

Editor's Note

Each month, we feature articles written by a member of our faith community. This month's theme is *Going Forth into the World*.



Also, you will find quotes from the youth who will be confirmed on Pentecost.

Confirmation

Sun., June 12, during 11 am worship

On Pentecost, ELPC will celebrate the baptism and confirmation of five youth who have chosen to take the next step on their faith journey by joining ELPC as full members. These youth learned more about God, Scripture, our denomination's history and polity, and their own Spiritual Gifts under the guidance of the Rev. Heather Schoenewolf and the Rev. Brian Diebold. They have read through the Gospel of Luke, worked on Statements of Faith with their sponsors, and discerned that God was calling them to fully participate in the life of our congregation.

We rejoice that we will celebrate the Baptism and Confirmation of these youth on Pentecost. Congratulations to: **TJ Benedict, Maya Klancher, Jocelyn Martin, Sarah Overby, and Tramayne Thomas!**

Summer Worship Schedule

The Day of Pentecost, **Sun., June 12**, marks the end of our church school year. With the conclusion of most of our Sunday church school offerings (see page 4), we will shift our Sunday morning worship schedule to two worship services beginning on **Sun., June 19**:

- Good Samaritan at 8 am
- Sanctuary at 10 am

Plans are being made for special music on **Sun., June 19**, so reset your alarm clocks and join us for our earlier summer worship services!

"Jesus being my Lord and Savior has power and authority over me. Many people think this could change your life drastically, but not me. I think Jesus has always had power and authority over me and I've just begun to realize it, which for me is another small step." – Maya Klancher



Pentecost Readers Needed

Sun., June 12

We are looking for volunteers to read scripture in a variety of foreign languages during our 11 am worship on Pentecost. The translation will be provided. To participate, email Norma Meyer at Norma@coh.net and let her know what language(s) you would be able to read.

Sunday Morning Services

** Celebration of the Lord's Supper*

Good Samaritan Worship • 8 am

Liturgist: Laura Lou Struthers

June 5* Rev. David Carver
 June 12 Rev. Cynthia Jackson
 June 19 Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
 June 26 Rev. Carol Lytch

Journey Worship • 8:45 am

June 5* Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
 June 12 Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

Sanctuary Worship • 11 am

June 5* Rev. Dr. Randy Bush
 June 12 Rev. Dr. Randy Bush

Sanctuary Worship • 10 am

Held in the Garth, weather permitting

June 19 Rev. Dr. Randy Bush
 June 26 Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

Holy Ground Service

*Third Sunday, May–November • 6 pm
 Held in the Chapel*

There will be no service in June
 July 17 Rev. Howard Cherry

Labyrinth Prayer Walk

*Mondays • 9 am–1:30 pm
 Wednesdays • 9 am–9 pm*

Taizé Prayer Service

*Wednesdays • 7 pm
 Rev. Christiane Dutton*

*"I believe... God is hope.
 God is love. God is the*



creator and Father of all people. God created us as equals, so we should treat others as our equals." – Jocelyn Martin

East Liberty Presbyterian Church



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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. Brian Diebold
Coordinator, Youth Ministry

The Rev. Christiane Dutton
Minister of Taizé Prayer

Wil Forrest
*Coordinator, Young Adult Ministry and
Volunteers in Ministry Programs*

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*

Paul Martin
Facilities Manager

Katie Mohr
Seminary Intern

Dr. Edward Alan Moore
Music Director and Organist

The Rev. Dr. J. Richard Szeremany
Music Director Emeritus

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 Thursday of the preceding month.

Pastoral Message

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush, Pastor



In today's skeptical society, the phrase "Nullius in verba" (loosely translated as "take no one's word for anything") seems like the active slogan of our age. We hear one television commentator describe something for us, and then a quick flip through the channels brings up another commentator's totally different perspective. Politicians present competing budget proposals. Economists offer contradictory forecasts about how things are going. Military analysts talk about "enhanced techniques of interrogation," which unfortunately sound far too similar to what used to be called "torture." Is this a new by-product of the 21st-century, Internet age?

