



Newsletter of
The Cathedral of Hope

Reaching Out

www.cathedralofhope.org



November 2006

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

Vol. 26, No. 11

Stewardship Sunday, Nov 12

In this season of harvest time and giving thanks for all God's blessings, we will celebrate our church's Stewardship Sunday on **Nov 12** at the 11 am worship service. It is a time of looking back and looking forward: looking back over the past months and celebrating the growth in membership and new programs begun in our church in recent months, while looking ahead with expectancy to future opportunities and expanded Christian outreach.

On Stewardship Sunday, the church family brings forward their pledges of support, so we may be wise stewards of our financial resources. We also bring forward

gifts of food and personal care items to help provide our sisters and brothers around us with the basic necessities of life. The congregation is asked to review the Stewardship material mailed out recently, prayerfully decide on their level of giving for the coming year, and return a pledge card on Nov 12 as an expression of faithful commitment to the work of Christ through our church home.

If you have not yet received your pledge card or if you have any questions, contact Gloria Knopp in the church office at 412-441-3800 x22.



Thanksgiving Sunday, Nov 19

Celebrate ELPC's traditional Thanksgiving on Sunday, Nov 19. Immediately following the 11 am worship service, join us in the Social Hall to enjoy a wonderful family-style turkey dinner with all the trimmings. A \$9 per person donation will be appreciated. So that we can prepare enough food for everyone, please RSVP to Deborah at 412/441-3800 x17 no later than Tuesday, Nov 14.

Volunteer helpers needed. We need 10 to 12 people for each of the following chores to go quickly and smoothly: on **Saturday, Nov 18 (10 am)**—help set up tables in preparation for our Sunday feast; on **Sunday, Nov 19 (11:45 am)**—help serve our Thanksgiving meal and/or clean up immediately after the meal.

Please consider "giving" a little of your time to help out. If interested in volunteering, call Pam at 412/441-3800 x18 by Thursday, Nov 16 . . . and, "Thanks" in advance.



Sunday Morning Services

**Holy Communion is celebrated.*

- 8 am Good Samaritan Worship**
 * Nov 5 The Rev. Michelle Lee Wahila, Assoc. Pastor, Third Presbyterian Church.
 Nov 12 The Rev. Patricia Frick, retired Presbyterian minister.
 Nov 19 The Rev. Suzanne Bennett, retired Methodist minister.
 Nov 26 Guang Loa, student, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.
- 9 am Morning Glory Worship**
 * Nov 5 Nancy Klancher and the Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.
 Nov 12 The Rev. J. Howard Cherry.
 Nov 19 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.
 Nov 26 The Rev. Suzanne Bennett.
- 11 am Sanctuary Worship**
 * Nov 5 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.
 Nov 12 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.
 Nov 19 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.
 Nov 26 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.

Koinonia Service of Praise

2nd Sunday of each month.

- Nov 12 ELPC youth & young adults.... 7 pm

Holy Ground Service of Wholeness and Healing

bimonthly, March–November.

- Nov 26 Fr. William Kiel..... 6 pm

Labyrinth Prayer Walk

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

Taizé Prayer

- Wednesdays 7 pm
 The Rev. Christiane Dutton.



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

Reaching Out is a monthly publication of East Liberty Presbyterian Church and is free to members and friends.

**Pastoral Message**

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush, Pastor

“Taking Faithful Pauses”

November is a month of transitions. We move from admiring changing leaves to anticipating possible snowfall. By this month, we've made sure the house is winterized, the furnace is working, and have begun making plans for travel over the upcoming holiday seasons. In the church, although it feels as if we've barely started our fall programming, we glance up and recognize that it's time to start making plans for Advent and Christmas.

That is why it is a blessing that November contains two and one-half opportunities to stop and reflect on God's consistent and ever-present care for us. One opportunity is our Stewardship Sunday on Nov 12, when we consciously respond to God's plans for our congregation by dedicating our pledges and tithes to the ongoing ministry of this church. Another opportunity is Thanksgiving Day, a time to give thanks for all we've received while being ever mindful of how so many around us still lack the basic necessities of life. (The “half” opportunity comes on Election Day, which is a secular occasion but one that is shaped by our faithful reflection on how best to sustain God's vision of peace and justice in our democratic society.)

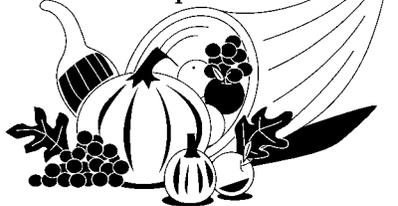
Taking “faithful pauses” during the month of November gives us a chance to catch our breath, to name our blessings, and look ahead with hope toward the coming new year. It is not something that need be limited to worship time or prayers around a Thanksgiving table. I suggest we each find five minutes a day to take a “faithful pause,” first in silence as we rediscover the sounds and details immediately around us and then in thoughtful meditation as we picture the people and ideals that bring meaning to our lives. It can be shaped by a verse of scripture: “Be still and know that I am God.” (Psalm 46:10); “My grace is sufficient for you.” (2 Corinthians 12:9); “I know the plans I have for you – plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.” (Jeremiah 29:11).

