

Newsletter of
The Cathedral of Hope

Reaching Out

www.cathedralofhope.org



April 2006

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

Vol. 25,

Sunday Worship Services

* Holy Communion. First Sunday of the month and where indicated.

- 8 am Good Samaritan Worship
* April 2 The Rev. Robert Wilson, First United Methodist Church.
April 9 The Rev. Thomas Menk, Honorably Retired.
April 16 *See Easter Sunday schedule.*
April 23 The Rev. Connie Dunn, Chaplain, Hospice Visiting Nurses Association.
April 30 The Rev. Ann Morris, Hawthorne Avenue Presbyterian Church.
- 9 am Morning Glory Worship
* April 2 The Rev. Cynthia Jackson
April 9 Robert Frankenberry.
April 16 *See Easter Sunday schedule.*
April 23 Heather Tunney.
April 30 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.
- 11 am Sanctuary Worship
* April 2 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.
April 9 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.
* April 16 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.
April 23 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.
April 30 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.

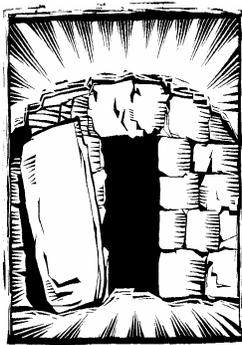
Koinonia Service of Praise
Sunday, April 9 7 pm

Holy Ground Service
Bimonthly, March through November.
Sunday, May 21 6 pm

Labyrinth Prayer Walk
Mondays 10 am to 3 pm
Wednesdays 10 am to 9 pm

Palm Sunday, April 9

- 8 am Good Samaritan Worship. A service of music, prayer and personal witness. Small Dining Room.
- 9 am Morning Glory Worship. Celebration of the Palms with music by the MoGlo Singers. Music Room, third floor.
- 11 am Sanctuary Worship. A special Palm Sunday celebration service with Festival Choir and brass quartet, preceded by a jubilant procession of waving palms. Music begins at 10:45 am.
- 7 pm Koinonia Service of Praise. A contemporary worship service led by ELPC youth and young adults. This service, offered the second Sunday of each month, is for everyone. Music Room, third floor.



E A S T E R

Easter Sunday, April 16

- 8 am Early Worship in the Chapel. Combining the 8 am Good Samaritan and 9 am Morning Glory services. Music by the MoGlo Singers with soloists. The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush preaching.
- 9 am Easter Breakfast Buffet. Last seating at 10 am. Social Hall.
- 9:45 am No Church School.
- 11 am Sanctuary Worship. A celebration service with brass quartet, Festival Choir, Easter message and

uuu

Sunday, April 23 — “Caring for God’s Creation”

In recognition of Earth Day’s 25th anniversary, the Environmental Taskforce of ELPC’s Justice & Global Concerns Committee has designated Sunday, April 23 as a day of “Caring for God’s Creation.” The 11 am worship service will be united around this theme with special music, children’s message, prayers and sermon. After the ser-

vice, a special Fellowship Time will be held in the Courtyard (weather permitting, or in the Social Hall if not).

Twenty-five years ago on April 22, Americans came together for the very first Earth Day. The day’s founder, Gaylord Nelson, believed strongly that education is the key to changing people’s attitudes about the

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. Dr. Randall K. Bush
Pastor

Linda Addlespurger
Director of Hope Academy

The Rev. Christiane Dutton
Minister of Taizé Prayer

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

Pamela M. Kimmel
Business Administrator

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

Chef Jay G. Ritter
Dining Services Director

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

Luke Stevens
Projects Manager

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

Geri L. Toth
Communications 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. Dr. Randall K. Bush, Pastor

A Stone Is A Stone Is A Stone

The doorbell at a former house of ours ran on batteries. So whenever the batteries went dead, people were stranded on the porch pushing the little button and wondering why no one came to greet them. Only once they knocked on the door and asked about the doorbell would I discover that I needed to buy more batteries. It was such a simple detail,

but it occasionally proved to be quite an obstacle to others.

In a few weeks, we will celebrate the joyous good news of Easter, that time of resurrection, of promises come true, and new life in the risen Lord. Standing squarely in the season of Lent and looking ahead to the future date of Easter Sunday, I am mindful of an oft-overlooked detail in the resurrection drama. I am thinking about the stone—the boulder that had to be moved for the resurrected One to emerge on Easter, “stones” that block our experience of the Easter event. And the good news of Easter does not occur easily until these “stones” are rolled away.

