

Editor's Note

This month's theme is *Environmental Faithfulness*. Look for articles related to this theme, identified by this symbol.



Courtyard Worship Returns

In July and August, our 10 am Worship Services will be held outdoors in our beautiful Courtyard, weather permitting. Indoor seating will be available in the Music Room on the third floor, adjacent to the elevator doors. There, services will be projected onto a large screen.

During the month of July, we will have a sermon series that focuses on the cycle of Old Testament stories related to Joseph, as found in Genesis 37–45. Topics include dreams, temptations, and navigating difficult family dynamics.

Environmental Service

by Wil Forrest, iSERVE Coordinator

Are you committed to caring for God's creation? Do you wish to find ways to serve God with your time and talents? Well, I have good news for you!



If you wish to combine your desire to care for creation and to serve God, then iSERVE is the ministry for you. In any given month, we have a number of ways to reduce, reuse and recycle while serving, such as reusing reading materials as we donate them to local prisoners, cleaning up and caring for our church grounds, organizing the effort to serve only fair-trade PLUS organic coffee at our church, transporting food donations to ELPC, rehabbing local homes, and much more!

Let's talk about how you can get involved in caring for God's creation while serving God at ELPC and in our community. There is much to do!

Visit www.CathedralOfHope.org/about/iSERVE.html to read about available service opportunities.

Save the Date: Fourth Annual Summer Celebration of Service

Thurs., Aug. 22, from 5–8 pm



Sunday Morning Services

* *Celebration of the Lord's Supper*

Good Samaritan Worship • 8 am

Liturgist: Mark and Barbara DeWitt

- July 7* Rev. Kellie Wild, *Homeless Program Director at EECM*
- July 14 Jim Russ, *ELPC Elder*
- July 21 Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
- July 28 Ted Francis, *Orr Center*

Courtyard Worship • 10 am

- July 7* Rev. Heather Schoenewold
- July 14 Rev. Dr. Randy Bush
- July 21 Rev. Dr. Randy Bush
- July 28 Rev. Dr. Randy Bush

Labyrinth Prayer Walk

Mondays • 7 am–1 pm

Wednesdays • 9 am–9 pm

Taizé Prayer Service

Wednesdays • 7 pm

Rev. Christiane Dutton

After-Taizé Class Schedule

Classes begin at 8:15 pm.

Wed., July 17: Music on the Labyrinth

Join us after our service as Charles Anderson plays meditative music.

Wed., July 24: Celebrations!

If you celebrate a birthday, anniversary or milestone in July, please write it down and put it in the collection basket so we can celebrate with you!

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

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. Mary Lynn Callahan
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
*Coordinator for Christian Education
and Youth Ministry*

Pamela M. Kimmel
Business Administrator

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. Dr. Randall K. Bush, Pastor



I like the phrase “getting the big picture.” It makes me think of the difference between watching a Penguins game on television or in person. While the television version lets you see the skill of individual players, being able to see the entire ice rink at once allows you to appreciate the larger strategy and physical demands of the sport.

Getting the big picture is also an important quality for faith and life. Jesus often “changed” how people viewed a scene before them and opened their eyes to the larger vision of God’s realm. This happened when he told the

disciples to let the children come to him, saying that they were examples of the spirit of the Kingdom of God. It happened when he stopped the mob from stoning the woman and had them mentally take a step back by asking, “Who among you is without sin?”

Seeing the big picture is a critical part of living lives committed to social justice and righteousness. We can only “love our neighbors as ourselves” if we take a step back and consider how we would wish to be treated if our positions were reversed. Similarly, we can only be sure that our laws and actions are just if we step back and consider how others beside us are affected by these decisions.

The writer and philosopher Albert Camus was once asked about whether violence is appropriate if it is being used to accomplish noble ends. I agree with his response that acts of terrorism or torture destroy the very goals they are supposed to serve.

He put it this way: “Although it is historically true that values such as the nation and [democracy] cannot survive unless one fights for them, fighting alone cannot justify them. The fight must itself be justified and explained in terms of [these core] values.” (*Algerian Chronicles*)

That is another way to say that the ends do not justify the means, especially if the means being employed (lies, theft, torture, violence, murder) are antithetical to the larger values by which we hope the community lives.

