from place to place, from city to city, sometimes from church to church. The recent period of high unemployment has made us less prone to "job hopping"; however, that has not fully stopped the restless impulses in our lifestyle and shopping habits. We buy; we discard; we buy again—cars, television sets, clothes, furniture, iPhones, Droids, you name it. We exist in what some have called a "market turnover culture," searching for new things (new products, new relationships, new locations) as if that will bring us true happiness.

Sometimes the healthiest spiritual path to follow is not to move anywhere or do anything. After the initial burst of evangelistic fervor spread the gospel out from Jerusalem into the bustling towns and cities of the known world, a few centuries later the inclination was to found monasteries as quiet places of prayer and study for people of faith. From the fifth century into the middle ages, monks, nuns, and people of faith regularly stopped what they were doing to offer prayer at specific times of the day. This was to help remind themselves that God's time takes precedence over human time, and seeking to follow Christ takes precedence over following the relentless demands of this world. Committing to be in a community (monastery, church, a marriage or relationship or family) involves a faithful determination to stick around—to "be still and know that God is God" (Ps. 46)—to quiet the restlessness within us that we might find peace in the living, sustaining embrace of the Lord.

If we begin there, then the next step is usually easier. After spending time in silence, in prayer, in quieting the roar of the maddening crowds, we are able to discern where God is leading us. Our ELPC church leaders are actively seeking to do this as we consider ministry directions and options for the coming year. May you also walk this same path as you set your own goals and make decisions for the year unfolding before you.

Randy Bush

Session News

During the season of Advent, the Session strives not to hold a regular meeting and encourages committees to honor this "sabbatical rest."

During December, the elders did gather to receive new members and friends, and work continued on the 2012 budget.

The next monthly Session meeting will be held on Tues., Jan. 17.

Bereavement Fellowship Team

A Bereavement Fellowship Team has been formed to offer comfort and support to all the families and friends of our congregation, with an informal time of refreshment and consolation following funeral or memorial services. The team consists of men and women who are willing to bake, set up, serve or clean up.



If you are willing to share your skills in any of these areas, call Carol Kirkpatrick at **412.795.2186** or Diane Jackson at **412.441.6021**.

Membership Statistics

We are pleased to report that ELPC continues to grow in its membership and average worship attendance. During the past year, our congregation had 50 people added to our rolls as new members and friends of ELPC, while some members were deceased or removed from the rolls due to moving or transferring their membership. The Inquirers' Classes are held about six times a year, with the next class being offered after worship on Sun., Jan. 22.

"Working in a specialized internship with the Latino population, it has been a privilege to get to know not only the Latino community in Pittsburgh, but you all—the members of ELPC—as well. I have enjoyed seeing the "inner workings" of the church, and look forward to continuing that in the new year. My greatest desire for ELPC in 2012, though, is that we continue to be aware of the people in our midst, learn more specifically about Latinos and the context from which they come, and be open to where God might be calling us as a church to reach out to this population in Pittsburgh. It is my prayer that, as we all continue to grow in our own faith, the God whom we praise will use the many gifts in this church to further serve the Kingdom of God." – Jane Anabe, PTS Seminary Intern



Jane and Joaquin Anabe with their son, Isaac.

Stewardship 2012

Being the Redeemed People of God

Thank you to all who have responded to the Stewardship stories, images and letters by pledging your financial support to ELPC for this New Year. Your pledges are vital to funding our church's annual budget. Think for a moment about our inspiring and diverse worship services, our Christian Education and Spiritual Life offerings as well as our many supportive mission and outreach programs. Then, think about all of this not only continuing but flourishing as we grow in our ministry in the center of a changing East Liberty community. This will happen with God's help and with your support through giving of money, time and talents.

If you haven't yet pledged your support for 2012, it's not too late. The experience has been that new pledges continue to come in after the Christmas and New Year holidays have ended. Also, it's not too late to complete last year's pledges which will be posted to the 2012 tax year. Thank you again for making 2012 another year of committed ministry and Christian witness at ELPC.



New Art at ELPC

There are several new pieces of fine art gracing the walls of ELPC. Three framed prints by the Chinese Christian artist He Qi have been hung in the Second Floor Parlor. They depict images of Jesus calming the storm, Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane, and Abraham being visited by three angels. Also, a series of five photographs by Pittsburgh photographer Charles "Teenie" Harris have been hung in Room 234. These classic photographs range from the 1940s–60s and depict people like Negro Baseball League star Josh Gibson (pictured), Duke Ellington, Billy Strayhorn, and President John F. Kennedy.



