

Christmas Pageant: A Story of Unity



Join us in the Sanctuary on **Sun., Dec. 9**, 10 am, as the children of our church tell and enact the Christmas story. Written once again by the Rev. Ashley Amber Birt, narrators will remind us of how Christ's birth drew unlikely people together in joy and hope. Today, our celebration of Christ's birth draws us together too, reminding us of the beauty of our diversity and the unity we have in Christ.

Notes: Students in grades 6–8 are encouraged to attend Church School on **Sun., Nov. 25** and **Dec. 2** to practice their speaking parts. There will be a dress rehearsal for all participants on **Sat., Dec. 8**, 9:30–11 am, followed by a Christmas party for the children who are participating. If a student cannot attend rehearsal, but will be here for the pageant, they are most welcome! Just let your student's Church School teacher know.

Blue Christmas Service and Gathering

The ELPC deacons invite you to a Blue Christmas worship service and gathering on **Sat., Dec. 15**, 7 pm. There will be a brief worship experience led by the Rev. Tony Richardson-Eckes and Tucker Ferda, with assistance from the Rev. Joe Kiewra, and then a time of gathering and sharing food in the fellowship room.

Celebrate the Birth of the Christ Child

Join us in the Sanctuary for Christmas Eve worship on **Mon., Dec. 24**. Both services will feature the celebration of the Lord's Supper and candle lighting.

- **Friends & Family Service** will be at 5 pm. Pastor Heather will preach.
- **Candlelight Service** will be at 11 pm, with prelude music at 10:30 pm. Pastor Randy will preach.



Sunday Services

**Celebration of the Lord's Supper*

Journey Worship • 8:45 am

Theme: New Beginnings

Dec. 2* Derail Holcomb

Dec. 9 Rev. Dr. Randy Bush

Dec. 16 Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

Dec. 23 Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

Dec. 30 *No Service*

Sanctuary Worship • 11 am

Dec. 2* Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy

Dec. 9 Rev. Dr. Randy Bush

Dec. 16 Rev. Dr. Randy Bush

Dec. 23 Rev. Dr. Randy Bush

Dec. 30 Rev. Jim Davidson,
retired pastor

Labyrinth Prayer Walk

Mondays • 7 am–1 pm

Wednesdays • 9 am–9 pm

Taizé Prayer Service

Wednesdays • 7 pm

Live stream available at ELPC.church

Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan

God Created You. God Loves You. Be Yourself.

All LGBTQ folks and allies are invited to our monthly Spiritual Gathering on **Sun., Dec. 16**, 12:30 pm.

To learn more about our LGBTQ Ministry, please contact Wil Forrest at Wil@coh.net or 412.441.3800 x114.



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

Staff Leadership

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush
Pastor

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

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Associate Pastor for Educational Ministries

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

Linda Addlespurger
Director of Hope Academy

Craig Cannon
*Interim Executive Director of
Hope Academy*

Wil Forrest
*Director of Church Operations
Coordinator of LGBTQ Ministry*

Kelli Booher
*Coordinator of Youth and
Young Adult Ministries*

Jim DiGiorgio
Coordinator of iSERVE Ministry

Sara Hackett
*Coordinator of Christian Education
and Youth Ministry*

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



Sometimes in conversations, a person will interrupt the discussion by offering a challenging word, prefaced by the phrase “Let me play the devil’s advocate.” It’s a funny phrase (Side note: Since when did the devil need an advocate?) that dates back to the 17th century. The Roman Catholic Church actually created an office popularly known as the *advocatus diabolicus* (devil’s advocate), in which persons would be given the task to scrutinize every report about a holy figure being considered for canonization and make a case against naming them as a new saint. The argument was that only when proposals

have been rigorously tested and investigated can anyone be comfortable with ascribing sainthood to men and women of faith.

On the surface, it seems quite reasonable to test the reliability of claims associated with saintly miracles and wonders. But what happens when playing the “devil’s advocate” is simply a way to undermine another person’s idea? What happens when putting forward criticisms, doubts, and skeptical remarks is done simply to derail a colleague’s well-meaning proposal? Must every “point” be met with a “counterpoint”?