These stones have many names. Like the defunct doorbell, it might be simple ignorance or inattention to details. It might be busyness and the demands on our lives that deaden our spiritual awareness. It might be the darkness of depression that blinds us, or the illnesses afflicting us or those we love that act as barriers to God’s Easter good news. It might be our wounded spirits from toxic “church experiences” elsewhere. It might be our inner disquiet trying to function in jobs or homes marred by violence and abuse.

To paraphrase Gertrude Stein, a stone is a stone is a stone. Recognizing it is there is the first step toward its removal.

When Jesus visited the cemetery in which they had placed Lazarus’ body, he wept outside the sealed tomb. He then commanded those standing nearby to remove the stone. And then he shouted, “Lazarus, come out!” The month of April offers a wide range of opportunities for worship at our church. Don’t let stones or other impediments keep you from benefiting from these offerings. We will continue our Lenten reflection on the stones and impediments that we encounter on our paths of faith. We will remember the authority of Christ’s words, calling us to remove these stones. And we will gather with the women at the tomb, seeing

Randy Bush

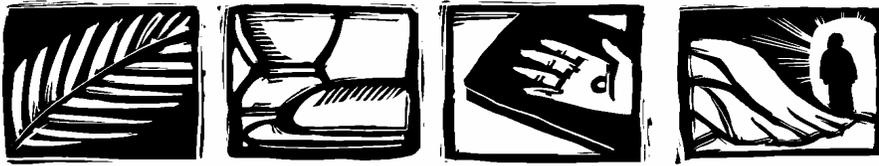
u u u



Don’t forget to turn your clocks
AHEAD one hour on
Saturday, April 1.

Daylight Saving Time begins April

Holy Week Services



April 10 Monday

“The Storm Clouds Begin to Gather”

7 pm Jesus surrounded by controversy. Service of meditation and music. Chapel.

April 11 Tuesday

“When Life Begins to Tumble In”

7 pm Jesus introduces a new way to consider life. Service of meditation and music. Chapel.

April 12 Wednesday

Taizé Prayer

7 pm Candlelight service with music, prayer and meditation. Chapel.

April 13 Maundy Thursday

“No Turning Back Now”

7 pm The Palm Sunday rejoicing unravels before our very eyes. Service of music, meditation and Holy Communion. Chapel.

April 14 Good Friday

“The Crucifixion”

Noon Service of quietness and personal meditation directed by thoughts from The Gospel of the Passion. You may come when you can and leave when you must. The various segments of this worship service will provide you with a thought for your day. Chapel.

7 pm Service of Tenebrae (Shadows) using the Good Friday cantata “The Crucifixion” by Sir John Stainer as the format for this introspective journey to the Cross. Special music by the Chancel Choir and soloists. Chapel.

April 15 Holy Saturday

“Great Vigil of Easter”

7 pm The Great Vigil of Easter with a recalling of our religious heritage and our spiritual journey remembered; the striking of the new light of Easter; reaffirmation of our baptismal vows; celebratory precession around the church exterior singing hymns of the faith following the Processional Cross; re-entry of the Sanctuary and the first Easter service of the Resurrection with the celebration of Holy Communion.

Learn What It Means to Become a Member or Friend of ELPC

Learn what it means to become a member or friend of ELPC by attending our next Inquirers’ Saturday, April 1 from 9 am to 3 pm.

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

If you would like to attend, please call Gloria Knopp at 412/441-3800 x22. Childcare is available by reservation only.

uuu

Order Your Easter Lily Plants

Each year the congregation is given the opportunity to provide lily plants for our Easter worship. These plants are often given in memory of loved ones and friends, or to honor another individual. Price is \$7 per plant (in a 6 1/2” pot). Order forms are available in the church office and at the information display area at the Highland entrance, or by calling 412/441-3800. The deadline to order plants is Sunday, April 9.

Note: No additional plants will be provided for general congregational distribution. On Easter Sunday, only plants which have been donated by individuals or families will be distributed after the service.

uuu

Ordination and Installation of Deacons and Elders

ELPC will install and ordain a new class of deacons and elders during the 11 am Sanctuary worship service on Sunday, April 30, as our retiring officers complete their terms of service.

ELPC Planning Team's Second Report to the Congregation

Building on the insights of the Discernment Retreat Day attended by over 80 members in January 2006, the Planning Team has continued to work toward creating a strategic plan to balance the ELPC budget over the next five years in a way that reflects the mission and ministry focus of the church.

From our gathering in January, we discerned five main areas of ministry important to our special calling as a congregation:

- u God, lead us in new ways...
- u To be faithful stewards of God's word in this place...
- u Through more and better communication...
- u Through the nurture and care of the congregation...
- u Through ministry to the local and global community.

