

Reaching Out

newsletter of east liberty presbyterian church

October 2009

Lisa Larges Visits

Sun., Oct. 11



ELPC is pleased to welcome guest lecturer and preacher Lisa Larges, Minister Coordinator for That All May Freely Serve—a Presbyterian advocacy group.

Lisa graduated from St. Olaf College in 1985, and San Francisco Theological Seminary in 1989. A lifelong Presbyterian, she is a candidate for ministry under care of the Presbytery of San Francisco, being honest about her identity as a lesbian and gifted with a sincere call to Presbyterian ministry. When the Rev. Janie Spahr retired in 2007 from leading TAMFS, Lisa was asked to be the group's Minister Coordinator. Her role is to

lead TAMFS in its work for "an inclusive church that honors diversity and welcomes LGBT persons as full members" (TAMFS Mission Statement). Lisa is a gifted speaker, having preached at numerous national conferences, and is a compelling advocate for full inclusion in the Presbyterian Church.

On **Sun., Oct. 11**, she will lead a combined Adult Christian Education class at 9:45 am, in the Chapel, and preach at the 11 am, worship service.

Mission Luncheon

Tues., Oct. 13, at ELPC



Find out what God is doing in the world at a potluck lunch at 12:15 pm, on **Tues., Oct. 13**.

Our guest will be Sue Ellen Hall, who spent 22 years in Presbyterian Church (USA) mission service, mostly as an English teacher. She has served in Hangzhou, China with the Amity Foundation; as a Diaconate worker in Salatiga, Indonesia; and most recently as a mission co-worker in Khartoum, Sudan.

Sue Ellen's visit to Pittsburgh is part of the PC (USA)'s World Mission Challenge 2009. She is among several

mission workers visiting 150 Presbyteries this fall to connect congregations with the work of PC (USA) mission workers and emphasize the church's commitment to partnership.

Sue Ellen notes, "In places that the world calls poor, I was constantly amazed by the abundance of kindness, laughter, hospitality, and love shown to this sojourner. God is good, all the time. All the time, God is good!"

If you're interested in mission or Africa, plan to attend this event. Please bring a dish to share; utensils and beverages are provided. If you have questions, please call Amanda Nolan at **412.441.3800 x34**.

Sunday Morning Services

* Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Good Samaritan Worship • 8 am

Liturgist: George Rivers

- Oct. 4* The Rev. James Snyder, *Minister, Liberty Presbyterian Church*
- Oct. 11 The Rev. Ann Morris, *Member-at-Large, Pittsburgh Presbytery*
- Oct. 18 The Rev. Clifton A. Anthony, *Assistant Minister, New Bethlehem Baptist Church*
- Oct. 25 The Rev. David Carver, *Pastor, First United Presbyterian Church, Crafton Heights*

Journey Worship • 8:45 am

- Oct. 4* The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
- Oct. 11 The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
- Oct. 18 The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
- Oct. 25 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush

Sanctuary Worship • 11 am

- Oct. 4* The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush
- Oct. 11 Lisa Larges
- Oct. 18 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush
- Oct. 25 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush

Koinonia Service of Praise

Second Sunday of each month • 7 pm

- Oct. 11 Brian Diebold

Holy Ground Service

Third Sunday, March-November • 6 pm

Held in the Garth, Weather Permitting

- Oct. 18 The Rev. Tami Hooker

Labyrinth Prayer Walk

Mondays • 10 am-3 pm

Wednesdays • 10 am-9 pm

Taizé Prayer Service

Wednesdays • 7 pm

The Rev. Christiane Dutton

Save the Dates

- Oct. 3:** Anniversary Organ Recital, pg. 6
- Oct. 4:** Spiritual Life Sampler, pg. 6
- Oct. 11:** Lisa Larges Visits, pg. 1
- Oct. 13:** Mission Luncheon, pg. 1
- Oct. 18:** Deacon's Bake Sale
- Oct. 24:** Oktoberfest, pg. 4
- Oct. 25:** Visitor's Sunday, pg. 3
- Nov. 1:** EECM Houses of Worship Architectural Tour, pg. 6
- Nov. 9:** An Evening of Spectacular Organ Transcriptions
- Nov. 14:** Pgh. Symphony Orchestra
- Nov. 21:** Pgh. Gospel Choir Concert

