

Newsletter of
The Cathedral of Hope

Reaching Out

www.cathedralofhope.org



January 2006

East Liberty Presbyterian Church, 116 S. Highland Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Vol. 25,

PNC to Present Candidate for Pastor Sunday, January 8, 2006

ANNOUNCEMENT: At the request of the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC), the Session has called a special congregational meeting to be held on Sunday, Jan 8, 2006, following the 11 am worship service, for the purpose of acting on a report from the PNC and its recommendation of a candidate to be elected as pastor of East Liberty Presbyterian Church.

At the Dec 13, 2005 meeting of the Session, the Pastor Nominating Committee reported to the elders that its members had made a unanimous choice of a candidate to present to the congregation for election as the next pastor of ELPC. At the request of the PNC, the Session has called a special meeting of the congregation as noted above.

As is custom, the candidate will preach that day (at both the 9 am Morning Glory and 11 am Sanctuary services). Following the 11 am service, the PNC will present the candidate to the congregation for election. There will be an opportunity for questions to be asked, and the terms of call (compensation and benefits) will also be presented for congrega-

tional approval. Only active members of the congregation are allowed to vote, and the election of a pastor is required to be done by ballot.

Since the proposed starting date for the new pastor is anticipated to be March 13, 2006, the Session has asked the Rev. Richard Otty to continue as interim pastor into the new year, with his final Sunday to be Feb 5, 2006.

Note: Given the sensitivity of a pastor moving from one congregation to another, the identity of the pastor candidate is not being included with the call of the meeting. The Pastor Nominating Committee is preparing a letter to be mailed af-

Sunday Worship Services

* Holy Communion is offered the first Sunday of the month at each service.

- 8 am Good Samaritan Worship
- *Jan 1 The Rev. Tami Hooker, Chaplaincy Program Director.
- Jan 8 The Rev. Rick Otty.
- Jan 15 The Rev. Donald Dutton, Retired.
- Jan 22 The Rev. D. Lynn Yeso, Christian Associates.
- Jan 29 The Rev. Howard Cherry, Retired.
- 9 am Morning Glory Worship
- Jan 1 *No Morning Glory*
- Jan 8 PNC Candidate for Pastor.
- Jan 15 The Rev. Richard Szeremany; music by the MoGlo Singers;
- Jan 22 The Rev. Miriam Chamberlain.
- Jan 29 Heather Tunney.
- 11 am Sanctuary Worship
- *Jan 1 The Rev. Rick Otty, "Light Therapy."
- Jan 8 PNC Candidate for Pastor, "To Hear a New Voice."
- Jan 15 The Rev. Rick Otty, "Come and See."
- Jan 22 The Rev. Rick Otty. "Call and Disruption."
- Jan 29 The Rev. Rick Otty, "Community Give and Take."

Taizé Sung Prayer

Wednesdays 7 pm
The Rev. Christiane Dutton.

Labyrinth Prayer Walk

Mondays 10 am to 3 pm



As We Start the New Year

East Liberty Presbyterian Church

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

Tel: 412/441-3800
Fax: 412/441-4422
www.cathedralofhope.org

Office Hours:
Monday – Friday, 9 am to 5 pm
Sunday, 9 am to 12:30 pm

STAFF LEADERSHIP

The Rev. Richard E. Otty
Interim 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 Specialist

Heather Tunney
Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Howard Turner
Chief of Security

Reaching Out Newsletter

Reaching Out is a publication of East Liberty Presbyterian Church and is



Pastoral Message

The Rev. Rick Otty, Interim Pastor

Dear friends,

“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.” —Ecclesiastes 3:1

One of our credit cards provides a year-end summary that divides our purchases into categories — groceries, pharmacies, travel, etc. It is an interesting annual review, though the precision is not yet fine-tuned. For example, if while buying new windshield wipers at the auto parts store, I also crave that con-

tainer of whole cashews so temptingly placed by the register, both show up as auto purchases. Perhaps the nuts are considered a bio-fuel.

There are times, particularly around the secular new year, that we seek to capture a summary of our lives, often seeking a clarity of disciplines of what we will or will not do in the next twelve-month season of life. Yet life itself is never easily categorized, and as with the story of the magi, there are times when God will direct us to find another way home. We have learned that even our “best laid plans” can run into unexpected detours.

