

## It's Mission Month at ELPC

See the *Mission Matters* section on page 3 for more mission-related events

### Sun., Oct. 2: World Communion Sunday

**Racism:** Although our country has made great strides, we still suffer from the ravages and injustices of institutional racism. We have not realized the "Beloved Community" of which the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King spoke, as evidenced by the inequality in housing, education, and incomes that are still realities for communities and people of color.



Every day—but most especially on this World Communion Sunday—we strive to live as a community of mutuality, concern, equality, and love. On this day, we will welcome the Rev. Paul Roberts, president of the Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary, Atlanta, as our guest. Rev. Roberts will lead a combined adult Church School class at 9:45 am, and preach at our Sanctuary worship service at 11 am. We also

will receive the *Peace and Global Witness Offering*, which supports a range of PC(USA) ministries devoted to peacemaking and reconciliation.

## Stewardship Campaign Set to Kick Off

When the Israelite people came out of exile in Babylon, the prophet Isaiah gave them these "marching orders"—"Build up, build up; remove every obstruction from my people's way"(Isaiah 57:14). In many ways, this theme from Isaiah speaks strongly to where ELPC finds itself now. We are soon to begin a year of renovation, "removing obstructions" in our historic building so that it can be a safe, energy-efficient, and hospitable place of ministry for generations to come. We also are a church committed to radical hospitality, removing social barriers and prejudices that keep people apart, so that our diverse voices together may praise our gracious and generous God.

On **Sun., Oct. 9**, this year's Stewardship Campaign will kick off with a few words in worship and a letter mailed to the entire church. Our hope is to increase our congregation's giving by 6.5 percent through higher pledges and new pledges. These added funds will allow us to maintain the staff, programming, and ministries at the heart of ELPC's active Christian service. The campaign will culminate on Stewardship Sunday, Nov. 13.

Indeed, this is a season for building up, construction, planning, and looking toward the future. By our generous gifts, tithes and pledges, each one of us heeds Isaiah's marching orders. May God bless our stewardship commitments this fall!

## Sunday Services

*\*Celebration of the Lord's Supper*

### Journey Worship • 8:45 am

*Theme: Faith, Not Fear*

Oct. 2\* Rev. Heather Schoenewolf  
 Oct. 9 Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy  
 Oct. 16 Rev. Heather Schoenewolf  
 Oct. 23 Rev. Dr. Randy Bush  
 Oct. 30 Sharron Boddy, seminary intern from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

### Sanctuary Worship • 11 am

Oct. 2\* Rev. Paul Roberts  
 Oct. 9 Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy  
 Oct. 16 Rev. Dr. Randy Bush  
 Oct. 23 Rev. Heather Schoenewolf  
 Oct. 30 Rev. Dr. Randy Bush

## Labyrinth Prayer Walk

*Mondays • 7 am–1 pm*

*Wednesdays • 9 am–9 pm*

## Taizé Prayer Service

*Wednesdays • 7 pm*

Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan

## Words to Serve by...

"Serve with your whole heart as if serving the Lord, not people."  
 —Ephesians 6:7

"Nothing liberates our greatness like the desire to help, the desire to serve."—Marianne Williamson

"Only a life lived in the service of others is worth living."—Albert Einstein

"How can I help?"—You

For more information about how to serve, please contact Wil Forrest at [Wil@coh.net](mailto:Wil@coh.net) or 412.441.3800 x14, or visit [ELPC.church/programs/iSERVE](http://ELPC.church/programs/iSERVE).



## East Liberty Presbyterian Church



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

Tel: 412.441.3800  
Fax: 412.441.4422

[www.ELPC.church](http://www.ELPC.church)

### Staff Leadership

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush  
*Pastor*

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

The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy  
*Associate Pastor for Mission Ministries*

The Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan  
*Director of Spiritual Life Ministries and  
Minister of Taizé Prayer*