East Liberty Presbyterian Church



The Cathedral of Hope
116 South Highland Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Tel: 412.441.3800

Fax: 412.441.4422

www.cathedralofhope.org

Office Hours

Monday–Friday, 9 am–5 pm

Sunday, 9 am–12:30 pm

Staff Leadership

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
Pastor

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Associate Pastor for Educational Ministries

Linda Addlespurger
Director of Hope Academy

The Rev. Miriam Chamberlain
Visitation Pastor

Brian Diebold
Youth and Young Adult Ministry Intern

The Rev. Christiane Dutton
Minister of Taizé Prayer

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

Pamela M. Kimmel
Business Administrator

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

Christine March
Seminary Intern

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

Jon Tyillian
Associate Director of Music

Paul Martin
Supervisor of Security and Hospitality

Reaching Out Newsletter

Reaching Out is a monthly publication of East Liberty Presbyterian Church and is free to members and friends. Deadlines are the first Tuesday of the preceding month.

Pastoral Message

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush, Pastor



*"You'll wait a long, long time for anything much
To happen in heaven beyond the floats of cloud
And the Northern Lights that run like tingling nerves."*

(Taken from Robert Frost's "On Looking Up By Chance at the Constellations")

No one denies that much of our life is spent focused on our own life. The entire universe swirls around us, and yet we exist each day as if we are the center of the universe. We do this because, to some extent, we are the center of the universe. All the information we receive about the world around us comes to us through our sensory organs and personal consciousness. We are like the prism through which the white light of the universe is refracted and then split into a rainbow of colors, which we name "nature," "family," "science," and "God."

This activity can be exhausting. We are constantly processing information about the world around us (Are we safe? Is that person a friend or foe? What will tomorrow bring?), even as we know that: 1.) we are aware of only a fraction of the activity around us; and 2.) we can never predict what tomorrow holds. It can fill us with anxiety and a sense of hopelessness about our human condition.

"The sun and moon get crossed, but they never touch...

We may as well go patiently on with our life,

And look elsewhere than to stars and moon and sun

For the shocks and changes we need to keep us sane."

Faith is about perspective—both seeing things in perspective and keeping things in perspective. If we are the center of the universe, then our existential angst is justified, for we can never be equal to the task of understanding all that is and all that will be, given our limited human capabilities. But when we look at the heavens, when we consider the moon and the stars above (cf. Psalm 8), we are presented with a different perspective—of a wonder, order, and immensity that assures us there must be some other center of the universe than our meager body and soul. The fact that, as Frost says, nothing much happens up there, where planets travel along their heavenly parabolas and galaxies continue their steady race toward the outer boundaries of the universe, is actually a source of comfort for all of us wrapped up in our busy, earthbound existence.

Frost's contemplation of the constellations ends with this poignant line: *"That calm seems certainly safe to last tonight."* At the center of the universe is a calm, a calm that has been revealed to be consistent, patient, intentional, and loving. Even more miraculous, this calm is personal in that it has been personified in Jesus Christ, the eternal Wisdom and Heart made flesh. So while the Hubble telescope reminds us of quasars in the heavens, and the daily paper reminds us of upheavals here on Earth, there is a deeper calm that is neither disrupted or disturbed by the goings-on of the universe. *"That calm seems certainly safe to last tonight."* Thanks be to God.

Randy Bush

Nominations for Church Officers

The Nominating Committee is seeking recommendations for members willing to serve as officers, elders, and deacons. Terms are usually three years. If you discern God's call to service, speak to Elders Don Breitbarth and Gloria Ritchey.



