

Editor's Note

This month's theme is *Celebrate the Journey*. Look for articles related to this theme throughout the newsletter, identified by this symbol.



Sunday Morning Services

** Celebration of the Lord's Supper*

Good Samaritan Worship • 8 am

Liturgists: Justin and Bill Johnson

- Oct. 7* Rev. John Welch, *Vice President of Student Service/ Dean of Students, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary*
- Oct. 14 Father Regis Ryan, *Executive Director, Focus on Renewal*
- Oct. 21 Charles Nordquist, *Elder*
- Oct. 28 Paul Spangler, *Seminarian, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary*

Journey Worship • 8:45 am

- Oct. 7* Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
- Oct. 14 Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
- Oct. 21 Rev. Dr. Randy Bush
- Oct. 28 Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

Sanctuary Worship • 11 am

- Oct. 7* Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan
- Oct. 14 Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
- Oct. 21 Rev. Dr. Randy Bush
- Oct. 28 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

- Oct. 10: Celebrating World Communion Sunday with the Sharing of Bread
- Oct. 17: Domestic Violence Awareness
- Oct. 24: Celebrating Children's Sabbath
- Oct. 31: Celebrating Reformation Sunday with Prayers and Music

After Taizé Class Schedule

Classes begin at 8:15 pm.

- Oct. 10: Music on the Labyrinth
- Oct. 31: Celebrations!

Exploring Sabbath with Wayne Muller

Sat., Oct. 13: Sabbath Retreat, from 9 am–4 pm



As we move through the frantic pace of fall with the Christmas season looming ahead, the Spiritual Life Committee invites you to pause for a day of rest and refreshment. Embrace the opportunity for restoring the sacred rhythm of rest in your life. A Harvard Divinity School graduate, Wayne Muller is an ordained minister and a best-selling author, who is gifted with an infectious spirit and a deep, poetic heart.

For details, check out the brochure on the Spiritual Life Committee bulletin board and on the ELPC website. The cost is **\$50**, and the registration deadline is **Tues., Oct. 9**.

Oct. 14: Combined Adult Christian Education Class with Wayne Muller

All adult Christian Education classes will combine in the Chapel at 9:45 am.

Sun., Oct. 14: Congregational Conversation

Join us in the Social Hall after 11 am Worship, as Wayne Muller leads a Congregational Conversation. With the awareness that this is the last day of Pastor Randy's Sabbatical, this is an opportunity for the congregation to discuss what this time has meant to them in their lives.

Note: Several of Wayne Muller's books will be available for sale in the ELPC Bookstore, and there will be an autograph session during the weekend.

Updates from New Zealand

by the Rev. Dr. Randy Bush



In a few days, our family will be back home in Pittsburgh. The past three months have been an incredible experience for all of us. We have seen magical places, explored natural wonders, and met incredible people throughout New Zealand. We have learned so much about life in the Pacific Islands, with its rich Maori history and fascinating interplay between indigenous and European cultures. So much is new in New Zealand: Christianity has only been

here for 200 years; true nationwide, social justice efforts can be traced to events barely 30 years old. This nation is still developing its own vocabulary about what it means to be multicultural, diverse, and committed to the common good for all.

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East Liberty Presbyterian Church



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Pastor

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Associate Pastor for Educational Ministries

Linda Addlespurger
Director of Hope Academy

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

The Rev. Christiane Dutton
Minister of Taizé Prayer

Wil Forrest
*Coordinator of iSERVE and
Young Adult Ministry*

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

Sara Hackett
*Interim Coordinator for Christian Education
and Youth Ministry*

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Paul Martin
Facilities Manager

The Rev. Barbara McFarland
Parish Associate

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. Heather Schoenewolf, Associate Pastor for Educational Ministries



*Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join O church, in song!
For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey and praise the Lord!*

The words to this familiar hymn (“Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!” – #430 in our Blue Hymnal), resonate for me as the cool evenings and dark mornings confirm that it is, indeed, fall.

Fall has always been my favorite season. I have always loved the anticipation of a new school year, the fall holidays that came along with festive decorations, the color of the autumn leaves...For me, fall is punctuated with celebrations—our wedding anniversary, my birthday, and ELPC’s anniversary to name a few—that cause me to look both forward and backward, while savoring, with gratitude, the present moment. These landmarks allow me to pause and realize that there is so much along my life’s journey for which I can rejoice—people, places, and opportunities that have shaped and added meaning to my life.