In truth, you can go back 350 years and discover another time when "Nullius in verba" was taken as a word to the wise. A new book by Edward Dolnick (*The Clockwork Universe*) describes how bad things were in London, England back in the mid-17th century. Adults only lived to about age 30 and the plague of 1665 killed up to 6,000 people a week. Then in 1666 a huge fire burnt the city to the ground, even melting the bells of St. Paul's Cathedral. People thought that the terrible voice of God was wreaking judgment across the land.

It was then that a group of scholars, led by Isaac Newton, formed the Royal Society, believing that behind God's universe was a mathematical and logical order able to be glimpsed, if one pursued it scientifically. Hence "nullius in verba." Ideas should be tested through experiments. Results must be able to be reproduced before being accepted as proof. This scholarly model would eventually blossom into the Enlightenment, the foundation of the political and cultural revolution that led to modern Western society.

"Take no one's word for anything" is not a seed of truth able to bear fruit if it is taken to be a cynical rejection of everyone's opinion (especially when it differs from your own). Its value comes when, like Isaac Newton, we commit ourselves to go beyond superficial appearances and easy accepted answers whenever we face important decisions in life. The New Testament regularly tells us to ask questions and work hard at discerning what is true and virtuous. Paul writes "Test everything; hold fast to what is good" (I Thess. 5:21) and I John 4 begins with the admonition "Do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God."

Important decisions always require sincere, spiritual deliberation. Salesmen and telemarketers have a vested investment in quick decisions; God in Christ has a vested interest in helping us make righteous decisions. At important crossroads in life, pause for prayer and reflection. Ask the Lord to open the way forward, while closing off those options that are contrary to God's will. Listen for the whispered leading of the Holy Spirit. Trust that the living Lord, like a good shepherd, has come that we may have life, and have it abundantly (John 10:10). In place of "Nullius in verba," hold on to the phrase "Soli Deo Gloria"—To God Alone be the Glory.

Randy Bush

Mission Opportunities

Sat., June 4 and July 2

ELPC's Neighbors committee is sponsoring work days with our partners, Open Hand Ministries and Garfield Community Farm, in the East Liberty and Garfield.

We also are forming family care teams to support our new homeowners. Team members are a presence and a friend to the first-time homeowners.

No special skills are needed for the work days or the family care teams. All are ages welcome! For details, call Emily Rosenthal at **412.963.0139** or the Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy at **412.441.3800 x30**.

Malawi Commissioning Service

Sun., June 5, at 4 pm, in the Chapel



Join us for a commissioning service for ELPC members Florence and Justin Johnson, who will be heading off to visit our brothers and sisters in Malawi. A reception will follow.

Family Baptismal Workshop

Sun., June 12, following 11 am worship

Pastor Randy and Pastor Heather will host a Baptismal Workshop for families. While the workshop will be geared toward families who wish to learn about the sacrament before having their child baptized, it is also will be a great opportunity for families with young children to explore the sacrament together.

The workshop will be experiential, and will include time for questions. Lunch will be served.

Pridefest Volunteers Needed

Sun., June 12, from 12–6 pm

Volunteers are needed to serve as greeters at the ELPC Pridefest booth. For details, email Linda Devine at **LMD441@aol.com**. Shuttle service is available.

Hope Academy's Showcase Performance: DREAM ON!

Fri.–Sun., June 17–19, at 7 pm, in the Courtyard

A *Midsummer Night's Dream* as you've never seen it before—remixed, mashed up, deconstructed and reimagined. Fifty Hope Academy students sing, dance and act their way through the madcap adventures of one of Shakespeare's most well-loved plays. The course of true love never does run true, with music from *Spring Awakening*, *Pippin*, Cee Lo and Aerosmith. The performance will be in the courtyard (weather permitting), so seating is limited.