Session News

At their recent meeting, the Session:

- Prepared to welcome new elders, **Mark DeWitt** and **Caterina Rosano**.
- Received an update on the 2010 budget development process, including positive information about reductions occurring thus far in 2009, and the expectation of reaching our targets for 2010. In general, committee areas are looking at 15% reductions in program and operating budgets for in 2010. The goals for the second year of a five-year plan to eliminate ELPC's "excess draw" from its endowment remain on target.
- Considered an overture for Pittsburgh Presbytery brought forward by the Mission Committee's Peace taskforce.

Congratulations, Brian!



Join us in celebrating the ordination of Brian Diebold, which was held at Brian's home church in Iowa, on Sept. 27. Brian served as an intern at ELPC during his Senior year at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, where he graduated with distinction in 2008.

We've been blessed that Brian has continued his ministry here through part-time work with our ELPC youth and young adults. Brian has been called to serve as the Designated Pastor of Verona United Presbyterian Church. We rejoice that God has called Brian to pastoral ministry here in Pittsburgh Presbytery! As Brian's position at Verona is part-time, he will continue to lead our Young Adult Ministries and help on Wednesday evenings with club one sixteen. Please keep Brian, his wife Kim and the congregation of Verona UP Church in your prayers during this exciting time!

Health Ministry

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

New Exercise Classes

Zumba, *Thursdays, from 6–7 pm, in the Sewing Room*

Zumba combines high energy and motivating music with unique moves. Led by LuAnn Ross, it's based on the principle that workouts should be fun and easy. Please bring a non-perishable food item to benefit the EECM food pantry.

Yoga, *Tuesdays, at 7 pm, in the Sewing Room*

Relax and renew your body, mind and spirit through Yoga with Yamuna, a Kripalu-certified instructor! Yoga is effective in toning muscles, increasing flexibility, detoxifying the body, increasing joint lubrication, and massaging organs. Wear comfortable clothing that allows for a full range of motion. Bring a blanket or mat if you have one. Donations for the instructor are appreciated.

Tai Chi, *Tuesdays, in the Sewing Room, time to be determined*

Experience the flowing movements of Tai Chi and treat your body to a relaxing workout. Tai Chi aids in the reduction of stress; increases energy, agility, and flexibility; and improves muscle strength and definition. Tai Chi classes will be led by instructor Judy Crow. Attend 10 classes for \$25, pre-registration is required. Contact Amanda Nolan to register.

Contact Amanda Nolan at **412.441.3800 x34** for more information on classes.

Stewardship Update.

"Rekindle the Gift of God Within Me" (2 Timothy 1:6). This is the theme of our 2009 Stewardship Campaign. Like a candle awaiting a match, or a glowing ember awaiting a draft of air, our prayer is that God's Spirit will blow over ELPC so that our faith will be rekindled.



Stewardship is about conscious acts of "rekindling," committing anew to lead lives of outward witness and inward faith, committing afresh to the discipline of providing financial resources to further the ministry of Christ through our church.

Reflect on the Stewardship material that will be mailed out in October. Join our church family on Stewardship Sunday, **Nov. 8**, as we openly rekindle our faith through the gifts and pledges presented during worship that day.

Visitor's Sunday

Sun., Oct. 25, at 11 am

It's no secret that our church is alive with vibrant worship services and committed programs of community mission. Visitor's Sunday is your chance to share this "non-secret!"

Worship will highlight aspects of all of our regular services, so that church friends and family can better appreciate the range of worship opportunities available at ELPC. This is an excellent time to invite a neighbor or friend!

A special dessert reception follows in the Social Hall. This event is sponsored by the Membership and Outreach Committee, and the Stewardship Committee.



Invite a Neighbor to Church

Church School Classes

Sundays, 9:45–10:45 am

Note: Guest Lisa Larges will lead a combined Adult Education class on **Sun., Oct. 11**, in the Chapel.