I think the liturgical year offers a better sense of the ebbs and flows and surprises of our lives. We have traveled through the seasons of anticipation (Advent) and birth (Christmas). You will probably be reading this during the twelve days of Christmas at the end of which (Jan 6) we meet those magi from the east. In the church year we call that day Epiphany. Lent, Holy Week, Easter and Pentecost will follow, but let’s pause for a moment at Epiphany, sometimes referred to as the season of light.

I think Epiphany is the only liturgical day or season where we can say, “I just had an epiphany!” (Or at least I’ve not heard anyone declare they have just had a Palm Sunday!) Epiphanies can be so blinding as to slow us down, and are often so surprising as to make us pause. Epiphanies can be so direct as to make us admit, “I was wrong about that person.” Epiphanies are about the in-breaking of God with revelatory power or wisdom.

The month of January 2006 at East Liberty Presbyterian Church invites an openness to this spirit of epiphany. On Jan 8, you will be greeting a candidate for pastor who comes as a stranger to you, yet who is the unanimous choice of your Pastor Nominating Committee. The excitement of electing a pastor is always coupled with another season of change within the congregation — again, a time to be open to God’s epiphany.

There is also a one-day planning retreat to which the congregation is invited on Jan 21. During the interim time of transition, we have affirmed the direction of our mission, but as I have written a number of times over these past three years, we live with a tension of many calls to mission and how they fit with our unique financial gifts and stewardship responsibilities. The planning team envisions a day for those open to epiphanies, as we leave our preconceptions at the door and open ourselves to God’s binding Spirit.

I expect I will have a “final” letter to share with you in the next *Reaching Out*. Meanwhile, as 2006 begins, may the seasons of your life be marked less by categorizations of wipers and cashews, and more by the epiphany moments of God’s light and revelation. May that also be the case for this marvelous congregation as it anticipates a new pastor, and seeks to continually discern its own journey of mission under the guiding light of the Mes-

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Rick

"...there your heart will be also."



AN ELPC CONGREGATIONAL DISCERNMENT RETREAT DAY

Saturday, January 21, 2006
8:30 am to 4 pm

The Cathedral of Hope

ELPC members and friends are invited to a day-long gathering of worship, fellowship and sharing as we celebrate how God is at work among us, and discern the ways we are being called to serve Christ in the coming

Our planning team is organizing this retreat to help guide the creation of ELPC's plan for mission and ministry for the coming five years. We recognize that a new pastor will be involved in this process, but this day is an opportunity for ELPC members and friends to come together to consider and celebrate what is at the "core" of our congregation's calling as part of the Body of Christ. The day's program will include Scriptural reflection and worship, prayer and prayerful silence, reflection on our guiding questions, and small and large group meetings.

Guiding questions we will consider and discuss during the day will include:

- u What are the essential elements of our congregational calling?
- u Where is God's Spirit leading us in the coming years?
- u What makes us anxious about the years ahead?

This meeting is an important step in ELPC's planning for the future. Our current five-year strategic plan set forth goals and strategies through 2005. Our 2003 mission study reaffirmed the congregation's commitment to being an open and welcoming church, with vital worship and ministries of spiritual growth, social justice and peace. The mission study also issued

a general call to "manage the church's endowment in God's service" with attention to be given to the annual percentage draw from these funds.

Since September of 2005, a planning team has been working with Dan Hotchkiss, a consultant from the Alban Institute to help guide our decisions for the coming years. Larry Peers, also of the Alban Institute and with skills in leading congregational discernment retreats, will facilitate our day.

The insights from this retreat will be used to guide a new five year plan that the planning team hopes to present to Session in the spring of 2006.

We hope as many members of the congregation as possible will attend this retreat day. Lunch will be provided for attendees. If possible, please RSVP by Jan 16 by calling Gloria at 412/441-3800 x22.

Planning team members

Brian Bonsteel, David Hart,
Jean Kennedy, Emily Rosenthal,
Tom Struthers, Frances Wilson;
Pamela Kimmel and Rick Otty, staff.

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"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

— Matthew 6:21



Christian Education

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

The Christian Education ministry is dedicated to teaching and being taught about our relationships with God, neighbors and self. Through the study of scripture and its relationship to human experience, we come to understand and internalize the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. By sharing our faith journeys, we grow as a community.