We cannot be a people of thanksgiving unless we take time to give thanks. We cannot be a people of justice unless we pause to reflect on what justice means in our world today. We cannot be a people of hope unless we see every transition as an opportunity to move into a new chapter of faithful engagement, trusting in the Lord who truly makes all things possible.

Randy Bush



Community
Thanksgiving
Worship



An ecumenical “Community Thanksgiving Service” will be held at Calvary Episcopal Church (315 Shady Avenue) on **Thursday, Nov 23 at 9:30 am**. Rev. Randy Bush will be delivering the sermon at this special service.

This service of songs, scripture, and communion will help us offer worshipful thanks to God for the blessings of this life.





Volunteer Opportunities: 10 Things You Can Do Right Now at ELPC

1. Add your name to our list of special events ushers by calling Norma Meyer.
2. Donate to ELPC any "Free Turkey" coupons you get this month from Giant Eagle or Shop 'n Save or any other store or business, or donate one yourself. Call Gloria Knopp.
3. Call Gloria Knopp and let her know you can help occasionally with church mailings.
4. Let Kelly Stanfill know you can assist with the kids at Extended Session occasionally.
5. Consider helping with the Communion Guild's preparation of the communion elements. Call Norma Meyer.
6. Donate a lunch (feeding up to 15 people) for one of our Sunday Youth Group meetings. Call Kelly Stanfill.
7. Volunteer to host the Christian Education "Welcome Table" for one Sunday from 9:30 to 9:45 am. Let Kelly Stanfill know you're interested.
8. Donate Suzuki music books (piano or violin) or African Djembe drums to Hope Academy of Music & the Arts by calling Norma Meyer.
9. Let Norma Meyer know if you're a pianist and available to help with occasional music needs.
10. If you've ever thought about tutoring for one or two hours a week, call Gloria Knopp.

If you would like to volunteer your time and talents to help with any of the above opportunities, call the church at 412-441-3800 and ask for the designated person listed above or their telephone extension: Norma Meyer x11, Gloria Knopp x22, Kelly Stanfill x19.



Session Action Items from October 2006 Meeting

- ◆ After several discussions concerning strategic plans and goals for our church's finances, the Session approved a motion to enter into a six-year cycle that will strive to balance our budget and significantly reduce our dependence on our endowment savings between now and 2011. The plan is to use benchmarks based on 5.6% of our endowment as the amount we can comfortably spend from our savings, while preserving the majority of the principal for long-term needs and maintenance of our church building. These guidelines will help us set annual budgets in the coming years and ensure we are being sound stewards of our church's financial resources.
- ◆ Session approved the request from Personnel Committee to submit paper-

work to Pittsburgh Theological Seminary for a Seminary Intern with emphasis in Community Mission and Community Development.

- ◆ Session approved the request from Personnel Committee to explore with the Presbytery the process for opening the position of Associate Pastor.
- ◆ Personnel Committee requested and was granted permission to advertise and conduct interviews with candidates for a part-time Visitation Pastor at ELPC. Final candidate would be brought before Session for approval.
- ◆ Session approved the reduction of Session members from 30 to 24. This is permitted in church by law. Reduction will be done over a three-year period.



Covenant Network Conference, Nov 9–11

The annual conference of the Covenant Network will be held Nov 9–11, 2006 at Broad Street Presbyterian Church in Columbus, Ohio. Among the featured speakers will be Rev. Dr. John Buchanan, Rev. Sheila Gustafson, Rev. Deborah Block, and Rev. Margaret Towner. There will be a special focus on the recent anniversary of women's ordination in the Presbyterian Church, as well as ongoing workshops and discussion about current ordination standards.

To register: www.covenantnetwork.org or call 415-351-2196.



Thanksgiving Bags for the EECM Food Pantry

Distribution—On **Sunday, Nov 5** before each worship service, empty "Thanksgiving Bags" will be distributed to the congregation. The bags will have stapled to them a Thanksgiving dinner list. (**Note:** bags will also be available in the church office during the week.) The Christian Education Ministry invites you or several folks together to fill a bag with as many of the following items as possible:



sweet potatoes
cranberry sauce
instant mashed potatoes
potatoes
gravy
can of vegetables
corn bread mix
stuffing mix
jelly

Offering—On Stewardship **Sunday, Nov 12** (one week before Thanksgiving Sunday), prior to the 11 am worship service, place your filled bag on one of the carts located at the Security Desk, in the Narthex or at the Whitfield entrance to the Sanctuary. During the offertory, ELPC children and youth will bring the bags forward for dedication.

For more information, contact Interim Director of Christian Education the Rev. Cynthia Jackson at 412/441-3800 x20.



FOTO September Fundraiser a Success

A heart-felt thank you to the congregation, and particularly the members of Friends of the Organ, who helped make the recent Book Sale and Scottish Tea fundraiser on Sept 17 a success. The event raised over \$625 for the restoration of the organ.