ELPC provides offerings for all ages. Adult options are detailed on this page. Senior High (grades 9-12) classes follow our denomination's *We Believe* curriculum. Junior High classes (grades 6-8) follow the *Seasons of the Spirit* curriculum to explore and apply biblical stories to their daily lives. Children's classes (by age) include *Godly Play* and *Seasons of the Spirit*.

Oktoberfest

Sat., Oct. 24, from 5:30–7:30 pm



The Christian Education Ministry Team invites everyone to attend our annual Oktoberfest at ELPC. Join us for a potluck supper and activities for all ages: pumpkin painting,

hat making, and even bowling! We'll provide spaghetti, but please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Watch for registration forms in the Sunday bulletin. Please RSVP to Gloria Knopp at **412.441.3800 x22**.

New CMP Ministry

The Deacons designed a new ministry to reach out to members and friends who're in college, the military, or incarcerated. The **College, Military, Prison Ministry** seeks to stay in touch through cards, emails, care packages and prayer.

If someone you know would benefit, forward their name, address and other information to Deacon Cheon Graham at **Cheon.Graham@yahoo.com**, or Amanda Nolan at **412.441.3800 x34**.

Christian Education in October

Rev. Heather Schoenewolf, Associate Pastor for Educational Ministries

CONTEMPORARIES CLASS *Facilitators: Joe Kennedy and Mary Alice Lightle*
We encourage one another to carry out ministries of compassion and justice. We meet in the Second Floor Parlor.

Oct. 4 and 18: Pulpit Momentum! *Led by Joe Kennedy and Maura Weis*
The cooperation of clergy and laity, designed to promote unity, can represent a powerful addition to the ministry of a congregation. We're blessed with thoughtfully prepared sermons, truly based upon the word of God. Insights from the pew may percolate feedback that could move us into new areas of discipleship and service. Copies of each sermon are available.

- **Oct. 4: "Where We Meet God"**

Preached by the Rev. Heather Schoenewolf on February 3, 2008.

- **Oct. 18: "Wrestling with Faith"**

Preached by the Rev. Dr. Randy Bush on August 10, 2008.

Oct. 25: My Appreciation for the ELPC Church Family *Led by Tim Engelhardt*

What goes into the discovery of a suitable church for one's family? Growing up as a preacher's kid, Tim is an acute observer of the dynamics regarding congregational life. His insights serve to celebrate our strengths and ponder our challenges. Daughter Genevieve also is an inspiration for Tim and Maria to plan for the future, with ELPC becoming a more vital link in the areas of spiritual growth and development designed to enhance the well-being of many families.

JOURNEY WITH SCRIPTURE *Facilitator: Jan Irvin*

Journeys cross boundaries. When the river bends, the future lies ahead in mystery and what lies behind disappears. We meet in the Second Floor Library and read from Hebrew and New Testament scriptures and reflect upon the texts.

Oct 4: Job 1:1; 2:1-10; Ps. 26; Heb.1:1-4; 2:5-12; Mark 10:2-16

Oct. 18: Job 38:1-7 (34-41); Ps. 104:1-9, 24, 35c; Heb.5:1-10; Mark 10:35-45

Oct. 25: Job 42:1-6, 10-17; Ps. 34:1-8 (19-20); Heb.7:23-28; Mark 10:46-52

PARENTING CIRCLE *Facilitators: Frances Irvin and Anne Jackson*

Anyone involved in parenting is welcome to join us. We meet in the First Floor Harambe Room and share experiences, resources, prayer, and scripture.

Oct. 4: "Eat, Pray, Love"

We'll continue discussing the book *"Eat, Pray, Love"* by Elizabeth Gilbert. Copies of the book will be available.

Oct. 18–25: "Unplug the Christmas Machine" *Led by Sue Schneider*

Does Christmas and the whole holiday season leave you feeling frazzled and exhausted? We'll use a workshop format to examine our current practices and expectations, and then plan a more rewarding and meaningful Christmas holiday.

