

Newsletter of
The Cathedral of Hope

Reaching Out

www.cathedralofhope.org



August 2006

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

Vol. 25,

Congratulations to ELPC's 2006 Graduates

Following are the names of ELPC members who have recently graduated, the schools they graduated from (high school, college or other institutions of higher learning—i.e. trade school, business school, graduate school) and their plans for this Fall.

Congratulations to all our graduates! We wish you success in your future

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Nathan Baglyos — Pittsburgh HS for the Creative and Performing Arts; will attend Northwestern University.

Kate Barutha — Mt. Lebanon HS; will attend Maryland Institute College.

Kate Benedict — Oakland Catholic HS; will attend St. Vincent College.

Stephen Bethea — City Charter HS; will attend Point Park University.

Joseph R. Buckley — Fox Chapel Area HS (honors); will attend Northwestern University School of Education & Social Policy.

Harold Dunn Jr. — Butler Area HS; will attend Penn State University.

Vanessa Huggins — Schenley HS; will attend California State University of PA.

Holly Kascal-Hicks — Keystone Oaks HS; will attend Clarion University.

Alexander (Sandy) Overby — Schenley HS; will attend Carnegie Mellon University School of Design.

Ashleigh Parker — Winchester Thurston HS; now attending Kent State University.

Kassandra Pollard — Woodland Hills HS; will attend Temple University.

Deirdre Pressman — Schenley HS; will attend University of Pittsburgh.

Reva Ritchey — Pittsburgh HS for the Creative and Performing Arts (honors), *Who's Who of American High School Students*; will attend Cosmetology School.

Callie Thuma — Schenley HS; will attend Macalester College.

COLLEGE GRADUATES

Matthew Anderson — St. Anthony's Program at Duquesne University.

Meghann Dunn — Ohio State University; employed by Abercrombie & Fitch.



Summer Schedule

Sunday Morning Services

**Holy Communion is celebrated.*

- 8 am Good Samaritan Worship
 * Aug 6 The Rev. Hendrik Bossers, Cheswick Presbyterian Church.
 Aug 13 Minister Jeffrey Lowrey, Deliverance Baptist Church.
 Aug 20 Lester Price, Drop-In Center Case Manager.
 Aug 27 Mary Christian, Mary Christian Ministries.
 9 am Chapel Worship
 Aug 20 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.
 10 am Summer Worship, Courtyard
 * Aug 6 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.
 Aug 13 The Rev. Carol Divens Roth, Moderator, Pittsburgh Presbytery.
 Aug 20 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.
 Aug 27 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.

Koinonia Contemporary Service of Praise

2nd Sunday of each month.

Aug 6 (note: 1st Sunday of the month) . 7 pm

Holy Ground Service of Wholeness and Healing

3rd Sunday, bimonthly, March–November.

Sept 17 6 pm

Labyrinth Prayer Walk

Mondays 10 am to 3 pm
 Wednesdays 10 am to 9 pm

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 Director

Heather Tunney
Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Howard Turner
Chief of Security

Reaching Out Newsletter



Pastoral Message

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush, Pastor

A Journey of a Thousand Chapters

Here's something widely known but seldom spoken: Most churchgoers rarely read the Bible. People are familiar with some of the stories and listen attentively when scripture is read in church, but the Bible is seldom read as part of a daily routine. It's a big volume with 66 books in it, so it's certainly a more formidable summer read than the latest John Grisham or Danielle Steele bestseller.

So here's a suggestion: Find time this month to read three chapters in Matthew's gospel, specifically Matthew 5, 6, and 7. That's where you will find Jesus' "Sermon on the Mount." It begins with the Beatitudes ("Blessed are the poor..."), includes the Lord's Prayer, and then ends with the well-known parable of the wise man who built his house on the rock. You will see the source of many common phrases, like "consider the lilies of the field," "pearls before swine," "speck in your neighbor's eye," and "love your enemies." Some of the verses are challenging, perhaps even troubling. But if they force you to wrestle with how in the world such an idea could be applied to your own life, then they have served their purpose.

Near the end of Matthew 6, there's a great passage about how the birds of the air, who neither sow nor reap, are provided for by their heavenly Father. Therefore we should not worry about life, for we are of more value than sparrows. It offers a vision of God's compassion that balances the macro and the micro, the big picture and the precise details. Even more so, it reminds us that these two perspectives are intimately connected. That the same Creator's hand shaping the solar system also smoothes the songbird's feathers.

