Epiphany of the Lord

The word epiphany comes from the Greek word *epiphaneia*, which means appearance or manifestation. Epiphany is observed each year on January 6. It refers to the Wise Men, who were the first Gentiles to see the manifestation of God’s appearance in the baby Jesus.

In the early church, January 6th was a day for baptism. The central significance of Epiphany is that Christ came as the Light of the World, not just for the Jews but for Gentiles as well. Christ’s light is for all.

To celebrate Epiphany, one custom observed in France is for the children from Christian homes to put oats in their shoes on the evening before January 6th. The oats are for the camels of the “Wise Men.” When they awake the next morning, the children hope to find the oats gone and gifts left in their shoes.

Winter Rally Day — Sunday, Jan 7, 2007

Everyone is invited for Winter Rally Day on Sunday, Jan 7. At 9:30 am, before going to your Church School class for the morning, the Christian Education Committee is providing juice, coffee, tea, fruit, muffins, bagels, and donuts in Rooms 224 and 227. Breakfast plates can be taken to the classrooms or you may stay and have your food. Please make a name tag in the hallway and enjoy the fellowship!

New folks are especially welcome to come and discover the wonderful opportunities available to expand your faith. We have Christian Education classes for all ages (see page 4). For more information, please contact the Rev

Sunday Morning Services

*Celebration of the Lord’s Supper.*

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Minster/Leader</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 am</td>
<td>Good Samaritan</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Worship</td>
<td>Jan 7 The Rev. Donald Dutton, honorably retired Presbyterian minister.</td>
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<td>Jan 14 Eugene Harris, Elder, ELPC.</td>
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<td>Jan 21 The Rev. David Carver, Minister, Crafton Heights U.P. Church.</td>
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<td>Jan 28 The Rev. Rita Platt, Minister, Emery United Methodist Church.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 am</td>
<td>Morning Glory</td>
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<td>Worship</td>
<td>Jan 7 The Rev. Dr. J. Richard Szeremany.</td>
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<td>Jan 14 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.</td>
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<td>Jan 21 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.</td>
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<td>Jan 28 Heather Tunney.</td>
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<td>11 am</td>
<td>Sanctuary</td>
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<td>Worship</td>
<td>Jan 7 The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush.</td>
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Koinonia Service of Praise

2nd Sunday of each month.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Leader/Minister</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 14</td>
<td>Heather Tunney</td>
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Holy Ground Service of Wholeness and Healing

Bimonthly, March–November.

Labyrinth Prayer Walk

Mondays .................10 am to 3 pm
Wednesdays .............10 am to 9 pm

Taizé Prayer
January 2007 Walk of Faith
“Come and See”

A new year has begun! Calendars for 2007 replace the well-worn and oft-used 2006 versions hanging in our homes and work places. The first month of the year looks to be a busy time for our church. We will have a planning meeting on January 11 to schedule church events between now and the early fall. We will meet as a Session to hear the report of the Nominating Committee and make sure things are ready for the February congregational meeting. Plans are underway for a Hope Academy musical fundraiser on February 16. Lent begins soon thereafter with the joyous celebration of Easter happening on April 8. Although it is the start of a new year, already our focus is on events literally months down the road.

My advice for each of us is to walk slowly into the New Year. As tempting as it might be to fill in the blank spaces on the brand-new calendars, go slowly into 2007. See if the first week or two of the New Year can be a spiritual time of strolling, reflection, and quiet.

To walk slowly is not the same as to wander lost in the wilderness (as the Israelites did looking for the Promised Land). Nor is it a matter of meandering in the wrong direction (as was the case with Jonah avoiding his assignment in Ninevah). The image that comes to my mind is that of Jesus walking past the area where John the Baptist was preaching (John 1:35-42). Andrew and another disciple caught up with Jesus and began to follow him. At last they got up the courage to ask him where he was staying, and Jesus replied “Come and see.” That invitation to discipleship was not followed by a mad dash or a breathless jog, but a quiet stroll, an evening meal, a time of prayer and conversation that bore fruit of lasting,