SEEKERS *Facilitator: Gwen Puza*

We wish to grow in religious understanding, insight, faith, and practice. We meet in Room 234.

Oct 4: "Rescuing the Bible from Fundamentalism"

The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush will lead our final discussion of the book *"Rescuing the Bible from Fundamentalism,"* by J.S. Spong.

Oct 18-25: The Biblical Concept of Jubilee *Led by Kathleen Kyle*

The biblical concept of Jubilee is a theme of social justice that can be traced throughout the old testament and the ministry of Jesus. This two-part class explores the jubilee texts of scripture and their applications for our lives.

Youth and Young Adult Events

Rev. Heather Schoenewolf, Associate Pastor for Educational Ministries

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Our Wednesday Connection program includes *free* Hope Academy classes, snacks from Whole Foods, homework help, a simple supper for families in the McKelvey Room, and our Taizé service at 7 pm.

club one sixteen junior and senior, for youth in grades 1-12

We'll meet in the Game Room at 6:30 pm, for a dinner prepared by an ELPC Member, then split into groups to enjoy an interactive Bible Study from 7-8 pm.

Our theme this month is **Foundations**. What or who is at the core of who we are? What are the values and beliefs that pave the way for our choices and actions? We will take a look at the **Foundation** of our lives through the lens of our faith in Christ—who is to be the source and center of all we do. Our themes include:

- **Oct. 7: Community** – How does being a part of a community shape our values?
- **Oct. 14: Following** – How does knowing what we believe shape who we follow?
- **Oct. 21: Priorities** – How does our Foundation in life help us set priorities?
- **Oct. 28: Standing Firm** – How can we remain grounded in our foundation when challenges come our way?

Youth Basketball, Saturdays, from 5-8 pm

Young men in grades 9-12 are welcome to participate in our basketball program in the ELPC gym. ELPC youth worker Anthony Williams facilitates this free program. We'll not meet on **Sat., Oct. 24**, due to Oktoberfest.

Oktoberfest Service Projects, Sat. Oct. 24, from 5-8 pm

Youth in grades 6-12 are invited to serve at ELPC's Oktoberfest! Assist at activity tables, help shepherd younger children, and run the bowling activity. RSVP to Pastor Heather by **Sun., Oct. 18**, if you're able to help. **Reminder:** Three service projects with ELPC are required for participation in Summer Mission Trips.

Youth Calendar

For more information on ELPC Youth Events, please see your Youth Calendar. To be added to our mailing list, email Gloria Knopp at gloriak@coh.net.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES

Those in their 20's and 30's are invited to join our warm and dynamic group for faith and fellowship! Visit us on MySpace and find us on Facebook as well!

Small Groups

It's not too late to get involved with one of our new Young Adult Small Groups. Contact Brian Diebold at bdiebold@pts.edu! This is a great way to meet others in your age group and get involved with the life of the church!

First Sundays at ELPC, Sun. Oct. 4, at 5 pm

In addition to our small groups ministry, we'll have a monthly time for all of the young adults in our church to gather together. Starting **Sun., Oct. 4**, we'll meet on the first Sunday of each month at 5 pm, in the Second Floor Parlor. Topics and activities will vary. This month, we'll enjoy Game Night!

Workday, Sat., Oct. 17, at 1 pm

We've done the fundraising, now it's time to do the construction! We'll be building our custom made recycling centers for each of the kitchenettes as well as placing our new recycling bins around ELPC. There'll be jobs for everyone, regardless of skill. Tools will be provided, but wear work clothes!

Hope Academy

Linda Addlespurger, Director

Backstage, Behind the Scenes and More: Check Out HA's New Blog!

From videos of some of last year's performances, to updates of where our kids are now, to not-to-be missed cultural events for families, please visit www.HopeAcademyArts.blogspot.com.