Church School (for all ages) — Sundays, 9:45 to 10:45 am
 Class meeting rooms are posted on the schedule board on the second floor.

Winter Rally Day Sunday, Jan 8, 2006

Everyone going to a Christian Education class at 9:45 am is invited to join us on the second floor for our Winter Rally Day! The Christian Education committee is providing juice, milk, coffee, tea, fruit, muffins, bagels and donuts in Rooms 224 and 227. Breakfast plates can be taken to the classrooms or you may mingle and greet new folks. Please make a name tag in the hallway and enjoy the fellowship!

New folks are especially welcome to come and discover the wonderful opportunities to grow in your faith! We have Christian Education for all ages.

For more information about the classes, or if you have any questions, please call the Rev. Cynthia Jackson, Interim Director of Christian Education at 412/441-3800 x20.

ADULT

Contempo-



raries

The Contemporaries class offers presentations and discussions on a variety of subjects including theology, spirituality and current events. Through support and fellowship, study and discussion, the members of this class seek to grow in their faith. Second Floor Parlor.

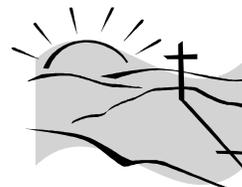
Jan 1 No class.

Jan 8 ELPC Welcomes Conservatives, Too—Part I. Leader: John Buckley. Why would a Republican, supporter of the war in Iraq, senior manager in a major financial services institution, white, heterosexual, married man of 25 years that lives across the street from Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church choose to be an active member of ELPC? John Buckley explains the journey to ELPC and his joy in being a member.

Jan 15 ELPC Welcomes Conservatives, Too—Part II. John Buckley continues a discussion of the special aspects of each of our lives that draw us to ELPC. Yes, ELPC rightfully prides itself on its inclusiveness, but do we fully appreciate the reasons our members personally value this inclusiveness? In this session, we each have the opportunity

to explain how we value being included at ELPC.

Jan 22 Who Do You Say That I Am? Leader: Jim Russ. This two-week series will explore Jesus' question to his followers as it applies to us in our time and in our church. We live in a plural-



istic society in which many people we encounter have not grown up with the stories and word

that are so familiar to us. We will explore story telling in a fact-dominated age and ask ourselves 'how we can share our faith with those who might not know the language'?

Jan 29 Who Do You Say That I Am?

Seekers

The Seekers class explores issues of faith and spiritual growth through a variety of lenses such as focused Bible readings, books by current authors' presentations of theology and study of religious art. Leaders include class members, church staff and guest presenters. We welcome the sharing of questions and doubts, as well as faith convictions and affirmations.

Jan 1 No class.

Jan 8 Faithful Words Sustain Us. Our faith revolves around the word of God. Let us share with each other special readings, quotations, prayers, and poems that have supported each of us on our faith and life journeys. Mystics, poets, philosophers, loved ones—each have wisdom that we can all benefit from. Facilitators: Marti Moore and

Seekers cont'd on page 5.

Christian Education, cont'd . . .

Nancy Klancher.

Jan 15 Praying in the New Year. “Ask, and you shall receive; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened. . .” (Matthew 7:7-8) Last January, the Seekers were introduced to praying the *lectio divina*. Building on that base, in this two-class series, we will consider the importance of silence, of contemplation, and the examination of conscience and of consciousness. Facilitator: Lois Lang.

Jan 22 Praying in the New Year.

Jan 29 Compassion and the Role It Plays in Living Our Christian Faith.



(Three-class series: Jan 29, Feb 5, 12). In our first class, we will study “Jesus, Compassion and Politics” from Marcus Borg’s *Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time*. Borg suggests that Jesus upended the politics of the day by challenging the notions of purity; replacing it with a message of compassion. In week 2, we will look at a

variety of other writings on the subject of compassion as a component of Christian faith. In week 3, we will discuss situations in which “doing compassion” provides a challenge. Facilitator: Diana Bloss.

Lectionary Bible Study

Come and discover how the scripture speaks to us. Study the scripture texts based on the Revised Common Lectionary. Each week, texts from the Old Testament, a Psalm, an Epistle, and a gospel reading will be identified. The texts reflect the church liturgical seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter and Pentecost.

The Revised Common Lectionary has a three-year cycle with a major focus each year on the gospel of Matthew, Mark, or Luke. We are in the cycle for Year B – Mark.