What's going on in INDIANAPOLIS?

ELPC Pipes of Glory Update

The Rev. Dr. J. Richard Szeremany

The past several issues of *Reaching Out* have carried information about the progress being made on the rebuilding of ELPC's Aeolian-Skinner pipe organ at the Goulding and Wood Organ Company's factory in Indianapolis. We will continue these "updates" until the project is completed, re-installed in the Sanctuary, and you hear its beautiful sounds once again.

Goulding and Wood sends ELPC several "pics-of-the-day" each week showing work in progress. You can view these photos on the church's web page by visiting www.cathedralofhope.org). Work is proceeding at a steady pace on rebuilding wind chests, creating new swell boxes, repairing, regulating and voicing the nearly 8,000 pipes of wood and metal, carving the linen-fold decorative panels for the console, continuing to fabricate the multitude of electronic systems which will operate the instrument. In short the Goulding and Wood factory and staff is now devoted entirely to the ELPC project.

In last month's *Reaching Out*, we mentioned that a trip to Indianapolis by interested ELPC folks could be arranged once the organ is totally set up and playing in the factory. This would coincide with Goulding and Wood's "Open House" public view of the instrument probably in mid-January or early February. The exact date will be determined as work progresses. Seventeen ELPC people have already expressed an interest in going. To get your name on the trip list, call Norma at 412-441-3800 x11.



"East Liberty Happenings"

Community Development Update Meeting

*When will Trader Joes and Borders open? What's going on with the Highland Building?
Will parking ever be any better around the church?*

The ELPC Community Development Committee, in its effort to keep the congregation up-to-date on the revitalization and redevelopment of the East Liberty Community, will host a Community Development Update meeting **Sunday, Nov 5** in the Chapel immediately following the 11 am worship service. Plan to attend to get an up-to-date review of several of the projects and developments that are in process and will soon come on line, and have your questions answered. Refreshments will be served.

Childcare: Please contact the Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy at 412-441-3800 x30 by Thursday, Nov 2, if on-site childcare is needed so that you may attend the meeting.



The ELPC Website Has a New Look!

The ELPC website has a new look! The design that had been in place for several years was replaced by a bright, easy-to-navigate layout. The concept was to present a site that was attractive and easy to travel through, as new and returning visitors sought information about programs, services and classes at the church. The new site is also colorful and dynamic, reflecting the wonderfully dynamic diversity that is the ELPC community; and, of course, the site is quite expansive as are the many ministries of the church.

Visitors will find the website organized by sections, each with its own unique color and focus—**About Us, Worship, Programs, Calendar, and Contact Us**. Traveling through the site can be navigated by several ways. One can begin with the home page and click on "What's New" and see the current and upcoming events and stories. One can also begin with areas of interest by opening the colorful drop-down menus under the section headings "About Us", etc, at the top of the page.

Another way of traveling the site that is key for finding the latest news and stories is

the Newsletter page (linked from every page on the left-hand column) But, the best way to find your way through the site is simply to dive in and click around—visit www.cathedralofhope.org.

This new look has been developed by Geri Toth, ELPC Communications Director, Jeffry Blake Johnson, ELPC Webmaster and the following ELPC Communications Committee members: Aeren Martinez and Jeannine Caracciolo (former members), Cliff Martin, Jill Berardi, Gwen Puza, Marshall Waddell and Jim Russ (current members), in cooperation with the ELPC Program Staff.

May this site be a blessing—a way of reaching out to help better connect those already a part of the ELPC community, as well as to those not currently part of the ELPC family, but who are seeking a loving supportive church community.

If you have any questions or comments about the new website, please feel free to write Webmaster Jeffry at elpcweb@owlweb.org.





Board of Deacons

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

Items for the Men's Shelter Collected Year-Round

This year the Deacons will be collecting items for the Men's Shelter throughout the year. Please consider purchasing and donating the following small items including—flip flops (various sizes), deodorant, disposable razors, toothbrushes, toothpaste, knit hats/scarves, men's gloves, sweat socks, and combs/picks—and placing them in the Deacons' box located near the Security Desk at the Highland entrance. The Board of Deacons would like to thank all those in advance who contribute to the Men's Shelter.

2006 The Giving Tree – Benefiting Children and Families in the East End

Every year just prior to the Christmas season, the Deacons organize The Giving Tree to benefit children and families from ELPC's Mission Ministries and Christian Education Ministry, as well as the East End Cooperative Ministry (EECM). The congregation has been wonderful in its support of these ministries through gift buying and/or monetary donations.

On Sundays, Nov 19, 26 and Dec 3, The Giving Tree, full of gift tags, will be set up near the Information Desk from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. If you wish to participate in gift giving, stop by The Giving Tree, select a gift tag containing gift and recipient information, and leave your name and phone number on the donor tag. Deacons will be available to help with any questions or concerns. Wrapped gifts, with tags securely attached, are due back in the church office no later than noon on Sunday, Dec 10.