We all can point to seasons of our lives that hold great meaning for us. Perhaps you note a season of the calendar year (winter, spring, summer, fall) which seems to carry within it cherished memories triggered by smells and sights and tastes that flood your heart with a rush of nostalgia. Perhaps the season you call to mind is one of study at an educational institution, or one of parenting small children who were still young enough to climb on your lap at the end of a long day. Perhaps the season you call to mind is a season of creativity or travel, of years lived with your Grandparents were nearby, of prosperity—materially or relationally. Perhaps the season you recall is one of loss or fear, of struggle overcome. Such a reflection can often spark a spiritual insight, where, with the gift of hindsight, we can see clearly that in good times and in difficult times, God was with us: comforting us, challenging us, inspiring us, and caring for us along each stretch of our journey.

Within the life of our faith, we have cause to celebrate together—giving thanks for the assurance that in each and every season of our lives, *God is with us still*. We celebrate the rich promise of our faith—that “in life and in death we belong to God” (A Brief Statement of Faith) and that Jesus meant it when he said, “And remember I am with you always, to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20b).

Throughout the month of October we have an opportunity to **celebrate the journey together**. From World Communion Sunday (Oct. 7) to Reformation Sunday (Oct. 28) we celebrate the rich, millennia-long season of being the church together—filled with the Spirit, reformed and always being reformed. We celebrate the community that God has called here to worship—in four different worship services, in 12 different Sunday School classes, in music and dance and mission opportunities and witness.

Mid-October, we also mark the end of a Sabbatical season in the life of Pastor Randy and his family, as Randy, Beth, Ian and Charlotte return from their three-month stay in New Zealand. On Mon., Oct. 15, Pastor Randy formally returns to the office, and will preach at Journey and our Sanctuary service on Sun., Oct. 21. Following worship, Personnel will host a Welcome Back Reception to honor Pastor Randy, Beth, Ian and Charlotte, so that we can hear about this Sabbath season in their lives. Please join us for this celebration!

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Pastoral Message

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As we prepare for Pastor Randy's return, I offer a word of deep gratitude to the ELPC Staff, Session and Board of Deacons, and each member of ELPC for everyone's hard work, wise insights, and joyful care of one another during Randy's absence. It continues to be a privilege to serve among such gifted colleagues and dedicated members and leaders of ELPC. This sense of gratitude for each of you has been magnified during Pastor Randy's Sabbatical. I praise God for you!

As we settle into the fall, and welcome all that this season in our life brings, may we find moments to truly **celebrate the journey**—the journey of our own lives, and the journey we share with others. Let us try this month: to pause in prayer at the end of the day and give thanks to that which has held special meaning; to cherish time with loved ones, noting the gifts tucked within the unique relationship we share together; to maintain a Sabbath-keeping practice of rest and restoration to sustain us through dark, chilly winter days; to try something new, remembering that there are—no matter what stage of our life's journey we are on—opportunities for new beginnings and fresh starts.

And then let us bring our stories and questions, our hopes and our inspiration to this diverse and dynamic community of faith, so that we can bear witness to the good news all around us in the life of faith that we share together. *In bold accord, come celebrate the journey and praise the Lord!*

Pastor Heather

Bible 116

Wed., Oct. 3, 10, 17, and 24

Join Pastors Heather and Randy and explore the scriptural text that will be central our worship each Sunday. We will gather in the Second Floor Parlor for refreshments at 5:30 pm, and then bible study from 6–6:55 pm.

Thoughts on Reformation Sunday

by Penn Hackney



Reformation Sunday, Oct. 28, is the closest Sunday before Reformation Day on Oct. 31. I appreciate Reformation Sunday because it reminds us, as Presbyterians, of our Reformed heritage. "Reformed" is a Christian theology based primarily on 16th Century theologians like Martin Luther and John Calvin, and, through the next century, is represented by the first six post-Apostolic creeds in our Book of Confessions. Although often considered strict and old-fashioned in many ways, Reformed theology has become important to me in recent years.