Christian Education

*The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Associate Pastor for Educational Ministries*

Contemporaries Class *Second Floor Parlor*

Facilitators: Joe Kennedy and Mary Alice Lightle

Jan. 15: The Malawi Partnership *Led by Florence Johnson*

The establishment of partnerships is essential if ministry is to flourish. On the global front, Justin and Florence Johnson have participated in a fruitful exchange with our spiritual community in Malawi. Learn about their story and other initiatives that have been fostered over the years, resulting in a trans-continental partnership that continues to promote the hopeful Christian attributes of positive collaboration.

Jan. 22: The Embodiment of Peace...A Practical Perspective

Led by Joe Kennedy

All peace is not the same. Could that be why peace is so elusive? The greatest guidance regarding peacemaking always has come from our Lord. As we begin to place spiritual peace with God first and foremost in our approach, we discover that more progress in the areas of emotional peace and relational peace become distinct possibilities. Let us explore this discovery together.

Jan. 29: The Church of the Saviour *Led by Rev. Tom Menk*

Looking at the Church of the Saviour in Washington D.C., we will explore how and why they were formed, the tenets of their call to discipleship, and how they changed into what they are today. We will look at their "structure" to see how it compares to the way we function as Presbyterians, and consider how their model might be integrated into the way we function.

Journey with Scripture *Second Floor Library*

Facilitator: Jan Irvin

We read the Revised Common Lectionary selections while providing time for reflection and response. We read for many reasons, including: for the sake of God and the Reign of God; to recognize how we are loved, questioned, commanded and transformed by God; and to journey towards a community of vision, imagination, justice and steadfast love.

Jan. 15: I Sam. 3:1–10, (11–20); Ps. 139:1–6, 13–18; I Cor. 6:12–20; John 1:43–51 *Led by Jan Irvin*

Jan. 22: Jonah 3:1–5, 10; Ps. 62:5–12; I Cor. 7:29–31; Mark 1:14–20 *Led by Jan Irvin*

Jan. 29: Deut. 18:15–20; Ps. 111; I Cor. 8:1–13; Mark 1:21–28 *Led by Lora and Damon Bethea*

We rejoice that ELPC provides educational offerings for all ages. For a full listing of classes and descriptions, please see the CE bulletin boards inside the church or visit www.CathedralOfHope.org. Classes begin at 9:45 am.

Parenting Circle *Harambe Room*

Facilitators: Pam Walaski, Andrea DeVries, and Sandy Edgecombe

Does your child speak a different language? Sometimes they waver for your attention, and other times they ignore you completely. Sometimes they are filled with gratitude and affection, and other times they seem totally indifferent. Attitude. Behavior. Development. Everything depends on your love relationship. When children feel loved, they do their best. How can you make sure your child feels loved? In January, we will start discussing *The 5 Love Languages of Children* by Gary Chapman and Ross Campbell, with a Christian perspective and insights from scripture.

Seekers *Room 234*

Facilitator: Gwen Puza

Jan. 15/22: Rembrandt van Rijn: Illustrator of the Scriptures *Led by Russ Walker*

We will explore the scriptures as illustrated by Rembrandt. Rembrandt van Rijn lived in 17th Century Amsterdam, where there was great appreciation for art, and the Bible was a main topic in conversation. Rembrandt became a compulsive illustrator of the scriptures and his choice of subject often seemed to be influenced by events in his own life.

Jan 29: Religious Right Political Organizing for 2012

Led by Rachel Tabachnick

Rachel Tabachnick is back with us. She was interviewed by Terry Gross on NPR's Fresh Air concerning the religio-political movement that orchestrated Rick Perry's stadium prayer event in August. Rachel will provide more information on who's who in politicized religion and how they are organizing in states around the nation.

Soul Food *Pastor's Conference Room*

Coordinator: Joe Hajdu

We will examine readings from *Spiritual Classics*.

Jan. 15: Love and Non-Violence by Martin Luther King, Jr.

Jan. 22: The Cause of Spiritual Stupidity by George MacDonald

Jan. 29: The Secret of Leadership by Lili Trotter

Clase de Escuela Dominical en Español

Room 217; Facilitator: Joaquin Anabe Lopez

Nos reunimos cada semana para descubrir lo que la Biblia nos dice. Por favor únete a esta jornada con nosotros. Todos están bienvenidos, y la clase está en español.