Generally speaking, being open to diverse opinions is a good thing. However, not every opinion is worthy of equal time or receiving equal weighting in deliberations. A presentation about valuing what is good does not have to share the podium with a speaker intent on a message of hate that demeans others. To be proud of one’s country of origin, whether that is the United States or some other nation, does not mean it is necessary to invite into the discussion a person who shows disdain for other nations, ethnicities, or cultures. Explicit statements that are racist, homophobic, misogynist, and anti-Semitic may have a level of protection under our Constitution’s First Amendment, but that does not guarantee them a place of equivalence in public discussions nor exempt them from the legal limits and possible hate crime penalties present in our legal code.

“Devil’s advocates” are not always welcome voices in conversations related to faith, since both scripture and the example of Christ have modeled for us a “one-sided” bias toward the needs of the poor, the outcast, the wounded, forgotten, and maligned. That is part of the power of the season of Advent with its focus on faith themes such as peace, love, hope, and joy. We light a candle each week in Advent, knowing that it is not necessary to also celebrate war when we have been given the higher calling to follow the Prince of Peace. We light candles in worship, knowing there is no value in inviting a “devil’s advocate” to promote hate, despair or sadness during our December worship services since the microphone has intentionally been reserved for words focused on love, hope, and joy.

In fact, the gift of Advent is that it refutes any false equivalence this world may place on positions of hatred, injustice, nationalism and racism by loudly proclaiming the gospel “good news” of the virtues incarnate in Christ Jesus—love, hope, peace, and joy. Panelists and media talk shows can pursue their goals of being “fair and balanced”; for us, we serve as “angel advocates” sharing our one-sided, good news of great joy for all the world.

Randy Bush

Mission Matters

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

Sun., Dec. 2: Facing Systemic Racism: Where Do We Go From Here? 12:30–2 pm
Please join us for the final event in our *Facing Systemic Racism Series* as we discuss where we as a church go next to address systemic racism. Your reflections and input will help guide future events, action, and programs at ELPC. A light lunch will be served. Childcare is available by calling **412.441.3800 x140**.

Support the Christmas Giving Tree

Stop by the Giving Tree near the Hospitality Desk on **Sun., Dec. 2 and 9**, or **Wed., Dec. 5**, and select a gift tag. Deacons will be on hand to offer assistance. Wrapped gifts, with tags securely attached, are due back in the church office no later than noon on **Sun., Dec. 16**. To participate by donating money, please make checks out to “ELPC Giving Tree” and deliver it to the church office. The Deacon Board thanks the congregation for its enthusiastic support of this ministry.

Environmental Tip from the Justice Committee

Gift Giving

Did you know that between Thanksgiving and New Year’s Day, we in the United States increase our waste production by 25 percent? This equates to about six million tons of extra trash, primarily from wrapping paper and shopping bags.

This season, try to purchase gifts with minimal packaging and get creative with recycled or reusable wrapping paper, such as paper bags, newspaper, cloth, or decorative boxes. Better yet, swap out gifts for experiences! Tickets to an event or activity create a special, lasting memory—and can leave little to no waste.

Another idea that is even less harmful to the environment is donating to a cause in honor of your family and friends. Take a look at PresbyterianGifts.org or Heifer.org to see a few opportunities to support initiatives that are working to end poverty and hunger.



Please Welcome Jim and Kelli

It is a joy to welcome two ELPC members into new roles as part of our ministry teams.

Jim DiGiorgio joined our church in December 2017, and has volunteered in a variety of roles, including helping at the front desk and as a chaperone for mission trips. He has been hired as “Coordinator of iServe Ministry.”

Kelli Booher joined one month earlier than Jim (November 2017), and also has volunteered in a wide range of capacities at ELPC. She has been hired to serve part-time as “Coordinator of Youth and Young Adult Ministries.”

Please introduce yourselves to Jim and Kelli when you see them around church!

ELPC Session Updates

At their recent meeting, the Session:

- Combined several committees into a “Christian Education & Spiritual Formation Board,” bringing together the Educational Ministries, Youth/Young Adult Ministry, and Spiritual Life committees into a shared oversight structure similar to our current “Mission Board.”
- Heard an update from the Nominating Committee about their work in recruiting a slate of church officers for the coming year and from the Finance Committee regarding the 2019 Church Budget.
- Continued to finalize arrangements for a range of ELPC Bicentennial events.
- Made preparations to receive a fifth class of new members and friends in mid-December.

Church Tours Continue

Throughout the year, ELPC offers a variety of tours for members, friends, and visitors following Sanctuary worship on Sundays. There are three tours scheduled this month.

