

Editor's Note

This month's theme is *Refuge for Spiritual Growth*. Look for articles written by members of our faith community, identified by this symbol.



Thanksgiving Celebrations

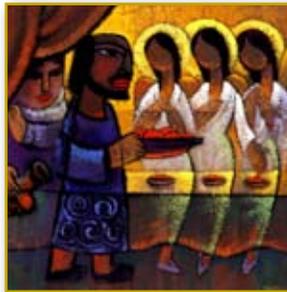
During worship on **Sun., Nov. 6**, we will recognize our 50-year members, **Corinne Clendening, Kay Shissler, and Lois Weber**.



As part of our church's response to the season of Thanksgiving, all are invited to bring grocery bags of non-perishable food donations to worship on **Sun., Nov. 13**. These gifts will help provide holiday meals and ongoing support for our community through the EECM Food Bank located in our church.

Following worship on **Sun., Nov. 20**, our annual Thanksgiving Feast will be held. Turkey and gravy will be provided, but the congregation is encouraged to bring a side dish or dessert to share. If you are interested in volunteering to assist with set-up, serving, or clean-up, please contact Wil Forrest at wil@coh.net or **412.441.3800 x14**.

In addition, Artist He Qi has donated two large prints, which he has asked be raffled off for local and overseas mission projects. Part of the proceeds will help publish his book on Christian Art in China, and the rest will be allocated to local mission needs, as determined by our Mission Board. First prize allows a person to choose one of four He Qi prints, which will be on display in the Sanctuary on Sundays; second prize chooses a print from the remaining selections. Winners will be announced at the Thanksgiving Feast.



Tickets are **\$20** and are available after worship or by contacting Kate Carlson at **412.441.3800 x16**.

Intergenerational Mission Trip Meeting

Interested in planning and going on a mission trip? The ELPC Mission Board is sponsoring a meeting at 12:30 pm, on **Sun., Nov. 13**, to get the conversation, ideas and planning started. We hope this mission trip will include as many intergenerational folks as possible.

For more information, call Emily Rosenthal at **412.963.0139**, Jon Nelson at **412.363.8099**, or the Rev. Patrice Fowler Searcy at **412.441.3800 x30**.

Sunday Morning Services

** Celebration of the Lord's Supper*

Good Samaritan Worship • 8 am

Liturgists: Don Breitbarth and Laura Lou Struthers

- Nov. 6* Rev. Howard Cherry
- Nov. 13 Rev. Tara Goodin, *Director, Hope Pod at Allegheny County Jail*
- Nov. 20 Rev. Robert Wilson, *Pastor, First United Methodist Church of Pittsburgh*
- Nov. 27 Katie Mohr, *Educational Ministries Assistant, ELPC*

Journey Worship • 8:45 am

- Nov. 6* Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
- Nov. 13 Rev. Dr. Randy Bush
- Nov. 20 Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
- Nov. 27 Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

Sanctuary Worship • 11 am

- Nov. 6* Rev. Dr. Randy Bush
- Nov. 13 Rev. Dr. Randy Bush
- Nov. 20 Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
- Nov. 27 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

After Taizé Class Schedule

- Nov. 9 Music on the Labyrinth
- Nov. 30 Celebrations!



Fall Back

Daylight Savings time ends on **Sun., Nov. 6**. Remember to set your clocks back one hour.

East Liberty Presbyterian Church



The Cathedral of Hope
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www.CathedralOfHope.org

Staff Leadership

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
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, Young Adult Ministry and
Volunteers in Ministry Programs*

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



November is a month dominated by the holiday of Thanksgiving. (In truth, I should concede that November is overrun by the encroachment of the holiday of Christmas, thanks to merchants anxious to get shoppers in the Yuletide mood. However, that's the subject of a different essay.) The holiday of Thanksgiving is a call for a shift in focus. It reminds us to stop our regular activities long enough to sit down together, share a meal, and offer thanks for the bounties of this life. Whether the Thanksgiving feast is shared after church in the social hall or with friends and family on November 24,

it is an opportunity to show gratitude to God and to one another for the blessings we daily receive. It is a time to keep things in perspective. No matter how many negatives there are in your life right now, there is still something positive for which you can give thanks.