If you would like to participate by donating money, please make the check out to "ELPC Giving Tree" and deliver it to the church office. The Board of Deacons thanks the congregation for its enthusiastic support of this ministry.



Taizé Prayer

The Rev. Christiane Dutton, Minister of Taizé Prayer

After-Taizé Classes

Wednesdays at 8:15 pm, following the 7 pm Taizé Prayer service. Second Floor Parlor.

Nov 1, 8 "Ecological Stewardship" What does the Bible and our faith say about creation, the environment? How can we be good stewards in the world? How do we balance taking care of our environment while living in a modern world? Led by John Titus, a member of Smithfield United Church of Christ (UCC), where he serves on church council and is a candidate for ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the UCC.

Nov 15 "Travelogue or What in the World is the World Council of Churches?" The Revs. Don and Christiane Dutton attended the Assembly of the World Council of Churches (WCC) in Harare, Zimbabwe in December 1998;

during our time together, they will share with you their experiences, show slides, and talk about the WCC.

Nov 22 No class.

Nov 29 Celebrations. Join us after our Taizé service for celebration cake. If you celebrate a birthday, milestone or an anniversary in November, write your name on a piece of paper and put it in the offering plate during the month.

Bread & Soup Meal and Fellowship

All are invited to join us in the McKelvey Room for a bread and soup meal and fellowship (\$2.50 donation)—**Nov 29** 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 to, plan to stay for our weekly 7 pm Taizé Prayer service in the Chapel.



ELPC's New Health Ministry Initiative Offers Free Blood Pressure Screening

Do you know your blood pressure numbers? Anyone can suffer high blood pressure without knowing it which could make one susceptible to a stroke or worse.

On **Sundays Nov 19 and Dec 17** following the 11 am worship service, our new Health Ministry Initiative will be in the first floor Library to offer free blood pressure screenings to help individuals take control of their health and wellness. Take a few minutes to care for yourself by participating . . . and, here's to good health!

For more information, contact Lois Lang (x41) or Patrice Fowler-Searcy (x30) at 412-441-3800.





Christian Education

The Rev. Cynthia Jackson, Interim Director

Christian Education is the life-long process of learning and living in relationship to God, our neighbors, and ourselves. Through the study of scripture and the practice of prayer, we begin to understand our life experiences as they relate to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Come and join us! Your questions, insights, doubts, and concerns are welcome.

Church School

Sunday mornings, 9:45 to 10:45 am

Classes for all ages are offered. All classes are in wheelchair accessible locations. There are also wheelchair accessible restrooms. For details about any CE class, contact Interim Director of Christian Education the Rev. Cynthia Jackson at cynthiaj@coh.net or 412-441-3800 x20, or you can obtain information at the "Welcome Table" on the second floor.

FOR CHILDREN

Our hope is that each child will develop an intimate, personal relationship with God through formative experiences. By combining stories from the Bible with spiritual practices, the children grow in their capacity to understand God's place in their lives and in the world. Caring teachers are fundamental to the joy on Sunday mornings.

Young Children's Ministry: Infants to 2 year olds First Floor – Nursery Suite
 Pre-school: Ages 3, 4, and 5 (not in kindergarten) Second Floor – Room 240
 Kindergarten and Grade 1 Third Floor – Room 336
 Grades 2 and 3 Third Floor – Room 338
 Grades 4 and 5 Third Floor – Room 335

YOUTH CLASSES

For Church School classes offered for youth in grades 6 through 12, see page 8 for details.

ADULTS CLASSES

Adult classes offer opportunities to study the Bible, explore your faith, reflect upon parenting, or be inspired by the faith journeys of others.

Parenting Circle **First Floor, Harambe Room**

This class provides the opportunity for anyone involved in parenting—singles, couples, adoptive parents, grandparents, guardians, mentors, etc.—to discuss those questions that arise when caring for children. By sharing experiences, resources, prayer and scripture, we will learn and grow together, exploring how faith impacts family life. Francis Irvin facilitates the class. Topics and leadership come from those who participate. All are welcome.

Journey with Scripture Class *(formerly Lectionary Bible Study)* **Second Floor Library**

Using the Revised Common Lectionary, this class studies and reflects upon the scriptures appointed for Year B. Copies of the texts are available weekly along with the readings for the rest of the year. All are welcome. Prior familiarity with the Bible is not necessary.

Nov 5 "Leaving Home." Ruth 1:1-18; Psalm 146; Hebrews 9:11-14; Mark 12: 28-34.

Nov 12 "Courage for Survival." Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17; Psalm 127; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12: 38-44.

Nov 19 "Justice and Joy." 1 Samuel 1:4-20; 1 Samuel 2:1-10; Hebrews 10:11-14, 19-25; Mark 13:-8.

Nov 26 "Circle of Hope." 2 Samuel 23:1-7; Psalm 132:1-12; Revelation 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37.