Sun., Dec. 2: Stained Glass

Created by eight stained glass shops during the 1930s, our windows tell the history of Presbyterianism and our faith, as well as many Biblical stories, including the amazing depiction of Revelation in the balcony.

Sun., Dec. 16: Trinity Chapel

While it may be one of the smallest rooms in our church, it is filled with symbolism and features unique and beautiful stained glass windows.

Sun., Dec. 30: Sanctuary and Chapel

Learn about architectural styles of our Gothic Sanctuary and Romanesque Chapel, as well as the history and symbolism of these unique spaces.

Christian Education

Note: Classes are on Sundays, 9:45 am.

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf, Associate Pastor for Educational Ministries

Church School Class Schedule

There will be no Church School classes on **Sun., Dec. 9**, so that everyone can attend the Christmas Pageant, nor on **Sun., Dec. 23** and **30**, for a Christmas holiday break. Classes will resume on **Winter Rally Day, Sun., Jan. 6**.

Children and Youth

Young Children's Ministry/Infants–Age 2 *Nursery Suite*

Curriculum: "Wee Children at Church"

A denominational curriculum for nursery-age children.

Pre-school/Ages 3–5 *Room 110 B*

Curriculum: "Gospel Light"

Bible stories are explored through interactive storytelling, prayer, and artistic response.

Kindergarten and Grade 1 *Room 206*

Curriculum: "Godly Play"

Children learn and explore stories of the Bible through storytelling, asking "wondering" questions, and play.

Grades 2–3 *Room 205*

Curriculum: "Godly Play"

Building on the K–1 program, the childrens' concepts of God and faith keep expanding.

Grades 4–5 *Room 211*

Curriculum: "Seasons of the Spirit"

A lectionary-based, hands-on curriculum for tweens.

Middle School (grades 6–8) *Room 207*

Curriculum: "Seasons of the Spirit"

A lectionary-based curriculum, with age-appropriate materials.

Senior High (grades 9–12) *Room 217*

Curriculum: "Re: Form"

This is a youth faith formation series dealing with tough questions of faith.

Contemporaries *Harambe Room*

Facilitator: Contemporaries Steering Committee

Dec. 2: What Does America Require?

ELPC member Tony Richardson-Eckes will be teaching us about the legal process of immigration and visa applications. As a Christian, how does one understand the process towards citizenship?

Dec. 16: Turning off the Christmas machine.

We want Christmas to be a time of peace and joy as we celebrate the Nativity of Jesus. Too often our preparations for this celebration leave us exhausted and broken. We'll thoughtfully look at our Christmas traditions in light of our values and discuss ways we can align the two.

Journey with Scripture *Second Floor Library*

Facilitators: Jan Lyle Irvin, Lora Bethea

"Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near."—Philippians 4:5

Here is a countercultural message to fully embody throughout these days! Just like the first century—when fear is evoked, brutality is advocated, vulgarity and ridicule are the norm—God comes gently, gathering outcasts, born in humility. Peace to all. Join us as we read of God's arrival in flesh.

Dec. 2: Jeremiah 33:14–16; Psalm 25:1–10;
1 Thessalonians 3:9–13; Luke 21:25–36

Dec. 16: Zephaniah 3:14–20; Isaiah 12:2–6
Philippians 4:4–7; Luke 3:7–18

Seekers *Garth Overlook Room*

Facilitator: Gwen Puza

Dec. 2: Mary and Jesus: An Islamic Perspective

Aliya Khan is back with us to talk about how the Quran portrays Mary, Jesus, and the story of Jesus' miraculous birth. Mary is the only woman named in the Quran and has a chapter named for her—there is more in the Quran about Mary than in our Bible. And we will hear how the miracles of Jesus and his role as Messiah are portrayed from an Islamic lens. We also will hear some verses from Chapter 19: Maryam—the magic of this story captured in the beauty of the language.

Dec. 15: Discussion with Rabbi Doris Dyen

Rabbi Doris Dyen, of the Congregation Dor Hadash, which meets in the Tree of Life synagogue in Squirrel Hill, will meet with us.

Soul Food *Good Samaritan Room*

Facilitator: Rev. Joe Hajdu

Dec. 2 and 16: Meditations of the Heart Book Discussion

We will continue our discussion of selections from *Meditations of the Heart* by Howard Thurman, with additional information about Thurman from *Days of Grace*, the memoir of the late Arthur Ashe. New participants are always welcome and books are quickly available.