Pastoral Message
The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush, Pastor

Session Action Items for December 2006 Meeting

- Session approved the 2007 budget, which holds expenses on par with the 2006 budget while still accommodating cost of living increases and some new program initiatives.
- Session heard a report from the Nominating Committee, which has finished their slate of candidates for incoming elder and deacon nominees.
- Session celebrated that over 50 new members and friends joined our church in 2006, a 20% increase over 2005. We also had 15 baptisms in 2006, as compared to only 5 the previous year.
- Session recommended that ELPC member Nancy Klancher be enrolled as an Inquirer under
Intercessory Prayer Group
Start the new year off right. Join us as we pray for our congregation, staff, the Church and global concerns.
Beginning on Jan 3, 2007, we will meet each Wednesday afternoon at 2 pm in the Second Floor Library. For more information, call Mary Alice Lightle at 412-682-6433.

23rd Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration
Feeding the Unfed
All member congregations are cordially invited by East End Cooperative Ministries (EECM) to its 23rd annual Gathering of Congregations and Celebration of the Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.—“Feeding the Unfed.” This year’s service will be held at Calvary Episcopal Church (Shady Avenue at Walnut Street), on Sunday, Jan 14, 2007 at 3:30 pm. The featured speaker will be Father Regis Ryan, Executive Director of Focus on Renewal. Fr. Ryan will address the issue of hunger in Western Pennsylvania, speaking on the challenge Dr. King posed in his Nobel Prize Lecture in Oslo in 1964: “Feed the Unfed.”
The Gathering and Celebration will also include music drawn from the rich heritage of African-American Spirituals as sung by the Choir of Calvary Church, and artists and ensembles from the wider Pittsburgh community.
Admission is free. Donations of canned goods for EECM’s Food Pantry are strongly encouraged. For more information, contact EECM at 412-361-5549 or go to

Volunteers to Staff Church Office Sunday Mornings
The Personnel Committee is recruiting volunteers who are willing to staff our church office on Sunday mornings. Individuals would be available to answer questions and guide guests from 8:45 am until the 11 am Sanctuary Worship service, and for a period following worship. Our hope is to have a team of 5-6 volunteers who would rotate in this task. If interested, contact Pamela Kimmel at 412-441-3800.

9th Annual Summit Against Racism
This year’s Summit Against Racism, held annually at East Liberty Presbyterian Church, will focus on how we can build a “New Reality” of equal opportunity, racial diversity and justice in such arenas as city and county economic and community development strategies and policies, law enforcement and criminal justice training and practices, and the electoral system. In addition, there will be workshops on diversity education and building for equal relationships in our multi-racial/cultural society.
The 2007 Summit will be held on Saturday, Jan 20, 2007 from 8:30 am to 3 pm. Registration flyers with more details will be available at ELPC in early January. Or, call 412-441-3800 x32 or email blackandwhite_reunion@yahoo.com. The Summit is organized by The Black

East Liberty Presbyterian Church is pleased to present
LOVE and all that JAZZ
A love-themed evening of jazz and Broadway standards in the spirit of Valentine's Day.

Friday
Feb 16, 2007
7 pm at ELPC
Tickets: $10 per person. FREE for children and youth, 18 and under!
All proceeds to benefit Hope Academy of Music & the Arts, an after-school arts education program for children and youth in East
Reaching Out

Do We Have Your Current Information on File?

We have a system, and it works. But we need your cooperation to help us keep your church information current. If you have a new address, phone number, email address, name change, or changes in any other information you have on file here, please contact Deborah Marx directly at 412/441-3800 x17 or deborahm@coh.net, or submit your change(s) on paper and put it in her mail folder in the front office.

East Liberty Presbyterian Church's Hope Academy of Music and the Arts offers after school and Saturday courses in music and the performing arts. Open classes are being held throughout January to give everyone a chance to visit, meet our teaching artists and see what our students are up to.

With a combination of tuition-based and free courses, there is something for every child from ages 4 to 18-years old. Informational course brochures are available at the front desk and around the church. Course brochures and registration forms are available online at www.cathedralofhope.org. Please join us!

