**New Officer Ordination & Installation**

As part of our celebration on **Palm Sunday, April 14**, the incoming class of deacons and elders will be ordained and installed during Sanctuary worship. We are grateful for the gifts they bring and their willingness to serve Christ through the ordained ministries of this congregation. Join us in welcoming our new officers:

Deacons | Dana Carl, Doug Cooper, Liz Gonda, Linda Harrington, Henry Petrilli, Susan Spangler, and Rick Watling
Youth Deacon | Kira Mukogosi
Elders | Ray Anthony, Michelle Bard, Damon Bethea, Mark DeWitt, Ike Ezekoye, Katelyn Haas-Conrad, Russ Walker, and Pam Walaski
Youth Elders | Isaac Degenholtz and Kiara Rockymore

**Holy Week & Easter Services**

The light of Christ rises in glory, overcoming the darkness of sin and death. Join us as we complete our Lenten journey with our Holy Week services.

- **Wed., April 17:** Stations of the Cross Taizé
  - 7 pm | Led by the Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan
- **Thurs., April 18:** Maundy Thursday (Communion)
  - 7 pm | Led by the Rev. Dr. Randy Bush
- **Fri., April 19:** Good Friday
  - 12 pm | Led by the Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
  - 7 pm | Led by the Patrice Fowler-Searcy
- **Sat., April 20:** Easter Vigil (Communion)
  - 7 pm | Led by the Rev. Mary Lynn Callahan and the Rev. Dr. Randy Bush
- **Sun., April 21:** Easter Sunday (Communion)
  - 8:45 am | Led by the Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy
  - 11 am | Led by the Rev. Dr. Randy Bush

**Labyrinth Hours During Holy Week**

During Holy Week, the Labyrinth will be available Monday–Friday, 9 am–9 pm, and Saturday, 9 am–1 pm. Experience this ancient tool for individual walking meditation and prayer.
Pastoral Message

The Rev. Dr. Randall K. Bush, Pastor

J. Barrie Shepherd is a talented, retired Presbyterian minister and poet, who recently published a poem called “Remembering.” It starts out with these lines:

Where I left the car keys, the remote for the TV, that letter from the lawyer, my spectacles and pills…

I must have left my gloves somewhere, and as for that umbrella that the kids gave me last Christmas…

He goes on to talk about the “dreary ransom of hours spent searching pockets, drawers, desks, and sofas to locate whatever’s missing.”

We joke about losing things (“It must be around here somewhere!”) and about entering a room and immediately forgetting what we’re doing there. We shrug it off as simply a result of trying to do too many things at once. Or we nervously fret about it as a warning sign of aging and the inevitable decline in our mental facilities.

Shepherd’s poem goes on to ask whether there is some sort of heavenly “Lost and Found,” where a sympathetic clerk efficiently moves past shelves and cubby holes to return to us precisely what we were looking for. And then comes a very poignant, closing question: If such a place existed, what would I ask for first?

What would you ask for? Let’s assume this clerk is able to find the keys, remotes, gloves and scarves we have mislaid over the years. But would we only ask for those things? Wouldn’t we also ask about that photo of a past relative, that recording of a departed family member’s voice, or that fading memory of childhood involving a family trip, a shared meal, or splashing in a pool with friends? What we ask for first reflects what we truly value. Might that request be guided by a desire to reconnect with what is most important in our life?

The month of April includes the conclusion of the season of Lent and the joyful celebration of Easter Sunday. It has times of darkness, such as when we remember Jesus’ Last Supper and time on the cross, as well as times of wonder, light and resurrection life. These weeks are a perfect time to pause and wonder what we would ask for if we truly stood before the counter of some heavenly “Lost and Found.” Maybe we would ask for a misplaced trust, a lost confidence, or a mislaid hope that we once carried around but now have difficulty putting our hands on.