Critics of this position denounce it as being too idealistic. They argue that you have to “fight fire with fire” when dealing with people who wish to explode bombs in public spaces or do other acts of terrorism against innocent civilians. Yet does not our use of “fire” only serve to scatter dangerous sparks onto the flammable kindling of troubled souls? Do we not fan the flames of terrorism and destruction if our acts are seen as not “walking the walk” of the democratic “talk” that we talk?

At the heart of seeing the “big picture” is a faith value—namely, seeing everyone around us as a child of God. We step back enough so that we see those on the margins of our “photograph”—and so we can see the “game of life” in all its complexity and interconnectedness. The desire to have that type of vision is not being idealistic; it is being Christ-like. And such is always our goal as disciples of our Lord and Savior.

Randy Bush

Farmers' Market

Garfield Community Farm offers a Farmers' Market from 3–7 pm, Wednesdays through September, at Valley View Presbyterian Church (601 N. Aiken Ave.). Stop by for fresh produce grown in the farm fields!

Volunteers Needed

GCF also offers work opportunities from 5 pm–dusk, on Thursdays. Evenings conclude with a liturgical prayer time in the spiral garden.

For more information, contact John Creasy at **412.979.7764** or **garfieldcommunityfarm@gmail.com**.

Sprouting Seeds of Faith and Ecology

by Rev. John Creasy, associate pastor at The Open Door Church



Garfield Community Farm (GCF) is not only a project of local churches to grow vegetables, our mission also leads us to ecological restoration and environmental education. Our American food and farming industry is a major cause of environmental degradation, loss of biodiversity, loss of top soil and increasing carbon emissions. At GCF, we believe there is a better way to live as stewards of this beautiful creation and we believe the church is called to begin leading the way towards true sustainability and restoration. We pray that our farm will be an inspiration and space for education toward this more sustainable way of living.

GCF practices *permaculture*, which is a way of designing with natural relationships to meet human needs. We are very intentional about managing the plant, animal and insect relationships that exist. Our design work and management allows for greater and healthier organic food production that not only feeds people but also supports a wide array of plant and animal biodiversity. Our hope is that the farm becomes a place where we all can begin this journey of living into a more regenerative food system together.

Mission Trip Commissioning Services



A Journey to Malawi
Peta Harrigan Cole, an ELPC Elder, is co-leading a mission team that is traveling to Malawi from July 18–Aug. 4.

A Commissioning Service will be held from 6–8 pm, on **Sun., July 14**, at Lebanon Presbyterian Church (2800 Old Elizabeth Rd., West Mifflin).

Please pray for the mission team as they prepare and travel to Malawi.

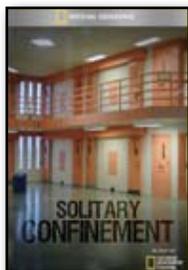
Youth Mission Trip Teams

Youth participating in the Junior High Mission Trip to Crestfield Camp in Slippery Rock, Pa., and the Senior High Mission Trip to Lexington, Ky., will be commissioned during our 10 am Worship Service on **Sun., July 21**.

The Junior High Team will spend the week of July 21–26 serving at Crestfield Camp and Conference Center. Please keep Icile, Ian, Chloe, Charlotte, Wil, and Sara in your prayers.

Summer Film Festival

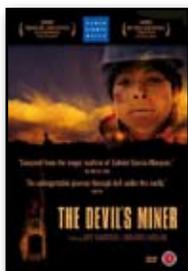
The Justice and Poverty Committees of the Mission Board will again sponsor a Summer Film Festival. Each film will be shown after our 10 am Worship Service and a light potluck lunch in Room 234. Look for details on the Bulletin Board!



Sun., July 14: *Solitary Confinement* 45-minute runtime
Solitary Confinement is a National Geographic documentary that takes place in the Colorado prison system. It follows the experiences of several men and brings in the viewpoints of prison staff, as well as outside psychologists and psychiatrists. There is a recent psychological study conducted on segregated inmates at this prison, so there is the possibility for some discussion of how prisoners were affected. This showing is sponsored by the Justice Committee.

Sun., July 21: *The Line* 45-minute runtime

This film is about those living below “the line”—the poverty line. What makes the film particularly interesting is that, while it addresses those whom you may expect to be living below the poverty line, it also focuses on persons whom you may not expect: small businessmen hurt by environmental disasters and corporate employees who have been “downsized.” It’s a thought provoking film. This showing is sponsored by the Poverty Committee.