A biblical background is not required for this class. Bring a Bible if you have one or there will be one made available for you. Second Floor Library.

Jan 1 No class.

Jan 8 A theme of baptism and how God’s word and Spirit work blessings through water—at creation, during the Exodus, in the wilderness. What is being shown forth in Jesus’ baptism? How do we find joy in God’s baptismal claim on our lives?

Readings: Genesis 1:1–5; Psalm 29; Acts 19:1–7; Mark 1:2–11.

Jan 15 God knows us. This is continually revealed to us in unusual ways and in unexpected places. The texts for this week challenges us to respond to God’s presence and God’s call, even while learning to recognize it; pushing us to listen to new messengers and to carry God’s message in new ways

Readings: 1 Samuel 3:1–10 (11–20); Psalms 139:1–6, 13–18; 1 Corinthians 6:12–20; John 1:43–51.

Jan 22 Our lives as God’s children are marked by times of turning from our own ways to respond to God’s tenacious call. We experience God’s love and judgment as two sides of the same coin, and rejoice in the mercy that is God’s nature. Do we turn around and follow—

or run away.

Readings: Jonah 3:1–5, 10; Psalms 62:5–12; 1 Corinthians 7:29–31; Mark 1:14–20.

Jan 29 This week’s scripture passages reveal more of the authority of Jesus and lift up others who speak and act on behalf of God’s promised liberation. In our exploration, we find urging to claim our own authority to make God’s realm visible in word and deed.

Readings: Deuteronomy 18:15–20; Psalm 111; 1 Corinthians 8:1–13; Mark 1:21–28.

YOUTH CHURCH SCHOOL

Church School classes for youth in grades 6–12 are offered through our Youth & Young Adults Ministries. See page 7 for information. Note: No classes Jan 1.

CHILDREN’S CHURCH SCHOOL

Preschool ages 3, 4 and 5; kindergarten and grade 1; grades 2 and 3; grades 4 and 5. The children get to know new friends, learn Bible stories and find ways to share God’s love. As they learn more about the life of Jesus and others in the Bible, they discover that people long ago had feelings, disappointments, and hopes and dreams. Note: No classes Jan 1.



Taizé Prayer

The Rev. Christiane Dutton, Minister of Taizé Prayer

Taizé Prayer

Every Wednesday at 7 pm. A candlelight service with silent meditation and chanted prayer, in the Chapel.

After-Taizé Classes

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

Jan 4 No class.

Jan 11 Brass Rubbings

ELPC member Sandy Owen will tell about her visits to churches in England to make brass rubbings, and also show us examples and teach us how to make our own.

Jan 18 "Art In Our Lives"

Photography by Bill Wade
ELPC member Bill Wade will share some of his photography and talk about it. His exhibit, "Art In Our Lives," will be on display at the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts until Jan 22, 2006.

Jan 25 Taizé in Harmony

Led by The Rev. Dr. J. Richard Szeremany. Learn to sing Taizé chants and responses in harmony. In Taizé, there is choir practice every day for all who want to learn the alto, tenor, bass parts for the chants and responses.

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 donation). Next meal—Jan 25. Following our meal together, for those of you who wish to, plan to stay for

Notes from the Deacons

The Deacons thank all members and friends of the ELPC family for your support of the 2005 Giving Tree and donated items for the East End Cooperative Ministry Men's Shelter.

The Giving Tree ministry supported 78 children from 40 families within our community, for a total of 156 gifts given; 35 bags were shared with the men in the shelter.

We continue to need appropriate unused note or greeting cards for contacting those who are ill, grieving or in need of other support. Cards may be left in the church office marked for the Deacons.

The Deacons' ministry is a ministry for all of us. We will continue to explore and discern other ways to minister to those in need in our family and community under



Worship Music & The Arts

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

The Organ's "LAST GASP" Before We Say "Goodbye"

It hardly seems possible, but the day has come when we will begin to say "Goodbye" to our 1935 Aeolian-Skinner pipe organ in the Sanctuary. In mid-January, the Goulding and Wood Organ Company of Indianapolis, Indiana will begin the month-long process of removing the organ's nearly 8,000 pipes, wind chests and all inner parts from their organ chambers. Once removed, everything will be loaded onto 18-wheeler trucks and transported to the Goulding and Wood factory for major restoration.