Linda Addlespurger  
*Director of Hope Academy*

Wil Forrest  
*Coordinator of Young Adult  
and Outreach Programs*

Sara Hackett  
*Coordinator of Christian Education  
and Youth Ministry*

Pamela M. Kimmel  
*Business Administrator*

Paul Martin  
*Facilities Manager*

Dr. Edward Alan Moore  
*Music Director and Organist*

The Rev. Dr. Robert Chesnut  
*Pastor Emeritus*

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

## Pastoral Message

*The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush, Pastor*



Our dog Elphie has a significant limp at the moment. She's an 11-year old black Labrador, and midway through a romp through Frick Park she suddenly stopped, elevated her back left leg, and was clearly not able to put weight on it. We've taken her to the vet and it is something that will heal over time; but for now, it's hard to watch her hobble around the house on three legs. (Don't worry too much about her. She eats, sleeps and still occasionally tries to chase squirrels using only three legs!) As an older dog, Elphie regularly came home from long walks feeling a bit achy and anxious for a long nap. Seeing her limp now only reminds me of her

age and that, try as she might, she simply can't do everything you used to do in her puppy days.

Limping through life is not a condition limited to older household pets. There are times when all of us feel under the weather, or when many of us hobble around due to arthritis, bad joints, and neuropathy. But limping is not restricted to physical ailments. There are emotional "limps" caused by grief and loss, by anxiety and depression, by hidden secrets and broken hearts. Just as there is the famous bible story of Jacob wrestling with an angel (Genesis 32) that ends with Jacob limping from a damaged hip, there are other bible stories with more metaphorical "limps," such as the grief and despair afflicting the disciples hiding in the Upper Room after Jesus' crucifixion.

The church (like the world at large) is full of people who limp. It might not be obvious when we see folks come walking down the aisle, but almost everyone in the pews is carrying some sort of burden, worry or pain. It is possible to diminish these limps by "counting one's blessings" and handing our cares to the Lord in prayer. But it is just as important not to pretend that everyone in church is free of scars or limps. For it is only by allowing our faith life to honestly acknowledge both the joys and the sorrows we carry within us that we can live into our calling as followers of Jesus Christ—our crucified, scarred, yet resurrected Savior.

Why is this so important? Too often some people believe that their limps bar them from Christian fellowship. Too often some people tell themselves that their life situation and personal pain are marks of disfavor either from God or God's people. Yet it is in naming our own scars and revealing our own limps that we can boldly testify to the ways God has brought hope to us—a hope that sustains us on the bad days and gives us peace and joy on the good days. The Christian writer Henri Nouwen called this perspective being a "wounded healer." That is a role all of us can fill, since we've all had times of woundedness and yet also had moments of grace and Easter hope that have been stronger than our pain.

Our limping dog reminds me that I can limp too when I must. The Lord of dogs and Presbyterians works wonders of healing every day, as tendons strengthen and aches eventually recede. I'm grateful that a beloved pet can be a sign of God's promise to be with us always, particularly when the joints are stiff and the journey seems hard.

*Randy Bush*

# Mission Matters

*The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy, Associate Pastor for Mission Ministries*

## **Sat., Oct. 1: Intergenerational Mission Workday** 9 am–3 pm

ELPC youth, members, and the Neighbors Committee will kick off Mission Month by participating in an intergenerational mission workday with Open Hand Ministries and Garfield Community Farm. Extra hands of all ages are welcome and no special skills are needed! For details or to sign up, contact Emily Rosenthal at [ejr116@gmail.com](mailto:ejr116@gmail.com) or Pastor Patrice at [Patricefs@coh.net](mailto:Patricefs@coh.net) or 412.441.3800 x30.

## **Sun., Oct. 9: Indigenous People's Sunday** 12:15 pm, in the Social Hall

**Nationalism Redefined:** In this election year, there has been a rise in so-called nationalism in our country—a sense of consciousness that exalts the U.S. above all other countries and emphasizes the promotion of culture and superiority. However, America was not discovered, as the land was already inhabited when the Europeans arrived. A true return to nationalism would be a return to the indigenous people's way of life, culture, and restoration of their land.

In recognition of Indigenous Peoples Day, the Mission Board will present *Indigenous Pittsburgh: Christian Doctrine, Small Pox Blankets, and Native Populations*. This presentation will provide a foundational framework for understanding U.S. policy and beliefs toward native populations and how they impacted our local history and treatment of natives. A light lunch will be served.