Sun., July 28: *The Devil's Miner* 84-minute runtime

Living in poverty with their mother and little sister in the mountains of Bolivia, 14-year-old Basilio and his 12-year-old brother, Bernardino, brave deadly conditions while working long shifts in the Cerro Rico silver mines to earn enough money to attend school. *The Devil's Miner*, a PBS film, follows the brothers into underground mining tunnels where they tempt fate to gain a better life. It is in Spanish, with subtitles and closed captions. This showing is sponsored by the Mission Board.

Electronic Giving

ELPC offers a wide range of programs, worship opportunities, and community outreach. We offer our gifts in response to God's love, and the grace of Jesus Christ, which we seek to make known through the ministries of our congregation.

PRESBYTERIAN The **MissionExchange** Presbyterian Mission

Exchange (coordinated by our denomination's Presbyterian Foundation) lets you use your debit or credit card to make safe and secure donations to ELPC in support of up to six church mission areas, including mission, organ and arts, ministry, youth, building funds, or our denominations' special offerings. And, your gift can be one-time or recurring.

Visit www.CathedralOfHope.org to learn more. Look for the green "Give Now" button and free yourself from extra ATM visits or time spent balancing your checkbook—while helping your church at the same time!

Hope Academy of Music and the Arts

Linda Addlespurger, Director

Hope Academy's Teen Theater Company (HAT Co) performed its re-imagined version of the play *Wiley and the Hairy Man* on June 7 and 8.

"Like" the Hope Academy Facebook page for information and photos about this and other Hope Academy performances and events: www.facebook.com/HopeAcademy.



Youth Ministry

Sara Hackett, Coordinator for Christian Education and Youth Ministry

Contact Us: 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**.

Sun., July 14: Kayaking *see article on page 6*

Sun., July 21: Senior High Mission Trip Meeting *following Worship*
The Senior High Mission Trip Team and their parents will have a meeting following worship. This meeting is required for all participants.



Young Adult Ministry

Wil Forrest, Coordinator

Fri., July 5: First Friday at Station Street *at 7 pm*

What could be more American than talking about freedom over a good ole hot dog? Come join a fun, intentional conversation and fellowship while enjoying one of Station Street Hot Dog's specialty dogs with fresh cut fries. Read their delicious menu at <http://stationstreetpgh.com>. Station Street is located at 6290 Broad St.

Sun., July 14: Kayaking *see article on page 6*

Sat., July 20: An Afternoon at Phipps *meet at ELPC at 10 am*

ELPC Happy Wanderers and young adults will spend the day enjoying Phipps Conservatory and each other's company. Meet in the Harambe Room to ride in the van. Learn more about our local treasure at <http://phipps.conservatory.org>. After Phipps we will grab lunch together locally. Bring money for admission and lunch.

YAM is for YOU

Your friends are always welcome too! To RSVP, ask questions, or simply to talk, please contact Wil Forrest at Wil@coh.net or **412.260.2554**.



Session News

In May, the ELPC Session and Board of Deacons met jointly to share about their respective ministries and to examine the 2013 confirmation class (pictured).

The Mission Board reported on Mission trips to Bolivia (June 11–23) and New Jersey (June 30–July 5), as well as plans for a Social Justice film series in July and August (see article on page 3). The Property Committee reported that ELPC

is seeking a zoning variance so that existing, exterior, aluminum church signs can be re-fitted with electronic display screens.

The Session also met in June and heard updates about the revised timetable for the stormwater reclamation process, plans for hosting an Open House for the new residents of the renovated Highland Building, and a report on the recent repairs to the stones in the church Courtyard.

ELPC Health Ministry Presents: *Vesta*

Vesta, a play written by Bryan Harnetiaux and gaining attention across the country, will be presented at the Kelly-Strayhorn at 6 pm, on **Sat., Oct. 12**. Hors d'oeuvres will be served at 5:15 pm. Mark your calendars!

Vesta is a story of a feisty 75-year-old widow's struggle to maintain independence and dignity as she grapples with her failing health and eventual death. This presentation is an effort to empower and encourage adults to make end-of-life decisions in a timely fashion. There will be a panel discussion following the play. Admission is *free*.

