Ben Jealous Visits

Sun., June 6

Join us as Mr. Benjamin Todd Jealous, the President and CEO of the NAACP, is our guest in worship and at a post-worship reception. He will be in Pittsburgh participating in the “Race in America: Restructuring Inequality” conference from June 3–6.

Mr. Jealous is the youngest person to hold this position of leadership with the NAACP and is well suited for this responsibility. He has served as President of the Rosenberg Foundation, Director of the U.S. Human Rights Program at Amnesty International, and Executive Director of the National Newspaper Publishers’ Association. He is married to Lia Epperson Jealous, and they have one daughter.

VCS: Meet God on the Mountain

June 28–July 2, from 9 am–3 pm, at ELPC

Children age 3 1/2 (potty trained) through Grade 5 are invited to explore Bible stories of mystery, power, and truth that will take them on an exciting journey, and help them experience God’s presence in their lives. Our days will be filled with worship, recreation, arts and crafts, service, and fun! We also will enjoy a mid-week field trip to Squaw Valley Park.

Registration forms are available on the CE Bulletin Board and at www.cathedralofhope.org. For details, call Pastor Heather at 412.441.3800 x21.

Note: ELPC is pleased to offer VCS to families free of charge. To help cover our program’s costs, we are seeking donations from our ELPC family to purchase supplies and snacks. If you can help, please take a tag from the bulletin board at the bottom of the main stairwell and purchase the items listed on the tag. Donations are due back no later than Sun., June 20.

Save the Dates

June 5: OHM Workday, pg. 7
Youth’s 30-Hour Famine, pg. 5

June 6: Young at Heart Luncheon, pg. 3
Last day of regular CE classes and Teacher Appreciation, pg. 4
Pondered Pieces exhibit opens

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East Liberty Presbyterian Church • 116 South Highland Avenue • Pittsburgh, PA 15206 • www.cathedralofhope.org
An occupational hazard of being a pastor is that you rarely get to attend other worship services or hear other minister’s sermons. That is one reason why I enjoy attending the Good Samaritan services, mostly so that I can be a part of that worshiping community and share in the powerful time of intercessory prayer. Although I usually have to leave the service early to prepare for the “Journey” worship time, occasionally the prayer time becomes a mini-sermon time.

One Sunday several months ago, Ray Anthony, an ELPC member and regular Good Samaritan worship attendee, offered some thoughts during the prayer time. As I recall, he spoke about family and about his heartfelt desire that the men of the homeless shelter and vulnerable souls on Pittsburgh’s streets might know God’s love and peace. He went on to insist that the gospel message is stronger and truer than the messages we commonly hear, and (like a good preacher) proceeded to give three examples.

Ray mentioned how people often say “God helps those who help themselves,” but that’s not quite true. Yes, we are to do the best we can and ever seek to do what is right, but God’s grace most often comes to help those who can’t help themselves. In that assurance comes a real word of hope.

Ray then noted that we speak about the “survival of the fittest.” But life is not just about surviving, and certainly not about working hard to make it at the expense of someone else. The gospel message is about how abundant life and peace is promised, not to the fittest, but to the meek, the weak, the forgotten and overlooked. The promise of resurrection emerged not from a Caesar on a golden throne, but from a crucified teacher on a wooden cross.

Finally Ray commented that some insist “God don’t like ugly.” As true as that might be, God is greater than all the “ugly” in the world, and can get us through times that are hard into new places that exceed our hopes and imagination.

Sometimes the sermon we need to hear doesn’t happen on Sunday morning. Sometimes it is contained in a chance conversation we have in a store, on the bus, or on the phone. Sometimes it is in a story we read in the paper or a song we hear on the radio. The important reminder for all of us is that we can only hear God if we quiet ourselves long enough to listen for God—not expecting a voice from the clouds, but listening to the voice speaking close at hand.

Jesus was the “Word made flesh.” We mustn’t be surprised if people of flesh and blood become the means for that same holy Word to be spoken to us today.
Session News
At their recent meetings, the Session:

- Received eight new members and friends of ELPC.
- Met with members of the Strategic Visioning taskforce to share thoughts about the future ministry needs and opportunities for our church. Throughout the month of June, the Strategic Visioning planning team is meeting with a variety of church and community representatives to gather their ideas.
- Continued discussion about expanding our worship and educational offerings during the summer months of July and August.
- Welcomed the new elders to Session: Penn Hackney, Deborah Hughes, Nancy Klancher, Heather Lawrence, and Hal Sanders.