## **Sun., Oct. 16: Children's Sabbath Sunday**

**Ageism in Reverse:** Ageism is defined as “discrimination against persons of a certain age group, usually associated with a tendency to regard older persons as debilitated, unworthy of attention, or unsuitable for employment.” Often, children also are victims of ageism, not seen as having value or worth by society.

We will celebrate the National Observance of Children's Sabbaths, *Children of Promise: Closing Opportunity Gaps*, as we strive to close opportunity gaps that exist as a result of poverty, and lack of access to high-quality early childhood development and a high-quality education so that every child can reach their God-given potential. As people of faith we stand tall and push our nation to keep our promises of love, justice, equality, and dignity for all—especially our children.

## **Sat., Oct. 22: Educational Session on Homelessness** 9–11 am

Homelessness and affordable housing are discussions that draw much attention and outrage in the East End, as well as in the City of Pittsburgh as a whole—and rightfully so. We are called to care for the most vulnerable among us, those who are without the necessities that so many of us have.

Join the Mission Board and Mission Committees as we learn about homelessness in our community, the new referral process for shelter assistance by Allegheny County, and the national move to the “Housing First” model. Our guests will include Abigail Horn from the Allegheny County Department of Human Service.

## **Sun., Oct. 23: Follow-up to Conversations on Gun Ownership**

Join us as we follow up our faithful discussion on gun ownership and control by educating ourselves on the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and local laws. We will be joined by a Zone 5 Pittsburgh police officer and Bruce Ledewitz, professor at Duquesne University School of Law. A light lunch will be served.

## **Sun., Oct. 30: Full Inclusion Sunday**

We will welcome The Renaissance City Choir as our special musical guests for Sanctuary worship. Then, everyone is invited to attend Part 1 of discussion series, *Understanding and Speaking Up for LGBTQ Christians*. See page 7 for details.

## Session News

At the last Session meeting, the following items were considered:

- Pastor Heather was welcomed back from her two-month sabbatical and the fall church programming was reviewed.
- The Renovations Committee reported on the hiring of an owners' representative helping ELPC during the renovation process and asked for authorization with the general contractor regarding pre-purchasing of materials needed for the mechanical, heating and A/C improvements in the building. Construction documents for the project and final budget should be done by the end of the year, with construction beginning early 2017.
- A new administrative assistant, Karly Threats, was hired.
- Discussion began regarding planning for the church's bicentennial in May 2019.

## Introducing Karly Threats

ELPC is pleased to welcome Karly Threats as our Church Financial Administrative Assistant, a new position that is designed to assist with financial work for Hope Academy and the Renovation, as well as to support our general financial operations.

Karly graduated from Community College of Allegheny County with an associate degree in accounting. She previously worked for H&R Block and PNC Bank. A Pittsburgh native, Karly now lives in Wilkinsburg with her young daughter, Khylee.

Drop by her office #172 and greet the newest member of the ELPC support staff family.



# Christian Education

**Note:** Classes begin at 9:45 am.

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

## Combined Adult Class on Sun., Oct. 2

The Rev. Paul Roberts, president of Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary, Atlanta, will lead a combined class, sharing a bit about the unique opportunities and challenges associated with the Presbyterian Church's only historically African American seminary. He also will offer reflections on the state of our denomination and the marks of a healthy, diverse, and growing Presbyterian church today.

The Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary dates back to 1867, when it was founded as Freedman's College of N.C. to educate newly freed slaves. In 1923, Mrs. Jane Berry Smith, of Pittsburgh, endowed and built several buildings on the campus in honor of her late husband, Johnson C. Smith, for whom the institution is now named.

## Contemporaries and Seekers

### Paul Tillich: The Pittsburgh Dialogues

Dr. Paul Tillich, the first Protestant professor dismissed by Adolf Hitler, became the greatest theologian of 20<sup>th</sup> century America. In the 1950s, WQED created four 30-minute dialogues with Tillich and professors from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary (PTS). The late Dr. Robert Johnson, professor of Theology and former Dean of Yale Divinity School, moderated each session.