Here are three large ideas that come from our Reformed traditions that I find to be helpful guideposts for my Christian walk. First, the "Five Solas" (by Scripture alone, by faith alone, by grace alone, through Christ alone, and to the glory of God alone) are useful cornerstones for my understanding of Christianity. These "solas" teach, among other things, that apart from these solas we have nothing of ultimate value to contribute to God's plan. They remind us to "put first things first." Another Reformed notion is *ecclesia semper reformanda est* (Latin for "the church is always to be reformed"), which reminds the church that God is never "done" with us—that we need to keep an open mind and heart, always seeking the wisdom of the Holy Spirit in our decision-making for the Church. A third Reformation theme of considerable importance to me is the "sovereignty of God." This notion teaches me to be humble before others and to trust in God. We can never know all of God's will, so we cannot presume to dictate that will to others, but we can be sure that God loves us and is truly in charge of all things. This notion is very comforting, because it tells me that in the last analysis, and regardless of circumstances, I have nothing ultimately to fear.

If taken to extremes, Reformed theology can give one a crabbed and even ugly view of God and God's plan for, and relationship to, humanity. However, I have read a good bit of Calvin in recent years and have found his teachings to be strongly insistent on living a life of love, and cultivating an attitude of humility toward, and respect for, every human being. Taken aright, Reformed theology is a strong impetus to loving one's neighbor and having humility before Almighty God.

Staff Changes

In August, the Personnel Committee announced that the Rev. Dr. Robert Maravalli resigned as ELPC's Coordinator of Christian Education and Youth Ministries. We pray for God's blessing to be upon Bob as he pursues other avenues of ministry.

As the search for a permanent staff person to serve in this role resumes, we are pleased to announce that Personnel has hired Sara Hackett to serve as the Interim Coordinator of Christian Education and Youth Ministries. Sara has a degree in Christian Education from Westminster College and a master's degree from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. She has served as the Director of Christian Education at Sampson's Mills Presbyterian Church and on staff at our Presbytery office, offering support to the Disciple-making Ministries and to the Executive Director of Camp Crestfield. She also has served on the Planning Team of our Synod's Youth Conference for almost a decade. Sara is a Pittsburgh native and a life-long Presbyterian. We rejoice that she is able to offer her gifted leadership at this time. Please join us in welcoming Sara to ELPC!



Christian Education

*The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Associate Pastor for Educational Ministries*

Contemporaries Class *Second Floor Parlor*

Facilitators: Joe Kennedy and Mary Alice Lightle

Oct. 7: Guatemala Mission Experience

Led by Judith and Isaiah Wilson

Last spring, Isaiah and Judith were part of a 10-member mission team to Guatemala. Come hear this son and Mother talk about their experiences with ASELMI Ministries' health clinic and Bible school in Chichicastenago.

Oct. 21: Extraordinary Ordinary *Led by Lenore Williams*

"My vote won't count," "One person can't make a difference," "Who would listen to me?" We have heard and often said these words. We feel small, insignificant, helpless, and incompetent. But in reality, we have power that is waiting to be brought forth. God has called ordinary people to do extraordinary things by touching our souls. You may already be one and don't know it. Come hear and share how one person takes on a "calling." Then return for prayers of strength and guidance as we go out to fulfill the "call."

Oct. 28: The Gideons *Led by Jack Kelly and Jim Skomo*

The mission of the Gideons is to distribute Bibles and New Testaments in selected streams of life. More than 1.7 billion Bibles have been taken into 190 countries around the world. This vibrant ministry continues to grow everywhere as a means of spreading the Good News! Be inspired and enlightened through a timely presentation.

Journey with Scripture *Second Floor Library*

Facilitator: Jan Irvin

Oct. 7: Job 1:1, 2:1–10; Psalms 26;

Hebrews 1:1–4, 2:5–12; Mark 10:2–16

Oct. 14: Job 23:1–9, 16–17; Psalms 22:1–15;

Hebrews 4:12–16; Mark 10:17–31

Oct. 21: Job 38:1–7 (34–41); Psalms 104:1–9, 24, 35c;

Hebrews 5:1–10; Mark 10:35–45

Oct. 28: Job 42:1–6, 10–17; Psalms 34:1–8 (19–22);

Hebrews 7:23–28; Mark 10:46–52

Parenting Circle *Harambe Room*

Facilitators: Pam Walaski and Maria Engelhardt

We will continue exploring families in all the various combinations and iterations that make ELPC such a welcoming and inclusive place. We will focus on how families are created, function, and live out the plan God has for their lives. Each week, we will provide an essay, blog, podcast, or video to jumpstart our conversation.