When Thanksgiving is done well, it is a time for us to "think differently" about life. Let me offer an example. As we sit down to a Thanksgiving meal, we are mindful of those who are hungry at that very moment. We are reminded that we should be good stewards of God's harvest, sharing with others in need, and refraining from wasting the food in our own households. Perhaps in our Thanksgiving prayer, we ask God's intervention on behalf of those who are hungry, such as the people without food in Somalia. But the gospel would have us go one step farther and "think differently" about the whole issue of hunger in a world of plenty.

Thomas Keneally recently wrote a book called *Three Famines* that speaks bluntly about the horrors of international famine. Typically we have believed that famines are the result of "acts of God" – drought, storms, inhospitable weather conditions ruining crops before harvest. But Amartya Sen (Nobel-winning economist) has argued this poignant fact: "No famine has ever taken place in the history of the world in a functioning democracy." A book review of Keneally's work insists that famine is not about a failure to produce food, but historically has been caused by a failure to distribute food. Food is available, but those in power have refused to share or provide for those in need. And the current conditions in Somalia certainly bear out this troubling thesis.

Thinking differently around food and meals (especially big meals like Thanksgiving) means that we practice our faith whenever we shop in a grocery store and sit down for sustenance at the table. Every item we eat came from somewhere; do our choices in those items foster God's realm or weaken God's children? Are we eating justly or just eating?

Thinking differently around food reminds us to savor the incredible variety available to grace our dinner tables: the tang of Fall apples, the taste of yoghurt or fruit preserves or warm soup or dark chocolate. To slow down and chew, taste, and consider the wonder of food as we eat it is to think differently.

We'll talk more about this at our church. But for this month, remember to notice what you eat. Consider how it came to you (and perhaps how it is being withheld from others). Pray that our just and loving God will work with us, through us, and in spite of us to allow "daily bread" to grace everyone's table. And always, give thanks.

Randy Bush

Session News

At the recent meeting, the elders heard about ways to implement the ELPC Strategic Vision, including:

- Consideration by the Property Committee of a first floor architectural study of the church
- Presentation by the Mission Board and Poverty Committee regarding a possible workplace empowerment program linked to our church
- Conversation with ELDI about the housing needs in East Liberty

Also, the Session is working on the 2012 budget and exploring how to fund new mission initiatives.

Seminary Connections

In addition to our host of Pittsburgh seminarians present in the ministry of ELPC (**Jane Anabe, Darren Belajac, Katie Mohr, Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy, Erica McIlroy**), Pastor Randy will teach a course on *Preaching and Ethics* for the Nov.–Jan. term. He also will preach the sermon he recently delivered in Geneva, Switzerland, at the 11 am Seminary Chapel service on **Tues., Nov. 8.**

Role of Faith for Foster and Adoptive Parents

by Sherry Anderson

God, as parent, is our refuge and our strength. As adults with this “parental” relationship, it is our role to offer refuge and strength to our children. This prepares the children for their own relationship with God as their refuge and strength. For some children in our community, their birth parents are unable to provide these gifts of relationship, trust and safety. Foster and adoptive parents become the next refuge option for these children.

Children who come to the attention of the child welfare system, and even infants placed for adoption, experience their initial parent/child relationship to be one of fear and mistrust of adults, one of loss and grief, and therefore one of mistrust of self. Foster/adoptive parents who experience the loving presence of God in their lives are in a position to pass on to their children the capacity for loving relationships. A parent’s ability to maintain a calm presence in the face of a child’s struggles is supported by their own relationships with the holy. They become the healers for the early hurts experienced by the children. From this, the children have the potential to grow in trust in all of their relationships and to begin to experience themselves as strong and loving individuals.

Our ELPC community provides these healing responses in the learning in the Parenting Circle class, and through the acceptance and care the individual teachers provide to foster/adopted children who come to their classes.



Sherry and Mike Anderson, pictured with their son, Matt (back center), as well as their grandchildren, Amber (left) and Justin (right).