Pondering this idea in relation to our daily life brings a faith perspective to bear on the details of each day: how being patient when we speak to a person behind a store counter is part of how we address all people on earth; how being aware that what we put on grocery lists reverberates through the food chain of all life; and how being persistent in hope means believing that the seeds we plant today truly become part of future, rich harvests, by God's help.

uuu

Randy Bush

Additional Sunday Services This August

AUG 6 — Koinonia Service of Praise — 7 pm, in the Courtyard

A contemporary worship service to praise and worship God, the center of our community of faith. Our service this month will be held outdoors in the Courtyard (third floor Music Room in case of rain), with African drums, the guitar, and our voices as accompaniment.

This August, our service will be held the first Sunday of the month; however, in September, we'll go back to our regular time of being held on the second Sunday of each month. This service—for everyone—is led by ELPC youth and young adults.

AUG 20 — Chapel Worship — 9 to 9:45 am

To accommodate different needs during the summer, in addition to our summer 8 am and 10 am Sunday morning worship times, we will be offering an



Hope Academy of Music & the Arts

Linda Addlespurger, Director

Hope Academy's Fall Line-Up of Classes Now Available Online www.HopeAcademy.info — Hope Academy of Music & the Arts here at East Liberty Presbyterian Church offers affordable after-school and Saturday classes in performing arts, dance and music for children and youth ages 4 through grade 12, as well as private instrumental and voice instruction. The strength and uniqueness of our programming is derived from our partnerships with some of the city's finest arts organizations including City Theatre, Pittsburgh Public Theater, PGH Live Music, Pittsburgh Ballet Theater, and Xpressions Contemporary Dance Company. These partnerships allow us to offer students opportunities to perform in professional theaters and study with master teaching artists.

Hope Academy's Fall 2006 Program runs from Sept 23 to Jan 20 (2007). Course enrollments are limited as class sizes are small to ensure a low student-to-staff ratio. Early registration is encouraged.



Performing Arts

Musical Theater Workshop, Shakespeare Workshop, Young Creators' Workshop, Creative Dramatics

Dance

Creative Movement, Pre-Ballet, Tango, Hope-Xpress Dance Performance Ensemble

Music

Songs & Stories, "Voices of Hope" Vocal Ensemble, African Drumming

Private Instruction

Piano, Organ, Classical Guitar, all Strings, Woodwinds, Brass, Percussion, Voice

For complete details about our Fall 2006 programming, visit our website. There you will find complete course descriptions, registration and financial

June 2006 Session Report *by Diana Armstrong, Clerk of Session*

On June 20, 2006, Session members enjoyed dinner with the Deacon Board in the Social Hall prior to an semi-annual joint meeting during which the Deacons updated Session on their activities, and service and ministry to the congregation and community beyond the doors of ELPC.

During this time, Session also had the opportunity to thank Dea-

con officers for their service and commitment to Christ and this Church, and to gather input on the topic "Why come to ELPC or any other particular Presbyterian Church?" Following discussion and prayer, the boards separated for their regular monthly meetings.

At their regular meeting, Session approved the following: the petition against proposed "Marriage

Protection" Amendment to the PA Constitution; the continued use of the Allen Organ until the end of the year; and, following the Consultant Planning Committee's PowerPoint presentation and discussion, voted to receive the report and have a complete written report with recommendations be distributed to Ses-



Christian Education

The Rev. Cynthia Jackson, Interim Di-

CE Family PICNIC for Families with Young Children

Games, Fun, Food and Fellowship!

On Sunday, Aug 20 from 4 to 7 pm, the Rev. Cynthia Jackson (CE's Interim Director) will have a Family Picnic at her home in Gibsonia for families with children 5th grade and younger. Also invited are the youth and adult volunteers who helped with our "Build A Better World" Vacation Bible School.

Beverages, hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided. Please bring something to share! If you have a new family that you just met this summer, bring them along! This is a chance to get to know folks and make some new friends.

For more information and directions, please call Cynthia at 412-441-3800 x20 after Aug 7.

Are you being called to help with our Young Children's Ministry? Young Children's Ministry, for infants through 2-year olds, is forming a 'team' to coordinate this ministry of caring, sharing, loving and inspiring our youngest children of God. Is your heart calling you to

July's FOTO Ice Cream Social Fundraiser a Big Success!

Friends of the Organ (FOTO) would like to thank all those that came out to support our Ice Cream Social Fundraiser in the Social Hall on Sunday, July 23. Approximately 150–175 people attended the event.