We are using these five areas of ministry as a guide in our preparation of a strategic plan and recommendations.

As we go forward in the planning process we are considering ELPC's activities in two broad categories:

Base activities.

Include the basic costs of "Being Faithful Stewards of God's Will in this Place." They take our existing building as a given, along with the minimum staff and administrative costs required for preaching the Word, administering the Sacraments and offering public Worship.

Complementary activities.

Include the ministries that go beyond the core to build a vibrant and diverse congregation, nurture the spiritual develop-

ment of our members, and reach out to the community in service and social witness.

We do not mean to suggest that either set of activities is more important than the other. Our intent is to build on the enthusiasm we have heard from the congregation about its ministries by clearly communicating that the life of this church is ours to support through leadership, active involvement and financial giving.

Planning Committee Timeline

March — Identify underlying philosophy for reshaping the budget; identify targets for budget adjustments/stewardship challenges by broad area; assign data gathering

and report-drafting tasks for April.

April — Draft preliminary sequence of budget adjustments and stewardship challenges; finalize draft report with explanatory and philosophical material; assign tasks for focus group in May.

May — Hold focus group for a diverse group of 12-30 members to respond to draft report; reflect on focus group results and identify areas needing adjustment; assign drafting tasks for June.

June — Meet for final adjustment and approval of report; present report to Session.

The Planning Team

Summary of the Feb 26 Annual Congregational Meeting

The Annual Congregational Meeting of the East Liberty Presbyterian Church was held on Sunday, Feb 26, 2005 at 1:15 pm in the Sanctuary, with the Rev. Dr. J. Richard Szeremany as moderator and Diana Armstrong, Clerk of Session. A quorum of the congregation was present.

u The minutes of the last Annual Congregational Meeting of Feb 27, 2005 and the January 8, 2006 Special Congregational Meeting were approved.

u The Nominating Committee presented the following slate of officers for election:

Deacons—*Class of 2009 (3-year term)*: Sherry Anderson, Linda Benedict, Valerie Dixon, Emma Odim, Theresa Patterson, Jay Poliziani, Kay Snyder.

Session—*Class of 2008 (2-year term)*: Julianne McAdoo.

Session—*Class of 2009 (3-year term)*: Diana Bloss, Michele Bossers, Valire Copeland, David Epperson, Ike Ezekoye, David Hart, Richard Headley, Paul Outon, Kathleen Shissler, Nancy Speed.

Officer Nominating Committee—*Class of 2007*: Donald Addlespurger, Brian Bonsteel, Chuck Carson, Bob Hoon, Marti Moore, Gloria Ritchey.

Centennial Fund Trustee—*Class of 2008*: Christopher Martin.

Centennial Fund Trustee—*Class of 2009*: Justin Johnson.

All nominees were elected.

u The question was raised as to whether the congregation would be educated in the purpose and function of the acolytes during the 11 am worship service. Dr. Szeremany and Worship, Music & The Arts Committee will take this under advisement and report their decision to the Session.

The Annual Report of 2005 and the budget of 2006 were presented and discussed. A motion was made and approved to receive the Annual Report of



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.

NOTE: No Church School classes on Easter Sunday, April 16. Join us in the Social Hall at 9 am for our Easter Breakfast Buffet (see page 1).

ADULT CHURCH SCHOOL

Contemporaries



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.

April 2 & 9 “A Protestant Journey into Eastern Christianity,” A 3-class series which began March 26. Led by Dr. John Burgess, Professor of Systematic Theology, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. John Burgess and his family lived all of last year in Russia and worshiped every Sunday in an Orthodox church. In this series, John talks about how these experiences have reshaped his life.

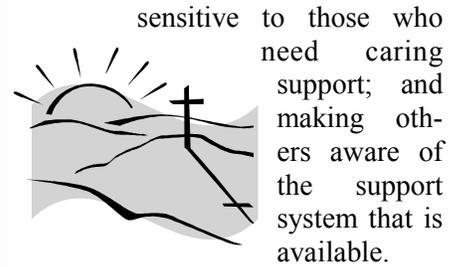
April 2 “Beauty and Justice.” The Orthodox see beauty as a witness to God. We will talk about how beauty can communicate a vision of God’s righteousness and love.

April 9 “Can There Be Eucharist Without Eucharist?” John and his family could not take the Lord’s Supper all year in the Orthodox church; and, yet, they still experienced people’s love for them. We will talk about the meaning of communion in a divided world.