Child Safety Policies
ELPC staff and volunteers have been working to create a set of policies that ensure the safety of all children and youth who participate in ELPC's ministries or who attend programs at ELPC.

In April, ELPC's Session approved the adoption of these safety policies. A series of trainings will be offered early Summer for all who care for children at ELPC—staff, volunteers, parents, caregivers, etc. Look in the Sunday bulletin for more information and to find a training that fits your schedule.

Several pamphlets will be available to help you understand how these new policies affect you and your family. While copies of the complete policy manual will be provided to all ELPC staff and volunteers, additional copies are available upon request. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Heather.

Update: Organist/Music Director Search
The nine-member Search Committee is actively reviewing over 70 resumes received from local, national, and international candidates. Many talented Christian musicians are attracted to the position of Organist/Music Director at ELPC. Their applications give a variety of reasons for their interest, ranging from the outstanding organ, to the inclusiveness of the congregation, and from the urban setting to the architecture of the sanctuary. We are in awe of the talent and commitment that is represented in the pool of candidates.

The committee has established a multi-step selection procedure and the preliminary interview phase will begin soon. Please keep us in your prayers as we continue the process to determine our next Organist/Music Director.

Volunteers Needed to Water Plants
The Landscape Team is looking for volunteers to help water the container plants in the Courtyard and at the Whitfield St. and Penn Ave. entrances. Frequency of watering depends on the weather. Anyone interested in helping, please contact Chuck Lukehart at 412.782.6447 or Chas321@aol.com.

Take a Walk Down Memory Lane
Sun., June 6, following the 11 am, Worship Service
The Board of Deacons will once again honor the seniors of ELPC with a luncheon in the Social Hall. The delicious, full-course luncheon will include fun entertainment and great conversation about the days gone by! We hope to see you there as we “Take A Walk Down Memory Lane.”

To RSVP, or if you did not receive an invitation and would like to attend, please contact Kate Carlson at 412.441.3800 x17 or KateC@coh.net. Seating is limited, so please RSVP. A per person fee of $10 applies to anyone bringing two or more guests.

Note: If you are 65 or older, please wear red!
Teacher Appreciation
We rejoice that ELPC is blessed with many gifted educators who have given their time and talents to teach or facilitate our Church School classes for persons of all ages and stages in their journey of faith. In our 11 am worship on Sun., June 6, we will recognize, with thanksgiving, the gifts of our teachers and facilitators.

Please join the Christian Education Ministry Team in celebrating the gifts of the following teachers and facilitators: Linda Benedict, Nicole Bomeli, Don Breitbarth, Valire Copeland, Maurice Gordon, Carol Hoehn, Frances Irvin, Jan Irvin, Rev. Cynthia Jackson, Mary Ruth Johnson, Vanessa Johnson, Joe Kennedy, Kathleen Kyle, Mary Alice Lightle, Roberta London, Nancy Magee, Judy Menk, Nicole Molinaro, Dawn Morgenstern, Jan Pressman, DaMisha Probst, Gwen Puza, Carolyn Russ, Kay Shissler, and Sarah Stacy.

Summer Singing Opportunity!
Have you ever thought you might like to sing in the Chancel Choir but weren’t sure if you’d enjoy the experience? Or perhaps you knew you’d enjoy it, but you didn’t think you had the time because of other commitments. Well, we have a deal for you!

From Sun., July 4–Sept. 5, the Chancel Choir will operate in a “relaxed” summer mode. We will rehearse on Sunday mornings at 8:45 am, and then lead the 10 am Worship Service.

If you are interested, contact Craig Cannon at craig_cannon@fcsad.edu or meet him immediately following one of the 10 am worship services.

Christian Education
The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf, Associate Pastor for Educational Ministries

CONTEMPORARIES CLASS Facilitators: Joe Kennedy and Mary Alice Lightle
June 6: Looking Back, Looking Ahead
Join us at 9:15 am, to share a potluck breakfast. We will review our last nine months together and discuss ideas for fall classes.

