

As We Approach the Cross with Christ



During the period between Ash Wednesday (Feb 22) and Easter (April 8), the church recognizes a time of preparation, prayer and self-reflection known as Lent. It is a time to remember how God not only created us, but in Christ has healed us, redeemed us, and promised to be with us through times of struggle and need. In the Sanctuary Worship services, the color purple is used as a reminder of the suffering endured by Jesus, as well His royal status as the Prince of Peace. The scripture lessons will highlight key moments in Jesus' earthly life, such as His temptation in the wilderness, cleansing of the Jerusalem temple, and raising of Lazarus from the dead.

As we journey through this Lenten season, we journey with Christ to the cross. But we do so with an awareness that the story does not end with Christ's death. Good Friday gives way to Easter Sunday and the promise that death gives way to resurrection, that suffering gives way to new life! So throughout this Lenten season, as we approach the cross with Christ, we do so in a spirit of hope—aware that Christ's resurrection promises can be glimpsed by us in our daily lives, through the experiences that offer us forgiveness, renewal, and wholeness.

Devotional Guide is Available

The Christian Education Committee has created a daily devotional guide as a gift for you and your family this Lenten season. Stories of God's promises to God's people throughout the ages are woven together with stories of Christ's healing initiative during His three-year ministry. Songs of the season are shared as we approach the cross, along with prayers of resurrection joy. It is our hope that these scripture readings and prayers will invite you into a deeper awareness of God's gracious initiative toward us in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.



Children will receive small cross symbols, and will receive a small piece of fabric each week to place upon the cross—a symbol that will invite them to explore a different story of Christ's life, and to think about how this story reminds us of God's love for us in Jesus. Adults will receive a small square of burlap—small enough to carry in your pocket—to serve as a touchstone for prayer throughout Lent.

Materials will be available in worship each week, and extra resources will be located on the Second Floor CE table.

Editor's Note

This month's theme is *Lent: Have a Heart/Caring for Others*.

Sunday Morning Services

* *Celebration of the Lord's Supper*

Good Samaritan Worship • 8 am

Liturgists: Mark and Barbara DeWitt

- March 4* Rev. Don Dutton,
*Honorably Retired
Presbyterian Minister*
- March 11 Darren Belajac,
Seminary Intern
- March 18 Rev. John Creasy, *Associate
Pastor, The Open Door
Presbyterian Church*
- March 25 *Jane Anabe,
Seminary Intern*

Journey Worship • 8:45 am

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

Sanctuary Worship • 11 am

- March 4* Rev. Dr. Randy Bush
- March 11 Rev. Dr. Randy Bush
- March 18 Rev. Dr. Randy Bush
- March 25 Rev. Dr. Randy Bush

Labyrinth Prayer Walk

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

Taizé Prayer Service

Wednesdays • 7 pm
Rev. Christiane Dutton

After Taizé Class Schedule

- March 14 Music on the Labyrinth
- March 28 Celebrations!



Remember to set your clocks forward one hour on **Sun., March 11.**

East Liberty Presbyterian Church



The Cathedral of Hope
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www.CathedralOfHope.org

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Linda Addlespurger
Director of Hope Academy

Jane Anabe and Darren Belajac
Seminary Interns

The Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan
Interim Director of Spiritual Life Ministries

The Rev. Brian Diebold
Coordinator of Youth Ministry

The Rev. Christiane Dutton
Minister of Taizé Prayer

Wil Forrest
*Coordinator of iSERVE and
Young Adult Ministry*

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Katie Mohr
Educational Ministries Assistant

Dr. Edward Alan Moore
Music Director and Organist

The Rev. Dr. Robert Chesnut
Pastor Emeritus

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



Science fiction writer William Gibson is credited with making the following comment: "The future is already here. It's just not evenly distributed yet." I find this to be a fascinating remark, which can be read as a strong word of hope for all people of faith.