April 16 No class. *Easter Breakfast, see page 1.*

April 23 What is Stephen Ministry? Stephen Ministry is grounded in Jesus’ command to love one another. Through one-to-one caring and confidential relationships, those who are hurting receive the love and care they need to support them. Join us for this extremely important series led by Lois Lang and selected Stephen Ministers.

A Stephen Minister IS...a child of God who walks beside a hurting person, and a caring Christian friend who really listens. A Stephen Minister IS NOT...a counselor or therapist, a problem solver, or a casual visitor. Every member of the congregation may become involved by praying for our Stephen Ministers; remaining



sensitive to those who need caring support; and making others aware of the support system that is available.

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.

April Class Series

“Crossing the Racial Divide—America’s Struggle for Justice and Reconciliation.” Led by the Rev. Cynthia Jackson. This series invites people to equip themselves to participate in racial reconciliation and healing through relationship building, education, and the creative transformation of structures of exclusion and discrimination. Using insights from the neighborhood and the gospel, new strategies for racial reconciliation and justice are encouraged. Based on a collection of essays from the Sojourner’s study, *Crossing the Racial Divide: America’s Struggle for Justice and Reconciliation*. The book is in the ELPC bookstore for \$6.

April 2 Powers and Principalities of Racism.

The survival and persistence of racism in our society, despite efforts to overcome it, reveals that for too long we have failed to recognize the true nature of the problem. Racism is a spiritual issue. Neither its causes nor solutions will be found through government programs, social ministries, or our own best intentions. The forces which perpetuate racism are rooted in spiritual

Christian Education, cont’d on page 6

Christian Education, cont'd . . .

realities or principalities that require us to call out to God for spiritual solutions.

April 9 New Data from America.

In the years since the beginning of the civil rights movement, America has become increasingly complex racially, socially and in many other ways. While this expansion of diversity broadens our perspective and deepens our understanding of the world we live in, how does it affect our work for justice beyond the paradigm of black and white?

April 16 No class. *Easter Breakfast, see page 1.*

April 23 The Spirit is Moving.

There are signs and wonders of racial healing in our communities that show that people from diverse constituencies can come together and work toward racial justice in new ways. How do forgiveness and a culture of grace set us free?



April 30 Strategies to Move Us Forward.

The work for racial justice and reconciliation calls for new ideas and strategies that will reach beyond our own limited agendas. How do we challenge the obstacles? Do we need a second wave of the civil rights movement?

Lectionary Bible Study

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 sequence of these texts within the liturgical seasons of the church year provides a guide for our spiritual formation. A biblical background is not required. Bring a Bible if you have one or there will be one made available for you. Second Floor Library.

Lent consists of 40 days—not including Sundays—before Easter. The liturgical color for Lent is purple, a reminder of our repentance and return to God. The final week of Lent is called Holy Week and begins on Palm Sunday. As Christians reflect upon the events of Jesus' life this week, we seek to journey with Jesus and to deepen our relationship with God.

April 2 *Readings:* Jeremiah 31:31–34; Psalm 51: 1–12; Hebrews 5:5–10; John 12:20–33.

In this Lenten season, we affirm God's action on our behalf. This week the nature of God's covenant is described as God's movement within the human heart. As the heart calls, we seek reconciliation with God and one another.

April 9 *Readings:* Mark 14:1–15:47; Isaiah 50:4–9a; Psalm 31:9–16; Philippians 2:5–11.

The focus for Holy Week is Jesus' identity as the Messiah—God's chosen one to bring salvation. The name Christ marks this identity. The texts this week address what it means to be a servant of God and to serve God's purposes. Remembering God's promises, those who serve remain in the embrace of God's unfailing presence.

April 16 No class. *Easter Breakfast, see page 1.*

April 23 *Readings:* John 20:19–31; Acts 4:32–35; Psalm 133; 1 John 1:1–2:2.

Today's passages speak of God's gifts through Christ: peace, joy, unity, and

faith. As it was with Thomas, our questions about these matters are essential. As we seek and ask, we discover the empowering nature of Christ, who receives our questions with grace and responds with generous love.

April 30 *Readings:* Luke 24:36b–48; Acts 3:12–19; Psalm 4; 1 John 3:1–7.

This Easter season we grow in our recognition of Jesus as the Christ, alive in our midst and empowering us for discipleship as a community of believers. Our awareness of God's presence and purpose grows and develops as we journey in faith.

NOTE: No Church School on Easter Sunday, April 16.

YOUTH CHURCH SCHOOL

Church School classes for youth in grades 6–12 are offered through our Youth & Young Adults Ministries. See page 9 for information.

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.