In its final playing before the process begins, the Friends of the Organ will present a series of playful performances by guest organists and ELPC's Dr. J. Richard Szeremany. This series is truly our pipe organ's "last gasp" until its anticipated return in early 2007. A free-will offering will be accepted at each performance. Benefits the ELPC Organ Restoration Project.

Friday, Jan 6, 7 to 9 pm. Duquesne University School of Music faculty and students: Dr. Ann Labounsky, Andrew Scanlon, Kate Scott, Henry Seymour, and Larry Scalfari.

Saturday, Jan 7, 2 to 4 pm. Dr. J. Richard Szeremany; Nemesio Valle, Sacred Heart Parish; and Hope Academy students Bethan Neely and Bill Creen.

Sunday, Jan 8, 3 to 5 pm. Dr. Alan Lewis, Calvary Episcopal Church; Jeff Anwyll, All Saints Church; Dr. J. Richard Szeremany as "the very last gasper!"

Dinner Among the Pipes

Just days before the pipe organ leaves for Indiana for restoration, join us for a fun-filled evening including a sumptuous buffet dinner in the Social Hall, interesting and humorous stories about the pipe organ, a video, and a look at all the organ's disassembled pipes and parts spread out over the Sanctuary's east and west transepts—you'll be amazed!. We'll even toot some of the pipes for a sing-a-long. Saturday, Jan 28 at 5 pm. Tickets are \$15 and reservations are required. Call Norma, 412/441-3800 x11.



Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Heather Tunney, Director, Youth & Young Adult Minis-

New Worship Service! — Koinonia *Service of Praise*

Koinonia (kwin-o-nee-ah), a word from the ancient Greek which means “community,” is the name of a new contemporary worship service that will be led by ELPC youth and young adults. The name was chosen to reflect the belief that through our faith, we are called into a new community—a community of praise, of love and of service. As we gather to praise and worship God, the center of our community of faith, we will be strengthened in our love for others and our call to serve the community beyond the doors of ELPC.

This new service is sponsored by the Youth and Young Adult Ministries Committee at ELPC and will be held one Sunday a month at 7 pm in the Third Floor Music Room. Our first service will be on Sunday, Jan 15. For more information, call Heather Tunney, at 412-441-3800 x14.

Koinonia Fellowship

Before the Koinonia worship service on Jan 15, we will have a pot-luck supper for ELPC’s youth and young adults. We will meet in the Second Floor Parlor for a light meal and time of fellowship at 5 pm, concluding by 6:45 pm. A main course will be provided, but please bring a side dish or dessert to share. RSVP by Wednesday, Jan 11 to Heather Tunney at 412/441-3800 x14.

YOUTH (grades 6 through 12)

Sunday Church School Classes

9:45 to 10:45 am. Church School junior-high youth and senior-high youth classes use the *Seasons of the Spirit* curriculum which follows the Revised Common Lectionary Readings for each week. Note: No classes Jan 1.

ELPC Youth Group

Sundays, 12:30 to 3 pm. The Youth Group meets for lunch, Bible Study and fellowship. Note: No Youth Group Jan 1 and 22.

World Vision Service Project

Junior and senior-high youth are invited to participate in a service project at World Vision’s International Distribution Center in Ambridge on Saturday, Jan 14. You will sort and repackage donated clothing, personal care items and educational supplies to be shipped overseas to those in need. Not only will you be helping someone, but you will have a lot of fun in the process! We will meet at ELPC at 8 am and return by 1:30 pm. Lunch will be provided. To participate, call Heather Tunney, 412/441-3800 x14.

Senior High Retreat at Camp Crestfield

ELPC youth in grades 9–12 are invited to join youth from other churches throughout the Pittsburgh area for a weekend retreat of worship, praise, fellowship and fun—Friday, Jan 20–Sunday, 22—at Camp Crestfield in Slippery Rock. *Sponsored by Camp Crestfield.*

Our weekend theme is “Going Beyond Ourselves.” We will laugh, sing

and dance, but more importantly, we will explore what it means to be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. The keynote speaker for the event will be Heather Tunney, ELPC Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries.

We will meet at ELPC at 6 pm on Friday and return by 3 pm on Sunday. RSVP required by Monday, Jan 9. For details, to RSVP, and to receive a packing list, call Heather Tunney at 412-441-3800 x14.