The message of Easter is a “first request” message. It is the voice saying to us “Do not be afraid.” It is the rolling away of stones and the pushing aside of shrouds to remind us that something more powerful than pain and death is at work in our world. It is the rediscovery of what we know deep in our soul—the good news that in Jesus Christ we are connected to God's eternal love and steadfast mercy. So before you expend too much energy looking for those keys or the spare umbrella, first remind yourself of the life-giving message of our faith: Christ is risen! Go forth this month trusting in this Easter good news!
Mission Matters
The Rev. Patrice Fowler-Searcy, Associate Pastor for Mission Ministries

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering
“You shall be called repairers of the breach.”—Isaiah 58

Lent is traditionally a season of fasting and prayer. A time when Christians pay close attention to spiritual disciplines that deepen our understanding of what God is doing in our lives and the world. As a church, we spend time together hearing about and praying for the ministries of compassion and justice done through our support of One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS).

Jesus stood in the gap and ministered to the most vulnerable, preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives. The OGHS offering helps us share the good news to the vulnerable people in our world today—people living with income and food insufficiency, reentering citizens, those suffering from natural and other types of disasters, and people who are living in oppressive and unjust societal systems. As God’s people, we are called to be repairers of the breaches of the brokenness, division, and need in this world by giving of our gifts, time, talent, and treasure.

On Sun., April 7 and Palm Sunday, April 14, we will witness to God’s abundant love and receive the OGHS offering, making a difference in the lives of people all over the world. Visit PresbyterianMission.org/oghs and open your heart to God's work as we respond to the needs of our neighbors.

Mission in Action
by Tim VanFleet, ELPC member

A casual conversation in a church office 20 years ago caused me to re-examine my religious commitment—particularly in the area of mission. As a result of what I thought to be a series of random occurrences, I found myself organizing the first of what has now become 33 mobile medical clinics in Guatemala, Nicaragua, and Haiti. I was challenged to use my skills as a physician in ways and places I had not previously imagined. Even more surprisingly, more than 150 healthcare providers and committed helpers have joined me over the years.

Together with CEDEPCA (Protestant Center for Pastoral Studies in Central America) and SETECA (Central American Theological Seminary), diverse groups of like-minded people use their own resources and time to travel to underserved, remote areas, working primarily among indigenous people who have been marginalized and oppressed since European colonialism. We are consistently surprised and blessed that God places us in situations to make significant impacts in the health of individuals and communities. On our most recent trip in December 2018, we cared for displaced victims in refugee camps after the eruption of Volcano Fuego.

Working with local leaders, we offer medical, dental, and optical clinics, as well as provide health education in areas such as prenatal care, early child care, dietary issues, and water purification. We often see people—particularly children—with health issues beyond our abilities, but we’ve been developed relationships with specialists who accept these patients, while we cover their medical expenses.

It has become clear to me over these 20 years that we can’t fix everything, but we must do something—and it can be as simple as “standing with” those who are marginalized, weak, forgotten, or ill. Our next trip is planned for September 2019.

Be careful of casual conversations in church offices. You never know where they might lead!

Environmental Tip from the Justice Committee

The Environmental Team of the Justice Committee offers some tips to help your spring cleaning be more environmentally friendly. Here are some common, non-toxic cleaning ingredients that can be found inexpensively at most grocery stores:

1. Distilled White Vinegar helps cut grease and remove mildew, odors, and some stains. It’s good for all-purpose cleaning, as well as windows and floors.

2. Baking Soda cleans surfaces without scratching; it’s good for scouring toilets, tubs, and sinks; and placing a box in the fridge or freezer neutralizes odors. It even can be used as toothpaste or an antacid remedy.

3. Lemons fight bacteria and are a great degreaser—especially on hot surfaces.

4. Dr. Bonner’s Liquid Castile Soap Concentrate can be used in laundry or to clean bathrooms with a solution of soap diluted with water.

5. Hydrogen Peroxide is good for cleaning food surfaces and anything you want to disinfect, such as toys. Food grade is safer. You also can use baking soda and hydrogen peroxide to unclog a drain.

6. Natural Sea Salt and lemon juice is great for scrubbing pots and pans.

7. Essential Oils smell good and help clean your house. Try combining lavender and lemon, or a citrus blend with lemon, lemongrass, and wild orange.
### Christian Education

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

#### No Classes on Easter Sunday

Our Church School classes will not meet on **Easter Sunday, April 21.** Classes for people of all ages will resume on Sun., April 28.

#### Contemporaries  McKelvy Room

*Facilitator: Contemporaries Steering Committee*

**April 7: Letter from Birmingham Jail**

Dr. King’s “Letter from Birmingham Jail” is a powerful document regarding both its context and content. The immediacy of its message would bring a vibrancy to our denomination’s *Book of Confessions*. Come consider these topics in a discussion led by Pastor Randy. Copies of the letter will be available on the Sundays before April 7.