Ideas and suggestions for weekly topics are welcome. For more information, email Pam at pam@jcsafety.com or Maria at missmariasmillinery@hotmail.com.

We rejoice that ELPC provides educational offerings for all ages. For a full listing of classes and descriptions, please see the CE bulletin boards or visit www.CathedralOfHope.org. Classes begin at 9:45 am.

Seekers *Room 234*

Facilitator: Gwen Puza

Oct. 7: Combined Class with Contemporaries

Oct. 21: Who are the Sikhs and What do they Believe?

In remembrance of the recent Sikh temple shooting in Wisconsin, show your support for our local Sikh community. Chitratan Singh, exec. committee director of the local temple, along with his wife and other Sikhs, will tell us about:

- Who are Sikhs, a Brief History;
- Sikh Core Principles and Similarities with the American Constitution;
- What is the Significance and Relevance of the Turban?

Oct. 28: How is Egypt doing today, after the revolution?

Joseph Ragheb—an Egyptian, Coptic Christian, and professor—will tell us about the social and political strife in Egypt today.

Soul Food *Pastor's Conference Room*

Facilitator: Joe Hajdu

Oct. 7: A reading on God and our daily routine by Karl Rahner (page 217–224 of "Spiritual Classics")

Oct. 21, 28: We will begin discussing a new book. Watch the Sunday bulletins and the ELPC website for details.

Clase de Escuela Dominical en Español

Room 217; Facilitator: Joaquin Anabe Lopez

Oct. El Viaje a la Tierra Prometida

Youth Classes

Junior High (grades 6–8) *Room 341*

Curriculum: "Feasting on the Word"

Senior High (grades 9–12) *Room 343*

Curriculum: "We Believe"

Children's Classes

Young Children's Ministry/Infants–age 2 *Nursery*

Curriculum: "Wee Children at Church"

Pre-school/Ages 3–5 *Room 240*

Curriculum: "Gospel Light"

Kindergarten and Grade 1 *Room 336*

Curriculum: "Godly Play"

Grades 2–3 *Room 338*

Curriculum: "Godly Play"

Grades 4–5 *Room 335*

Curriculum: "Seasons of the Spirit"

Hope Academy of Music and the Arts

Linda Addlespurger, Director

Fri., Oct. 5: Hope Academy Teaching Artists Performing in Unblurred, at 7 and 8 pm
Co(lab)trix—a group of Hope Academy teaching artists and friends, including Meredith Hoppe, Michael Walsh, Darrell Kinsel, Anqwenique Wingfield, Sophia Levine, Natalie Moretti, Michael Chapman, Linda Addlespurger and Tracksplottation's Jordan Taylor—is presenting a multidisciplinary, site-specific performance of "For the Girl Who Sleeps in Snow" throughout ELPC as part of **Unblurred: First Fridays on Penn.**

Meet at the Narthex on Penn Ave., across from the Kelly-Strayhorn Theater. Recommended for ages 13 and up. The audience is limited to 40 people for each showing. Wear comfortable shoes and be ready for walking and stairs.



"For the Girl Who Sleeps in Snow" explores how we survive in a dangerous world. Whether the "end of the world as we know it" comes in the form of a nuclear explosion, zombie attack, divorce or death of a loved one, the ways we prepare for and deal with disaster are the same. Should we have a plan, say a prayer, or wish for the best? Stock up on supplies or dance as the sky crashes down? Bug In or Bug Out?

Youth Ministry

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

Sat., Oct. 6: Youth Event at World Vision

Youth in grades 6–12 will have an opportunity to volunteer at World Vision, where we will pack donations of clothing and supplies for individuals in need. We will meet at ELPC at 8 am, and return at 11 am. Parents should pick up their children at 11:45 am. A bag lunch will be provided.