- u to the congregants for the donated cakes;
- u to the volunteers for their incredible effort and support;
- u to Ben & Jerry's for the ice cream, cups, cones, spoons, napkins and for lending us ice cream scoopers;
- u to Giant Eagle Shadyside for a \$25 gift card that was used to purchase sugar-free ice cream and toppings;
- u to Party Time for the 30% discount toward the purchase of tablecloths;
- u to FOTO donors for the sugar-free ice cream toppings and tablecloths.

Because of all of donations, there was neither food nor supply costs for this event. The entire \$614.10

Books, CDs, DVDs and VHS Tapes Needed for the FOTO Book Sale & More Fundraiser

On Sunday, Sept 24 after the 11 am worship service, the Friends of the Organ (FOTO) will sponsor a Book Sale and More Fundraiser in the Social Hall to help with the restoration project for our Aeolian-Skinner Pipe Organ.

For our event to be a success, we are asking members of the congregation to search their shelves for those extra books, CDs, DVDs and VHS tapes and drop them off at the church office anytime that's convenient. Then, plan to attend the



Corn Roast

A Friends of the Organ Fundraiser

On Sunday, Aug 27, the ELPC Friends of the Organ (FOTO) Committee is planning a "Corn Roast" to be held in the Social Hall following the 10 am Summer Worship service. The event will also include barbecued hotdogs, condiments and beverage. Note: The corn and hotdogs will be cooked outside in the Courtyard.

Information on ticket cost and advanced ticket sales will be available in the Sunday bulletin announcements on Aug 6 and 13, or on our website after Aug 1,

Take an ELPC Church Tour—History, Art and Architecture

All are invited to take a tour of our beautiful and historic church on Sunday, Aug 13 following 10 am worship and Fellowship Time. We will meet at the Security Desk at 11:30 am. Our tour will be led by Chuck Carson and will last approximately one hour or more depending on the group.

Be sure to wear comfortable shoes. Sponsored by the ELPC Heritage Committee.

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Become an ELPC Tour Guide!

The ELPC Heritage Committee Tour Ministry is in need of volunteer docents. If you have a love for this historic and beautiful building, and a yearn to learn, contact Deborah Marx in the church office at

East Liberty and a Brief ELPC History Timeline

In the next few issues of the Reaching Out, we plan to present a brief history timeline of interesting facts about the church and the area of East Liberty. The information included here was researched and com-

plied by Friend of ELPC, Cathy Regush.

The meaning of the name of "East Liberty" and the Late 1700s

A "liberty" was a designated section of land set aside for grazing cattle. Eastern Liberty was the eastern portion of liberty set aside for the small town of Pittsburgh in the late 18th Century. The western portion is now known as West Liberty, and the northern liberty is now the Strip District. The area achieved a sort of fame in Marcia Davenport's novel, "The Valley of Decision" in which the Irish maid, and heroine

of the story, left her home in Allegheny (now the North Side) to take up residence and open a dress shop in the new area of East Liberty.

1778 Alexander Negley first permanent white settler in East Liberty valley.

1789 Negley with 41 others founded the first church organization in Pittsburgh known as Pitt Township; first American Presbyterian General Assembly was held in Philadelphia.

1790 First known religious ser-



Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Heather Tunney, Director, Youth & Young Adult Minis-

YOUTH (grades 6 through 12)

Senior-High Chicago Mission Trip

Youth who have completed grades 9 through 12, are active in ELPC Youth Group, Church School or special events *and* have completed 2 or more service projects (including serving in worship as ushers, liturgists or acolytes/crucifers) will participate in our Mission Trip to Chicago from August 13–19. Our trip is being organized by the Center for Student Mission. We will be serving the Chicago community in a range of ways—assist with Vacation Bible School, help at a local food pantry and serve meals at a homeless shelter.

Highlights of June's Camp Crestfield's "Mission Possible"

From June 18 to the 23, a group of 11 ELPC middle-school youth and 4 leaders participated in a week of service and fellowship through Camp Crestfield's "Mission Possible." The youth spent their mornings and afternoons helping others, while evenings were spent participating in camp games and activities.

Working alongside youth from Sampson's Mills Presbyterian Church, our youth put their faith in action through a range of acts of service to the camp and to the city of Pittsburgh at large. On Monday, the day was spent in service to the Crestfield community painting rooms in the camp's Recreation Hall, building an outdoor trash bin for Pioneer Camp, and helping to move furniture to create an indoor worship space. This provided the opportunity for youth to serve the community of which they were a part for the week, while building practical skills that they would draw upon throughout the week.