Evidence that the future is here can be seen in the incredible advances in technology that have re-shaped much of world in just the past decade. Given how prevalent "smartphones" now are, how ubiquitous the practice of texting one another now is, and how casually we buy something through the Internet or download a book onto our electronic devices, the future has become commonplace in our present lives. Yet such "smart" technology is not uniformly available in our country, much less around the world. Nor are the benefits from it evenly and fairly distributed to all people.

Within the Presbyterian Church, there is much talk about our new openness to ordaining church leaders and ministers regardless of marital status or sexual orientation. This long-awaited "future" position of inclusivity toward gays and lesbians is finally here. Yet there are still many churches who reject that God's call is so generously distributed, and who preach that God's love does not extend to people in same-gender relationships. Clearly more work remains to be done to ensure that the biblical commitment to full inclusion is more evenly distributed in our own denomination.

In our own congregation, the last several New Member classes have been predominantly attended by young adults in their 20's and 30's. They speak about wanting to find a church home that is diverse in membership, committed to mutual prayer and study, and active in social witness in the community. One person in the recent class was amazed that more of Pittsburgh had not yet found their way inside our doors, given the combination of the above qualities present at ELPC. The young adult presence in all our worship services reflects the "future" the Presbyterian Church sorely needs. By living our faith openly through our outreach to people of all ages and our connections with other churches and places of worship, we are doing our part to make sure this future is more evenly distributed.

Christ has said, "The kingdom of God is in your midst." The good news of Christ's healing, justice-seeking, redeeming message is at the heart of what we remember during the season of Lent. When that message is combined with the hope captured in the "resurrection joy" of Easter, then the gospel aspect of Gibson's quote becomes quite clear. The future promise of God's realm is in our midst, but it needs to be more evenly distributed. May we join with God's Spirit in distributing this good news in the days and weeks to come.

Randy Bush

Lenten Sacrifice

For many of us, Lent is a time of reflection and sacrifice. We put down chocolate, we refrain from television, and we turn to Jesus trusting that He will carry us when our temptations grow too great. The board of deacons invites you to join us this year in making our sacrifice one that not only brings us closer to Christ, but also serves those in need. We ask that you put the money that you would spend on whatever you have decided to give up in an envelope, and return it to the offering plate any Sunday during Lent. You may choose to participate for a day, week, or all of Lent. The decision is yours to prayerfully make.

All money that is collected will go towards the deacons Thanksgiving baskets, which provide help to families and individuals who need assistance to feed their families for Thanksgiving. Envelopes can be picked up outside the Sanctuary during this holy season.

The Board of Deacons thanks you for joining us in this sacrifice, but our gratitude pales in comparison to the gratitude of those whom our fasting will serve.

Session News

At their recent meetings, the ELPC Session approved the 2012 budget and received the report of the Congregation Nominating Committee. In addition, they moved to support an overture from the Presbytery of Mid Kentucky calling for divestment from “for profit” health insurance companies; approved the communion schedule for 2012; finalized officer training and ordination dates for 2012; and continued to recruit coordinators to assist with special events associated with the General Assembly meeting here in Pittsburgh (June 30–July 7).

Have a Heart for Hunger

Hunger is on the increase in Allegheny County. Hundreds of people in the East End of Pittsburgh don't know where their next meal is coming from. Through their Hunger Services, East End Cooperative Ministry (EECM) reaches out to those who are experiencing the pain of hunger. Last year, their hunger programs provided meals and groceries to more than 4,000 individuals.



Join the fight against hunger by participating in ELPC's support of EECM's Have a Heart for Hunger Campaign. Here are two ways to participate:

Give: Make a financial contribution. Donations made before Sat., March 31, will have a matching donation made up to \$30,000.

Collect: This year EECM's focus is on boxed goods. Fill a bag with a selection of the items listed below and bring it to church on **Sun., March 25**.

- Hamburger Helper
- Instant Mashed Potatoes
- Mac and Cheese
- Stuffing Mix
- Rice-A-Roni
- Diapers in all Sizes
- Household Cleaning Products

2012 General Assembly Comes to Pittsburgh

by Frances Wilson, Local Congregational Contact



The Pittsburgh Presbytery is the host for the 220th General Assembly, which will meet in Pittsburgh from June 30–July 7, at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center.