Each week, we will watch one of the videos, and professor Ron Stone, who knew all the participants, will lead a discussion. The series is a very personal biography of Tillich, as well as an introductory course to his theology.

### Oct. 9: Philosophy and Theology

The first video features a discussion between Paul Tillich and Dr. Walter Wiest, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy of Religion at PTS. Our session will be hosted by the Seekers class in Room 234, and facilitated by Gwen Puza.

### Oct. 16: Philosophy of Life

The second video also features Paul Tillich with Dr. Walter Wiest. Our session will be hosted by the Seekers class in Room 234, and facilitated by Gwen Puza.

### Oct. 23: Psychiatry and Theology

The third video features Paul Tillich and the late Dr. Gordon Jackson, theologian and former Dean of Faculty at PTS. Our session will be hosted by the Contemporaries class in the Second Floor Parlor, and facilitated by Mary Alice Lightle.

### Oct. 30: Religious Education of Children and Theology of Art

The final video features Paul Tillich with Dr. Robert Johnson and Dr. Walter Wiest. Our session will be hosted by the Contemporaries class in the Second Floor Parlor, and facilitated by Mary Alice Lightle.

## Journey with Scripture *Second Floor Library*

*Facilitators: Jan Lyle Irvin, Lora Bethea, and other members*

*How could we sing the LORD's song in a foreign land?— Psalm 137:4. The psalmist laments the Jewish exile in Babylon—a radical physical displacement of suffering and deep questioning. Join us in October as we reflect upon similar readings and the myriad ways God provides sustenance to move to enduring freedom.*

**Oct. 2:** Lamentations 1:1–6; Psalm 137:1–9;  
2 Timothy 1:1–14; Luke 17:5–10

**Oct. 9:** Jeremiah 29:1, 4–7; Psalm 66:1–12;  
2 Timothy 2:8–15; Luke 17:11–19

**Oct. 16:** Jeremiah 31:27–34; Psalm 119: 97–104;  
2 Timothy 3:14–4:5; Luke 18:1–8

**Oct. 23:** Joel 2:23–32; Psalm 65:1–13;  
2 Timothy 4:6–8, 16–18; Luke 18:9–14

**Oct. 30:** Habakkuk 1:1–4; 2:1–4; Psalm 119:137–144;  
2 Thessalonians 1:1–4, 11–12; Luke 19:1–10

## Soul Food *Third Floor Music Room*

*Facilitators: Rev. Joe Hajdu and other members*

### Oct. 9, 16, 23, and 30: Find Ourselves/Finding God

We will discuss the second and third chapters of our current book, *The Gift of Being Yourself*, by the spiritually oriented psychologist David Benner.

## Young Adults *Pastor's Conference Room*

*Facilitator: Wil Forrest*

### October: The Gospel of Mark

Spend time with other young adults thoughtfully and completely studying through the Gospel of Mark over this five-week series, led by a host of special Bible study leaders. See Wil for your study guide booklet, which will enhance your experience but is not necessary to enjoy this series.

### Oct. 2: Intro and the Beginning of the Gospel

Mark 1:1–3:35

### Oct. 9: Jesus as a Wonder Worker

Mark 4:1–7:37

### Oct. 16: Jesus the Prophet

Mark 8:1–10:52

### Oct. 23: The End of Jesus' Public Ministry

Mark 11:1–14:72

### Oct. 30: The End of the Gospel?

Mark 15:1–16:8

# Youth Ministry

Sara Hackett, Coordinator of Christian Education and Youth Ministry

## Sat., Oct. 1: Intergenerational Work Day 9 am–12 pm (or 3 pm)

As part of the October's focus on mission, youth in grades 6–12 are encouraged to join with others from our congregation to serve with Open Hand Ministries and Garfield Community Farm. Youth will serve from 9 am–12 pm, but the work day will continue until 3 pm. Permission slips can be found on the online calendar.

## Fri., Oct. 28: Tween Campfire 6–8 pm

Tweens in grades 4–6 are invited to join us in the Courtyard for games, dinner, s'mores, and a camp fire song or two! We will be outside, so dress accordingly.