**April 14: Bullying: The Roles of Bystanders**

In our March class, we defined bullying and its many forms. What are bystanders often thinking and where do you fit in? How can you effectively interrupt an incident and advocate for a person being bullied? What are your options if stepping in seems unwise? JoAnn and Carol Chonoska will lead us.

**April 28: Answering the Call to Care for the Strangers Among Us**

Learn about the needs of refugees and asylum seekers in our own neighborhood, and how ELPC members are answering the call. Class will be presented by Ruth Farrell and other ELPC members.

#### Journey with Scripture  Second Floor Library

*Facilitators: Jan Lyle Irvin, Lora Bethea, and Members*

“We must obey God rather than any human authority.” —Acts 5:29

Join us as we ponder Christ’s death and resurrection in different ways. To confess “Jesus is Lord” presupposes Caesar isn’t. To confess “Christ is Risen” presupposes a bodily resurrection. These are deep political confessions - they contend with human authorities who lay claim over the body. Such confessions are also deeply personal—they contend with the authority of oneself over one’s own body. Both initiate justice and judgment.

**April 7:** Isaiah 43:16–21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:4b–14; John 12:1–8

**April 14:** Isaiah 50:4–9a; Psalm 31:9–16; Philippians 2:5–11; Luke 22:14–23:56

**April 28:** Acts 5:27–32; Psalm 118: 14–29; Revelation 1:4–8; John 20:19–31

#### Seekers  Garth Overlook Room

*Facilitator: Gwen Puza*

**April 7 | 14: The Religious Factor in U.S. Foreign Policy**

ELPC member Ron Stone will continue and conclude our series examining the role religion plays in foreign policy.

**April 7: The Violent-Religious Conflicts and International Organizations of the 20th Century  Part 2 of 3**

- Yale Divinity School Professors saw World War I as a crusade, and Germany fought to save Christianity
- A pagan overthrow of Christianity sought to dominate Europe and theologians debated sanctions against Japan
- Sons of the Presbyterian manse sought to create international organizations for peace in the League of Nations and United Nations

**April 14: Presbyterian Church Foreign Policy and President Trump  Part 3 of 3**

- Presbyterian Church Foreign Policy: The rejection of nuclear weapons, the support for humanitarian intervention, and risk taking for peacemaking
- The criticism of nationalism and the abandonment of international organizations for peace, trade, and alleviation of climate change

**April 28: Above and Beyond Expectation of Design and Sewing Program at East End Cooperative Ministry**

ELPC member Hannah Moon, program manager of the Sew Forward work therapy program at EECM, will tell us about her experiences with the program and how it is helping people who are underserved and underrepresented in the community. She teaches highly valued design skills to individuals at EECM, and is working on refining Sew Forward to be a state-approved, robust program, enabling them to serve even more people.

#### Soul Food  Good Samaritan Room

*Facilitator: Rev. Joe Hajdu and other class members*

**April 7 | 14 | 28: Spiritual Ecology: The Cry of the Earth**

We will continue our discussion of *Spiritual Ecology: The Cry of the Earth*. New participants are always welcome.

#### Children and Youth

*Infants–Age 2  Nursery*

*Pre-school/Ages 3–5  Room 110 B*

*Kindergarten–Grade 1  Room 206*

*Grades 2–3  Room 205*

*Grades 4–5  Room 211*

*Middle School (grades 6–8)  Room 207*

*Senior High (grades 9–12)  Room 217*
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Youth Ministry
Sara Hackett, Coordinator of Christian Education and Youth Ministry

Sun., April 7: DG2! 12–4 pm
Youth in grades 4–12 will partner with youth from Rodef Shalom to show acts of loving kindness by participating in Good Deeds Day. We will be playing Bingo with residents at Charles Morris Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Meet in the Harambe Room for lunch following worship. We will return to ELPC by 4 pm.