Tickets, available at the door, are **\$10** for adults, **\$5** for students and seniors.

Hope Academy's 2010 - 2011 Showcase Performance
A theatrical/musical redux of "A Midsummer Night's Dream"

DREAM ON
midsummer JUNE weekend
FRI 17 ♦ SAT 18 ♦ SUN 19
7:00 pm by the light of the moon
East Liberty Presbyterian Church

In the courtyard
under the stars

What fools these mortals be!
\$10 adults - \$5 students/seniors



ELDI Development Update

Sun., June 19

Join the Neighbors Committee as Skip Schwab, East Liberty Development, Inc., discusses new changes and their impact in East Liberty.

For more information, contact the Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy at **412.441.3800 x30** or Rebecca Maclean at **Rebecca.L.Maclean@hud.gov**.

VCS 2011: Taste and See!

Mon.–Fri, June 27–July 1, from 9 am–3 pm

Kids, age 3 ½ (having turned 3 by Jan. 1, 2011) through Grade 5 are invited to come to ELPC to *Taste & See that God is Good!* We will enjoy worship, Bible Study, crafts, recreation, and more, including an afternoon at Squaw Valley Park!

Volunteers and Supplies Needed

Adult and youth volunteers are needed to serve as teachers and helpers, and in the craft, recreation, snack, and other areas.

If you are unable to volunteer, but would still like to help, check out the donation bulletin board outside the East Transept of the Sanctuary on **Sun., June 5**.

Note: Registration forms and more information for kids and volunteers are available on our website, the CE bulletin board, and the Second Floor CE table.



Last year, 84 kids enjoyed VCS at ELPC!

June Calendar Events—Full Details at www.CathedralOfHope.org and in the Weekly Bulletin and e-Flash.

Christian Education

Classes begin at 9:45 am, unless otherwise noted.

Contemporaries Class *Second Floor Parlor*
June 5 and 12: Just War Standards and What Our Denomination Says About Recent U.S. Wars

Journey with Scripture *Second Floor Library*

June 5: Acts 1:6–14; Ps. 68:1–10, 32–35;

1 Peter 4:12–14; 5:6–11; John 17:1–11

June 12: Acts 2:1–21; Ps. 104:24–34;

1 Cor. 12:3b–13; John 7:37–39

Parenting Circle *Harambe Room*

June 5 and 12: Discussing Ideas and Next Year

Seekers *Room 234*

June 5: The Egyptian Revolution and Beyond, and How the Schism in Islam is Playing an Important Factor in the Revolutions in the Middle East

June 12: Dominion Theology and its Impact on Politics and Education

Soul Food *Pastor's Conference Room*

June 5 and 12: Accepting God's Rainbow Grace

5 y 12 de junio: Clase de Escuela Dominical en Español *Room 343*

Nos reunimos cada semana para descubrir lo que la Biblia nos dice. Por favor únete a esta jornada con nosotros. Nos reunimos de 12:30–1:30. Todos están bienvenidos, y la clase está en español.

Adult Summer Series

Classes begin at 9:15 am, in the Second Floor Parlor

June 19–July 24: Being Reformed: Theology for Presbyterians

Join us for a journey of faith seeking understanding of our rich theological heritage. Celebrate the joys of our reformed tradition. Strengthen your commitment to the God who has loved us in Jesus Christ.

Young Adult Ministry

Meet TRAIL

TRAIL (Three Rivers Adult Interdenominational Links) is a new program that is making links/connections with people from all demoninations across Pittsburgh. We meet the first Friday of each month at 7 pm, at revolving locations. Our schedule will be listed with the YAM schedule.

Fri., June 3: First Fridays at Frick at 7 pm

Together with TRAIL, we will experience the *First Fridays at the Frick* series. Suggested donation is \$5 per adult. Learn more at www.thefrickpittsburgh.org.

Tues., June 21: Progressive Dinner and Discussion

We will visit YAM-member homes for courses of our one meal and a discussion beginning at 6 pm. Consider hosting a course or leading a discussion.