Youth Ministry

Sara Hackett, Coordinator of Christian Education and Youth Ministry

Sat., Dec. 8: Jr. High Service Project 11:30 am–2:30 pm

Following our Christmas Pageant Rehearsal, youth in grades 6–8 will share lunch, then spend the afternoon shopping for Christmas gifts for children who are in foster care through Project STAR, a program of the Children's Institute.

Thurs., Dec. 27: DG2! 3–8 pm

Youth in grades 4–12 from ELPC and Rodef Shalom will gather together to make and serve dinner to the residents at East End Cooperative Ministry.

Fri., Dec. 28: Tween Movie Night 6–8 pm

Youth in grades 4–6 will enjoy pizza, popcorn, and a movie projected onto the big screen! Bring your friends and be sure to send your movie suggestions to Sara!

club one sixteen

Wednesdays, 3:30–7:30 pm

Note: We will be on break beginning **Wed., Dec. 19**. Our regular schedule resumes on **Wed., Jan. 9**.

Wed., Dec. 12: Christmas Drama 6 pm

Parents and friends are invited to join us for a Christmas drama, put on by youth in grades 1–6. Dinner will be served following the performance.

Food 4 Thought

Thursdays, 4:30–6:30 pm

Note: We will not meet on **Thurs., Dec. 20** or **27**.

Food 4 Thought is a no-cost learning support and enrichment program for youth in grades 6–8, which equips and encourages them by exploring and enjoying food. For details, call Sara Hackett at **412.673.2926**.

Young Adult Ministry

Kelli Booher, Coordinator of Youth and Young Adult Ministries

Fri., Dec. 7: First Friday @ Shadracks 7 pm

We will meet at ELPC and drive north to Butler for the “world’s largest drive-through, fully synchronized LED Christmas light-and-music show of its kind.” Along the way there will be road trip snacks and sing-alongs (including requests and dedications). You will not want to miss this classic holiday event! RSVP now to save your seat in the van by contacting Kelli Booher at **KelliB@coh.net** or **405.501.0711**.



Fri., Dec. 14: Christmas in East Liberty 7:30 pm

Join us for this free, festive concert at ELPC! Afterward, we will walk over to BRGR where we will reserve a table for us to enjoy fellowship and participate in a cookie exchange. Please bring a dozen cookies (self baked, someone else baked, or store bought) to exchange. Containers for you to take them home will be provided. Please let Kelli Booher know if you will be participating in the fellowship and/or cookie exchange by **Wed., Dec. 12**. Contact Kelli Booher at **KelliB@coh.net** or **405.501.0711**.

ELPC and Balaka CCAP Celebrate 25 Years

On **Sun., Oct. 28**, ELPC celebrated 25 years of partnership with Balaka (Malawi) Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP). The signing of a new partnership covenant with Balaka CCAP was the culminating event of ELPC's 2018 Mission Month. The covenant was signed during fellowship time by Pastor Randy and Elder Derby Makwelero, chair of the Balaka CCAP partnership committee. In addition, a first floor gathering space was formally named the Balaka Room (pictured).



Elder Makwelero traveled to Pittsburgh with a delegation of 16 Malawians and 4 South Sudanese. While in Pittsburgh, the delegation participated in a number of ministry activities, including a welcoming luncheon hosted by ELPC Presbyterian Women, a “Personal Spiritual Practices that Lead to Congregational Revitalization” retreat led by Dr. Roger Owens of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, and a farewell dinner and worship service hosted by Mosaic Community Church.

Stop by the Balaka Room and take a look at some of the items that are on display—gifts given by our Malawian siblings in Christ over the years.

We thank God and celebrate our partnership, as well as the many relationships that have been established and maintained over the last 25 years. We look forward to the years to come. *Zikomo* (Thank you).

Spiritual Life

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

Experience a Retreat this December

Take some time away from the hustle and bustle of the holiday season to participate in a couple mini-retreats offered by the Spiritual Life Committee. Don't miss these deeply spiritual "bookends" of December!

- **Mini-Retreat on the Incarnation**
All are welcome to join us after Sanctuary worship on **Sun., Dec. 9**, 12–3 pm, as we focus on entering into the reality of the Incarnation. Lunch provided.
- **Year-End Examen Mini-Retreat**
Find God in your life as you review the year ending and consider intentions as you look forward into the year ahead at our Year-End Examen Retreat on New Year's Eve, **Mon., Dec. 31**, 9 am–12 pm. Continental breakfast provided.