Sat.–Sun., April 6–7: 30-Hour Famine 3:30 pm–10:45 am
During our 30-Hour Famine, youth in grades 6–12 will explore our faith and what it means to be part of the global church through fasting, service, prayer, and games. We will break our fast with communion during Journey worship and then have breakfast together. Money raised will support ELPC’s sister church, Balaka CCAP, in Malawi, as well as our youth team traveling there this summer. A permission slip is required. To RSVP or for more details, contact Sara Hackett or Anthony Williams.

Sun., April 14: Middle School Mission Trip Meeting 12 pm
Youth in grades 6–8 who are interested in attending Mission Possible at Crestfield Campy, July 7–12—and their parents—are asked to attend this informational meeting following worship. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to Sara Hackett.

Fri., April 26: Tween Night 6–8 pm
Tweens in grades 4–6 will get together for dinner and messy games. We will be outdoors so dress for the weather and for a mess!

Young Adult Ministry
Kelli Booher, Coordinator of Youth and Young Adult Ministries

Fri., April 5: REcess | First Friday Game Night 7 pm
We will join with young adults from Pittsburgh Friends Meeting House (4836 Ellsworth Ave., 15213) for game night and a snack-style potluck! Feel free to bring a game to play and a snack food to share with others. Contact Kelli Booher at KelliB@coh.net or 412.441.3800 x114 if you need a ride.

April 14: REvive | Pub Talks with Sanctuary Faith Community 7 pm
Sanctuary’s Pub Talk series welcomes a variety of speakers, artists, and musicians exploring the intersections of faith, culture, art, politics, and justice. They seek to draw on the best of public house history—a place to share a drink, build community, and discuss pressing issues of the day. Gather at ELPC at 6:15 pm, and we’ll drive over to Full Pint Wild Side Pub in Lawrenceville.

April 17: Religious | Dinner and Taizé Prayer Service for Holy Week 5:45 pm
We will meet together for a meal and to discuss what it means to be religious. What is religion? Do you consider yourself to be religious? Then we will all attend the Taizé prayer service in the Chapel, 7 pm. RSVP to KelliB@coh.net or 412.441.3800 x114.

Food 4 Thought
Thursdays, 4:30–6:30 pm
Note: We will not meet during Holy Week on Thurs., April 18.
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.
Presbyterian Women

Bible Study | God’s Promise: I am with You
Mon., April 1 7 pm | Tues., April 2 10 am
This month’s lesson is titled “God with Us as the Holy Spirit.” 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, and your own place setting.

Spiritual Life

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

Sun., April 7: Psychology of Religion 12 pm
Join the Spiritual Life Committee as we explore the Psychology of Religion. We will be led by ELPC member Dr. Kevin Seybold, a psychology professor at Grove City College, and author of Explorations in Neuroscience, Psychology and Religion and Questions in the Psychology of Religion. A light lunch will be served.

Sun., April 14: An Invitation to All Heretics, Doubters, and Other Saints 12 pm
Because what we believe has everything to do with how we pray, the Spiritual Life Committee welcomes you to the next gathering of our Heretics, Doubters and Other Saints group. We will share a light lunch and ask questions together. Remember, there are no right or wrong thoughts here.

ELPC Tours Continue

Throughout the year, ELPC offers a variety of tours for members, friends, and visitors following Sanctuary worship on Sundays.

Sun., April 14: Tower Tour
Climb the heights of our church’s landmark central tower, and gain insights into its history and construction. High above the streets below, you will have an opportunity to view the entire East Liberty valley and beyond.

The climb requires a bit of stamina; comfortable shoes and pants are suggested. The tour is not recommended for small children.

Sun., April 28: Sanctuary and Chapel
Tour our Gothic Sanctuary and Romanesque Chapel, and gain insights into the history and symbolism found in these beautiful, unique spaces.

LGBTQ Ministry

Wil Forrest, Coordinator of LGBTQ Ministry

Sun., April 28: Spiritual Gathering 12:30 pm
All LGBTQIA+ folks and allies are welcome to join the conversation at our monthly Spiritual Gathering. We will continue discussing the themes in Matthew Vine’s book, God and the Gay Christian. Previous attendance is not required.

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

God created you. God loves you.
Be yourself.
Celebrating 200 Years of Ministry at ELPC

The year was 1819 and James Monroe was president of the United States. The outskirts of Pittsburgh, known as Negleytown, were experiencing much growth and development, prompting a group of civic leaders to pledge their resources to construct a new place of worship. Out of that act of generosity 200 years ago grew the history of ELPC—a history we are celebrating this year.