The General Assembly (GA) is the council of the whole Presbyterian Church. It is representative of the unity of the synods, presbyteries, sessions, and congregations that together make up the PC(USA). The GA, which meets biennially, constitutes the bond of union, community, and mission among all its congregations and councils.

To prepare for this historic gathering, the presbytery's Committee on Local Arrangements (COLA)—assisted by representatives of neighboring presbyteries, as well as Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and Synod of the Trinity—is planning for the “ministry of hospitality” that will provide a warm welcome to over 3,000 Presbyterians who will travel to Pittsburgh. There will be a wide variety of volunteer tasks at the Convention Center, as well as at the special events and downtown hotels where visitors will be staying.

Hundreds of volunteers are needed to participate. The minimum age requirement for volunteers is 14 with an accompanying adult. The

general categories of needs are Office of the GA, hospitality, media/communications, worship, and special events, with numerous specific tasks within each category. All volunteers must register through the 2012 GA Volunteer Sign-up Website. After the immediate confirmation of registration, they will read details about the tasks within the various categories, the number of openings and sign up for time slots. Please consider your availability during the week and prepare to help at GA.

You are invited to access COLA's website at www.cola2012.org. Additional information will be added as it becomes available.

Christian Education

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Associate Pastor for Educational Ministries

Contemporaries Class *Second Floor Parlor*

Facilitators: Joe Kennedy and Mary Alice Lightle

March 4: The Church and the Generations

Panel Discussion Moderated by Mary Alice Lightle

Did you know there are six living generations of Presbyterians? Listen as members of each generation share their thoughts on the church and the gifts of their generation to the church. Panelists are Roy Hiller (Builder Generation), Justin Johnson (Silent Generation), Penn Hackney (Baby Boomer), Derek Harrigan (Generation X), Cornelius Frantz (Millennial), and Josh and David Bellin (Generation Z).

March 11/18: The Changing Authority of the Pulpit and the Church

Led by the Rev. Dr. Randy Bush

Much has changed in recent years regarding how people understand the institutional church and the practice of preaching. Different worship styles, Internet sermons, countless resources available for spiritual advice: How are we to hear God's voice in such changing times? Pastor Randy will address the topic of "The Changing Authority of the Pulpit and the Church."

The first session will explore to what extent authority resides in the act of preaching today. The second session will include a rich discussion of how people connect with the congregational church model, as practiced at ELPC and elsewhere. Both classes will explore how people of faith are challenged to find ways to talk about tough topics within the current church environment.

March 25: Combined class, see **page 8** for details.

Journey with Scripture *Second Floor Library*

Facilitator: Jan Irvin

We read the Revised Common Lectionary scripture selections while providing time for reflection and response. We read together for many reasons: for the sake of God and the Reign of God; to recognize how we are loved, questioned, commanded and transformed by God; to journey towards a community of vision, imagination, justice and steadfast love.

March 4: Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16; Psalms 22:23–31; Romans 4:13–25; Mark 8:31–38 Led by Jan Irvin

March 11: Exodus 20:1–17; Psalms 19; I Corinthians 1:18–25; John 2:13–22 Led by Jan Irvin

March 18: Numbers 21:4–9; Psalms 107:1–3, 17–22; Ephesians 2:1–10; John 3:14–21 Led by Wil Forrest

March 25: Jeremiah 31:31–34; Psalms 51:1–12; Hebrews 5:5–10; John 12:20–33 Led by Jan Irvin

Note: Contemporaries and Seekers will have a combined class on **Sun., March 25**. Please see **page 8** or visit **www.CathedralOfHope.org** for details. Classes begin at 9:45 am.

Parenting Circle *Harambe Room*

Facilitators: Pam Walaski, Andrea DeVries, and Sandy Edgecombe

We will conclude our study of *The Five Love Languages* books by Gary Chapman and Ross Campbell—*The Five Love Languages of Teenagers* and *The Five Love Languages of Children*. Books will be available for purchase.