Stewardship Campaign Progresses

Being the Redeemed People of God

By now, you’ve heard a lot about the church programs and ministries your pledges and offerings support. You’ve also seen examples of our mission ministries that work to combat poverty, promote peace, and advocate justice. In 2012, we want to continue all of these ministries as well as our uplifting worship services and educational offerings. But financial commitment and volunteerism from all of us are required to achieve that outcome.

Our financial goal for next year is \$640,000, which is a moderate increase over last year. Meeting this goal will permit us to continue our present programs and outreach ministries.

This year, the Stewardship Committee is proposing we stretch to get behind this effort in a new way with God’s help. Here’s the idea: with the consent of the Session, any amount beyond \$640,000 (up to \$10,000) will go directly to a mission ministry that needs funding. This is an exciting concept that can become a reality with God’s blessing of our efforts to stretch. To reach and then exceed the goal of \$640,000 will require all of our support by pledging as generously as we can. If you haven’t pledged in the past and you’re unsure, prayerfully consider pledging a small percentage of your weekly or monthly salary.

The 11 am worship on **Stewardship Sunday, Nov. 13,** will include a joyous celebration

of our church’s generosity. In the spirit of the redeemed people of God, we show God’s unconditional love for us as we bring forward gifts in the form of our pledges, offerings, and food for the Food Pantry. Everyone is encouraged to participate and we look forward to greeting you and your family and friends.

“No eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived what God has prepared for those who love him.” (1 Corinthians 2:9)



Christian Education

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Associate Pastor for Educational Ministries

Contemporaries Class *Second Floor Parlor*

Facilitators: Joe Kennedy and Mary Alice Lightle

Nov. 6: The Missionary in all of us, led by Wil Forrest
Outreach to others involves the spirit of a missionary. However, one does not always have to travel to a foreign country to activate this shared cooperation. Our local churches, homes and communities can also benefit from the missionary spirit, more often than we realize. Wil is going to emphasize some techniques to transcend distance, enabling the missionary in all of us to emerge, participate and contribute to the positive establishment of collaboration.

Nov. 13 and 20: Love Wins, led by Tim Engelhardt

There are many reasons why this book remained on the *New York Times* best seller list for quite some time. Tim will help us explore many of these provocative spiritual concepts put forth by Pastor Rob Bell. Join us as we discuss many questions that the book presents, as well as the urgent call to repent and turn our hearts over to the overwhelming love, grace and mercy that only God provides.

Nov. 27: The Bread of Life and the God who Feeds my Soul, led by Joe Kennedy

Bread is served everywhere in the world. Our Lord reminds us that He is the "bread of life." Whatever the circumstance, whatever the situation, whatever the setting, Jesus will meet us there and help us to move forward progressively. The significance of bread is a reminder that God has a plan to address our spiritual hunger. As we partake of the bread, may we also become more devoted to seeking a deeper intimacy with God.

Journey with Scripture *Second Floor Library*

Facilitator: Jan Irvin

Nov. 6: *Facilitator: Jan Irvin*

Joshua 24:1–3a, 14–25; Psalms 78:1–7;
I Thessalonians 4:13–18; Matthew 25:1–13

Nov. 13: *Facilitator: Rev. Heather Schoenewolf*

Judges 4:1–7; Psalms 123; I Thessalonians 5:1–11;
Matthew 25:14–30

Nov. 20: *Facilitator: Jan Irvin*

Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24; Psalms 100; Ephesians 1:15–23;
Matthew 25:31–46

Nov. 27: *Facilitator: Rev. Dr. Randy Bush*

Isaiah 64:1–9; Psalms 80:1–7, 17–19; I Corinthians 1:3–9;
Mark 13:24–37

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

Over the next two months, we will continue our discussions with the book *Ten Talks Parents Must Have with their Children about Sex and Character*.

Nov. 6: Joys and Concerns

Nov. 13: What's On: Talking about TV, Movies, and Music

Nov. 20: Cyberspace and Sexuality

Nov. 27: Thanksgiving Weekend

We strive to fit the discussion into the context of our Christian faith, and try to incorporate scriptures and Presbyterian based literature into the discussion.