## Sat., Oct. 29: Visit to Slippery Rock University

Youth in high school are invited to attend a Slippery Rock University (SRU) Showcase. The open house consists of an overview presentation about SRU, faculty-led academic major presentations, a walking tour of campus, and lunch at Boozel Dining Hall.

We will meet for a light breakfast at ELPC at 8 am, and depart at 8:30 am. We will arrive back by 2 pm. There is no cost. Questions? Contact Anthony Williams.

## Fri.–Sun., Nov. 18–20: Middle School Retreat

Youth in grades 6–8 are invited to a retreat at Crestfield Camp. Mark your calendars now and look for more details online or talk to Sara Hackett.

## Spectators and Stars Needed for Talent Show

Folks of all ages are invited to participate in ELPC's Talent Show on **Sat., Nov. 5**, from 5–8 pm. Join us for a potluck dinner and amazing entertainment, whether you are a rising star or an enthusiastic spectator! All talents are welcome, but please keep your act to less than three minutes so that we can include as many performers as possible. RSVP on the ELPC Facebook page or the sign-up sheet on the Second Floor CE Bulletin Board to let us know you are coming, what food item you can bring, and what talent you will share.

# Young Adult Ministry

Wil Forrest, Coordinator of Young Adult and Outreach Programs

## Fri., Oct. 7: First Friday @ Arsenal Cider House 7 pm

We will gather at this local hot spot for some good drink and conversation. Bring money to try some of the house beverage and an engaging question for the group to discuss. Learn more about the venue at [ArsenalCiderHouse.com](http://ArsenalCiderHouse.com).

## Sat., Oct. 22: Autumnal Splendor 10 am

Join us for leaf peeping, fresh cider and who knows what else as we enjoy the autumnal splendor. We will depart ELPC at 10 am, and return before dinner.



Our Young Adult Ministry is for you, and your friends are always welcome too! For more information or to ask questions, please contact Wil Forrest at [Wil@coh.net](mailto:Wil@coh.net) or **412.441.3800 x14**.

# Church School Offering

This year's Church School Offering will support Church World Service (CWS), which is working with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to resettle Syrian refugees who are coming to the U.S.

More than 4 million Syrians are now refugees seeking safety in countries across the Middle East, Europe, and the U.S. Still, more than 6.5 million others are displaced within Syria, forced from their homes due to violence and persecution.

CWS is one of nine national organizations that work in cooperation with the U.S. Government to receive newly arriving refugees and provide for their initial resettlement through a network of local offices in more than 200 locations across the U.S.

- When refugees arrive, CWS staff members are there to greet them at the airport and make sure they feel comfortable in their new homes.
- In a refugee's first months here, CWS is there to help them navigate their local communities. Each family is provided with a dedicated caseworker to help with their needs.
- Local offices help provide basic needs like housing, furniture, clothing, food, and medical appointments, but they also work to provide refugees with the tools for improving their potential, such as English language classes, school registration, jobs, cultural orientation, and skills training.
- With the help of local congregations and volunteers, these programs welcome more than 7,000 Syrian and other refugees each year.

In addition to raising money, our Church School classes will have opportunities to learn about Syrian refugees, advocate on their behalf, and hold our Syrian brothers and sisters in prayer.



# Presbyterian Women

Sherry Anderson and Kelli Booher,  
Co-Moderators

## Bible Study: Who is Jesus?

**Mon., Oct. 3** 7 pm

**Tues., Oct. 4** 10 am

Join us in the Second Floor Parlor at our Monday or Tuesday study as we explore the question, *Who is Jesus?* according to Matthew. There is a potluck lunch following the Monday morning study, please bring a salad or dessert to share. Childcare is available for both studies upon request.

## Presbyterian Women Thank Offering to be Received in November

Last year, ELPC members gave more than **\$3,687** to the PW Thank Offering. Your gifts aided 22 ministries—14 in the U.S. and 8 internationally—and more than 40 percent of the funded projects were health ministries. Look for more stories, as we prepare our gifts for the 2016 Thank Offering.

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## ELPC People

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

### Good News

- ELPC member **Beverly Kreger** was honored as the oldest surviving Women Army Corps veteran at a recent event in Virginia. She served from 1942–45.
- ELPC member **George Rivers** was recently recognized by his peers at East Liberty Family Health Care Center for the care, support, and compassion he displays daily to his patients and coworkers.