YOUNG CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Infants to 2-year olds. Childcare is offered with an integrated Bible-

2006
Vacation Bible School
"Build a Better World"
June 19-23



Children's News!

Christian Education

One Great Hour of Sharing

Giving with a "Fish Bank"

The Living Lent resources packages which were distributed to children and their families in March included ideas for sharing God's love with others, for being grateful, and for giving with a "Fish Bank."

By putting coins in the "Fish Bank," the ELPC children will be sharing with others through the One Great Hour of Sharing in April. The money collected will be used to help with disaster assistance, hunger and the self-development of people (digging wells, etc.) When the money from congregations all over the country is combined, we can make a difference.

As we give thanks to God for our many blessings, we are reminded that people all over the world live in conditions of poverty. Through the Living Lent resource children are counting their blessings for such things as beds, cribs, water faucets, sofas, food items in the refrigerator, pets, sources of music, windows, doors and hands.

"I was hungry and you fed me."
— Matthew 25:35 —

"When was it that we saw you . . . thirsty?"
— Matthew 25:37 —

"This is my commandment, that you love one another."



Spiritual Life Ministry

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

Lenten Study Series on the Psalms Continued

The Psalms are the prayers that have accompanied the people of God throughout history. Join us for the final two Sundays of our Lenten study series—*Psalms: The Prayers of God's People*—from 12:30 to 2 pm in the Second Floor Parlor. Participation in the first two classes of the series is not necessary as each class stands alone.

On April 2 our discussion will be "Psalms: Songs of Lament and Disorientation" and on April 9, "Psalms: Songs of New Orientation." Through our readings and reflections on these prayers, we will seek to hear God's word for us today. Through our time of praying with the Psalms, we will seek to open ourselves to God and offer up our own prayers. Led by Judy Menk,

My Own "Spiritual" Workshop

Spring is a great time to see what's sprouting in us and help water those graces. So here's another chance for you—whether you've done it before or not. A dozen of us will be getting together to work on another set of My Own Spiritual Workshops. Sponsored by ELPC's Spiritual Life Ministry.



my own | *spiritual*
workshop[™]

3 Sundays after Easter
APRIL 23, 30, MAY 7
5 to 8 pm

There is no cost for the workshops, but you have to commit to the three 3-hour sessions, the three Sunday evenings after Easter. There is also work to do between sessions. All the work you do, however, serves your growth—most likely something you wouldn't tend to unless you did commit yourself.

Register now. Limited to 12 individuals. Held at Siemasko's home in Squirrel Hill. For more information, call Patsy or Dan at 412/421-1885 or

Helping to Care for Our Church Family — Become Part of the Deacon's Visitation Team

The Board of Deacons is called by God to seek out and serve the needs of those in greatest need—the poor, the sick, homeless, the aged, the distressed and the disenfranchised. The work the Deacons do is both spiritual and practical in nature, ministering to the family of faith within ELPC.

You could help the Deacons CARE for our church family by becoming part of the Deacon's visitation team, visiting sick and home-

bound members. You would be assigned a partner with whom you would make visits a couple of times a year.

A morning training session and afternoon visitation will be offered on Saturday, April 1 starting at 9:30 am. After lunch (lunch included), the trained teams will make their first visit.

For more information or to attend the training session, call Carol Untch, 724/272-9722 or the Rev. Cynthia Jackson, 412/441-3800

Hope-Xpress Dance Company's Spring Events

Hope-Xpress Dance Company, a partnership between Hope Academy of Music & the Arts and Xpressions Contemporary Dance Company, is a training and performance program for aspiring young dancers. The program is designed to expose and teach youth various techniques and styles created by today's African American choreographers.

Company members study and perform Modern, Jazz, Hip-Hop and West African dance. They learn general performance techniques, and experiment with improvisation and movement composition. A strong emphasis is placed on body alignment, correct technical development, musicality and performance quality.

Youth Company members help to create and perform in new works with Xpressions Contemporary Dance Company's adult company, and in workshops throughout the Pittsburgh area.

Hope-Xpress Upcoming Dance Performances

"Urban Development/Phase 1"

Hope-Xpress Dance Company with Xpressions Contemporary Dance Company fusing together Modern, Hip Hop, Jazz and West African dance styles.

Saturday, April 15, 2 pm
Kaufman Center Auditorium
1835 Center Avenue, Hill District

Hope Academy's End-of-Year Showcase Event

Hope-Xpress Dance Company will perform in this showcase event which includes the Hope Academy's Musical Theater performance of "Once on this Island, Jr.", a Caribbean retelling of Hans Christian Anderson's *Little Mermaid*.