RSVP to Beth Martin at betz82671@yahoo.com by **Tues., June 7**, with your information:

- For hosting a course: name, address, and course (appetizers, salad, main course or dessert)
- For discussion topic: name, topic, and the course during which you'd prefer to discuss the topic.

Sun., June 26: Give Me Your Tired and Poor

After 10 am worship, in the Second Floor Lounge

This study examines immigration policy and what is currently happening. Lunch included.

Youth Ministry

Senior High Mission Trip to New Orleans

This year's Mission Trip is to New Orleans, from **Sun.–Sat., July 17–23**.

Note: There are required training sessions on **Sun., June 5** and **July 3**, from 11:30–1:30 pm. If you are not able to attend these sessions, contact Pastor Heather to schedule a make-up session.

Presbyterian Women

Sat., June 11: "Shower" of Blessings for Lydia's Place

Presbyterian Women invite you to a "Shower" of Blessings for Lydia's Place from 2–4 pm, in the Second Floor Parlor. Angela Longo, Executive Director of Lydia's Place, will talk about this ministry to female offenders and their children. This will be a great event for mothers and daughters to share! Refreshments will be provided.

Guests are asked to bring full-size personal care items for the women in this program. Wish lists are available on the PW bulletin board outside the church library.

To learn more about Lydia's Place, please visit www.lydiasplace.org.

Classes After Taizé Prayer

Classes begin at 8:15 pm, following our Wednesday Taizé prayer service

Wed., June 1: Mission Trip to Sweden Report

Led by Richard Kobertz

Wed., June 8: Music on the Labyrinth

Led by Charles Anderson

Wed., June 15: Jennifer Gorske's Organ Recital

Wed., June 22: Tour of the Church

Led by Barbara Fotta

Wed., June 29: Celebrations!

Exercise Classes

- **Tai Chi** *Tuesdays, from 10–11 am and 6–7 pm*
- **Yoga** *Thursdays, from 7:15–8:45 pm*
- **JourneyDance** *Fri., June 10, from 7–8 pm*

Call Kate Carlson at **412.441.3800 x17** for details.

"I want to be confirmed to ELPC not only because it is the church that I've grown up in, but also because I believe that this Church stands for many of the same things I stand for. A tragically ironic, yet old-as-time conundrum of religion is that many people use faith, religion, and God as an excuse to hate or persecute others. ELPC progressively stands against these actions, promoting peace and equality. I believe that God loves everyone, and no one is excluded from His love." – Sarah Overby



Support New College Students

East End Cooperative Ministry is organizing a donation drive to benefit the graduates of its youth programs who are starting college in the fall. This donation drive is an opportunity to give a meaningful gift to the youth of our community as they go off into the next stage of their lives and educations.

The Neighbors Committee will make it easy to contribute through the *Off to College Ivy* on **Sun., June 12 and 19**. Select an item and bring it back to ELPC by **Sun., June 26**. For more details, contact Emily Mohn at **412.616.2251**.

Scholarships

Presbyterian Women and the Youth and Young Adult Ministry Team will sponsor a one-time scholarship award for eligible students who are heading to post-secondary education this fall.

If you are a recent high school graduate who is an ELPC member and/or active in the Youth Ministry, you are invited to apply for this award. If you did not receive an application, email Gloria Knopp at **GloriaK@coh.net**.

Calling All Graduates!

We rejoice that many from within our faith family are graduating from high school, college, or other programs this spring. We wish to celebrate these accomplishments together and recognize all graduates from ELPC—but we need your help!

Please email your name, degree earned, and area of study (if applicable) to Gloria Knopp at **GloriaK@coh.net** by **Fri., July 1**.

Volunteers in Ministry *By Wil Forrest, VIM Coordinator*

In Paul's first letter to Timothy, we are reminded, "to not neglect the gift that is in you" (1 Timothy 4:14). Instead, we are called to put our gifts into practice. What can you do this summer to serve?