June 13–July 25: Landscapes of Faith
We will consider how the settings of various biblical stories enrich the tales they contain. Wilderness, valley, or the seashore are not just arbitrary backdrops for the stories of our faith, they stimulate our imaginations in profound ways. What difference does the setting make to the story? How do we understand God’s presence within the different landscapes of our own lives?

Scriptures for each lesson will be in the prior week’s bulletin. Pick up a copy of the following week’s lesson in class. Join us when you can!

Note: Classes are from 9:15–9:50 am, in the Second Floor Parlor. We will not meet on Sun., July 4.

JOURNEY WITH SCRIPTURE Facilitator: Jan Irvin

PARENTING CIRCLE Facilitators: Frances Irvin and Dawn Morgenstern
Anyone involved in parenting (singles, couples, adoptive parents, step-parents, grandparents, guardians, mentors, etc.) are welcome to join us in the First Floor Harambe Room! We share experiences, resources, prayer and scripture, as well as explore how our faith builds and nourishes our family lives and helps nurture our parent/child relationships. We learn from one another ways to foster closer family relationships in the context of creating active faith communities.

June 6: Sharing Joys and Concerns
We’ll share joys and concerns, and ideas for new topics. Coffee will be provided.

SEEKERS Facilitator: Gwen Puza
June 6: Faith Triumphs in Trouble Led by Nadine Banks
The devastation of the earthquake in Haiti is overwhelming, but the faith of the Haitian people persists. They will persevere. Join us as we learn of a people who know the difference between what they need and what they want. Nadine, an ELPC Elder and former missionary in Haiti, will share her experiences with the Haitian people from 1998–2005.

SOUL FOOD Facilitator: Rev. Cynthia Jackson
June 6: “The Heart of the Seed”
Joyce Rupp’s “Fresh Bread” serves as a guide for reflection, prayer, and spiritual awareness (copies are available for $10). June’s theme is “The Heart of the Seed.” How do we recognize and break the shell that confines us? Shedding old fears and assumptions, we “let go” and enter the growth process. Bring a journal!
Youth Ministry

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf, Associate Pastor for Educational Ministries

Sat., June 5–6: 30-Hour Famine Youth in grades 6–12
Youth will host a 30-Hour Famine to raise donations for the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Fund, to provide relief to earthquake victims. Youth also will participate in a service project and celebrate God’s goodness during a midnight worship service.

Youth Volunteer Opportunities
There are many opportunities for ELPC youth to give their time and talents in service to God and their neighbor over the summer. Please read your Youth Calendar or call Pastor Heather for details on all volunteer ministry opportunities!

- Sat., June 5, July 3, Aug. 7: Valley View Food Pantry
  Two youth are needed to serve from 8 am–12 pm, on the first Saturday of each month at the Valley View Food Pantry. We will be packing food boxes or assisting persons to carry food boxes to their cars. A member of the Poverty Committee will pick up ELPC youth at 7:45 am on these days.

- Sun., June 6: Young at Heart Luncheon
  Eight youth are needed to help serve lunch at the Deacon’s “Young at Heart Luncheon,” honoring the contribution of senior members of our congregation.

- Mon., June 28–July 2: Vacation Church School Youth in grades 6 and up
  Youth are needed to help “shepherd” younger children to their activities; assist with skits for morning worship; and help with craft, recreation, lunch, and afternoon activity stations. Youth are asked to volunteer for at least three hours at a time.

  For the second summer in a row, we will engage in a local mission trip in East Liberty. We will stay in ELPC and serve our brothers and sisters in the East End in partnership with Open Hand and East End Cooperative Ministries. Youth must have participated in three other service opportunities prior to participating in this trip, and have completed grades 8–12.

Young Adult Ministry

The Rev. Brian Diebold, Coordinator, Youth and Young Adult Ministries

We welcome all adults in their 20’s and 30’s (married, single, partnered, with or without children). Find us on Facebook or come check us out in person!

Fri, June 18: Miss Saigon 8 pm
Join us as we enjoy the Pittsburgh CLO’s production of this Broadway favorite at the Benedum Center. Tickets are $26.50 per person. Scholarships are available for up to half of the ticket cost for those in need of assistance.