7 pm Friday, May 12
7 pm Saturday, May 13
3 pm Sunday, May 14

African Children's Choir Comes to ELPC

The African Children's Choir from Uganda is coming to ELPC on Friday, May 26 for a concert at 7 pm in the Sanctuary. Start now to invite you friends, neighbors and other family members to experience the joy and enthusiasm of these 28 young children on their eastern sea-board tour of our country.

Housing Request for One Night. We will be looking for 10 to 12 homes for these young folks and their adult leaders to stay for one night and for breakfast. If you would like to help out or for further details, call Norma at 412/441-3800 x11 or Dr. Richard Szere-many.



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. Our Taizé service on April 12, during Holy Week, will include a sharing of blessed bread.

After-Taizé Classes

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

- April 5 Atonement. The suffering and death of Jesus, how does it take away our sins? Does the cross promote violence or overcome it? What do you see in the cross of Christ: foolishness, scandal and abuse, or joy and life? We will explore the different atonement theories of the church to help us in our own understanding. Led by the Rev. Don Dutton.
- April 12 No class.
- April 19 Dance, Movement and Music for Earth Day. Let us dance our joy in creation, let us dance our fears and concerns, let us dance our peace and delight, let us dance it before God. Facilitated by the Rev. Christiane Dutton.
- April 26 Monthly Taizé Bible Study. The community of Taizé sends one scripture text a month which we are invited to study and live with. Join us as we come together in small groups for Bible study and a sharing of our experiences with our text for the month of April—John 12: 20–28.

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—April 26. Following our meal together, for those of you who wish to, plan to stay for our weekly 7 pm Taizé Prayer service.

Travel to Taizé in 2006

Have you been thinking about making a pilgrimage to Taizé, France? If you



Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Heather Tunney, Director, Youth & Young Adult Minis-

Koinonia Fellowship for ELPC Youth & Young Adults

All ELPC youth and young adults are invited to the Second Floor Parlor from 5 to 6:45 pm on Palm Sunday, April 9 for a light meal and time of fellowship before the Koinonia worship service at 7 pm. A main course will be provided, but please bring a side dish or dessert to share. RSVP by Wednesday, April 5 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 Church School, Easter Sunday, April 16.

ELPC Youth Group

Sundays, 12:30 to 3 pm. Lunch, Bible Study and fellowship.

Youth April Service Project — Earth Day

April 22 mark's the 25th anniversary of Earth Day. In celebration of this event, our service project theme for April will be Earth Day. On Saturday, April 22, junior and senior high youth are invited to go with us to The Children's Institute, a Pediatric Rehabilitation Hospital in Squirrel Hill, to do craft projects with the children who are patients there. Our crafts will focus on an Earth Day theme. We will meet at ELPC at 12:30 pm and return by 3 pm. Please RSVP to Heather Tunney, 412/441-3800 x14 by Sunday, April 16 (Easter Sunday). A permission slip is required for this event.



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. Note: Crossroads does not meet the third Tuesday of the month (April 18).

Crestfield Spring Retreat — “Generation X: Defining the Variable”

See article under Young Adults.

YOUNG ADULTS (in their 20s and 30s)

20/30s Book Study

If you are a young adult in your 20s or 30s, you are invited to join us for a book study the fourth Tuesday of the month in April and May from 7 to 9 pm. The book we will be reading is *The Last Week: A Day-by-Day Account of Jesus' Final Week in Jerusalem* by Marcus Borg and John Dominic

Crossa.

Books can be purchased for \$10. Some scholarship money available for assistance, if needed. For more information or to purchase a book, contact Heather Tunney, 412/441-3800 x14.

Young Adults' Spring Retreat at Camp Crestfield

“Generation X:

Defining the Variable”

Explore how we as a generation can influence the vitality of the church. Whether you are a young adult in your 20s and 30s, or are a college student or recent high school graduate, join in with friends from the ELPC community and from other churches throughout the Pittsburgh Presbytery for a time of renewal, worship and fun at this year's spring retreat at Camp Crestfield in Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania, May 5 and 6.

The topic for our weekend will be “Generation X: Defining the Variable,” with keynote speaker Rodger Nishioka. Rodger is a *dynamic* preacher and a professor of Christian Education at Columbia Theological Seminary. Prior to joining the faculty at Columbia, Rodger served for 12 years as the denominational staff in youth and young adult ministry for the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Our worship leaders for the weekend will be “The Smokin' Gators,” a contemporary praise band from Hampton Presbyterian Church.