Sun., Oct. 7: Tween Event at Crestfield

Youth in grades 4–6 are invited to Harvest Day at Crestfield Camp and Conference Center in Slippery Rock, Pa. We will leave after worship and return by 6:30 pm. Please bring \$5 for dinner. Activities for the day include hay rides, zip-lining, pumpkin painting, canoeing, climbing wall and worship.

To RSVP for either of these events, please call Anthony Williams at **412.292.7935** or Sara Hackett at **412.441.3800 x20** by **Fri., Sept. 28**.

club one sixteen

Wednesdays, from 3:30–7 pm

club life: cooking class

Each week, kids of all ages are welcome to join us as we develop our baking and cooking skills. Please fill out a registration form so that we know how many students to prepare for.

Bible Study

We continue our study of **Testimonies**, hearing testimonies from scripture about how God's people have encountered the Living Christ, and talking about how we have seen God at work in our own lives.

Note: On **Wed., Oct. 31**, our time together will end at 5:30 pm.

Young Adult Ministry

Wil Forrest, Coordinator

Fri., Oct. 5: First Friday at the Bee Hive, at 7 pm

Join TRAIL to see what all the buzz is about at the Bee Hive Coffeehouse (1327 E. Carson St., South Side). Cuddle up on a cool fall evening with a cup of coffee or tea, friends, conversation and perhaps a card game (bring a deck of cards).

Sun., Oct. 21: Sunday Book Discussion, from 9:45–10:45 am, in Room 244

Join other young adults as Libby and Tucker Ferda lead our discussion of Anne Lamott's much-loved spiritual memoir, "Traveling Mercies." And, of course, Café Justo will be served!

Sat.–Sun., Oct. 27–28: A Night at the Church, beginning at 6 pm

Just in time for Halloween, we will spend an evening full of treats...and maybe a few tricks. We will begin with dinner and then who knows. We will sleep in the church and worship together before ending our time Sunday morning at 9 am.

Did You Miss the TUK Training this Summer?

An hour-long Trained User of the Kitchen (TUK) training



session is scheduled for **Sun., Oct. 21**, following 11 am Worship. Meet in the ELPC Kitchen. Sign up with Wil Forrest at **wil@coh.net** or **412.441.3800 x14**.

Note: The TUK Program is for individuals and groups from ELPC who utilize the church kitchen. When the ELPC kitchen is in use, a TUK must be present.

Updates from NZ

Continued from page 1

It has been interesting to look back across the waters and see America from the distance—to watch the Summer Olympics and the Presidential campaign from the perspective of another country. As Americans, we are far too prone to assume that our way of doing things is the only way things are done (or the only right way). We use our own experiences as the standard for how progress is measured or justice is enacted. This is to be expected, since our personal experiences understandably dominate our thoughts, reasoning, and priorities. But hopefully each of us knows someone “different” from us, in whose shoes we can stand and walk and then evaluate whether the things we consider to be most important and just for all are truly that. For my family, we can now ask ourselves, “What would our friends in New Zealand have to say about all this?”

It also has been a bit unsettling to be in a culture where, by all appearances, the church plays a marginal role in daily life. Some people faithfully attend church, but those who do tend to be older Europeans or enclaves of ethnic Christians from specific cultural groups (Tongan, Samoan, Chinese, etc.). The language of faith is rarely heard in the public discourse. For all the divisiveness and religious bickering in America, I still prefer the larger, shared conversation about matters of faith to a national silence and possible indifference to the entire subject. Just imagine if no one mentioned God or faith in your weekly routines. Would you be confident enough to bring up the subject?

In closing, I want to thank Pastor Heather for her leadership in my absence, as well as all the ELPC staff. They are a marvelous group of colleagues for whom this time has truly made my heart grow fonder. Thank you also to you, the ELPC congregation, for granting my family this once-in-a-lifetime privilege. It has been a Sabbath time of rest, reflection, and soul-nurturing experiences.

See you soon!

Presbyterian Women

Mary Alice Lightle, Moderator

Tues., Oct. 2: Dispatches to God's Household: The General Epistles

Join us at 10 am, in the Second Floor Parlor as we respond to God's call to live as sisters and brothers, serving one another as members of God's household. Judy Menk will lead our lesson, **Fatherhood** (I Peter 1:1–25; I John 4:7–21). A potluck lunch follows. Please bring a salad or snack to share. Beverages are provided.