The Session has been planning a range of events for our Bicentennial Celebration. Below is an overview of what is to come. Read complete details at tiny.cc/elpcbicentennial.

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

Good News
Please join us in welcoming our new members and friends who joined our faith family on Feb. 24.

• New Members: Edith Battle, Rebecca Dilla, Beverly Fafata, Benjamin and Katie Fitzpatrick, Billie and Nancy Harlan, Benjamin and Harriett King, Ronald and Lida Larsen, Evalynn Welling, and Suzanne Wolfe
• Friends: Sheryl Austin, and Wesley and Kathleen Oliver

Prayers
We offer our prayers and condolences to the family and friends of those who recently passed away:
• Marva Evans
• Gladys May

iSERVE Ministry
Jim DiGiorgio, Coordinator of iSERVE Ministry

Volunteer Opportunities Abound at ELPC
If you’re looking to use your talents and lend a helping hand at ELPC and in our community this spring, here are several opportunities to serve with our iSERVE Ministry.

• Bicentennial Community Celebration
Volunteer to serve as a host for our Bicentennial Community Celebration on Fri., May 10. 5–7 pm. Join with us as we invite the community to tour our church, learn about our history and programs, and more. Contact Jim DiGiorgio at JimD@coh.net.

• The Chapel Market
The Chapel Market is seeking volunteers for Mondays, 10 am–12 pm. Contact Linda and Harold Deiss at deisshl@consolidated.net or 724.443.1826.

• EECM Dinner Crew
East End Cooperative Ministry’s Thursday Night Dinner Crew is seeking volunteers to help serve dinner and/or provide a portion of the meal. The Dinner Crew meets on the first Thursday of even months (Feb., April, June, Aug., Oct., Dec.). Contact Jim DiGiorgio at JimD@coh.net or Jim Russ at 412.421.7630 or jr06@andrew.cmu.edu.

• club one sixteen Food Team and Food 4 Thought Meal Team
The club one sixteen Food Team and Food 4 Thought Meal Team are seeking helpers on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Contact Jim DiGiorgio at JimD@coh.net.

ELPC’s Renovation Receives Recognition
ELPC’s renovation project won a 2018 Building Excellence Award from the Master Builders’ Association (MBA) of Pittsburgh. The award was presented during the 2019 Evening of Excellence at the Heinz Field East Club in February. This prestigious recognition honors the work of our architects Pfaffmann + Associates, the contractor Landau Building Company, and ELPC.
The Arsenal Duo to Perform

The eighth season of ELPC’s Cathedral Concerts series continues on Sun., April 14, 3 pm, with a performance by the Arsenal Duo.

Comprised of organist Edward Alan Moore and pianist Nathan Carterette, the Arsenal Duo will offer a captivating performance, uniting their respective instruments in a unique and spectacular fashion. Featured on the program will be the first movement of Tchaikovsky’s piano concerto and George Gershwin’s iconic Rhapsody in Blue.

A freewill offering will be received.

Pastor Randy to Guest Preach

Consider supporting an ecumenical worship service on Good Friday, April 19, 12–3 pm, at St. James AME Church (444 Lincoln Ave., 15206). Pastor Randy will preach on the final word Jesus spoke from the cross during their special “Seven Last Words” service.

“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.”—Luke 23:46

Registration is Open for VCS

Vacation Church School will take place June 24–28, guided by our theme: Who is My Neighbor? Learning to Love like Jesus. Kids age 4 (as of June 24, 2019) through grade 5 will explore God’s call to love our neighbors as ourselves through crafts, music, activities, games, worship, reflection, and Bible study. Spots fill on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Lend a Helping Hand

Youth in grades 6–12 and adults of all ages are needed to serve as volunteers. We need folks who can serve all week and even those who can spare just three hours. A list of requested items for donation will be available soon. Registration forms for campers and volunteers are available at tiny.cc/vcs2019.

Knitting and Crocheting Group

All are welcome to join our new Knitting and Crocheting Evening Group on Mondays in the Makers Space from March 4–May 13, 6–7:30 pm. No experience is necessary! For more information, contact Tony Richardson-Eckes at overthepond_50@hotmail.com.