We strive to fit the discussion into the context of our Christian faith, and try to incorporate scriptures and Presbyterian based literature into the discussion. If you have questions or comments, email Pam at **pam@jcsafety.com** or Andrea at **A DeVries@healthcore.com**.

Seekers *Room 234*

Facilitator: Gwen Puza

March 4: Christianity in Cuba Led by Gwen Puza

Learn about Christianity and other social changes in present-day Cuba, with images from Gwen's mission trip. Learn how the Cuban constitution was changed from "atheist" to "secular" to allow for more religious freedom.

March 11/18: Letters and Papers from Prison

Dietrich Bonhoeffer was executed in the last days of the Hitler regime. In *Letters and Papers from Prison* by Bonhoeffer, we have a powerful portrait of a man willing to take such risks for civil rights as to engage in conspiracy, yet he did not leave behind the devotional practice of a lifetime. He criticized his church's privileges and demand for security, but he loved this church to the end.

If you do not wish to read the entire book, the Rev. Christiane Dutton recommends you read the preface, Chapters 4 and 5, and the last 40 pages.

March 25: Combined class, see **page 8** for details.

Soul Food *Pastor's Conference Room*

Coordinator: Joe Hajdu

We will continue examining readings from *Spiritual Classics*.

March 4: **Fasting, A Source of Trial** (page 62–66)

March 11: **Cleansing of the Heart** (page 67–72)

March 18: **Prayer and Fasting, Public or Private?** (page 73–76)

March 25: **In My Great Task-Master's Eye** (page 171–175)

Clase de Escuela Dominical en Español

Room 217; Facilitator: Joaquin Anabe Lopez

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

Youth Ministry

Note: For more information on activities for youth and tweens (youth in grades 4–6) or to be added to our youth mailing list, please contact Gloria Knopp at **412.441.3800 x22**.



Sat. March 31–April 1: 30–Hour Famine

Youth in grades 7–12 are invited to participate in a 30–Hour Famine at ELPC from Sat., March 31–Sun., April 1. This annual event is an opportunity for youth to fast together for 30 hours (drinking only water and 100-percent juice)—and in doing so, raising money to minister to those who are hungry throughout the world. While enjoying an overnight retreat at ELPC, youth will learn more about world hunger, engage in service together, worship God, and have fun! (Yes, as is tradition, youth will get to play hide-n-go-seek!). Youth will break their fast with Communion Sunday

morning, followed by a hearty breakfast during the church school hour. Youth will be fundraising on Sun., March 18 and 25, and all of the money raised will go to support the Haiti School Lunch and EECM’s Have a Heart for Hunger campaign.

Youth Basketball Saturdays, from 6–8 pm

Young men (grades 9–12) are welcome to join us for basketball.

club one sixteen

Wednesdays, from 3:30–7 pm

Youth will explore the life of Jesus and how His teachings impact our daily lives. Our schedule will be:

3:30–4 pm: Homework Help/Snacks

4–5 pm: Open Gym/**club life**

5–5:30 pm: Dinner

5:30–7 pm: Bible Study



club life

Wednesdays, from 4–5 pm

Join us for our **creating workshop**. Youth will plan, produce and perform in a short video, and in doing so, will explore how filmmaking can help us tell our own stories.

Young Adult Ministry

Wil Forrest, Coordinator

Fri., March 2: First Friday at First Church, at 7 pm

Drumming builds community and releases tension—so let’s get together for some drumming and lift each other’s spirits at First United Methodist Church of Pittsburgh (5401 Centre Ave., Shadyside). Tom Petterson, First United Methodist’s young adult leader, will teach us various rhythms, calls and responses, games, and other playful adventures in rhythm. You will feel confident in minutes, even if you have never drummed before. Bring your own drum if you have one. No van service will be offered for this event.