Youth Ministry

club one sixteen Wednesdays, from 3:30–7 pm

We resume **club one sixteen** on **Wed., Jan. 11**, and continue our exploration of God's story as it relates to the stories of our lives by learning about the life and ministry of Jesus in the Gospels. Our schedule will be:

3:30–4 pm: Homework Help/Snacks

4–5 pm: Open Gym/**club life**

5–5:30 pm: Dinner

5:30–7 pm: Bible Study

club life Wednesdays, from 4–5 pm

We also resume on **Wed., Jan. 11**, with **Messy Science!** Learn scientific principals through hands-on experiments that are sure to make science fun...and messy! Classes are *free*, but pre-registration is required. Registration forms are available on the CE table and will be mailed home in the youth calendar.

Tween Trip to the Science Center, from 1–4:30 pm

On **Sat., Jan. 14**, all 'tweens' (grades 4–6) are invited out for a day of fun and exploration. We will travel together, leaving ELPC at 1 pm, returning at 4:30 pm. RSVP to Brian at bdiebold@pts.edu or **412.335.9734**. There is no cost to attend, but a permission slip is required.

Youth Basketball Saturdays, from 6–8 pm

We resume on **Sat., Jan. 14**.



Young Adult Ministry

Wil Forrest, Coordinator

Fri, Jan 6: First Friday at EECM Men's Emergency Shelter, at 7 pm

Share in a service opportunity sure to feed body and soul. Email wil@coh.net before **Sat., Dec. 24**, to sign up to bring something to feed the 40 men in the homeless shelter. We will prep at 7 pm and serve at 8 pm. Afterward, we will spend some time in fellowship.

Sun., Jan. 8: All Young Adult Reception, after 11 am worship

If you are out of high school, but younger than about 40, this is your time to get involved! Over the past year our Young Adult Ministry has grown in numbers and activities. All young adults are invited to join us in the Second Floor Parlor to see what is happening at ELPC for young adults. Refreshments will be served.

Wed., Jan. 11: Regress to De-Stress, at 8 pm, meet in Game Room 54

Go back to the basics with the ABCs of ELPC. Come and enjoy Air hockey, Bowling and Charades at our church, as well as the company of some good friends. Spend the evening relaxing, laughing and de-stressing. Bring a friend!

Thurs., Jan. 19: Why Welcome? Faithfulness and Full Inclusion, at 6 pm

In the Social Hall, Pastor Heather Schoenewolf will lead a discussion about full inclusion of GLBT persons of faith in the life and ministry of the church. She will explore how this critical issue is being debated within our own denomination, as we examine both biblical teachings and church polity. Come with questions and be ready to learn! We will begin with a potluck dinner, bring something to share.

Tues., Jan. 24: Chatham Progressive Dinner/All About Paul, at 5 pm, in Room 55

Our group will host the Chatham Multi-Faith group for appetizers on their progressive dinner. Then, we will begin our series on Paul, by focusing on Saul's conversion, and gaining a better understanding of Saul/Paul. Please read and reflect on Acts 9. We also will discuss Paul's ministry in Jerusalem, as time permits.

Hope Academy

Linda Addlespurger, Director

Hope Academy's Winter Term Begins

The Hope Academy winter term begins on **Sat., Jan. 7**. Classes include: *Dance Together* and *Sing Together* for pre-schoolers with a parent or caregiver (offered *free* in partnership with Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre and Guitar Society of Fine Art); *Musical Theater*; Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre dance classes (*Creative Movement, Pre-Ballet* and *Ballet 1*); and our *free* East Liberty Community Engagement Orchestra (EL CEO). Our *Musical Theater* students are preparing for the Pittsburgh Public Theater's Shakespeare Monologue and Scene Contest, so there will be a focus on Shakespeare this term.

Classes and studios fill quickly. If you haven't registered, call **412.41.3800 x11**. You also can download and print a course brochure and registration form at www.HopeAcademy.info.



Hope Academy youth at the 2011 Shakespeare contest pose for a photo.

"I'm Making Peace With...": A Celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Mon., Jan. 16, from 12–4 pm

Celebrate Dr. King's legacy of peace and unity with incredible *free* performances on the Kelly-Strayhorn stage by local Pittsburgh performance groups working toward a greater cause through art. Hope Academy's teen theater company (HAT Co) will perform, there will be family friendly crafts in the lobby, and at 4 pm, we will march to the Union Project to continue the celebration with a community dinner. Please join us!