On Tuesday, the group spent the day back in East Liberty serving with East End Cooperative Minis-



tries—receiving and repacking food in the Food Pantry, serving lunch in the Soup Kitchen, playing with the children at the Childcare Center, and delivering Meals on Wheels throughout the day. It was a wonderful experience for the youth to learn more about the needs of others in our East Liberty community and to serve as partners with EECM.

On Thursday, our youth spent a day serving at a Habitat for Humanity site in New Kensington. The group shoveled gravel around the foundation of the home that was to be occupied by a woman and her six children. In spite of the heat and humidity, the biggest disappointment of the week was being rained out from this work site on Friday.

Evening worship was a big part of our time at Crestfield, and the Mission

October Trip to Taizé, France with Pastor Randy Bush Being Considered

The Taizé Ministry and the Rev. Dr. Randy Bush are exploring the possibility of leading a small group on a trip to Taizé, France from Oct 7–12, 2006. Anyone who might be interested in going should contact Norma Meyer at 412-441-3800



Taizé Prayer

The Rev. Christiane Dutton, Minister

Taizé Prayer Service

Wednesdays, 7 pm, Chapel. A candlelight service with silent meditation, music and prayer.

After-Taizé Classes

Wednesdays at 8:15 pm, McKelvy Room.

Aug 2 Learn to Sing Taizé Chants in Harmony. All are invited to join us for our Taizé Choir practice led by Elizabeth Downey.

Aug 30 Celebrations. Join us in the Narthex after our Taizé service for celebration cake. If you celebrate a birthday, a milestone or an anniversary in August, please write your name on a piece of paper and put it in the offering plate during the month.

Bread & Soup Meal & Fellowship

All are invited to join us in the McKelvy Room for a bread and soup meal and fellowship (\$2.50 donation)—Aug 30 from 5:45 to 6:45 pm. Our Bread & Soup Meal is offered the last Wednesday of each month. Following our meal together, for those of you who wish



Presbyterian Women

Heather Lawrence
Moderator

PW's Annual Meeting — ALL Women Welcome to Attend

The Presbyterian Women has no official members—all women are welcome to attend our meetings, our Horizons Bible Study sessions and any of our sponsored events or retreats.

The ELPC Presbyterian Women will hold their Annual Meeting on Saturday, Sept 9 in Room 234 from 9 am to 1 pm. The theme of our meeting is "Focus on the Fruit of the Spirit" (Galatians 5:22-23), and will include: worship, election of officers, annual reports, an interactive workshop, and a shared lunch. Those attending are asked to bring a salad, sandwiches or a dessert to share.

For more information or if you have any questions about PW, please contact Diana Bloss at 412-441-9237 or Nadine Banks at 412-829-7766.

2006-07 Horizons Bible Study

All women are again invited to participate in the Presbyterian Women 2006-07 Horizons Bible Study starting in September.

Join us once a month (morning or evening sessions) for fellowship, sharing and a discussion of the nine lessons (one each month from September to May/June) based on this year's theme, "In the Beginning: Perspectives on Genesis" by Celia Brewer Sinclair.



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ELPC at the PC (USA) 217 the General Assembly

The 217th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) ended June 22, 2006 after considering hundreds of items on matters arising since the last General Assembly in 2004.

- u The commissioners elected our own Valerie Copeland to the 10-member board of the Presbyterian Publishing Corporation, after Florence Johnson had forwarded her name and the Board chair, Bob Bohl, advanced the nomination.
- u Dr. Ronald Stone attended the Assembly as an elected member of the Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy.
- u Justin Johnson, appeared before two Assembly committees, explaining the work of the Advisory Committee on Litigation (of which he is an elected member) before one committee, and served as a resource person to answer questions before the Health Issues Committee considering the issue of our church's policy on late-term abortions.

One of the more controversial issues at the Assembly was the Report of the Theological Task Force on Peace, Unity and Purity of the Church. The Task Force had worked for four years looking for ways to help our deeply-divided denomination stay together despite strongly divergent views on issues including the ordination of gay Presbyterians. After a heated but civil debate, an "authoritative interpretation" was adopted by a vote of 298–221 that maintains current ordination standards but gives Sessions and Presbyteries greater leeway in applying those standards to individual candidates for ordina-

tion.

Although the Assembly approved action favorable to establishing more autonomy in the local Presbyteries, at the same time it adopted a recommendation of the Committee on Church Orders, voting 405–92 with four abstentions, to keep G-6.0106b in our Book of Order, which section requires "fidelity within the covenant of marriage

Host One of Our Malawian Visitors This September

On Sept 21, 2006, our sisters and brothers from Malawi will arrive for a two-week stay in Pittsburgh Presbytery, with several staying at ELPC. Please consider hosting one of our visitors during one of the following times:

Sept 23 (after breakfast) through Sept 27 (when your guest will need to be at the Pittsburgh Presbytery for lunch) .