Recent postings include the video of the six-hand, two-piano rendition of Hungarian Rhapsody from "Love and All That Jazz,"

featuring Pastor Randy, Suzanne Polak and John Tyillian plus segments from "Born for a Reason" (pictured).



Congratulations to former HA Students!

- **Seth Grier** was recently accepted into Alvin Ailey's Professional Dance School.
- **Carter Redwood** won the local August Wilson monologue contest, was nominated for a *Shyne* award and shared the first place award for the Shakespeare Monologue and Scene contest with former HA student, **Blake Stadnik**.

Development Updates

The Neighbors Committee will sponsor two meetings to update our congregation on developments in our East Liberty neighborhood.

The first meeting will focus on community development in East Liberty with speakers from ELDI, URA and Carnegie Public Library.

- **Sun., Oct. 18**, at 12:30 pm
We'll meet in Room 234.

The second will focus on EECM's plans for a new Community House, which will enable it to consolidate many of its services in one building.

- **Sun., Nov. 15**, at 12:30 pm
We'll meet in Room 234.

Refreshments will be served.

Second Anniversary Gala Organ Event

Sat., Oct. 3, at 4:30 pm

Join us for the second anniversary celebration of the return of our magnificent Aeolian-Skinner/Goulding and Wood Sanctuary pipe organ!

Jason Overall, President of Goulding and Wood, is our featured organist. Joining him is world-renowned trumpet soloist Gary Malvern. With 8,000 pipes of organ, this duo offers an afternoon of sheer delight!

Music for the occasion covers a range of styles. John Boda's "Fanfare," written for and dedicated to Overall, opens the performance. Boda alternates bold and gentle sections he refers to as "forest murmurs."

Naji Hakim's engaging "Sonata," concludes the first half. It starts as a playful romp, followed by a plainsong theme with a final movement that's full of Stravinskian energy. Hakim intended the organ part to be orchestral and colorful—a natural for our organ!

Plan to attend this *free* anniversary celebration and stay for a dessert buffet arranged by the Organ Presentation Committee and the Worship, Music and Arts Committee.

Reservations (\$5 each) are required for the dessert buffet. RSVP to Norma Meyer at **412.441.3800 x11** ASAP.

Houses of Worship Architectural Tour

Sun., Nov. 1, from 2–4 pm

This year's tour includes the Church of the Redeemer, Sixth Presbyterian Church, and Temple Sinai. The tour begins at the Church of the Redeemer (5700 Forbes Ave.).

Tickets are \$20 plus a donation to the EECM food pantry (which includes the tour and a reception). Tickets are available at the door or by calling EECM at **412.361.5549**.

Classes After Taizé Prayer

The Rev. Christiane Dutton, Minister of Taizé Prayer

Note: Classes begin at 8:15 pm. Enjoy a supper at 6 pm, in the McKelvey Room.

Oct. 7: To Be Determined

Oct. 14: Sacred Harp/Shape Note Singing, led by Charles Anderson
Enjoy singing tunes from the oldest American tune book in print.

Oct. 21: Hebrew Chanting

, led by David Goldstein

Join us in a Hebrew Chanting experience. David uses Hebrew phrases from the Old Testament and simple repetitive melodies to delve into a prayerful intention.

Oct. 28: Celebrations!

Do you celebrate a birthday, milestone or anniversary in October? Write it down and put it in the collection plate! We'd like to celebrate with you!

Presbyterian Women

Mary Alice Lightle, Moderator

Tues., Oct. 6: Horizons Bible Study

, at 10 am, in the second floor Parlor

Join us as we continue our journey through Joshua! Elaine Phillips leads our lesson, "A Leader is Called" (Joshua 1:2-18; 24:1-5). A potluck lunch follows. Beverages are provided. Please bring a salad or snack to share. Call Mary Alice Lightle at **412.682.1504** for details.