While the readings are geared towards pre-adolescence or adolescence, we encourage parents and caregivers with children of all ages to join us. This is a great chance to prepare for the coming years, or if your children are older, we welcome hearing about your experience. If you have questions or comments, email Pam at pam@jcsafety.com or Andrea at ADeVries@healthcore.com.

Seekers *Room 234*

Facilitator: Gwen Puza

Nov. 6: Who are the Mormons and what do they believe? Are they Christian?, presented by Mormon Stake President Brennen Murray

Nov. 13–27: Exploring Franciscan Spirituality—St. Francis: the Man, the Saint, the Legacy, presented by Darrell Powell

Soul Food *Pastor's Conference Room*

Coordinator: Joe Hajdu

November: Prayer and Meditation

Our resource is the book *Spiritual Classics*, which focuses on spiritual disciplines and offers excerpts from spiritual masters that help us discuss our own spiritual concerns. Newcomers are welcome. Additional books are available.

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

Note: **club one sixteen** and **club life** will not meet on **Wed., Nov. 23**.

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

We'll explore the Biblical stories of Moses, David and Ruth, and talk about how their stories connect with the stories of our lives. 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 will continue our sewing series on **Nov. 2** and **9**. On **Nov. 16**, we will begin our Fitness workshop. For more information or to register for classes, please contact Wil Forrest.

Sun., Nov. 13: Youth Service Project

Youth in grades 6–12 are invited to participate in an afternoon of service and fellowship. We will meet in Room 51 following the 11 am service (at around 12:30 pm) for a pizza lunch. After lunch, we will prepare bagged lunches for the men who are guests in the homeless shelter. After we deliver the meals, we will enjoy an hour of fellowship at ELPC, where we can relax, visit, and enjoy the Bowling Alley and the Game Room. Please RSVP to Anthony Williams at **412.292.7935** or Gloria Knopp at **412.441.3800 x21**.

Tween Events

ELPC will be hosting service, worship, and fellowship events for kids in grades 4–6 throughout the school year. Parents and students, watch for upcoming announcements about our next Tween Event! If you'd like to be included on our mailing list, call Gloria Knopp at **412.441.3800 x21**.

Youth Basketball Saturdays, from 6–8 pm

We will not meet on **Sat., Nov. 26**.

Hispanic Interest Group

Have you ever wanted an opportunity to minister cross-culturally right here in Pittsburgh? Have you noticed that there is a growing Latino/Hispanic population in the East End? Would you like to learn some basic Spanish?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you may be interested to know that ELPC is partnering with The Open Door to explore possibilities and issues related to Latino ministry.



Join us on Monday evenings at 6:30 pm. Our schedule is as follows:

Nov. 7: Just what are these Immigrants like? Faith and Culture

Nov. 14: Culture Shock, Language and Cultural Learning

Nov. 21: From the Ends of the Earth to our Own Back Yard: Demographics and Needs in Pittsburgh's East End

If you have questions, or to express interest in the group, please contact Jane Anabe, seminary intern from PTS, at janabe@pts.edu or call her at **412.224.0985**.

Young Adult Ministry

Wil Forrest, Coordinator

Fri., Nov. 4: First Friday at Gwen's Girls, at 7 pm

We will join our friends from Covenant Fellowship to help decorate, clean, and organize at Gwen's Girls (400 North Lexington Ave., Wilksburg), a non-profit that empowers young girls to make positive choices.

Sun., Nov. 13: Genesis, at 12:30 pm

We will examine Abraham, Sarah, and their descendents. Please read up through Chapter 36, and come with questions. Lunch will be provided.

Wed., Nov. 16: club one sixteen, from 4:30–6 pm

We will pre-plan and serve a delicious and nutritious meal for **club one sixteen**, from 5–5:45 pm. Contact Wil by **Sat., Nov. 5** with what you want to bring.

Tues., Nov. 22: Giving Thanks, at 6:30 pm

We will learn about the Centering Prayer Group, and then join them from 7–8 pm. Then, we will do other prayerful activities that focus on giving thanks and the many blessings in our lives.



YAM is for YOU. Your friends are always welcome! For questions or to RSVP, contact Wil at wil@coh.net or **412.260.2554**.