Sept 27 (from 3 pm) through Oct 3 (after dinner).

More information will be available in the September *Reaching Out* and also in upcoming Sunday bulletin announcements. Any question should be direct to Kay Shissler at 4 1 2 - 6 8 1 - 2 0 4 7 o r kshissler@juno.com.

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Koinonia Fellowship

All are invited to join us on Sunday, Aug 6 from 5:30 to 6:30 pm in the Courtyard, for a pot-luck supper and fellowship. A main course will be provided, but please bring a side dish or dessert to share. RSVP by Wednesday, Aug 2 to Heather Tunney at 412/441-3800 x14. Following our meal together, for those of you who wish to, plan to stay for the 7 pm Koinonia Service of Praise, which will also be in the Courtyard.



ELPC People

Thanks, In the Spotlight, Good News & Prayers

Thanks

The following is from Christian Education's Interim Director, the Rev. Cynthia Jackson, on this year's Vacation Bible School that was held from June 19 to the 23.

Our June Vacation Bible School was a great opportunity for 19 children and 34 youth and adults to be together and discover how children around the world are trying to 'build a better world.' Each day *Imani*, our friendly giraffe guide (played by Chuck Carson), took us to a different country—Bolivia, Sudan, Cambodia, Honduras, Ghana, and Pakistan—where we learned how children in these countries face many challenges. Heather Lawrence taught us new songs and we sang old favorites. Her singing could really get us moving and also remind us of God's caring love and gentle peace. Pastor Randy's prayers and Jane Sampson's snacks nourished us every day.

Thank you Ed Frick for teaching the children and youth that they could make toys to help other children! Thank you Julianne McAdoo for teaching the children and youth how to draw on fabric, make glass art, and imagine a better world. We got mighty messy with paint and glue sometimes, but we created toys, fabric swatches for a quilt, and a crop walk banner to use in October; and, we look forward to seeing the quilt in September! Thank you Jan Pressman for making a big tent for

your little folks and for helping them make something to take home every day!

Our helpers had just as much fun as the children because the spirit of being together was uplifting. Finally, thank you to all for letting your heart grow as big as *Imani's* and be filled with hope.

Good News

Congratulations on the Baptism of . . .

Elliott Dimond Stephany on June 25, 2006. Elliott was born April 16, 2006 to Robert Stephany and Molly



Calendar Highlights

August 2006

- 6 Communion
- 6 Koinonia Fellowship and Potluck Supper, 5:30 pm
- 6 Koinonia Service of Praise, 7 pm
- 13 ELPC Church Tour, 11:30 am
- 13-19 . Sr. High Chicago Mission Trip
- 20 9 am Summer Chapel Service
- 20 Picnic for Families w/Young Children at

the home of the Rev. Cynthia

Rally Day, Sept 10

Watch for our special Rally Day issue of the *Reaching Out* which will be mailed out in mid August. In that issue, you will find information on the many exciting classes and events we have planned for you on that day as well as for this fall—something for all ages—children, youth and adults!

ELPC Members in the Spotlight. . .



Valire Copeland

ELPC Session member Valire Copeland was elected to the Presbyterian Publishing House Board of Directors at the meeting of the 217th Presbyterian Church (USA) General Assembly held in Birmingham, Alabama, June 15–

At the biennial meeting of the Association of Theological Schools for America and Canada held in Chicago, June 24-26, ELPC member Florence Johnson was voted to continue a second term as a Public



Florence Johnson



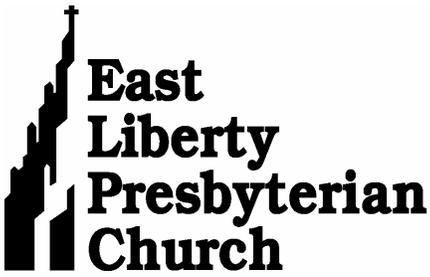
Jean Kennedy

On June 24, ELPC member Jean Kennedy was certified as a Parish Nurse for Health Ministry through



Elizabeth Turner

At their Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on June 12, The Commonwealth of PA Southwestern Veterans Center awarded ELPC member Elizabeth Turner a Certificate of Appreciation for her dedicated service as a volunteer in



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AUGUST 2006

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Additional Sunday Morning Worship

Chapel Worship
August 20, 9 am

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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 to become one in Christ."