Spiritual Life

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

Sun., Oct. 4: Spiritual Life Sampler

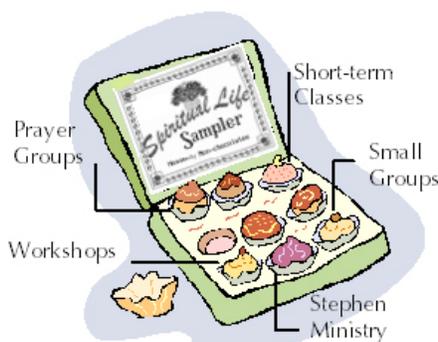
, following the 11 am, Sanctuary Worship

Join us in the Social Hall for our annual Spiritual Life Sampler and Fellowship Time. Learn about new and continuing small groups, workshops and classes. Representatives will be available to answer questions and for signups.

This year's event showcases a variety of opportunities, including:

- Structure of the Holy: Romanesque to Gothic;
- Ignatian Exercises;
- Toy Makers Group;
- There is Something about the Brain;
- Happy Wanderers; and
- much more.

We hope this year's Spiritual Life Sampler provides food for thought as well as an opportunity for fellowship. See you there!



Gospel Weekend

On **Sat., Oct. 24**, and **Sun., Oct. 25**, Sixth Presbyterian Church (1688 Murray Ave.) is presenting a "Gospel Weekend," featuring Dr. Anthony Leach, choral director at Penn State. The *free* seminar is on Saturday from 9 am–4 pm, with optional activities during worship on Sunday. Reservations are requested. Call **412.421.2752** for details.

Housing Ministry

Emily Rosenthal, Chair of the Neighbors Mission Committee

Ministry Volunteer Opportunities

All ages and skills are invited on **Sat., Nov. 7**, for a hands on mission opportunity in our community. For details, please call Emily Rosenthal at **412.963.1039**, or the Rev. Patrice Fowler Searcy at **412.441.3800 x30**.

My Journey to Malawi

By Peta Harrigan Cole

Malawi is located in Central Africa and is slightly smaller than Pennsylvania. The country is 79.9% Christian (Roman Catholic and CCAP). The Malawi Partnership—formed in 1991—has touched many lives over the years, and I was blessed to be able to participate in this year's Mission Trip.

On Sat. Aug. 8, the Journey 2009 Team arrived at Chileka Airport, where we were greeted by the Blantyre Synod Partnership Steering Committee, along with sister churches and Women's Guilds. There was singing, dancing and drumming.

We went directly to the Grace Bandawe Conference Center for orientation and supper. On Sunday, we worshiped at various churches—I was at Limbe CCAP. That afternoon we toured the Blantyre Mission, followed by a Welcome Dinner.

Some of the highlights of our stay in Blantyre included a trip to Nyala Park (Game Reserve), Mulanj Mission Project and the Blantyre Synod Development Commission Project at Lirangwe and their Orphan Care Project. We met with the General Secretary, the Rev. McDonald Kadawati. I also saw the President of Malawi, as his motorcade drove through town.

On Tues. Aug. 11, I arrived at Balaka CCAP where I was greeted by members of the Church and the Church Joint Choir. The Rev. Peter Kandulu and the Session Clerk gave welcoming remarks. I went to the home of my first host family for lunch and returned to the church for an orientation meeting.



During my stay I toured Balaka Township and visited Andiamo Campus, Comfort and Dream Hospital, the Herbal Garden, and the Prison Fellowship Complex. I also spent time with the Youth and Sunday School Children (pictured). The Sunday School shelter was built partially with gifts from ELPC.

—To be continued in November's
Reaching Out—

EECM

Food Pantry

EECM and ELPC continue to answer the call in struggle against hunger. October's "Food of the Month" is **pasta sauce**.

Men's Shelter

The Deacons are collecting **socks** in October. While the need has remained consistent, donations have declined. We need your help!