Sun., March 11: Paul and Women’s Role in the Church, at 12:30 pm, in Room 234

Few debates in the church have been as influential and long-standing as the role of women in church. Paul wrote multiple statements that are used and misused in this debate. Come and examine the Word together. Men, please bring a side dish or dessert to share so we can serve the women and all share in a nice lunch.

Tues., March 20: Vernal Equinox Nature Experience, at 6 pm

As we pray for good weather, we will take a nature walk and share in a brief outdoor worship experience on this special day. Meet in the church lobby and bring good walking shoes!

Sun., March 25: Visit of Mark Adams, Co-Founder of Café Justo

Mark Adams, Co-Founder of Café Justo will lead a combined adult Church School class at 9:45 am, and a presentation at 12:30 pm. See **page 8** for details.

Retreat to Crestfield

Fri., March 30, from 6:30 pm, to Sat., March 31, at 3 pm

This year, our annual retreat to Camp Crestfield (www.crestfield.net) will focus on the church’s young adults. We will ask, “Where are all the young adults in the church?” In preparation, please reflect on your own spiritual journey and involvement with the church, and read this article: www.barna.org/teens-next-gen-articles/528-six-reasons-young-christians-leave-church (contact Wil if you cannot access it, or scan the QR code on the right with your smartphone).



There is a small cost, but some assistance is available. RSVP to Wil by **Fri., March 2**.

Health Ministry

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

Tai Chi

Tuesdays, from 10–11 am, and 6–7 pm
Classes end on March 20.

Yoga

Thursdays, from 7:15–8:45 pm

JourneyDance

Fri., March 9, from 7–8 pm

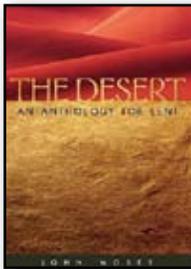
For more information, contact Kate at
katec@coh.net or 412.441.3800 x16.

ELPC Library Updates

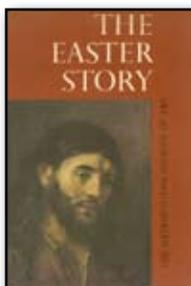
For your Lenten Journey, you may be interested in the following books that are available in the ELPC library. They are on the shelves labeled “New Arrivals.”

- *The Desert: An Anthology for Lent* by John Moses:

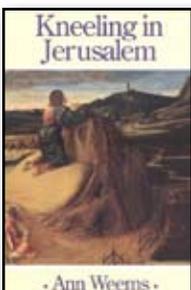
This book explores the tradition and relevance of desert spirituality in the life and worship of the church today, and offers Lenten devotionals.



- *The Easter Story from the Gospels* edited by Marguerite Northrup: The Story of Holy Week and Easter with illustrations from the Metropolitan Museum of Art.



- *Kneeling in Jerusalem* by Ann Weems: Seventy-one poems of inspiration take the reader on a pensive journey through Lent and Easter.



Presbyterian Women

Mary Alice Lightle, Moderator

Tues., March 6: Confessing the Beatitudes, at 10 am

Join us in the Second Floor Parlor as we continue our study of the beatitudes. Heather Lawrence will lead our lesson, **Greatly Honored are the Peacemakers!** (Matthew 5:9; James 2:15–16). A potluck lunch will follow. Please bring a salad or snack to share and your own place setting. Beverages will be provided.



Fri., May 18–19: Spring Retreat – The Powers of Choice and Empathy

A peacemaker by nature and a lawyer and mediator by profession, Elder Diana Bloss will share the gift of accepting empowerment and the practice of empathy. Partial scholarships are available. Watch the bulletin board for details.

Pray. Learn. Give. Act. by Wil Forrest, iSERVE Coordinator

All of us, no matter what our age, skills, wealth or health status, can **pray** to the Holy in heaven on behalf of those in need.

Learn about your world and where areas of need exist today.

As faithful Christians we **give** because we have been given to.

You are the church in **action** in our community and around the world.