Contemporaries Class

Second Floor Parlor

The Contemporaries Class is an intergenerational community of caring adults united in their focus upon Bible reading and meditation. By teaching and applying the principles found in scripture, one discovers wisdom and the path of discipleship. Individuals at all stages of faith are welcome to come and be part of the adventure!

Nov 5 "Relationships and Experiences...Literature and Lessons that Continue to Shape My Spiritual Journey." Led by Rodney Teague.

Nov 12, 19 "Thanks-Giving." First we will examine how we give to God and others, as well as identifying our own spiritual gifts. The second week we will examine our theory and practice of gratitude. Putting our beliefs into action, we will spend time together giving thanks. Led by Wil Forrest.

Nov 26 "All God's World is a Stage." The intersection between Acting 101 and reading the Bible. We will look at how an actor prepares for a role and how this technique can apply to intentional reading of the Bible. (No, we will not be doing skits!) Led by Beth Bush.

Seekers Class

Room 234

This class explores issues of faith and spiritual growth in an open, supportive, and accepting atmosphere. This year Seekers are exploring some of the "big questions" of the Christian faith, how to live them well, bringing our beliefs into dialogue with the wide world around us, as well as a plurality of religious traditions. New members are always welcome.

Oct 28, Nov 5 "Does God Continue to Offer Prophetic Revelation to Us Today?" The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush, ELPC's Senior Pastor, leads a discussion on: Does God or the Holy continue to offer prophetic revelation to us today? How? Through whom?

Seekers Class, continued on page 5.

Seekers Class, continued. . .

Nov 12, 19 "How Do We EXPRESS the Holy? (Visual Arts)." Come and explore ways to express and experience the Holy through the visual arts. ELPC member Chuck Carson will lead us in considering how creativity is the continual, Divine, transformative energy force available to us all. We are born to manifest the glory of God within us. Using our creativity is our gift to God, to ourselves, and to each other.

Nov 26, Dec 3 "How Do We EXPERIENCE the Holy? EPLC members Bobby Egelston and Joe Hajdu will welcome questions and concerns about prayer in these sessions on a variety of ways of praying and being with God. *Lectio Divina*, Centering Prayer, and a form of walking the labyrinth will be among the approaches discussed.



CE Children's NEWS!

Children Help with the EECM Thanksgiving Project

On Sun, Nov 5, the children will be invited to help distribute large brown bags for the collection of food for the EECM Food Pantry Thanksgiving Giving (see article on page 3). Then, on Sunday, Nov 12 at 11 am worship, children and youth will present the bags of food during the offering.

Parents and guardians are asked to share this project with their children—help them to read the list of food items; talk about costs; explain how feeding a family of three differs from feeding a family of six or seven. When we share with others from our abundance, we are trying to make justice happen. Perhaps your child(ren) would like to draw or write a thanksgiving card to be returned with your bag of food. Please pray with your child(ren) for the people who will receive your bag. Caring about all of God's people matters.

2006-07 Children's Church School Offering Project

The Christian Education Committee has decided this year's children's Church School offering will go to support the ministry of Chenoa Stock who is serving in Sri Lanka. Chenoa has been called by the Presbyterian Church (USA) to serve as a Mission Co-Worker. She is the Companionship Facilitator for the new *Joining Hands* hunger network in Sri Lanka (an extension of the Presbyterian Hunger Program) and will be working with the network to study the grass-root issues of hunger, poverty, and injustice within the country.

The children will have the opportunity to learn about Sri Lanka, to pray for Chenoa and her ministry, and to save some money for their offering envelope. The envelopes will be distributed and collected in Church School on Sunday mornings. As a family, I hope that you will look for Sri Lanka on a globe or map and help your child to think about life in this part of the world. For more information about *Joining Hands*, contact the Rev. Cynthia Jackson at 412-441-3800.

Joyful Noise Children's Choir Practice



The Joyful Noise Children's Choir continues to welcome new children. The choir practices twice a month on Sunday morning at 9:15 am in the Sanctuary. In November, the children will be practicing on **Sundays, Nov 12 and 19**. Robyn Peterson of the Chancel Choir is the director; Bethan Neely plays the piano. The children will be singing during 11 am worship on Nov 12, lifting up the theme of "Giving." For more information, contact Robyn Peterson 412-875-6382 or the Rev. Cynthia Jackson at 412-441-3800. All children are welcome!



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.

Two baskets are available for food dropped off—one inside the Highland Avenue entrance to the church and the second at the top of the stairs on the second floor.

November's item: PASTA



2007 Stewardship Campaign

This year's Stewardship Campaign theme is "Celebrate God's Work Here!" Your pledge is a way of saying, "God's work here is important to me." We will dedicate our 2007 pledges in worship on Sunday, Nov 12 (see article on page 1). So, please take some time now to prayerfully consider your pledge.

- ◆ If you do not regularly support the church, consider a pledge of 2% or more of your income.
- ◆ If you already pledge, consider increasing your pledge to 10% or more.