We will meet at ELPC at 6 pm on Friday, May 5 and will return by 8 pm on Saturday the May 6. The cost is \$30 per person, but scholarship money is available to those who need assistance. We will be staying in Scott Lodge, Crestfield's comfortable hotel-style facility.

Please RSVP to Heather Tunney no later than Friday, April 21,



Justice & Global Concerns

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

Environmental Taskforce Meeting

Tuesday, April 4, 7 pm in Room 135. All are welcome as we discuss Earth Day's 25th anniversary and ELPC's 11 am service on Sunday, April 23 "Caring for God's Creation," and for recycling at ELPC.

This taskforce is a subgroup of the Justice & Global Concerns Committee with a focus on environmental justice issues and projects. For more information, call Becky Maiman at 412/242-7179.

ELPC Katrina Mission Fundraisers

The J&GC Committee has planned two fundraisers to help send a team of volunteers to Long Beach, Mississippi (April 21–30) to help the community there affected by the Katrina disaster. ELPC is one of many teams working with the Presbytery in Mississippi and contacts at Long Beach Presbyterian Church to assist in a variety of ways.

Carwash — Saturday, April 1, 9 am to noon, Home Depot.

Pancake Breakfast — Palm Sunday, April 9, 8:30 am and 9:30 am in the Social Hall. Tickets are \$8 and may be purchased in advance during Fellowship Time following the 11 am service on Sunday, April 2, or by calling the church office at 412/441-3800.



Presbyterian Women

Heather Lawrence, Moderator

Horizons Bible Study

All women of the church are invited to attend discussions based on lessons relating to the theme, "For Everything, A Season: A Study of the Liturgical Calendar," by the Rev. Dr. Kathleen Long Bostrom.

Tuesday morning; April 4 — Lesson 8: Easter

May 2 — Lesson 9: Pentecost and Ordinary Time

10 am, fellowship/sharing joys/concerns (short business update if needed); 10:30–11:30 am, Bible study; 11:30 am–12:30 pm, potluck lunch.

Tuesday evening; April 25 — Lesson 7: Holy Week

May 23 — Lesson 8: Easter

June 27 — Lesson 9: Pentecost and Ordinary Time

5:45 pm, fellowship and a light dinner; 6:30–7:30 pm, Bible study.

Presbyterian Women's Spring Retreat

ELPC's Presbyterian Women invite all women of the church—members, friends and visitors—to join together May 5, 6 and 7 at Camp Crestfield in Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania for our spring retreat, "Walking our Faith—Outside the Comfort Zones," led by Elder Jean Kennedy.

Lovely accommodations in a beautiful camp setting provide the back-

drop for a time of fellowship, spiritual growth and respite from our daily lives—and a weekend of great food and fun. We'll gather together Friday evening for a pot luck dinner, a time to get acquainted and ready for workshops to be held on Saturday. There will be time available on Saturday for an art project, a mission project, reflection and quiet time, as well as free-time activities of hiking, canoeing, wall climbing, etc. The retreat workshops will close on Saturday evening. However, you may opt to stay over Saturday night for Sunday breakfast, a worship service and

An Alternative Mother's Day Gift Can Help Prevent Malaria

Malaria is a disease caused by mosquito-borne parasites. Children and pregnant women are particularly susceptible to malaria. It is the #1 killer of young children in Africa, and causes millions of miscarriages and premature births.

Net Workers is a malaria prevention program established by the Presbyterian Church (USA). By buying a Net Worker's Mother's Day card to honor mothers, daughters or friends here, you can help safeguard the health of mothers in Africa. Your \$10 donation for a card will provide an insecticide-threaded net and malaria prevention education for a woman and her family in Africa. Cards may be purchased after the 11 am service in the McKelvy Room on Sundays, April 23, 30 and May 7, or by calling Joan Heckel at 412/661-7760. A replica of the card is posted on the



Mother's Day
Sunday, May 14



ELPC People — Thanks, Good News and Prayers

Good News

Congratulations to Chad and Sarah Stacy on the birth of their daughter *Arden*. Arden was born on February 27, 2006.

Thank You

Gail Whalen would like to thank all who offered prayers and good wishes for her recovery. Your messages of healing and hope were received with gratitude.

We have prayed for. . .

Our prayers and sympathies are with Farley Whetzel and family on the death of her mother *Rachel Mellon Walton* on March 2, 2006.

Our prayers and sympathies are with ELPC members Barbara and Sondra Krimmel on the death of their mother *Sallie Krimmel* on March 12, 2006.