The Giving Tree



Every year, the Deacons organize the Christmas Giving Tree to benefit children and families from East End Cooperative Ministry (EECM), our ELPC Mission Ministry, Hope Academy and Christian Education

department. The congregation has been wonderful in its support of this ministry through gift and monetary donations.

The Giving Tree will be set up near the Information Desk during the first two Sundays of Advent (**Nov. 27** and **Dec. 4**). You will be able to stop by and select a gift tag from 9:30–11 am, and 12–12:30 pm. Tags also will be available at the Taizé service on **Wed., Nov. 30**. Deacons will be on hand to assist you.

Wrapped gifts, with tags securely attached, are due back in the church office by noon on **Sun., Dec. 11**. If you would like to participate by donating money, please make the check payable to “ELPC Giving Tree” and deliver it to the church office.

The Deacon Board thanks the congregation for its enthusiastic support of this ministry.

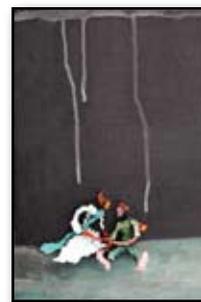
Presbyterian Women

Mary Alice Lightle, Moderator

Tues., Nov. 1: Confessing the Beatitudes, at 10 am

Join us in the Second Floor Parlor as Judy Menk leads our lesson, **Greatly Honored Are the Humbled** (Matthew 5:5, Psalm 37).

A potluck lunch follows. Please bring a salad or snack to share, and a place setting. Beverages are provided.



First Sundays November Event

Sun., Nov. 6, from 12:30–2 pm

Join us for a conversation on how the brain can improve as we age. Led by Caterina Rosano, M.D., we will address the main myths and facts about normal brain aging and we will discuss strategies to keep our brain healthy and right on track. Some of the newest scientific findings on brain aging will also be discussed.

Come prepared with questions and a fresh mind (and brain!). Light refreshments will be provided. This event is sponsored by the Spiritual Life Committee.



Advent Crafts and Santa Shop

Sat., Dec. 3, from 10 am–1 pm

In cooperation with Presbyterian Women's Santa Shop event, the Christian Education Committee is hosting Advent Crafts for families. The craft workshop will be set up in Rooms 224 and 240, from 10:30 am–12:30 pm. Crafts will be available on Sunday mornings on the CE table.

Children (age 4–grade 5) may shop for gifts (from \$.50–\$4) and visit with Santa (pictures cost \$.50).

Note: Parents and older children are not permitted in the Santa Shop. Shoppers must be old enough to shop without a parent. Santa's Helpers will help choose and wrap gifts. Please send a list of the people for whom your child needs to purchase gifts.



Dr. Ed in Concert



Dr. Ed Moore will play a *free* organ recital at The Presbyterian Church (414 Grant St., Sewickley) at 3 pm, on **Sun., Nov. 6**. The recital is open to the public.

Handbells, Handbells, Handbells!

Regular rehearsals for ELPC's handbell choir are at 6 pm, on Tuesdays, in Dr. Ed's office on the Third Floor to the left as you come out of the elevator.

No prior experience is needed! For details, email Dr. Ed at EdM@coh.net.



Join the Chancel Choir

The Chancel Choir has begun working on music for Advent and Christmas, which is a great time for new members to join! Rehearsals are from 7–8:30 pm, on Thursdays, in the Music Room.

Lift your voices in song and fellowship. For details, contact Dr. Ed.



A Letter from our New Homeowners

This past spring and summer, over 30 volunteers from ELPC were involved in the rehab of a house in East Liberty and support of the family. Most of the volunteers volunteered more than once, and served over 260 hours. The house was completed in September, but ELPC will continue to provide support to the family as they transition into their new home. Here is a brief letter from the family:



We want to thank everyone at East Liberty Presbyterian Church and Open Hand Ministries for helping to provide a home for our family. After many difficult years and significant losses, we are overwhelmed with relief and gratitude to have a home to call our own, which gives us security, community, and a more stable future.



We appreciate each one of you who made this possible by donating funds to ELPC and OHM, and by donating your time, labor, materials, and talents.