Open Class Schedule

Hope Academy Little Ones (HALOs)
Music and Dance
   Saturday, Jan 13 at 1:00 pm
Musical Theater Workshop
   Saturday, Jan 20 at 9:30 am
Shakespeare Workshop
   Saturday, Jan 20 at 1:30 pm
Voices of Hope
   Wednesday, Jan 24 at 5:30 pm
Creative Dramatic
   Thursday, Jan 25 at 4:30 pm
African Drumming
   Thursday, Jan 25 at 5:30 pm
Young Creators' Workshop
   Saturday, Jan 27 at 3:00 pm

Christian Education

The Rev. Cynthia Jackson, Interim Director

CHURCH SCHOOL

Sunday mornings, 9:45 to 10:45 am

All classes are in wheelchair-accessible locations and near wheelchair-accessible restrooms. Detailed information about any of the following CE classes is available at the “Welcome Table” on the second floor or by contacting the Rev. Cynthia Jackson.

FOR CHILDREN
   u Young Children’s Ministry: Infants–2 years. The young children will be learning that Jesus was a special baby. 1st Floor Nursery.
   u Pre-school: Ages 3, 4, and 5 years. The children will discover: I can look for Jesus, I can tell others about God’s greatest gift, I can bring gifts to Jesus. Room 240.
   u Kindergarten and Grade 1. In an open classroom that emphasizes awe, wonder, and the holy, the story of the birth of Jesus is shared. Room 336.
   u Grades 2 and 3. Interactive materials enable the children to engage in the story and discover how God comes to us in Jesus. Room 338.
   u Grades 4 and 5. The Bible lessons from Seasons of the Spirit. The children will meet Jeremiah, Zechariah, Elizabeth, and learn how each one leads us to Jesus. Room 335.

Extended Session — January’s Focus on Martin Luther King, Jr.
In January, the Extended Session time with children on Sunday mornings (offered during the 11 am service) will focus on the life, ministry and mission of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Families are encouraged to find library books, articles and exhibits in the community that highlight Dr. King’s life and his dream. Children are invited to bring items to share.

FOR YOUTH

For Church School classes offered for youth in grades 6 through 12, see page 7 for details.

FOR ADULTS

Parenting Circle
“In our journey toward inner truth, we need a supportive community—a circle of trust—to guide us.” Parker Palmer describes the spirit of the parents who seek to understand how faith impacts family life. All involved in parenting are welcome to join the caring circle that gathers on the first floor in the Harambe Room.

Journey with Scripture Class
This class studies and reflects upon the scriptures. Prior familiarity with the Bible is not necessary. Second Floor Library.

Jan 7 “Living Waters.” The voice from heaven blesses Jesus as John immerses him in the waters of baptism. New ministry begins. As we begin the Season after the Epiphany, we rejoice that God’s word continues to hold promise and power in our lives, calling each of us by name through living waters. Luke 3:15-17,21-22; Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17.

Jan 14 “Revealing Love.” We can depend on God’s abundant love. Whether offering renewal to those without hope in Isaiah’s time or changing water into wine at the wedding of Cana, God gives us extravagant gifts. The abundant gifts of God’s Spirit work in the midst of the community of God’s beloved people to reveal Christ, then and now. John 2: 1-11; Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 36:5-10; I Corinthians 12:1-11.

Jan 21 “Better Together.” The Body of Christ forms a place where all people have a valued part, and where we may be out true selves. Here, we deepen our understanding in reverence of God’s word. Here, we seek to grow in faithful ministry with and support for one another. I Corinthians 12:1-31; Nehemiah 8:1-3,5-6,8-10; Psalm 19; Luke 4:14-21.

Jan 28 “Living Love.” Our love for one another and the world grows out of God’s gracious love for us. Prophecy that prepares us to receive God begins and ends in the speaking and doing of love. Such love enlivens community. Such love persists. By such love we are fully known. I Corinthians 13:1-13; Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6; Luke 4:21-30.