Health Ministry

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

Tips For a Healthy Halloween

- Have a healthy meal before you go trick-or-treating. This reduces the temptation to “snack” while walking.
- Hand out healthier treats: snack-sized pretzels, pre-packaged trail mix or dried fruits, or coupons to frozen yogurt stores. Also consider crayons, silly bands, or bubbles, but avoid items that could be choking hazards.
- Find the right-sized collection bag for your child. Avoid the pillow case method.
- Avoid the urge to buy on-sale candy after Halloween.

How to Deal with Excess Candy

- Pick out enough candy for one piece a day for five days and put those aside. When your child asks for a piece of candy, pair it with a healthy snack.
- “Buy back” the candy from your child with money or tokens they can trade in for a fun activity, such as a day at the zoo, pool, or ice skating.
- Some dentist offices buy back the candy from their patients.

Tai Chi Tuesdays 10–11 am, and 6–7 pm	Yoga Thursdays 7:15–8:45 pm	JourneyDance Fri., Oct. 12 7–8 pm
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A Pleasure to Serve *by Wil Forrest, iSERVE Coordinator*

Over the last two years, I have asked each of you to submit your iSERVE Time and Talent Interest Inventory (please do, if you already have not). I sought to know your skills, interests, and experiences so I can better assist you with your service journey. It is important that, as servants of Christ, we are engaged in ministry that fulfills each of our needs for involvement and commitment. We should only serve in those areas about which we are impassioned, excited, and committed. It also is important to move onto new ministries when the time is right, so that we stay fresh.

As the iSERVE coordinator, I am here to:

- Help you find the opportunity that best fits your abilities, skills, and experiences;
- Provide what you need to be successful, including additional helpers; and
- Let you know how much you are appreciated for all that you do.

Let me know what I can do for you by contacting me at wil@coh.net or **412.441.3800 x14**. To learn more about service opportunities or the WeServe list, visit www.CathedralOfHope.org/about/iSERVE.html.





My Two Homes *by Ashley Birt*



This time a year ago, I couldn't imagine calling any other place home, besides Pittsburgh. My family is here, my friends are here, my church home is here, and I'm madly in love with them all. Leaving for Union Theological Seminary in New York not only felt like traveling to a strange land, but also like losing my first love. However, being back for the summer felt like returning to my best friend, eager to share all the bits I've collected in my scrapbook.

For me, Union has been a dream come true. I've learned things I've been dying to learn (how to translate Hebrew), things I should've known (what "exegesis" is), and things I never expected to learn (Hindu chants). During our daily chapel services, I recited the sexy poetry of "Song of Songs," lamented in despair while monologuing as Joseph, and salsa danced for Jesus (yes, there is video). In the dorms, I've shared meals with my classmates. Out in the city, I've become quite the hustler (that's hustle *dancing*, of course). Most importantly, I've surrounded myself with Unitarian Universalists, Baptists, Methodists, Episcopalians, Pentecostals, Catholics, Buddhists, Jews, Agnostics, Atheists, and yes, Presbyterians who are all as open, affirming, and goofy as I am.

Last year, Union and New York did a fine job of transforming me. This year, I hope to transform them. Broadway Presbyterian Church, where I worked as a Sunday School teacher, will keep me on as a seminary intern. Last year, I participated in worship. This year, I'll help plan them. Also, as a member and leader of several campus organizations, I'll work towards multicultural and inter-caucus activity on campus.

As I leave once again, I do so knowing now that, though you never forget your first love, my heart is big enough for both Pittsburgh and New York. The Steel City raised me well and I will forever be its loyal child. Union is taking that child and refining her, exposing her to even more of God's beloved people, and giving them a chance to grow with her and her with them. I never thought I'd call any place else my home, but I guess I have two homes now. I hope neither one gets jealous.

Justice Committee Co-sponsors LGBT Film Festival

The Pittsburgh Lesbian & Gay Film Society 2012 Film Festival runs from Oct. 12-21. The ELPC Justice Committee will sponsor a viewing of "Raid of the Rainbow Lounge" at 1 pm, on **Sun., Oct. 14**, at the Harris Theater (809 Liberty Ave.).