"God loves a cheerful giver."
2 CORINTHIANS 9:7



Oikocredit Sunday, Dec 3

Oikocredit is a worldwide cooperative society which promotes global justice by challenging people, churches and others to share their resources through socially responsible investments, and by empowering disadvantaged people with credit. As such, Oikocredit is an organization that lends money to cooperatives in mostly third-world countries to start businesses. They are also involved in micro-finance.

ELPC as a church is heavily invested in Oikocredit and wants to encourage individuals to invest. On Sunday, Dec 3 immediately following the 11 am worship service, there will be a table set up in the McKelvy Room during Fellowship Time where representatives from Oikocredit will be available to talk to individuals about investing in Oikocredit.

Sponsored by the Justice & Global Concerns Committee of ELPC.



SUNDAY, NOV 12

Koinonia Service of Praise

All are invited to Youth & Young Adults' Koinonia Service of Praise on Sunday, Nov 12 at **7 pm** in the third floor Music Room. Heather Tunney will be preaching on Nov 12.

Koinonia Fellowship and Potluck Supper

Prior to the 7 pm Koinonia Service of Praise on Sunday, Nov 12, all are welcome to gather with us for our Koinonia Fellowship and potluck supper in the Second Floor Parlor at **6 pm**. A main course will be provided, but please bring a side dish or dessert to share. RSVP by Wednesday, Nov 8 to Heather Tunney.

Koinonia Fellowship and Service are held the second Sunday of each month.



Youth & Young Adult Ministries

Heather Tunney, Director
412-441-3800 x14

YOUTH (grades 6–12)

Crestfield's Junior High Retreat: "A Biography of _____"

Fun. Praise. Discipleship. Just a few words to describe Crestfield's 2006 Junior High Retreat, **Friday, Nov 17–Saturday, Nov 18**. Join us for 24 hours that will be devoted to nurturing those of junior-high-school age in your walk with Jesus Christ. Experiential worship, interactive workshops, and just plain ol' camp fun highlight this annual retreat.

We will meet at ELPC at 6 pm on Friday and leave by 6:30, and return by 8 pm Saturday evening. RSVP and permission slip are required. Contact Heather by Sunday, Nov 5 for retreat details and to RSVP.

Sunday Church School, 9:45 to 10:45 am

"Seasons of the Spirit" curriculum is used which follows the revised common lectionary readings for each week. Grades 6, 7, 8 in Room 341; grades 9, 10, 11, 12 in Room 343.

ELPC Sunday Youth Group

Sundays, 12:30 to 3 pm. Open to all youth in grades 6-12. We will meet for lunch, Bible Study and fellowship in Room 51 (ground floor). **Note:** On Nov 19, our Youth Group will gather together to share in the church-wide Thanksgiving dinner in the Social Hall; no Youth Group on Sunday, Nov 26.

Youth Basketball

Youth Basketball is held on **Saturdays, 5 to 8 pm, in the ELPC Gym**. To participate, contact Heather. **Note:** No Youth Basketball on Saturdays, Nov 18 and 25.

YOUNG ADULTS (in their 20s and 30s)

Sunday Church, 9:45 to 10:45 am

See Christian Education for adult Church School classes, pages 6 and 7.

Young Adult Study Group

Our Young Adult Study Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from **7 to 9 pm** in the Pastor's Conference Room. This fall we will be taking a journey through God's covenants, and examining the theological issues involved through several different theological lenses within the Reformed tradition. You do not need to be a scholar to attend this study group—just come with questions and an open mind! November themes: **Nov 14**—"Creation"; **Nov 28**—"God's Trouble Shooting Techniques: A Look at Sin and Suffering." For more information, contact Heather.

20/30s Advent Retreat — "Seeking God"

If you are a young adult in your 20s or 30s, please join us for our fall Advent Retreat at Camp Crestfield from **Friday, Dec 8–Saturday, Dec 9**. Led by Heather Tunney. Take some time during your Advent journey for 24 hours of prayer, worship, fellowship and camp fun with other young adults in the ELPC Community. Childcare can be arranged upon request so that young adults who are parents can participate in this retreat.

We will leave ELPC by 7 pm Friday and return by 8 pm Saturday. RSVP required by Sunday Nov 19. Cost: \$30/person. Scholarship assistance is available for those in need. Call Heather for details and to RSVP.





Worship Music & The Arts

The Rev. Dr. J. Richard Szeremany, Director

Worship, Music & Arts Opportunities

For more information about any of the following activities, call Dr. Richard Szeremany at 412-441-3800 x24.

◆ Chancel Guild

Under the auspices of the Worship Committee, the Chancel Guild takes on the responsibilities of caring for the vessels and preparing the elements used in our two Sacraments: **Holy Communion and Baptism**. The group involves itself in the preparation of the elements (Bread and the Cup) used in Holy Communion. There are opportunities for several small groups (4-6) to meet to prepare the trays of bread and cups of sacramental juice for each Communion worship. There are other groups needed to clean and polish the silver trays and other Communion and Baptismal vessels.