Contemporaries Class
An intergenerational community of caring adults united in their focus upon Bible reading and meditation. Individuals at all stages of faith are welcome! Second Floor Parlor.

How Do We Practice Peace?
And the seed whose fruit is righteousness is sown in peace

Jan 7 “Major Organized Religions Support Organ Donation.” Led by Donna Ramsey.

Seekers Class
The Seekers are a group of questioning, faithful friends, that seeks to grow in understanding, insight, faith, and practice through intellectual and spiritual inquiry, in an open, supportive, and accepting atmosphere. New friends are always welcome. Room 234.

From the Stewardship Committee

Gifting an IRA
There’s a new law which provides a time-limited opportunity for making charitable contributions from IRA accounts.

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 allows individuals age 70 1/2, and older, to transfer up to $100,000 in 2006 and 2007 directly from Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA’s) to charitable organizations without generating federal taxable income on the distribution.

If you own an IRA and are 70 1/2 or older, this law may provide you with a more tax-efficient way to support ELPC and other charitable organizations. To learn how you can benefit from this new law, contact your tax advisor. For more

Taizé Prayer
Rev. Christiane Dutton, Minister of Taizé Prayer

After-Taizé Classes
Wednesdays at 8:15 pm, following the 7 pm Taizé Prayer service. Note: No classes Jan 3, 10, 17, 24.

Jan 31 Celebrations. Join us after our Taizé service for celebration cake. If you celebrate a birthday, milestone or an anniversary in January, write your name on a piece of paper and put it in the offering plate during the month.

Bread & Soup Meal
All are invited to join us in the McKelvy Room on the last Wednesday of each month from 5:45 to 6:45 pm for a bread and soup meal and fellowship ($2.50 donation). Next meal—Jan 31. Following our meal together, for those of you who wish to, plan to stay for
Justice & Global Concerns
The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy
Director of Mission Ministries

Full Inclusion Taskforce

- **Taskforce Meeting.** Sunday, Jan 14 at 12:15 pm in Room 224. Join us in previewing the new resource materials purchased for the church library—books for adults, youth, children and families. All materials reflect relevant issues for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender persons, families and allies. This taskforce focuses on justice issues surrounding the full inclusion of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people of faith in the PC(USA). Carol Untch, 724-272-9722.

- **Coming Out of Hiding: An Interfaith Spiritual Expression Celebration.** Join us on Saturday, Feb 3 from 9 am to 3:30 pm for a day of workshops, worship and a variety of celebrations. Save the date and watch for details in upcoming Sunday bulletin announcements, on the ELPC website at www.cathedralofhope.org or by contacting Suzanne Bennett or Chuck Carson. Sponsored by our Full Inclusion Taskforce and other local inclusive faith groups.

International Relations Taskforce

- **Forum on Darfur.** Sunday, Jan 14 from 12:15 to 1:30 pm in Room 234 with David Rosenbloom of the Pittsburgh Darfur Emergency Coalition and Congressman Mike Doyle. This event will include educational information followed by discussion.

- **Darfur Letter Writing Campaign.** Sunday, Jan 21 in Room 135 immediately following the 11 am service.

Women & Children’s Taskforce

Taskforce Meeting

- Sunday, Jan 7 at 12:30 pm in Room 234. If you would like to join with other church members in working on behalf of women and children locally, nationally and globally, this is the group for you. The new year is a perfect time to become a part of this important effort. Judy Menk, 412-798-8569.

A Journey Into the World of Human Trafficking

Trafficking in persons is modern-day slavery involving human beings who are bought, sold, and forced into slave labor and/or sexual exploitation. The United States government estimates that up to 800,000 people are taken from their homes and families and forced across international borders each year, while millions more are trafficked within their own countries. Eighty percent are women and female children.

On Sundays, Jan 21 and 28 in Room 234 following the 11 am service, the Taskforce is offering a closer look into this criminal enterprise by presenting a two-part screening of the Lifetime Network miniseries *Human Trafficking.* Note: Due to the graphic nature of the presentation, viewer discretion is advised. By presenting stories that represent the hundreds of thousands of women and children who live in the horror of slavery every day, the Taskforce hopes to inspire you to take a stand against human trafficking.