Coffee Talk

Last year ELPC's Young Adult Ministry partnered with the Youth and Young Adult Committee and the Mission Board to support our Mexican neighbors and to promote justice by serving Café Justo at ELPC fellowship-sponsored events.

Café Justo is a Fair Trade PLUS coffee grower cooperative based in Salvador Urbina, Chiapas, Mexico. They market a pure, organic coffee which is grown, harvested and marketed in the spirit of justice. Their goal is to provide incentives for people to remain on their family lands. To learn more, visit www.cafejusto.org or talk with a young adult.



Presbyterian Women

Mary Alice Lightle, Moderator

Tues., Jan. 3: Confessing the Beatitudes, at 10 am

Join us in the Second Floor Parlor as we continue our study of the beatitudes. Michele Bossers leads our lesson, **Greatly Honored are those who Show Mercy!** (Matthew 5:7; Luke 10:25–37). A potluck lunch follows. Please bring a salad or snack to share and your own place setting. Beverages will be provided.

Sun., Jan. 29: Honoring the Southminster Senior High Youth Club

Once a month during the school year, the Senior High Youth Club of Southminster Presbyterian Church prepares Sunday breakfast for the EECM Men's Shelter. In recognition of their faithful service and witness, Presbyterian Women will present them with an honorary life membership in PW, at our 8 am service. Please join us!



Classes After Taizé Prayer

The Rev. Christiane Dutton, Minister of Taizé Prayer

Note: Classes begin at 8:15 pm. Classes will not meet on **Wed., Jan. 4** or **18**.

Wed., Jan. 11: Music on the Labyrinth led by Charles Anderson

Wed., Jan. 25: Celebrations!

"As new members of the ELPC community, we hope to move closer to God in faith through the upcoming year. We also hope for courage and grace to face whatever challenges our journey brings."

– Regis Will and Colleen Briner



Music Ministry Notes

Join a Choir in the New Year!

January is a great time to get involved in the Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir as rehearsals resume following the Christmas holidays. The first handbell rehearsal will be at 6 pm, on **Tues., Jan. 3**, and the first Chancel Choir rehearsal will be at 7 pm, on **Thurs., Jan. 5**. Contact Dr. Ed for more information.

Musical Guests in Worship

The Allegheny Drifters Bluegrass Band (pictured) will be our special musical guests at the 11 am service on **Sun., Jan. 29**. Invite a friend to join you for worship that morning as the sounds of bluegrass reverberate throughout the sanctuary, leading us in worship!

Concert of Spirituals

Mark your calendars now for 4 pm, on **Sun., Feb. 5**, in the Chapel. *Ain't-a That Good News* will be an inspirational program for Black History Month with singers from the ELPC Music Ministry and featuring sacred music of Harry Burleigh, Hall Johnson, and William Dawson.

Health Ministry

The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy, Staff Representative

The University of Pittsburgh's School of Nursing is doing a research study designed to assist older adults who have memory loss, and their caregivers with medication management. They are currently enrolling individuals into the study. This research study can be very helpful to you if you are a caregiver who helps manage medications for someone with memory loss or if you are a person who has memory loss and needs help managing medications.

Who is eligible: Caregivers who manage medications for someone with memory loss, or an individual with memory loss who needs help managing medications.

Where will study take place: The study activities occur in the individual's home, and involves a combination of home visits and telephone calls.

What is length of study: The study lasts about 6 months.

For more information, please see the Health Ministry Bulletin board outside of the Sanctuary, or call Lisa Tamres, project director, at **412.624.1214**.

Exercise Classes

- **Tai Chi** Tuesdays, beginning Jan. 10, from 10–11 am, and 6–7 pm
Experience flowing movements and treat your body to a relaxing workout. The cost of this class is \$25 per 10-week session. Please pre-register with Kate at katec@coh.net or **412.441.3800 x16**.
- **Yoga** Thursdays, from 7:15–8:45 pm
Relax and renew your body, mind and spirit. Classes are led by Yamuna, a Kripalu-certified instructor. A donation to the instructor is appreciated.
- **JourneyDance** Fri., Jan. 9, from 7–8 pm
Use movement to celebrate your inner strengths. Classes are led by Yamuna. A donation from the heart is appreciated.



Honoring Our Call to Serve *by Wil Forrest, iSERVE Coordinator*



i SERVE
LOVE IN ACTION

What's in a name? Well, a lot of meaning comes from what we call something. As those who have accepted the call to follow Christ, we are drawn into a special relationship with God. An important part of this relationship is acting on our love for God and our neighbors.