- ◆ **Chancel Choir.** A most congenial, welcoming group of about 23 singers who find themselves with a variety of musical capabilities, but who apply their talents diligently and produce some beautiful and exciting music for worship. Rehearsals take place on Thursdays at 7 pm in the third-floor Music Room.

- ◆ **ELPC Instrumental Ensemble.** We are presently looking for additional players who have some experience playing string, brass woodwind and percussion instruments. Rehearsals are about 40-minutes long on Sundays following 11 am worship.

- ◆ **Handbell Ringers.** We've got room for three more ringers—ages high school through no age limit who have a good understanding of musical notation. We meet on Thursdays at 6 pm in the third-floor Conservatory.

- ◆ **Choir Chime Choir.** Choir chimes are lovely, gentle sounding hand-held percussion instruments which are less heavy than handbells but provide rich, musical sounds. We are looking for 6–8 adults who read music and can make a commitment to a rehearsal schedule during the daytime hours.



Holy Ground Service

A Service of Prayers for Wholeness & Healing

Sunday, Nov 26

6 pm, in the Sanctuary



Join us in the beauty of the ELPC Sanctuary for a contemplative service of prayer, singing, scripture reading and a time of blessing. Our service will be led by **Fr. William Kiel** of St. Bernard of Clarivaux in Indiana, Pennsylvania.

This December — Sunday Afternoon Advent/Christmas Concerts

More information to come, but for now, mark your calendar to reserve these three dates—**Sundays, Dec 3, 10 and 17.**

Plan to stay following the 11 am worship service for these early afternoon (2 pm) concerts. Each concert will be preceded by a light luncheon of soup, sandwich, dessert and beverage. If you choose to attend the luncheon, reservations will be required. Watch for details in our special Advent issue of the *Reaching Out*.



3 Sunday evenings
Dec 3, 10 and 17
5 to 8 pm

Identify and honor your real meaning for the holiday. What is Christ doing in us anew this Advent season? In addition to your personal reflection, let us share our realizations. Let's witness and affirm His incarnation in each other. Sponsored by ELPC's Spiritual Life Ministry.

"My Own Workshop" format:

- ◆ small-group dialogue;
- ◆ sharing and confidentiality;
- ◆ self-directed; only the mildest guidance;
- ◆ commitment to all 3 Sundays;
- ◆ reflection between sessions and thereafter;
- ◆ limited to 12 participants.

Register now to secure a spot. To be held at Siemasko's home in Squirrel Hill. For more details, call Patsy or Dan at 412-421-1885, or siemasko@peoplepc.com.





Presbyterian Women

Heather Lawrence,
Moderator

Celebration of the Ordination of Women Event

Everyone invited—*men and women*—to Pittsburgh Presbytery’s special event honoring the ordination of women as deacons, elders, and as ministers of Word and Sacrament, on **Sunday, Nov 12** at Bethany Presbyterian Church in Bridgeville. The Rev. Dr. Dale Lindsay Morgan from Santa Barbara, California will present a biblical dramatization of Women from the Bible. A worship celebration will be held at 4 pm followed by a celebration dinner (\$15 for dinner). For more information or to register, please contact Penny Young at the Presbytery Office, 412-323-1400 x320 or pyoung@pghpresbytery.org.

2006-07 Horizons Bible Study

All women at ELPC are invited to participate in this year’s Horizons Bible Study—“In the Beginning: Perspectives on Genesis” by Celia Brewer Sinclair—based on 9 lessons, one each month. Choose to attend a time that fits your schedule best.

November: Lesson #3

“Perspectives on Sibling Rivalry: Cain & Abel” (Genesis 4:1-16)

First Tuesday MORNING, Nov 7

10 am sharing, prayer, opening devotions
10:30 am Bible Study
11:30 am Lunch, soup provided, bring bread, salad or fruit to share

Fourth Tuesday EVENING, Nov 28

5:45 pm fellowship and a soup-and-bread meal
6:30 pm Bible Study

Heather Lawrence (Presbyterian Women Moderator) at 412-486-0826, Mary Alice Lightle at 412-682-1504 or Kay Shissler (for the evening study) at 412-681-2047.



Justice & Global Concerns

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

Women and Children’s Taskforce – Field Learning Project

The Field Learning Project, now in its second year, provides field trips to recently arrived Somalia Bantu and Burmese children. These trips are designed to help the children make connections with cultural institutions and diverse people in their community.

Again this year, the project is in need of volunteers for each monthly trip—chaperones, drivers, and help with breakfast preparation. Our first field trip this fall is for the teen group to go to the Heinz History Center on **Saturday, Nov 18**. Volunteer time commitment is as follows:

- 9:30 am arrive at Islamic Community Center (ICC)
- 10 to 10:30 am . . . students arrive; breakfast
- 10 to 1 pm History and Sports Museum
- 1 pm return to ICC; dismissal

Please note that these times are approximate. If you would like to volunteer for this event or explore other volunteer needs connected to the Field Learning Program, please contact Junghwa Oh at 412-401-5745 or fieldlearning@hotmail.com or Judy Menk at 412-798-8569 or JAMenk@comcast.net.