Enhance Your Spiritual Life in 2019



Mark your calendars for another opportunity to look more closely at our faith as we spend the day with ELPC's own Kevin Seybold on **Sat., Jan. 26**, 9 am–4:30 pm.

Kevin will lead us through a day of study and reflection based on a video series that uses interviews with world renowned theologians and scientists to explore the question: "Test of Faith: Does Science Threaten Belief?"

Presbyterian Women

Sherry Anderson, Moderator

Bible Study | God's Promise: I am with You

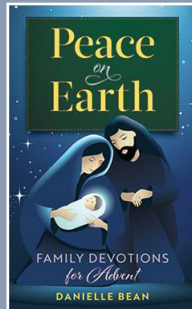
Mon., Dec. 3 7 pm | Tues., Dec. 4 10 am

All women at ELPC are welcome to join us as we continue our Bible study. This month's lesson is titled "God With Us When We Seek God."

Monday's group will meet for Bible study and fellowship in the Harambe Room. Tuesday's group will meet for Bible study in the Second Floor Parlor, followed by a potluck lunch. Soup will be provided, but please bring a side or salad to share, as well as your own place setting.

Advent Devotionals

Sun., Dec. 2, marks the first Sunday of Advent—a season of anticipation and hope as we prepare our hearts to celebrate Christ's birth. As a gift to you this season, the Christian Education committee is offering a range of Advent devotional materials. You can pick up your copy on the Second Floor CE table, or on the First Floor in the Narthex and outside of the East Transept doors.



Peace on Earth

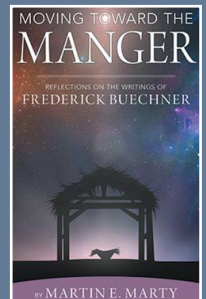
*For persons of all ages,
best used in community*

As we prepare to welcome the Prince of Peace, we can work to bring the peace of Jesus to our broken world, as individuals and as families. Guide your family or pray with friends through a peace-filled Advent. Daily reflections include scripture, prayer, and ideas for how you and your family can embody and enact Christ's peace this season.

Moving Toward the Manger

For adults and older teens

Each day of Advent, thought provoking quotes from Frederick Buechner's works are paired with insightful reflections by biblical scholar and commentator Martin E. Marty, accompanied by scripture passages and prayers.



Peace Prayer Coin

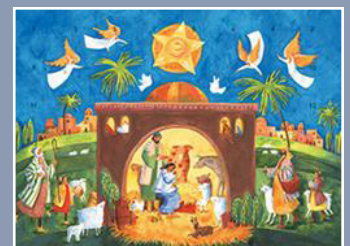
For adults, teens, and older children

This coin includes the beginning of the Peace Prayer of St. Francis surrounding a cutout of a dove. This is perfect to put in your pocket or on your key chain to serve as a daily prayer reminder.

Living Light Was Born That Night: Advent Calendar

For young children

This special Advent calendar includes a window for each day of December, revealing a Biblical image and scripture verse that highlight the many lights that point us to the true Light of Christmas.



Year-End Giving

Contributions to our 2018 Stewardship Campaign, *Radical Hospitality*, will be accepted until **Mon., Dec. 31**, for credit in 2018. Your generous support of our ongoing mission, personnel, and property needs helps us maintain our church's wide range of programs. If you have questions on the status of your giving, please call Deborah Marx, our financial administrator, at **412.441.3800 x134**.



Pastor Randy, Pam Kimmel, and guests at Pam's retirement reception

The Story of Pam Kimmel and the Western Pa. Cookie Table

About a year after I had moved to Pittsburgh, I was honored when a colleague asked if I would be a bridesmaid in her wedding.

"Absolutely," I replied.

"Then, can you come over on Saturday to help us bake cookies for the cookie table?" she asked.

"Uh, OK, what's a 'cookie table' at a wedding?" I responded.

"Oh," she explained, "wedding guests all bring cookies to the reception."

What? My small-town sensibilities were shocked. Take food to a wedding? How appalling...and an insult to the people paying excellent money for the food provided. I had a lot to learn.