The documentary recounts the events surrounding the widely publicized and controversial raid of a Fort Worth, Texas gay bar in 2009. Following a sordid aftermath, Fort Worth became a leader in LGBT equality. However, that journey was not without controversies. Witness history unfold as Emmy-nominated actress Meredith Baxter narrates the journey from the perspectives of eyewitnesses, activists, and politicians who helped change the city.

For details, visit www.pilgff.org, or contact Carol Chonoska at 724.272.9722 or the Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy at 412.441.3800 x30.

View the trailer of "Raid of the Rainbow Lounge" at caminaentertainment.com/Site/Raid_of_the_Rainbow_Lounge.html or scan the QR code with your smartphone.



ELPC People

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

Good News

- Congratulations to **Nico** and **Emily (Mohn) Slate**, who were recently married.
- Congratulations to the following students, who were awarded academic scholarships by Presbyterian Women and the Youth and Young Adult Committee: **Camara Copeland** (University of North Carolina), **Camden Copeland** (University of Pennsylvania), **Erich Harkema** (Allegheny College), **Joshua Lawrence** (University of Richmond), and **Bethan Neeley** (Westminster Choir College).

Thanks

- The Neighbors Mission Committee thanks everyone who have served at our work days: Mike Anderson, Diana Armstrong, Josh and Elaine Bellin, Ted Cmarada and Susan Spangler, Carol Bonner, Jason Ferrante, Suzy Flynn, Becky Gloninger, Jules Goltz, Joe Hajdu, Mike Hart, Carol Hoehn, Jack Jessup, the Lewand family, Reese McClellan, Jeff McLaren, Kate Neely, Jon Nelson, Nancy Patton, Carolyn Ristau, Jim Russ, Lynda Van Bueren, Lydia Vanderhill, and Alison Winters.
- The Property Committee would like to thank all the members of the ELPC Sewing Group who sewed the new draperies for the Second Floor Parlor and the McKelvey Room. They are a beautiful addition to both rooms and we were especially pleased to have them hung for our guests during General Assembly. Without the efforts of so many dedicated volunteers and staff, we could not maintain the gift that our building is to our congregation and our community.

Prayers

- We offer our thoughts and prayers to the family and friends of Winifred C. Barnes (mother of Carol Schaeff), who recently passed away. She was an ELPC member for 21 years.



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The Cathedral of Hope
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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.”

Building Closed

On **Mon., Oct. 8**, the church building and offices will be closed until 7 pm.

Until Next Time



by the Rev. Brian Diebold



Well, after five years of ministry at ELPC, I am moving on! Thanks to the support of several partner churches, my position at Verona Presbyterian Church is shifting from part-time to full-time. We

will be focusing on growing as a church, and I am making this change in order to help make that happen. This will be a big challenge, but with Christ’s help, it will be worth doing!

I am grateful for the opportunity to have served with you over the years. It has been a joy, and I thank God for a unique, loving, and diverse church like ELPC. I am grateful to Pastors Randy and Heather for their leadership and grace, and I thank each of you for investing in me. ELPC has been a big part of my life. I hope to stay in touch, and I pray that God will continue to bless the ministry at ELPC.

Continuing the Journey



by Bruce Pollock



The end of summer and beginning of fall is a time of transition, as we move from our combined Worship Service to our regular schedule. Leaving the beauty of the Garth—my favorite space at ELPC—is bittersweet, but it brings the return of the Journey service.

I look forward to returning to the community that is the Journey Worship Service, where young children play, sing, and worship alongside people of all ages. It is an intimate place where everyone can be comfortable to worship in their own way. The diverse community is a reminder of the boundless love of Christ and the radical hospitality he asks us to show to all of his children.

For me, Journey is a weekly chance to experience the Spirit moving through song, art, and the Word. The visual illustration of the weekly message provides additional insights in to the words being spoken. The power of the community joining in song to praise God inspires my relationship with Jesus to grow. It is a time where we can share our joys and concerns while raising our prayers to God. Each week, I leave refreshed, recharged, and prepared to spread the love of God through words and actions to all people.

2013 Stewardship Campaign to Begin

The 2013 Stewardship Campaign will begin on Stewardship Sunday, Nov. 11. This year, our theme will be **Sustainable Church and Sustainable Faith**. Letters and Pledge cards will be sent in October. Let us begin thinking about how we can help our church home sustain itself now and into the future.