### Prayers

We offer our prayers and condolences to the family and friends of those who recently passed away:

- John Bavaro's sister, Vivian Martz

# Spiritual Life

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

## Sat., Oct. 1: Introduction to Mindfulness 9 am–1 pm

Susan Spangler will lead us as we learn about Mindfulness Meditation and engage in this ancient prayer form together in the Prayer and Meditation Room (Room 135). Mindfulness is the moment-to-moment awareness of our experience with an accepting, non-judgmental, kind attention. Our time together also will include meditation instruction, guided meditations, and practices for supporting mindfulness in everyday life.

In addition to this introduction we gather for Mindfulness Meditation in the Prayer and Meditation Room every Thursday from 7–8 pm. Those who are new to meditation and those with experience are heartily welcome at both opportunities.

## Thursdays: Qigong beginning Oct. 6, 6 pm

Qigong is an ancient Chinese health care system that integrates physical postures, breathing techniques, and focused intention. The word Qigong is made up of two Chinese words. “Qi” is pronounced “chee” and is usually translated to mean the life force or vital-energy that flows through all things in the universe. “Gong”—pronounced “gung”—means accomplishment, or skill that is cultivated through steady practice. Together, Qigong means “cultivating energy.” It is a system practiced for health maintenance, healing, and increasing vitality.

Linda Harrington will lead a six-week class on the basic Qigong form, beginning on Thurs., Oct. 6, at 6 pm, in the Parlor. The class will continue on Thursdays through Nov. 17 (except Nov. 10).

## October is Thomas Merton Month

Thomas Merton was an American Catholic writer and mystic. A Trappist monk, he was a poet, social activist, and pioneer of Interfaith Dialogue. Merton wrote more than 70 books—mostly on spirituality, social justice, and a quiet pacifism—as well as essays, reviews, and voluminous journals. Among Merton's most enduring works is his best-selling, spiritual autobiography, *The Seven Storey Mountain* (1948), which appears on National Review's list of the 100 best non-fiction books of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. He has been an inspiration to millions.

### • Online Book Study: The Essential Merton

Throughout the month, we will be conducting an online Merton Book Study on *The Essential Thomas Merton* (available on Amazon). Check the weekly bulletin, SLC Bulletin Board, and **ELPC.church** for information on how to participate.

### • Sun., Oct. 2: Modern Mystic and Symbol of a Century 12:30–3 pm

The biographical facts of Merton's life are an apt metaphor for the 20<sup>th</sup> century, but his inner life was shaped by a series of remarkable prayer experiences. Join us in the Music Room as Bonnie Thurston examines both aspects with a view to what our own lives and prayer might be “saying.” A light lunch will be served.

### • Sun., Oct. 23: Writing as a Spiritual Practice 12:30–3 pm

Merton's first—and one of his most famous—books is his spiritual autobiography, *The Seven Storey Mountain*. Since his death, many books have been published as compilations of, or based upon, the volumes of journals that he left behind. Join us in the Music Room as ELPC member Dr. Brent House explores with us this practice of spiritual journaling and memoir writing as a way to draw nearer to ourselves and to God. A light lunch will be served.

# LGBTQ Ministry

Wil Forrest, Coordinator of Young Adult and Outreach Programs



Join us at our next Spiritual Gathering on **Sat., Oct. 8**, from 4–6 pm, as we share our stories with each other. All people are welcome!

To learn more or to get involved in ELPC's LGBTQ Ministry, contact Wil Forrest at **Wil@coh.net** or **412.441.3800 x14**.

**God created you. God loves you.  
Be yourself.**

## Meet ELPC Members

Have fun and get to know other ELPC members through our Connection Dinner Gatherings. These small groups consist of 8–10 people who join together for potluck dinners or outings in the area. Call Jack and Elaine Phillips at **412.668.2989** or the ELPC office for more details.