1. Pray and seek guidance concerning God's call for how to use your gifts.
2. Submit a VIM Interest Inventory Form (available at **www.CathedralOfHope.org/about/volunteer.html**).
3. Visit the VIM webpage to see what fits your interest, gifts and schedule.

Contact Wil Forrest at **wil@coh.net** to get involved!

"To live as a Christian, I would continue to learn about God as I get older. This could be done by attending church or by reading the Bible. Also, I would live by 'the Golden Rule,' treat others as you want to be treated. 'Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.'" – Tramayne Thomas



Session News

At the recent Session meeting:

- A draft of the Strategic Vision mission and goal statement was shared, which will have a second reading at the June meeting prior to being sent to the congregation.
- Reports were heard from the Property Committee about interior projects (Highland Ave. entrance) and exterior projects (water reclamation, "green" project for the Penn Ave. yard).

The June Session meeting will be on **Tues., June 14**, at Shadyside Presbyterian Church, so that we can tour their renovated chapel and entrance.

ELPC People

Good News

- Congratulations to **Callie Gropp** on the birth of her son, **Harrison George Gropp**.

Thanks

- The Christian Education Ministry Team and Pastor Heather would like to thank the volunteers who gave their time and talent to share God's love with our congregational family. Your ministry is a blessing to many! Thank you to: **Linda Benedict, Nicole Bomeli, Don Breitbarth, Valire Copeland, Bobby Egleston, Maria Engelhardt, Maurice Gordon, Joe Hajdu, Carol Hoehn, Frances and Jan Irvin, Anne Jackson, Mary Ruth Johnson, Vanessa Johnson, Joe Kennedy, Kathleen Kyle, Mary Alice Lightle, Joaquin Anabe Lopez, Roberta London, Nancy Magee, Judy Menk, Dawn Morgenstern, Jan Pressman, Gwen Puza, Carolyn Russ, Kay Shissler, Rebecca Cole-Turner, and Katrina Wardrip.**

Prayers

Condolences to the families of:

- Beth Martin on the death of her Grandmother;
- Reggie Plato on the death of his mother; and
- Anthony Allen, who died in May.



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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.”

Grace and Peace to ELPC

By Katie Mohr



It has been a wonderful year of immersion into the ELPC community. The intention of seminary internships is for students to have hands-on experience in pastoral leadership. I have greatly appreciated having space to explore vocational ministry with all of you.

In the beginning, there were two things that greatly excited me about interning at ELPC: the vibrant and eclectic worship experiences, and the commitment of the church to the East Liberty community. Both of these things, and many more, have created a rich learning experience for me.

My call to seminary came out of a desire to lead the urban church to think “missionally.” ELPC does this well. I am encouraged by what I have observed through the living out of the mission of the church and am taking away great tools and concepts of a mission-minded community that I can apply to my future ministry.

I have had a wonderful time getting to know the children and youth, sitting in on committee meetings, as well as teaching and learning alongside the community. You may never fully understand the impact of your ministry to a seminary intern, but I will reassure you that it has been a priceless experience for me.

Have a wonderful summer.

Blessings and peace be with you.

Youth Choir Rehearsals

Sunday mornings, at 9 am, in the Sanctuary

The youth of ELPC are preparing to sing at the 11am worship service on Pentecost, Sun., June 12. For details, contact Dr. Ed Moore at EdM@coh.net.

Handbell Choir

The sound of handbells will once again ring throughout ELPC. The handbell choir will be re-forming over the next few months. No prior ringing experience is needed! See Dr. Ed Moore for more information.



“I believe in One God, who is Father, Son and Spirit. I believe God started everything and guides everything. I believe, without God, there would be absolutely nothing. We humans yearn for God’s love and God yearns for our love, which is presented through faithfulness. I believe our faithfulness is shown through prayer and living a life modeled after Jesus who was crucified, died, and rose for our sins.” – TJ Benedict