If you would like to carpool, meet at ELPC at 6:30 pm. Please RSVP immediately to ensure that we have enough tickets. Discussion afterward led by Ashley Birt.

Hope Academy

Linda Addlespurger, Director

2010 Showcase Performances
Join us for Hope Academy’s 2010 Showcase Performances at the Kelly-Strayhorn Theater on Sat., June 26, and Sun., June 27.

- Star-Crossed
  On Sat., June 26, at 7 pm, and Sun., June 27, at 3 pm, enjoy Romeo and Juliet as you’ve never seen it before—remixed, mashed up, deconstructed and re-imagined. Fifty Hope Academy students will sing, dance, and act their way through the complexities of one of Shakespeare’s most well-loved plays, featuring music from West Side Story, Spring Awakening, Radiohead, Dire Straights and The Proclaimers.

  Tickets are available at the door for $5 each.

- Staycee Pearl Dance Project: Array
  HAT Co. Pearl Dancers perform their end of the year concert on Sun., June 27 at 7 pm, alongside teaching artist Staycee Pearl’s adult dance company and special guest choreographers and dancers. Hope Academy student dancers include Angelina Winbush, Candace Burgess, Mimi Thomas, Dayna Rouse and Alexandra Brown.

  Admission to this performance is “pay what you can.”

Congratulations, Bethan Neely!
Bethan Neely recently performed at the Carole Teti Memorial Organ Competition at Zion Lutheran Church in Indiana, Pa. She was awarded first place along with a Memorial Competition check for $1,500, which she will use this summer toward the expenses for a week-long study at Oberlin Conservatory and a three-week study at the Eastman School of Music, Rochester, N.Y., where she has been accepted into the organ studio of the Music Horizons Summer Program for High School Musicians.

Reaching Out • June 2010
PrideFest 2010
Sun., June 13, Shuttle Provided
PrideFest is a huge celebration of GLBT People in Pittsburgh. It begins with PrideMarch through downtown, followed by a street fair on Liberty Ave. This is one of the opportunities we have for evangelism here in Pittsburgh! We encourage you to join us in representing ELPC and its message of God’s abundant love. Wear your ELPC t-shirt and walking shoes. We will have a shuttle to/from the march site following 10 am Worship.

Watch the bulletin board for a map of the parade route and event times. For details or to volunteer for our booth, call Carol Untch at 724.272.9722.

Classes After Taizé Prayer
The Rev. Christiane Dutton, Minister of Taizé Prayer
Note: Classes begin at 8:15 pm. Enjoy a supper at 6 pm, in the McKelvey Room.

Wed., June 2: Writing Workshop Led by Laurie Arnold

Wed., June 9: Organ Recital in Sanctuary Led by Jennifer Gorske
All are invited as Jennifer Gorske, organ student of Dr. J. Richard Szeremany, and member of the Taizé music leadership team, performs in the Sanctuary.

Wed., June 16: Shape Note/Sacred Harp Singing Led by Charles Anderson
Enjoy singing tunes in three- and four-part harmony from the oldest American song book in print. All tunes are taught one part at a time! Beginners welcome!

Wed., June 23: Hebrew Chant Led by David Goldstein
We will use sacred phrases from Psalms, Isaiah, and other old testament sources to dive deeply into prayerful intentions. No experience with singing or with the Hebrew language is necessary. All are welcome!

Wed., June 30: Celebrations!
Do you celebrate a birthday, milestone or anniversary in June? Write it down and put it in the collection plate! We’d like to celebrate with you!

Pondered Pieces
From Sun., June 6–20
Our last exhibit until the fall features Laura Landry, a local artist who describes her art as colorful, child-like, yet sophisticated with Spiritual undertones that appeal to all ages.

The exhibit opens on Sun., June 6, in Room 234 and in the Second Floor Parlor. A portion of the sales will benefit ELPC.

For more information, please contact the Rev. Phil Jamison at 412.462.4689 or philjjr@gmail.com with “ELPC Art” in the subject line.