## Hope Academy of Music and the Arts

Linda Addlespurger, Director

**Tues., Oct. 18: Buzzword Pittsburgh Perform & Play 6–7 pm**

Join Buzzword Pittsburgh for their first live performance and workshop for young children, from 0 to 5, and their families at ELPC. Interactive and child-friendly, these shows are short enough to hold the interest of toddlers, and engaging enough for their older brothers and sisters. Food will be served and fun will be had! Space is limited, so reserve your spot for each session by RSVP'ing at <http://bit.do/buzzwordpgh10-18-16>.



**Hope Academy's Suzuki Program to Include Cello**

Hope Academy's Suzuki program (currently violin and piano) is expanding this year to include cello. Beth Goldstein-McKee is joining our staff to lead the effort and the first group of 5-to-7 year-old students will be selected at the end of the fall term to begin in January. The growth of the Suzuki program is being supported, in part, by the generosity of Chamber Music Pittsburgh. They are loaning Hope Academy violins and cellos to ensure that children are given access to music education.



Beth Goldstein-McKee showing a young student a Suzuki cello

## Understanding and Speaking Up for LGBTQ Christians

All ELPC friends and members who want to learn how to better support LGBTQ Christians are invited to this three-part learning and discussion series. These sessions are designed to be an educational series (not debates) that provide an environment where presenters will share information, attendees will be able to have their questions answered, and participants will gain competencies related to being an advocate for LGBTQ Christians and issues.

This church-wide series will be held on three consecutive Sundays, from 12:30–3:30 pm, in the Social Hall. A simple lunch will be served, and childcare can be provided with one-week notice. RSVP with Wil Forrest at **Wil@coh.net** or **412.260.2554**.

### Understanding Language and LGBTQ Basics

**Sun., Oct. 30: Part 1**

Led by the Rev. Dr. Randy Bush and Betty Hill, executive director of Persad; co-sponsored by the Mission Board

*What does the Q mean?*

### The Bible and LGBTQ Inclusion

**Sun., Nov. 6: Part 2**

Led by the Rev. Heather Schoenewolf and the Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy; co-sponsored by the Christian Education Committee

*How do I reply to a family member who asks what the Bible says about homosexuality?*

### History, Polity, Theology, Oh My!

**Sun., Nov. 13: Part 3**

Led by the Rev. Randy Bush, the Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan, and Elder Carol Chonoska; co-sponsored by the Spiritual Life Committee

*How can ELPC be fully inclusive of LGBTQ people, while some other Presbyterian churches are not?*



*“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

The ELPC office will be closed all day on Indigenous Peoples Day, **Mon., Oct. 10**, but the building will open for evening activities at 7 pm.

## Cathedral Concerts are Tuning Up



We have two exciting events in October. Invite your friends and family to join you!

### Sat., Oct. 1: Ysaÿe Barnwell 7 pm

Ysaÿe Barnwell, who last visited ELPC in 2013, will lead us in an inspirational Community Sing in the Social Hall. Dr. Barnwell is a former member of Sweet Honey in the Rock.



### Sun., Oct. 16: Organist David Higgs 3 pm

Organist David Higgs from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y., will perform in the Sanctuary. This is a ticketed event through the Organ Artists Series of Pittsburgh, but complimentary tickets are available to ELPC members and friends. Contact Dr. Ed Moore for your free ticket!

### Season Brochures are Now Available

The brochure for the sixth season of our *Cathedral Concerts* series is now available! If you did not receive a copy in the mail, they are available in several locations throughout the church and on the website.

Visit [ELPC.church/worship/cathedral-concerts](http://ELPC.church/worship/cathedral-concerts) and our Facebook page at [Facebook.com/EastLibertyPresbyterian](https://www.facebook.com/EastLibertyPresbyterian) for more information about this season’s concerts.

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## Exploring ELPC’s Architecture

Enjoy the details of the stunning Gothic architecture in ELPC’s Sanctuary and Chapel on **Sun., Oct. 16**, following our Sanctuary worship service. Join your tour guide at the front of the Sanctuary immediately after the service.

Please allow 45 minutes for the walking tour and wear comfortable shoes!

*“Of all the cathedrals and churches I have built, this is my masterpiece. This church has been the most profound spiritual experience of my life.”—Ralph Adams Cram, ELPC’s architect.*