A cookie table is about sharing in an experience; giving when someone is giving to you; learning and teaching at the same time. And so, my friends, there was a cookie table at my retirement reception on Nov. 11. It symbolized to me the sharing and caring we have experienced with each other over these 23 plus years.

My time at ELPC has been a blessing to me, as has the gift of knowing each of you. There are no words big enough or grand enough to tell you what every day of every week of every year have meant to me; what you have meant to me.

And so, I can only say, "Thank You," "Adios," but *NOT* "Goodbye."

Pam Kimmel, former ELPC Business Administrator

A Special Thank You

So many people lent a hand to make ELPC's Cathedral Rummage Sale a huge success. From housekeeping, maintenance, security, pastors, deacons, support staff, and our spouses, to everyone in our congregation who donated items and volunteered—before, during, and after the sale. You all contributed to reaching our goal!

The community responded enthusiastically and positively. Items not sold were donated to either Goodwill or the Light of Life Mission. We also raised a grand total of **\$2,000**, which will be given to support our *Building Our Future* campaign.

With grateful hearts,

Rev. Tony Richardson-Eckes
Lora Bethea

ELPC People

If you have news to share, please call Gloria Knopp at 412.441.3800 x122.

Good News

- Congratulations to **Brian Cook, Sr.**, who was named a "40 Under 40" honoree by *Pittsburgh Magazine* and PUMP. Brian—an award-winning journalist and filmmaker—is one of 40 outstanding individuals under the age of 40 whose creativity, vision, and passion enrich our region.
- Congratulations to **Sonya-Maria Morley**, who was granted a fellowship from the Metro-Urban Institute. She is pursuing a Master of Divinity degree and graduate certificate in Urban Ministry.
- Congratulations to **Lenore Williams** on being named one of *New Pittsburgh Courier's* "Women of Excellence Class of 2018."
- Join us in welcoming our new members who joined on Oct. 21: (left to right) **Edward Harris, Patricia Crumrine, Meghan Bogema, Daniela García & Christopher Thyberg**, and **Alanna & Trey Overholt**.



Thanks

- Thank you to those who supported the Open Hand Ministries Workday and/or Circles Dinner in November. Your efforts are deeply appreciated: **Gina Anderson, Frank Bauerle, Ryan Booher, Dylan Geibel, Emily Shannon, Christopher Thyberg, Tiffany Sudar, Carole Forloines, Nancy Phillips, Deb Newcomer, Linda Lane, Audrey Semel, and Emily Rosenthal.**

Prayers

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

- Sam Ditka's sister-in-law, Laura



“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.”

Holiday Closures

The ELPC office will be closed in celebration of Christmas, **Tues.–Wed., Dec. 25–26**, and for New Year’s Day, **Tues., Jan. 1**.

Support the Toymakers’ Annual Sale

The ELPC Toymakers’ annual sale will be held following Sanctuary worship on **Sun., Dec. 2**. Available will be a sampling of the toys we make for distribution to women’s shelters and mission trips, as well as some seasonal goodies like ornaments, shelf elves, and Nativity puzzles.



Thanks to congregational generosity, this sale enables us to buy supplies that keep us going for the whole year.

Shop to Benefit Our Community

Join us on **Tues., Dec. 4**, 6–8 pm, at Ten Thousand Villages (5820 Forbes Ave.) to get your Christmas shopping started early. This event offers a great opportunity to support artisans far away and those in our midst who are in need this holiday season. A percentage of your purchase also will be donated to support our ELPC Deacons.

We have had great turnout over the past several years, and we look forward to another busy night. ELPC Deacons will be present to offer snacks and refreshments. Questions? Call ELPC Deacon Tucker Ferda at **406.249.9811**.

Christmas in East Liberty

The eighth season of ELPC’s *Cathedral Concerts* series continues on **Fri., Dec. 14**, 7:30 pm, as we enjoy Christmas in East Liberty with The Brass Roots, organist Edward Alan Moore, saxophonist Mike Tomaro, and the ELPC Chancel Choir.

Our most highly anticipated concert of the season returns with holiday favorites for brass, organ, choir, and audience! Featured on the program will be the premiere of a new composition by Pittsburgh’s own Mike Tomaro (pictured).



A freewill offering will be received.

College Reunion

College-age young adults are invited to catch up over lunch following Sanctuary worship on **Sun., Dec. 30**. For additional details and to RSVP, contact Sara Hackett at **412.673.2926**.