Presbyterian Women
Mary Alice Lightle, Moderator
Tues., June 1: Israel and Palestine Today 10 am, in the Second Floor Parlor
We will begin with devotions and sharing of joys and concerns. Gwen Puza will share her photos and speak about her trip to Israel and Palestine last summer. A potluck lunch will follow. Please bring a salad or snack to share and your own place setting. For more information, call Mary Alice Lightle at 412.682.1504.

Hygiene Kits for Disaster Victims
Through Labor Day, we are collecting hygiene kits for disaster victims around the world. In June, the requested items are new hand towels (approximately 16x28”) and new washcloths. If you prefer to assemble complete kits, pick up instructions on the PW bulletin board outside the library. Please leave items or completed kits in the church office. If you wish to make a monetary gift, used for kits or shipping costs, make checks payable to “Presbyterian Women in East Liberty Presbyterian Church.”

Hygiene kits are one way to share in a hope-filled tomorrow. Your support truly makes a difference in the lives of children and families the world over.

Health Ministry
The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy, Staff Representative
Exercise Classes
Tai Chi Tuesdays, from 10–11 am and 6–7 pm, through June 22
We will not hold class on Tues., June 15.

Note: JourneyDance and Yoga are on hiatus until further notice.
Learn about EECM’s Child and Youth Programs

EECM serves approximately 900 youth each year through its Child and Youth Programs, including In-School/After-School Outreach, ExtraOrdinary Tutoring and Summer Day Camp. Gary Sadler, a member of ELPC’s Neighbors Committee and representative on EECM’s Council of Congregations, recently interviewed EECM’s Kate Snyder to learn more about these programs.

- **In-School/After-School Outreach** programs are divided into Prevention and Intervention programming. Prevention programming prepares youth to face the negative pressures in their lives through academic support; violence, alcohol, tobacco, and drug prevention education; as well as life-skills development. Intervention programming is often a one-on-one program that works with youth who are failing in school, living with dysfunctional families, or may have recently been in the Juvenile Justice System.

- **ExtraOrdinary Tutoring** is a community-based academic support program. Youth who participate are considered to be less “at risk” and tend to have fewer struggles in their academics and more family support. ExtraOrdinary Tutoring focuses on specific subject areas that are causing difficulty.

- **Summer Day Camp** hosts about 200 youth for five weeks each summer. It combines traditional camp activities with life-skills programming, prevention education, etc. Camp is organized around a theme, and each week focuses on specific issues. For example, one year the theme was “Breaking Through the Tough Stuff” and topics included community violence, absent parents, pressures to use drugs, etc. Camp culminates in a final production, in which youth put on a dramatic production with singing, dancing, art, and music.

We have been blessed with several success stories. Dropout rates in the East End high schools normally are quite high. However in 2009, all of the youth who participated in the Intervention program remained in school! In addition, 16 graduates went on to college!

EECM needs ExtraOrdinary K–12 tutors for a one hour per week commitment. If you are interested, please contact Tracy Hudson at 412.361.5549 x403 or tracyh@eecm.org. Parents interested in enrolling a child in EECM’s Child and Youth Programs should call 412.361.5549 and ask to speak with the Rev. Darnell Leonard, director of Children and Youth Programs.
Summer Worship Schedule

On **Sun., June 13**, we will move from having three worship services on Sunday mornings to two worship services. The Journey service will conclude on **Sun., June 6**, returning on **Sun., Sept. 12**. The Sanctuary service will move from 11 am to 10 am. During the months of July and August, this service will be held in the courtyard if the weather permits. Keep your eyes open for upcoming information about summer adult educational opportunities on Sunday mornings!

Paul Jacobs to Perform at ELPC

**Thurs., June 24, at 8 pm**

At the age of 15, Paul Jacobs was appointed head organist at a parish of 3,500 families in his home town of Washington, Pa. At the age of 23, he made musical history when, on the 250th anniversary of J.S. Bach’s death, he played the composer’s complete organ music in an 18-hour, non-stop marathon in Pittsburgh. Today, Mr. Jacobs is the chairman of the organ department at The Juilliard School.

The Organ Historical Society’s 2010 National Convention takes place in Pittsburgh on June 21–26. As part of the convention, Paul Jacobs is scheduled to perform at ELPC. Members of ELPC can attend the concert at no charge.