It meant so much to us to be able to pick out bright colors for the bedrooms; to have a large and beautiful kitchen; to have a solid, secure, energy-efficient home; and to have good neighbors and be part of a developing community.

Many say "God bless you; go and be warmed and fed." You have given and have worked hard to make that blessing a tangible reality for our family, and have remarkably changed our lives. God has used you to provide a home for us, and we are profoundly grateful.

Thank you.

ELPC People

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

Good News

- Congratulations to **Katie Benedict**, daughter of Linda and Tim Benedict, who graduated from St. Vincent College. Katie became certified in early childhood and elementary education, and is currently teaching first and second grade social studies and science in Manassas, Va.
- Congratulations to recently married ELPC families: **Noel and Patti Clive**, **Alex and Nicole Molinaro Karaczun**, and **Laura and George Seals**.
- Join us in welcoming our new members and friends: **Andrew Bartle**, **Tucker Ferda**, **Elisabeth Heffner**, **Amiena Mahsoob**, **Nadine Mazingi**, and **Jerome and Evelyn Wrzosek**.

Prayers

Prayers and condolences to:

- Pat Frick and family, over the death of Ed Frick (a 12-year ELPC member);
- Debbie Brake and Todd Hoffman over the death of Debbie's father;
- Derrick Harrigan over the death of his grandmother;
- JoAnn Chonoska over the death of her father; and
- Rebecca and Ron Cole-Turner over the death of her father, Eugene Cole.

Setting (Term) Limits *by Wil Forrest, VIM Coordinator*

As believers who want to put our faith in action, we tend to accept invitations into roles within the church that best fit our skills and schedule. Along this journey, there comes a point when the task, time and/or interest runs its course. Like all things, our time of service to a specific task does, and should, come to an end.

Those who seek others to serve, let's always find help and make sure there is a time expectation included. Of course, should servers want to come back, they

are welcome to do so, but they ought to be given the option to move on. This way it prepares you to seek new helpers and to have folks working with you who want to be there and do not feel trapped in service.

Servers, you ought to make sure when you agree to help that a term of service is discussed. Prayerfully consider staying on for more than one term of service, but if not, seek where you are being called next to serve our community and our Lord.



Service in the life of the church should bring out the joy of serving in your heart. So ask yourself, is it time to find a new way to serve?

Pray about it. Then act.



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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.



Thank Offering

Sun., Nov. 21

On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, we will honor the women of ELPC by receiving the Thank Offering of Presbyterian Women.

For more than 120 years, the Thank Offering has supported programs that relieve pain, provide clean water, alleviate homelessness, provide educational opportunities and lift up the lives of women and children throughout the world. It began in 1888, when Eliza Clokey challenged each member of the Women’s General Missionary Society to make a special gift above her usual contribution as a “thank offering to her Lord.”

Last year, ELPC members and friends contributed nearly \$2,200 to the Thank Offering. Your generosity helped to fund 26 projects around the world and Open Hand Ministries here in Pittsburgh. Thank you!

Devotional Materials Available

The Christian Education Committee is offering Advent Devotional materials for families of all ages, shapes and sizes. Devotional materials will be available on the first Sunday of Advent, **Nov. 27**, on the CE Table in the Second Floor Hallway.



Shop! In the Name of Love

On **Tues., Nov. 22**, from 6–8 pm, Ten Thousand Villages (5824 Forbes Ave., Squirrel Hill) will contribute a percentage of all sales to ELPC’s deacons to fund the Thanksgiving project. The deacons will offer hospitality at the store. If you are on the way to dinner, enjoy an appetizer while you shop, or stop by after dinner for something sweet.



The store will be filled to the rafters with useful, handmade items from over 35 underdeveloped and developing countries—something to delight everyone on your Christmas list, including ornaments and nativities that you won’t find “at the mall.” Last year’s shopping night netted \$500. Please, come back and “shop in the name of love,” and bring a friend!

For more on Ten Thousand Villages, visit www.tenthousandvillages.com or call **412.521.2160**.

Building Closed: The church building will be closed for Veteran’s Day on **Fri., Nov. 11**, as well as for Thanksgiving on **Thurs., Fri., and Mon., Nov. 24, 25, and 28** (until 7 pm).