Donations may be dropped off in the hallway baskets.

COOPERATIVE
**East
End**
MINISTRY

ELPC People

Good News

• We rejoice at the baptism of **Caroline Bomeli**, daughter of Steve and Nicole Bomeli and sister of Alec, which was celebrated at ELPC on August 30.

• ELPC members **Marva Harris** and **Valerie Dixon**, were honored in September at Pittsburgh's 50 Women of Excellence awards.

• Join us in welcoming our new Seminary Intern, **Christine March** (pictured).



Thanks

• Thank you for your prayers, phone calls and cards sent during my illness earlier this year. They encouraged and helped me get well.

– Rebecca Cole-Turner

• Thank you to the members, our Mission Board, and Presbyterian Women for the reception in our honor. We appreciate all who attended, the gifts, the well-wishes, the cards, and all who signed our "Remembrance Book." As members for 35 years, ELPC has given us many opportunities to be ministry and mission volunteers. We've been blessed! May God continue to bless ELPC!

– Bob and Jane Sampson

• Thanks to all who helped with the "Rent-A-Young-Adult" fundraiser. Your generosity and hard work is appreciated!

• Thank you to all who volunteered with OHM: **Jim Cover, Becky Gloninger, Deena Hower, Sharon Lee, Mary Alice Lightle, Rebecca Maclean, Eric Newmann, Carolyn Ristau, Emily Rosenthal**, and our Youth Group.

Prayers

• Our prayers are with the family and friends of **Clara Hoon**, who passed away on August 11. Clara was an ELPC member for 12 years.

• Please pray for Wil Forrest and his family on the death of Wil's father.

• Please pray for Karah Mercer and her family on the death of Karah's mother.

• Please pray for Rebecca Blackwood and her family on the death of Rebecca's grandmother.



East Liberty Presbyterian Church

The Cathedral of Hope
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“...inviting all to join our diverse, inclusive family of faith, transcending boundaries of race, class, ability, culture, age, gender and sexual identity to become one in Christ.”

World Communion Sunday

Sun., Oct. 4

“Just as the body is one and has many members...so it is with Christ” (1 Cor 12:12). We are annually reminded of this truth from scripture on the first Sunday of October, when many members of the church universal come together to celebrate World Communion Sunday.

On **Sun., Oct. 4**, Communion will be served in the pews as an expression of our Reformed faith doctrine of “the priesthood of all believers.”



**WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY**

The worship service also will highlight our congregation's commitment to mission ministry through the ministry of Session committees, Deacon programs, Presbyterian Women outreach, and congregational volunteers serving Christ in our community.

Lastly, our denomination's Peacemaking Offering will be received (details to the right).

Justice and Peace Shall Kiss

Sun., Oct. 4

As Christians, we're part of God's peacemaking in the world. We're called to be agents of reconciliation for individuals, families and communities, in the international arena; building a culture of peace.

Since 1980, when the Peacemaking Offering was first received, Presbyterians have responded with enthusiasm by financially supporting peacemaking ministries. The Peacemaking Offering was created to support the efforts of the Presbyterian Church to live out a deeper commitment to peacemaking as part of our faithfulness to God. Congregations have shown great creativity in strengthening efforts within their churches, communities, and the world.

ELPC will retain 25% of its Peacemaking Offering for our own local peacemaking work. Another 25% will be used for Presbytery and Synod peacemaking efforts. The remaining 50% will support the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program of the General Assembly.

The Peacemaking Offering is received on the first Sunday in October, which also is World Communion Sunday. Please give generously.

Covenant Network Conference 2009

Nov. 5-7, at the Church of the Covenant, in Cleveland

Conference information is available online at www.covenantnetwork.org. Call Gloria Knopp at **412.441.3800 x22** if you're interested in car-pooling to the presentations on **Fri., Nov. 6**.



Offices Closed: Church offices are closed on **Mon., Oct. 12**, for Columbus Day.