Our prayers and sympathies are with the Myers family on the death of ELPC member *Virginia Myers* on March 13, 2006. Virginia was living at Canterbury Place at the time of her death at the age of 100.

Our prayers and sympathies are with ELPC staff member Ron Moore and his family on the death of Ron's brother *Walter Moore* on March 14, 2006. Ron works in our maintenance department.

EECM Food-of-the-Month Program

The East End Cooperative Ministry (EECM) Food Pantry, located in East Liberty Presbyterian Church, distributes food during the week to those persons and households living in poverty.

According to a newly released US Census data, the number of people in Allegheny County living below federally mandated poverty guidelines increased by 7,000 between 2003 and 2004. With this much human need within walking distance of ELPC, we invite you to become a regular contributor to the EECM Food Pantry by bringing a designated food to the church at least once a month. Two baskets are available for food dropped off—one inside the Highland Avenue entrance at the foot of the stairs to the second floor, and the second at the top of the stairs on the second floor. April's item: Spaghetti Sauce.

Traditionally, the Food Pantry

runs low on certain food items each month. Without your donations, EECM must purchase these items. Focusing on a particular food each month is an easy way to help reduce the purchases that are necessary.

“Eyes Wide Open” Exhibit

The “Eyes Wide Open” exhibit, created by the American Friends Service Committee and sponsored by the Justice & Global Concerns Committee, is a multimedia display exploring the history, cost and consequences of the war. The exhibit will be available for viewing in the Social Hall on Saturday, April 1 from 11 am to 7 pm and Sunday, April 2 following the 11 am service until 3:30 pm. For more about the exhibit, visit the Mission bulletin board on the first floor.

u u u



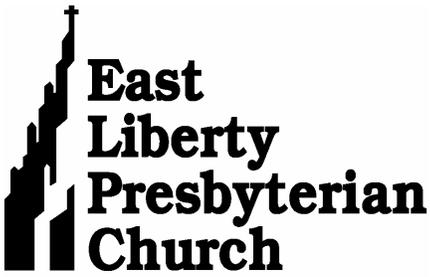
Calendar Highlights

April 2006

- 1..... Inquirers' Saturday
- 1..... J&GC Carwash fundraiser
- 1..... Deacon's Congregational Care Team Training Session
- 1..... Turn clocks AHEAD, Daylight Saving Time begins April 2
- 1,2.... “Eyes Wide Open” Exhibit
- 2..... Communion
- 9..... Palm Sunday
- 9..... J&GC Pancake Breakfast fundraiser
- 9..... *Koinonia* Service of Praise, 7 pm
- 10.... Holy Week Service, 7 pm
- 11.... Holy Week Service, 7 pm
- 12.... Taizé Holy Week Service, 7 pm
- 13.... Maundy Thursday/Communion, Service, 7 pm
- 14.... Good Friday Services, 12 and 7 pm
- 15.... Great Vigil of Easter Service with Communion, 7 pm
- 16.... Easter Sunday Services: 8 am in the Chapel; 11 am with Communion in the Sanctuary
- 16.... Easter Breakfast Buffet, 9 am
- 17.... OFFICE CLOSED, Easter Monday
- 21.... Katrina Mission Trip (Apr 21-30)
- 30.... Officer Ordination/Installation

May 2006

- 5,6.... Young Adults Retreat at Camp Crestfield
- 5-7... Presbyterian Women's Retreat at Camp Crestfield
- 7..... Communion
- 12.... Hope Academy End-of-Year Showcase Event, 7 pm
- 13.... Hope Academy End-of-Year Showcase Event, 7 pm
- 14.... Hope Academy End-of-Year



The Cathedral of Hope

116 South Highland Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15206 ☮

www.cathedralofhope.org

Address Service Requested

Nonprofit Org.
US POSTAGE
PAID
Pittsburgh, PA

Reaching Out Newsletter

April 2006

PALM Sunday

April 9



Holy Week Services

April 10 – April 15

EASTER Sunday

April 16

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

Annual Congregational Meeting Report

ELPC Planning Team Report

“Eyes Wide Open” Exhibit

Saturday, April 1, 11 am to 7 pm

Sunday, April 2, 12:30 to 3:30 pm

Inquirers’ Saturday

Sunday, April 9, 7 pm

Koinonia Service of Praise

Sunday, April 9, 7 pm

“Caring for God’s Creation

Sunday, April 23

Ordination and Installation

of Deacons and Elders

Sunday, April 30



The Cathedral of Hope

*“...inviting all to join our
diverse, inclusive family of
faith, transcending all bounda-
ries of race, class, ability, cul-
ture,
gender and sexual identity
to become one in Christ.”*