The past year and a half, we have been engaging in a new ministry called Volunteers in Ministry. As followers of Christ, however, this is not optional. When we put our love in action, it is not voluntarily; rather we draw on the example and commandment of Jesus to serve one another. In the church, we are "servants," not "volunteers."

Together, let us demonstrate our love for God and for one another by putting it in action, as we say goodbye to the terms "volunteer" and "VIM" and honor our call to serve as we shift our words and mentality to "servant" and "iSERVE".

ELPC People

If you have news to share, please contact Gloria Knopp at 412.441.3800 x22.

Good News

- Join us in welcoming our new members and friends who joined in December: **Colleen Briner, Jack Burley, JoAnne Burley, Douglas Dryburgh, Miguel Gonzalez Perez, Daniel Melaney, Karena Slate, and Regis Will.**



- Congratulations to **Darrah Mandalyn Seidel**, daughter of Timothy and Allison Seidel, who was baptized on Nov. 27.
- Congratulations to Carrie (Gilmore) and Rob Wagner, who are the proud parents of **Marshall Leto Wagner**, who was born on Dec. 6.
- Congratulations to **Betty Rieley** and **Wanda Sowell** who were the winners in the He Qi raffle. A total of **\$1,300** was raised for mission initiatives and supporting He Qi's book on Chinese Christian Art!

Prayers

We offer our prayers and condolences to:

- Family and friends of Howard "Chief" Turner, Jr., who passed away on Nov. 6. Howard was Chief of Security at ELPC for 17 years, but had retired from ELPC in 2009.
- Carol Schaef, whose brother, Carl, passed away on Oct. 31.
- Chuck Lukehart, whose mother, Ethel, passed away on Nov. 18.
- The Rev. Craig Koedel whose wife, Barbara Koedel, passed away on Nov. 14. Barbara was a member of ELPC for 8 years.



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“As a diverse community of believers, we strive to follow God—the Creator who calls us, Jesus who teaches us, and the Spirit who empowers us. We show God’s unconditional love by providing a refuge for spiritual growth, ardently pursuing justice, and extending Christ’s radical hospitality to all.”

Find us on Facebook

Search for “East Liberty Presbyterian Church” or scan the QR code below.



Martin Luther King Celebration

Sun., Jan. 15, at Temple Sinai



EECM and Pittsburgh Theological Seminary are joining together to offer the 28th Annual Martin Luther King Celebration and Kelso Lecture in Honor of Dr. King. The event is hosted by Temple Sinai (5505 Forbes Ave., Squirrel Hill). Co-host congregations include the Religious Society of Friends and Pentecostal Temple Church of God in Christ.

Music begins at 3:30 pm, with the main service at 4 pm. Our keynote speaker is Dr. John Jackson, president of The Schott Foundation for Public Education, Cambridge, Mass. There will be refreshments and a question-and-answer session with Dr. Jackson following the celebration service. Admission is free and open to the public. We encourage all attending to bring donations of canned goods or other non-perishable food for EECM’s Food Pantry.

Building Closed: The ELPC office will be closed all day on **Mon., Jan. 2**, for the New Year’s Holiday, and on **Mon., Jan. 16**, until 7 pm, for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday.

Sr. High Movie Discussion

On **Sun., Jan. 22**, Senior High students are invited to participate in a movie and lunch activity. The movie will be played in Room 51, followed by a faith based discussion. We will begin at 12:30 pm, and conclude at 3 pm. Call Anthony Williams at **412.292.7935** to RSVP.

Dr. Bush’s Teaching & Preaching

For the winter term at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (PTS), Dr. Randy Bush has been teaching a course for Master of Divinity students on the topic of *Preaching & Ethics*. In addition to lectures and written assignments, the class will lead the 11:30 am seminary Chapel worship services on Jan. 17, 18, and 19. While Dr. Bush has taught for the Doctor of Ministry program at PTS, this is his first time to be an instructor of master’s degree students.

In addition, Dr. Bush has been invited to be a guest preacher for the Day 1 radio program. This radio ministry began back in 1945 as “The Protestant Hour” and is the voice of the mainline Protestant churches, now heard on more than 200 stations, and locally on these stations:

- **WEDO 810 AM**, *Fridays at 9 am*
- **WWNL 1080 AM**, *Sundays at 10:30 am*

Dr. Bush will record a sermon in February which will be broadcast on **Sun., April 22**.