This project is based on a shared commitment to stop vio-
Youth & Young Adult Ministries
Heather Tunney, Director
412-441-3800 x14

YOUTH — Grades 6—12

Sunday Church School, 9:45 to 10:45 am
“Seasons of the Spirit” curriculum. Classes resume on Winter Rally Day, Jan 7. See page 1 for more information.

Confirmation Retreat
The second ELPC Confirmation Class Retreat will be held on Monday, Jan 15 from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. Our retreat focus will be on the elements of worship and the centrality of the word of God to our faith. Bring your questions, ideas, and a willingness to explore your faith in community together. Note: Although ELPC will be closed on Jan 15 in observance of Martin Luther King Day, we will meet at the church and ride together to our retreat location. More details will follow in a letter from Heather Tunney. Please RSVP to Heather to confirm that you will be at the retreat.

Senior High Retreat: "Who We Are Becoming"
Youth in 9-12 grade are invited to participate in the Crestfield Senior High Retreat from Jan 19-21. Join us for worship, praise, fellowship, workshops and fun. We will also spend an evening at Slippery Rock University's Recreation Center and enjoy swimming, basketball, rock-climbing and more. Our retreat leader will be the Rev. Ed DeLair. RSVP to Heather Tunney by Monday, Jan 8. The cost is $40 per person; ELPC will pay the remainder.

Sunday Youth Group
Open to youth in grades 6-12, Sundays, 12:30 to 3 pm. We will meet for lunch, Bible Study and fellowship in Room 51 (ground floor). Note: No Youth Group on Jan 21, 2007.

Youth Basketball
Youth Basketball is held on Saturdays from 5 to 8 pm in the ELPC Gym. To participate, contact Heather. Note: No Youth Basketball on Jan 20, 2007.

CROSSROADS

Crossroads/College-Student Reunion
There will be a reunion for ELPC young adults age 18-23 at the home of one of the senior high Church School teachers on Thursday, Jan 4 from 7 to 9 pm. RSVP required for this event. Please call Heather for more details or to RSVP.

Career Conference for Senior High, Recent Graduates and College Students
ELPC Youth and Young Adult Ministries is hosting a FREE day-long conference called "Transitions" at ELPC on Saturday, Feb 3 from 10 am to 3:30 pm. Registration begins at 9:30 am.

Through a keynote address, workshops and a panel discussion, we will explore important spiritual and practical issues facing youth and young adults who are approaching (or dealing with!) times of great change in their lives.

Learn more about: discerning God's call through times of change, how your "personality type" influences your decisions, how to choose a college, developing your leadership skills...and much more! There will be workshops available to parents as well.

While this event is free, registration is required. For details and to register, please call Heather Tunney. . .and, feel free to invite a friend!

YOUNG ADULTS
In their 20s and 30s

Sunday Church, 9:45 to 10:45 am
Classes resume on Winter Rally Day, Jan 7, 2007. See page 1 for more information about Rally Day. See page 4 for Christian Education adult Church School classes.

Young Adult Study Group
Young adults in their 20s or 30s are invited to join us as we continue our discussion of God's covenants every other Tuesday from 7 to 9 pm.

In January, we'll explore the topic of "Redemption." Tuesday, Jan 9 we'll meet in the Second

Koinonia
SUNDAY, JAN 14

Koinonia Fellowship
6 pm, Second Floor Parlor
All are invited to join us for fellowship and a potluck supper. A main course will be provided, but please bring a side dish or dessert to share. RSVP by Wednesday, Jan 10 to Heather Tunney.

Koinonia Service of Praise
7 pm, Third Floor Music Room
A contemporary worship service to praise and worship God, the center of
Sermon Copies Available
Printed copies of most sermons preached at the weekly Sanctuary service are available in the sermon rack by the Highland entrance. Tapes of the Sanctuary services can be requested by contacting Gloria Knopp in the church office. If you plan to keep the tape, a $2 donation...