Youth Basketball for Young Men Grades 9–12

Youth basketball for young men grades 9–12 is held on Saturdays from 5 to 8 pm in the ELPC Gym. Note: No basketball on Jan 21.

CROSSROADS

(young adults ages 18–23)

Crossroads Fellowship

If you are a recent high school graduate, or a college student, or a young adult in your late teens or early twenties exploring God’s call on your life, join us each Tuesday evening for a light dinner and fellowship from 5:30 to 7 pm weekly. Note: Crossroads does not meet the third Tuesday of the month.

YOUNG ADULTS

(in their 20s and 30s)

20s/30s Group Dinner

Be our guest! — The Youth and Young Adults Committee would like to invite *all* young adults in their 20s or 30s to attend a dinner on Wednesday, Jan 25 from 5:30 to 7. This will be both a time of fellowship and a time of sharing -- about our interests, our involvement in the ELPC community, and any ideas about new 20/30s activities and study opportunities that you’d like to see offered at ELPC. We really value your ideas and



Justice & Global Concerns

The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy

Women and Children's Taskforce Meeting

Join with other church members in working on behalf of women and children locally, nationally and globally. The new year is a perfect time to become a part of this important effort. Our next meeting will be held Jan 15, 2006 in Room 224 immediately following the special congregational meeting (see page 1). For more information about the Taskforce, call Judy Menk at 412/798-8569.

Volunteers Still Needed for Field Learning Program

The Field Learning Program is collaborative effort between ELPC and the Islamic Community Center of Pittsburgh to help recently arrived refugee children from Somalia, Burma, Afghanistan and Iraq, enhance their learning outcomes in school and strengthen their social ties with the Pittsburgh community. As a means of accomplishing this, the program sponsors monthly field trips to various cultural and educational centers in Pittsburgh.

Volunteers are needed as chaperones for the following Saturday field trips or to help prepare lunches:

Jan 28 Science Center
Feb 18 Carnegie Library
March 18 . . . Children's Museum
(tentative)
April 22 . . . TBA
May 20 TBA

If you are available to volunteer on one or more of these Saturdays from approximately 9 am to 1 pm, contact Judy Menk, 412/798-8569;



Mission Ministries

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

Hosanna Industries and ELPC's Nov 12 Project Report

East Liberty Presbyterian Church has a partnership with Hosanna Industries' housing ministry to repair housing for East End families in need. On Saturday Nov 12, nine ELPC members, along with Hosanna Industries staff, made repairs to a water damaged basement, and garage and bathroom in a home in north Point Breeze. Many thanks to our ELPC members for taking the time for this ministry: Ted Brooks and his son Ben, Rod Irvin, Jon Nelson, Emily Rosenthal, Paul Outon, Jim Russ, Bob Sampson and Clark Smith.

In 2006, ELPC will continue to work with Hosanna Industries in their ministry. See the Community Mission bulletin board for more information!

Assistance Statistical Report

The following statistics reflect the number of individuals helped by our Community Mission ministry and the types of assistance given from Nov 9 to Dec 12, 2005. This assistance was made possible through various funds including the Lazarus Fund, Pastor's Discretionary Fund and the Fuel Fund. One of the many responsibilities of the Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy as Director of Mission Ministries is to administer these various programs and work directly with the individuals.

- u Total documented calls for assistance (117). *Note:* This number does not reflect the total number of calls received for assistance, as some were answered immediately.
- u Different individuals calling for assistance (58).
- u Lazarus applications submitted (3). Applications funded (2).
- u Individuals receiving direct assistance from ELPC unduplicated (6).
- u Types of assistance given: rent (3); utilities (2); miscellaneous (1).



Presbyterian Women

Heather Lawrence, Moderator

2005–06 Horizons Bible Study

"For Everything, A Season: A Study of the Liturgical Calendar," by the Rev. Dr. Kathleen Long Bostrom. Each lesson is offered twice—Tuesday mornings (first Tuesday of the month); or Tuesday evenings (fourth Tuesday of the month). All women of the church are invited to attend. Choose whichever time your schedule permits:

Tuesday morning, Jan 3 — Lesson 5: "Epiphany" Note new schedule: 10 am, fellowship and sharing of joys/concerns (short business update if needed); 10:30–11:30 am, Bible study; 11:30 am–12:30 pm, potluck lunch.