All Church Retreat: *Why We Tell Stories*

Jesus said, "That's why I tell stories: to create readiness, to nudge the people toward receptive insight..." – Matthew 13:4, The Message

Now is the time to mark your calendars for a special event coming up this fall. ELPC will host an all-church retreat at Camp Crestfield from **Fri.–Sun., Oct. 25–27**.

Our theme for the weekend is *Why We Tell Stories*. Together, we will explore the importance of stories to our shared life of faith. Through worship, workshops, study, and games, we will delve deeper into *The story* (The Bible) at the center of our faith, and explore how it impacts the stories of our lives. Our weekend together will include time to rest and relax, time to enjoy the great outdoors through hayrides and hikes, and time for another Square Dance to cap off the fun!

Join us for this intergenerational weekend of worship, workshops, fellowship and fun! Registration fees vary based on accommodations. Scholarships are available.

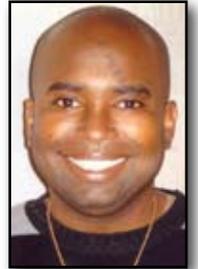
ELPC People

News to share? Contact Gloria Knopp at 412.441.3800 x22 or GloriaK@coh.net.

Good News

- Congratulations to **Jason Ferrante** and **Jaszmier Branch** on their baptism.
- Brian and Satnarine Cook are the proud parents of a baby boy, **Brian Cook, Jr.**, who was born on May 9.

- Congratulations to **Derek Harrigan** (ELPC Deacon) on his retirement from the U.S. Armed Forces. Derek served for 21 years in the Navy and Army National Guard.



- Congratulations to the **Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy** for graduating on May 31, from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (PTS) and earning a Master of Divinity Degree.



Patrice was awarded the Michael Wilson Keith Memorial Prize in Homiletics for the highest standing in the Homiletics Department and was elected to a three-year term on the PTS Board of Directors as representative for the 2013 class.

Thanks

- The ELPC Deacons thank the congregation for the cards that they have supplied (get well, sympathy, thinking of you, and Christmas). Your donations are greatly appreciated!

Prayers

We offer our prayers and condolences to those who recently passed away:

- Carol Kirkpatrick's sister, Betty Pittman;
- Matt Stufft's father, Baugh Stufft;
- Pepo Mazingi's mother, Stella Genevieve Serumwe Mazingi;
- Agnes Green's son, Earvin Hicks III;
- Pat Krimmel's sister; and
- Maurice McClellan's sister.



The Cathedral of Hope

116 South Highland Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

www.CathedralOfHope.org

Address Service Requested



Nonprofit Org.
US POSTAGE
PAID
Pittsburgh, PA
Permit No. 691

“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.



Sun., July 14: YAYA Kayaking

ELPC youth (who have completed grades 8–12, and have a signed parental waiver) and young adults will unite for an afternoon together on the three rivers with Kayak Pittsburgh. No previous kayaking experience is necessary.

Meet in the Game Room for lunch at 11 am, and then we’ll head down together in the church van. Bring a change of clothes and **\$16** for kayak rental. RSVP to Wil at **Wil@coh.net** by **Fri., July 12**. Visit **www.kayakpittsburgh.org** for details.



Photo courtesy of Kayak Pittsburgh

Calling All Graduates

We rejoice that many from our faith family are graduating from high school, college, and other programs. We wish to celebrate these accomplishments together.

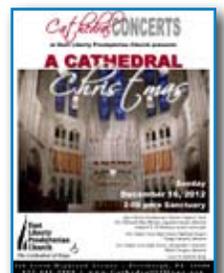


Please email your name, degree, and area of study (if applicable) to Gloria Knopp at **GloriaK@coh.net** by **Sun., July 7**.

A Cathedral Christmas Available on DVD!

DVDs of the Dec. 16, 2012, presentation of *A Cathedral Christmas* are now available for **\$20** each.

Please contact Norma Meyer at **Norma@coh.net** or Dr. Ed Moore at **EdM@coh.net** if you would like to purchase a copy.



Building Closed: The ELPC office will be closed all day on **Thurs.** and **Fri., July 4 and 5**, for Independence Day. The office will reopen Monday morning, July 8.