Sometimes the words of our friends say it all. The paragraph above is adapted from our friends at Westminster Presbyterian. As we seek to grow and firmly establish our iSERVE ministry, many voices and hands are needed. Recently, iSERVE has had a name change (from VIM to iSERVE) and also became part of the Membership and Outreach Committee, but still serves all committees and leaders within our community. As we seek to redefine this ministry and find ways to create an efficient and effective serving culture, I ask for your participation. Take a friend's advice...pray, learn, give, and act. Know that you are already part of iSERVE, and your prayerful, educated and generous action is appreciated and required for this ministry to unfold.

i SERVE
LOVE IN ACTION

Music Ministry Notes

Sat., March 10: Cathedral Concerts, at 5 pm, in the Chapel

Our Cathedral Concert series continues with *I'm Dreaming Again, Lord*, featuring soprano Gail Novak Mosites and mezzo-soprano Carly Noel Black. Featured on the concert will be song cycles by Samuel Barber and Richard Wagner, as well as an assortment of solos and duets. Pianists Gabriel D'Abruzzo and Bill Larson will be the accompanists. The concert is *free* and open to the public, but a freewill offering will be accepted. Invite a friend for a delightful evening of music!

Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir Updates

The Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir have resumed regular rehearsals, and there is always room for new members! The Handbell Choir rehearses in Dr. Ed's office at 6 pm, on Tuesdays, and the Chancel Choir rehearses in the music room at 7 pm, on Thursdays. Please contact Dr. Ed for more information.

Dear Friends, *by the Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan*



I only have been at ELPC for a short time, but I am so touched by the warm and gracious welcome that I already have received. It has been a great blessing to me! Thank you! I pray that I will be worthy of your confidence and support, and that we will do amazing ministry together!

On Sun., Feb. 5, I had the opportunity to share in worship with you my vision of the spiritual life; but, I am still learning how we might best support one another in our growth here at ELPC. I would cherish your input so that I can better serve you. Many of you already have participated in the ministries sponsored by the Spiritual Life Committee (SLC): doing the Ignatian Exercises; attending small study groups or covenant groups; participating in retreats; practicing Centering Prayer; walking the labyrinth; or worshipping at Holy Ground services. Won't you please share your experience with me? If you have not been a part of these offerings, I would be interested in hearing about how we can support you in your spiritual growth. One of the new directions the SLC is exploring is in Interfaith study and dialogue, another is in providing a spiritual grounding for mission. Can we interest you?

Please let me know by contacting me at marylynn@coh.net or 412.441.3800 x41.

Peace and joy!

Spiritual Life

The Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan, Interim Director of Spiritual Life Ministries

Is Spiritual Direction for YOU? *by the Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan*

In addition to working with the Spiritual Life Committee, I also am on staff as a spiritual director for members of the congregation. If you are unfamiliar with the practice, "spiritual direction" is a bit of a misnomer in that the director is really God. Although the so-called "director" may make suggestions on a particular spiritual practice or on something to read, it is always optional. He or she is more of a trained ear, a guide to help another become more aware of the presence and activity of God in his or her life. So, if you desire to draw closer to God, to have a more intimate relationship with the divine; then, I invite you to come for a visit so that we can spend some time together and explore this centuries-old practice.

I typically have office hours on Tuesdays from 12–8 pm, and on Fridays from 10 am–6 pm Give me a call (412.441.3800 x41) or send an email (MaryLynn@coh.net) and let's get together and talk. I would love to hear about your life story, concerns, hopes, journey, who God is for you, and prayer.

First Sunday Event: Awakening to Meaning and Wonder in the Cosmos



Beginning on **Sun., March 4**, from 12:15–2 pm—and continuing on April 1, and May 13—Karen Bernard will introduce us to the New Cosmology, a grand, unifying, and sacred story that awakens us to the meaning and wonder of our universe. This story is not specifically Christian, but inclusive, universal, and filled with hope. The series will feature video, discussion, songs, poetry, and prayer, as well as interactive dialogue and meditation.

About the Speaker: Karen Bernard is a co-founder of *Dream of the Earth*, a local non-profit, whose mission is to engage in reinventing ourselves as a species. *Dream of the Earth* invites us to learn, celebrate and participate in a new, comprehensive story—one that includes everyone and everything.