Tuesday evening, Jan 24 — Lesson 4: "Christmas" 5:45 pm, fellowship and a light dinner; 6:30–7:30 pm, Bible study. Note: There was no Tuesday evening discussion of Lesson 4 in December.

Stewardship Committee

Seminar on Planned Giving

The Stewardship Committee will host a two-hour seminar on Planned Giving at 12:30 pm in the Second Floor Parlor, following the 11 am worship service on Sundays, Feb 12 and March 12. Attendees will learn everything they have always wanted to know about how to give resources to the church in ways that are comfortable for the giver.

Phillip Blake, Development Officer with the Presbyterian Foundation, will be with us to discuss wills, trusts, donor-advised trusts, charitable gift annuities, and other vehicles for remembering and honoring your church and others. Light refreshments will be served. Call Gloria Knopp at the church at 412/441-3800 x22 to make reservations.



That All May Have
Life in Fullness

Stewardship — Have You Pledged for 2006?

At East Liberty Presbyterian Church we are blessed. We are challenged by provocative preaching; we share each other's burdens and are encouraged; we glorify God through worship, song and prayer; and we reach out to our neighbors in the community and world through mission.

Each year your pledges and offerings support our mission and ministry. Through Dec 13, we have received 138 pledges for 2006 totaling \$276,457. If you have not yet pledged for next year, please pick up a pledge card at the Stewardship display across from the Security Desk.

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ELPC People—
Good News, Prayers and Thanks

Good News

Join us in welcoming to our ELPC staff, Kathleen "Kelly" Stanfill as the new administrative assistant to the Christian Education and Youth & Young Adult ministries. Kelly comes to us from her position as Assistant to the Director of Operations at Allegheny Center Associates. She is married, has two sons, and lives in the North Hills.

We have prayed for. . .

Our prayers and sympathies are with *Heather Tunney* on the death of her grandmother Rose (Blazo) Tunney on Nov 25. Heather would like to thank everyone who expressed their kind words of sympathy and prayers.

Our prayers and sympathies are with *Bryan and Heather Lawrence* and family on the death of Byran's grandmother on Nov 29.

Our prayers and sympathies are with *Molly and Robert Stephany* and family on the death of Molly's father William Dimond on Nov 30.

Our prayers and sympathies are with *Peggy and Paul Outon* and family on the death of Peggy's father William Morrison on Dec 11.

continued. . .

ELPC People, continued. . .

It's with sadness that we announce the death of ELPC employee *Cecelia Mathews* who passed away on Dec 13. Cecelia came to us in August 1999. You probably greeted her or knew her as one of the women who worked in the front office. A funeral service officiated by the Rev. Rick Otty and the Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy was held for Cecelia at ELPC on Dec 17.

Please keep Cecelia's family (son Derrick and daughter Mishia), and extended family in your prayers at this time.

Thank You

The Christian Education committee would like to thank the children, youth, teachers, parents, and everybody who helped with the Christmas Pageant. We had wonderful costumes and some new sets, snacks, lots of helpers, terrific music, and the joy of working together to share God's love!



Calendar
Highlights

January 2006

1. . . . Communion (no Morning Glory or Christian Ed classes)
2. . . . Church building closed
- 6,7,8. "The Last Gasp" ELPC organ concerts in the Sanctuary
8. . . . Winter Rally Day
8. . . . ELPC Congregational Meeting/Pastor Candidate
15. . . . 7 pm, Youth & Young Adults
Koinonia Service of Praise
16. . . . Church building closed
21. . . . ELPC Congregational Discernment Retreat
- 20-22 Sr. High Retreat at Crestfield



The Cathedral of Hope

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Reaching Out Newsletter

January 2006

Issue Highlights

“The Last Gasp” Guest Organists
*Friday, Jan 6; Saturday, Jan 7; Sunday,
Jan 8*

Winter Rally Day
Sunday, Jan 8

PNC Presents Candidate for Pastor and

Special Congregational Meeting
Sunday, Jan 8

Koinonia Service of Praise
Sunday, Jan 15

Congregational Discernment
Retreat Day



As We Start the New Year



The Cathedral of Hope

*“...inviting all to join our
diverse, inclusive family of
faith, transcending all
boundaries of race, class,
ability, culture,
gender and sexual identity*