Dates for future Saturday field trips: Dec 9 (2006); Jan 20, Feb 17, March 17, April 21, May 5 and June 16 (2007).

just neighbors

An Educational/Interactive Workshop sponsored by the Poverty Taskforce

All are invited to participate in a free, 9-session educational and interactive workshop—*Just Neighbors*—as we examine the roots of poverty and our response to the needs of our neighbors. A different topic will be covered at each session.

“Making Ends Meet” (Money Matters)

Led by Justin Johnson

Saturday, Nov 18 at 5:30 pm
ELPC, Room 234

During our time together we will gather for fellowship, faith exploration, and a potluck supper followed by our workshop. Call Nancy Speed at 412-826-9243.

Note: Childcare, by reservation only, will be available during the presentation portion of the evening. Call Kelly at 412-441-3800 x19.

No session in December. In 2007: Jan 20—Decisions & Choices; Feb 10—Low-income Workers; Mar 3—Where Would You Live?, Mar 24—Racism & Poverty, Apr 21—Children in Poverty, May 19—Economic Inequality, June 16—Conclusion



G E T - T O G E T H E R





ELPC People
Good News, Thanks and Prayers

Good News

Congratulations to *Heather Tunney*, ELPC Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, for passing her ordination examinations in the areas of Worship, Theology, Bible Exegesis and Church Polity.

Baptisms: Sunday, Oct 8, *Samuel Michael Iannone*, son of Elizabeth and James Iannone; Sunday, Oct 22, *Patsy Wheeler*.

ELPC extends a warm welcome to the following new members and friends who were received by the Session on Sunday, Oct 8:

Reaffirmation of Faith—Pamela Ferrante, Emily Fujita.

Certificate of Transfer—Erik Ness, Kimberly Johnson Ness, Victor Warren, Seldon Whitaker, Jr., Susan Whitaker.

Received into membership from Friend of ELPC to Member—Elaine Bellin (*Reaffirmation of Faith*), Noel Clive (*Reaffirmation of Faith*), Peta Cole (*Reaffirmation of Faith*), Junghwa Oh (*Reaffirmation of Faith*), Caterina Rosano (*Profession of Faith*), Patsy Wheeler (*Profession of Faith*).

Received as Friend of ELPC— Enrico Novelli.

Prayers

Our prayers and sympathies are with the following ELPC members and staff. . .

Geri Toth and her family on the death of her father *John Toth* on Sept 25. Geri is on staff at ELPC as the Communications Director. *Geri* would like to thank all the members, friends and staff of ELPC for their prayers, cards and support with the passing of her father.

Laura Ristau and her family on the death of her father *Oliver Rieley* on Sept 28.

The family of ELPC member *Lorraine Ambrose* who died on Sept 29. Lorraine was a member of ELPC since Sept 2003.

Heather Tunney and her family on the death of her grandfather *John (Jack) Tunney* on Oct 2. Heather is on staff at ELPC as Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries. *Heather* would like to thank all the members, friends and staff of ELPC for their prayers, cards and support with the passing of her grandfather.

Roy Hiller and family on the death of his wife *Helyn (Croft) Hiller* on Oct 7. Helyn was a member of ELPC for 60 years.

Gena Stancati and her family on the death of her husband *Marcello Stancati* on Oct 15. Gena is on staff at ELPC with Housekeeping.

Florence Frew and family on the death of her brother *William Rasp* on Oct 15.



Calendar Highlights

November 2006

- 4.....Justice & Global Concerns Retreat
- 5.....Communion
- 5.....Domestic Violence Awareness Sunday
- 10.....CHURCH BUILDING CLOSED
- 12.....Stewardship Sunday
- 12.....Thanksgiving food collection
- 12.....Celebration of the Ordination of Women
 (Bethany Presbyterian Church, Bridgeville)
- 12.....Koinonia Fellowship and Potluck
 Supper, 6 pm
- 12.....Koinonia Service of Praise, 7 pm
- 17,18....Jr. High Retreat at Camp Crestfield
- 18.....Poverty Taskforce: "Just Neighbors"
 Educational and Interactive Workshop and
 Pot-luck Dinner, 5:30 pm
- 19.....Thanksgiving Sunday and dinner in the
 Social Hall
- 19.....ELPC Health Ministry Blood Pressure
 Screening
- 23, 24...CHURCH BUILDING CLOSED
- 26.....Holy Ground Service of Wholeness and
 Healing with Fr. William Kiel, 6 pm
- 27.....CHURCH BUILDING CLOSED



CHURCH BUILDING CLOSED

Friday. . . . Nov 10

Thursday. .Nov 23

Friday. . . . Nov 24

Monday. . .Nov 27

(Labyrinth is also unavailable
 for walking)



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ELPC Reaching Out Newsletter ♦ November 2006

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Worship & Music Opportunities
Celebration of Ordination of Women
Presbyterian Women's Horizon's Bible Study
Poverty Taskforce: "Just Neighbors" Workshop

. . .AND, MORE!