ELPC People

If you have news to share, please contact Gloria Knopp at 412.441.3800 x22.

Good News

- Brian and Kim Diebold welcomed their baby girl, **Elsie Olivia Diebold**, on Fri., Feb. 3. Brian has been on the ELPC staff for five years, working with our Youth Ministry as he pastors Verona Presbyterian Church.

Prayers

We offer our prayers and condolences to:

- Rev. Randy Bush, whose mother, Suzi Bush, passed away on Jan. 14.
- Cyndi Dickson, whose father, John Dickson, passed away on Jan. 19.
- Farley Whetzel, whose husband, Joshua Whetzel, passed away on Jan. 26.
- Linda Sanders, whose husband, Harold (Hal) Sanders, passed away on Feb. 6. Hal was serving as an Elder on Session, active in the choir, and a co-chair of the Property Committee.

Grief Group Begins

The emotional challenges that accompany loss can be experienced as sudden and profound, or they can arise subtly over time as persistent sadness, mood swings, difficulty with day-to-day functioning, or distress in personal relationships. These are aspects of grieving, which also can be related to separation, divorce, or major life change.

Grief is a process that, when met with compassion and care by self and others, can flow into a renewed and deepened engagement with life.

ELPC members Ted Cmarada and Susan Spangler, experienced psychotherapists and grief counselors, will lead a Grief Group for those in our community who are grieving or struggling with loss and change. The *free* group will begin **Thurs., March 15**, at ELPC, and will continue for six weeks on Thursdays from 6:30–8 pm.

Note: The group will not meet on Holy Thursday, April 5.



East Liberty Presbyterian Church

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

www.CathedralOfHope.org



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“As a diverse community of believers, we strive to follow God—the Creator who calls us, Jesus who teaches us, and the Spirit who empowers us. We show God’s unconditional love by providing a refuge for spiritual growth, ardently pursuing justice, and extending Christ’s radical hospitality to all.”

Find us on Facebook

Search for “East Liberty Presbyterian Church” or scan the QR code below.



World Day of Prayer

Fri., March 2, at 1 pm



Join Christians in the East End of Pittsburgh for a vibrant service of song and praise at the World Day of Prayer at ELPC. The service was prepared by the women of Malaysia with the theme “Let Justice Prevail.” Light refreshments will be served following worship. Call Mary Alice

Lightle at **412.682.1504** for more information.

World Mission Initiative Conference

Fri., March 23–24

Presbyterian Women invite you to be our guests at the World Mission Initiative Conference, **Relevant Church in a Changing World**, at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Choose from a variety of workshop topics, network with mission agencies, and connect with others who are passionate about mission. Find out more at www.worldmissioninitiative.org.

Pick up a registration form on the bulletin board outside the library. Your registration has been paid for, but you are responsible for your own meals.

Mark Adams Visits

Sun., March 25

Mark Adams is the Coordinator for Frontera de Cristo, in Aqua Prieta, Sonora, Mexico, and Douglas, Ariz., and oversees six areas of the border ministry. Frontera de Cristo is a PC(USA) supported ministry through which Café Justo was established and operates. Mark is a committed and spirit-filled man who has a heart for God and God’s people of all nationalities and ethnicities. He has



a storehouse of stories to share and is an effective witness for the work that is being done on the border to aid those who make it to the U.S. and those who continue to live in Mexico.

Mark is a featured presenter at the World Mission Initiative Conference on Fri., March 23–24 (see the article on the left).

On **Sun., March 25**, Mark will lead a Church School class in Room 234 for Seekers, Contemporaries, and the Young Adults. Following 11 am worship, he will continue the conversation.

The ELPC Mission Board will sponsor this event. Please plan to attend all of these opportunities to learn more about Frontera de Cristo, Café Justo, and the future of the partnership between PC(USA) and the Presbyterian Church of Mexico.

Learn more about Frontera de Cristo’s at www.fronteradecristo.org.