Church Building Closed
Monday, Jan 1, 2007
New Year’s Day
Monday, Jan 15, 2007
Martin Luther King Jr. Obser-

EECM Food-of-the-Month Program
The East End Cooperative Ministry (EECM) Food Pantry, located in East Liberty Presbyterian Church, distributes food during the week to those persons and households living in poverty.
A number of people in Allegheny County live below federally mandated poverty guidelines. Many live within walking distance of ELPC. We invite you to become a regular contributor to the EECM Food Pantry by bringing a designated food to the church at least once a month. Two baskets are available for food dropped off—

Horizons Bible Study
All women at ELPC are invited to participate in this year’s Presbyterian Women’s Horizons Bible Study—"In the Beginning: Perspectives on Genesis" by Celia Brewer Sinclair—based on 9 lessons, one each month. Choose to attend a time that fits your schedule best. Second Floor Parlor.

Lesson #5 Perspectives on the Outsider: Hagar
(Genesis 16; 21:1-21)
Jan 2, Tuesday MORNING, 10 am to 12:30 pm
10 am. . . . .sharing, prayer time, opening devotions
10:30 am. . . .Bible Study
11:30 am. . . .Lunch, soup provided, bring bread, salad or fruit to share

Lesson #4 Perspectives on Promise: Abraham & Sarah
Jan 23, Tuesday EVENING, 5:45 to 7:30 pm
5:45 pm. . . .fellowship and a soup-and-bread meal
6:30 pm. . . .Bible Study

Heather Lawrence (Presbyterian Women Moderator) at 412-486-0826, Mary Alice Lightle at 412-682-1504 or Kay Shissler (for the evening study) at

Presbyterian Women
Heather Lawrence, Moderator

If you would like to purchase flowers for the 11 am Sanctuary worship service (10 am service in the Courtyard during summer worship), in honor or memory of a loved one, please call Barbara Davis at 412-441-3800 x16. The cost is $70 a Sunday.
The following 2007 dates are available:

Jan 14 July 29
Jan 21 Sept 16
May 13 (Mother’s Day) Sept 23
June 3 Sept 30
June 17 (Father’s Day) Oct 14

Traditionally, the Food Pantry runs low on certain food items each month. Without your donations, EECM must purchase these items.
Good News and Congratulations

Infant Baptisms

Eri Kathryn Fujita on Nov 26, 2006. Eri was born Aug 29, 2006 to Emily and Masaya Fujita.

Benjamin Carl Ness on Nov 26, 2006. Benjamin was born June 17, 2006 to Kimberly and Erik Ness.

Winston Palmer Haas on Nov 26, 2006. Winston was born Apr 30, 2006 to Joanna E. Haas.

Ruo Han Lou on Nov 26, 2006. Ruo was born Oct 28, 2006 to Jun Zhao Lou and Guang Yu Lou.

Benjamin Carl Ness on Nov 26, 2006. Benjamin was born June 17, 2006 to Kimberly and Erik Ness.

Christian Blaise Lewand on Dec 10, 2006. Christian was born July 31, 2006 to Stephanie Lewand and Lee Lewand.

Adult Baptism

Jun Zhao Lou.

New members, received by the Session on Sunday, Dec 17, 2006.

Transfer of Letter Beth Bush, Margaret Jean Sherosky.


Profession of Faith/Baptized Shaelon Dante Henderson, Jamar Elijah Wilcox.

Friend of ELPC Hugh Raymond Primas.

The Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh Performs at ELPC

The Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh presents “HEILIG” on Sunday, Feb 4 at 3 pm at East Liberty Presbyterian Church, with the Academy Chamber Orchestra Betsy Burleigh, Music Director, conducting. The works of Haydn: Heiligmesse; Mendelssohn: Heilig; Bach: Sanctus (BWV 238); Bernstein: Sanctus (from MASS); Bernstein: Sanctus (from THE LARK) and Argento: Sanctus will be performed. For ticket information, call the Mendelssohn Choir of Pitts-

www.cathedralofhope.org
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