

A photograph of a church interior. In the foreground, a dark wooden pew with an ornate, carved finial is visible. In the background, two tall, narrow stained glass windows with colorful patterns are set into a light-colored stone wall. The lighting is warm and soft, creating a serene atmosphere.

SUMMER WORSHIP

Sunday, July 16, 2023 • 10 am



East Liberty
Presbyterian Church

www.ELPC.church



EAST LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

116 South Highland Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15206 412.441.3800 www.ELPC.church

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. (Strategic Vision mission statement, 2011)

JULY 16, 2023 — 10 AM SUMMER WORSHIP SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

TIME OF PREPARATION

Christ has no body but yours; no hands, no feet on earth but yours; yours are the eyes with which he looks compassion on this world; yours are the feet with which he walks to do good; yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body.

Christ has no body now but yours; no hands, no feet on earth but yours; yours are the eyes with which he looks compassion on this world. Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

— St. Teresa of Ávila (attributed)

GATHERING MUSIC (*music printed in bulletin*)

#366

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

HYFRYDOL

#767

“Together We Serve”

SAN ANSELMO

WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf

* SHARING GOD'S PEACE

The Rev. Schoenewolf

Leader: La paz de Cristo esté con ustedes.

The peace of Christ be with you.

People: Y también contigo.

And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Gene and Marva Harris

Leader: Your word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

People: Your word is our heritage forever, the joy of our hearts.

Leader: Let us worship the Living God!

* OPENING HYMN #53 (*music printed in bulletin*)

NOEL

“O God, Who Gives Us Life”

CALL TO CONFESSION

Gene and Marva Harris

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gene and Marva Harris

Patient and persistent God, we come, polished and presentable, to worship you alongside our siblings in faith. Yet you know what others may not see: the fullness of who we are. We confess what you already know:

- ◆ that there are times when we hide the truth of who we are behind less authentic versions of ourselves;
- ◆ that there are times when we care little about what others think or even what they need and dedicate ourselves to the pursuit of our own wants.

We are sorry for the ways in which we have harmed others, ourselves, or your creation by that which we have done and that which we have left undone. Forgive us, we pray.

As you embrace us in your grace, humble us and strengthen us to turn continually to you — that we might hear your call and live your love, today and always.

* Indicates where you may please rise in body or spirit.

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Gene and Marva Harris

Leader: There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. The Spirit of God dwells in you. If you hear nothing else today, hear these words: there is no condemnation. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: En Jesucristo tenemos perdón.
¡Alaben a Dios!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Praise God!

RESPONSIVE HYMN #137 (music printed in bulletin)

HE CAME DOWN

"He Came Down"

PSALM LESSON

Psalm 119:105-112

Marva Harris

EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 8:1-11

Gene Harris

ELPC GOOD NEWS

International Partnership

Eddie Willson

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

The Rev. Schoenewolf

Children of any age are welcome to come forward for Moments with our Children.

Children in preschool through grade 3 are invited to the Chapel for a time of learning together. Children younger than age 3 are welcome to attend, if accompanied by their parents. Parents and caregivers should meet their children in the back of the Chapel during the Doxology, when children will return to the worship service. The nursery is open to young children under the age of 3. Please note that attendance may be limited based on staff to child ratios, so we can only ensure participation on a first-come, first-serve basis. Parents/caregivers must complete a registration form and sign children in and out of the nursery each day.

* HYMN #740 (music printed in bulletin; sing 2 times)

LEAD ME, GUIDE ME

"Lead Me, Guide Me"

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Genesis 25:19-34

The Rev. Schoenewolf

SERMON

"Flesh and Blood"

The Rev. Schoenewolf

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Rev. BJ Woodworth

OFFERING INVITATION

The Rev. Woodworth

We offer our gifts in response to God's love, and the grace of Jesus Christ, which we seek to make known through the ministries of this congregation.

You are invited to use the QR code to the right if you would like to make a donation in support of ELPC. A donation box is also available in the Narthex.



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Our Love Can Mend a Broken World"

William Penn/Tom Trenney

The world seems so eager to threaten, but love remains patient and kind. The world strives for wealth, might, and power, but love longs for soul, heart and mind. The world plays a loud clanging cymbal, but love sings its still, small voice. The world delights in bearing false witness, but love, in the truth, will rejoice! Let's see what love can do to mend a broken world.

The world makes our genders unequal, but love treasures every design. The world lets our colors divide us, but love makes the rainbow its sign. The world harms with guns and with weapons, but love gives the captive release. The world often hungers for violence but love always thirsts for our peace. Let's see what love can do to mend a broken world.

The world shuns the immigrant's hunger, but love feeds the poor refugee. The world argues, "They're not my children," but love says, "My child, come to me." Let's see what love can do to mend a broken world. Our love can mend a broken world.

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION

OLD HUNDREDTH



* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

The Rev. Schoenewolf
The Rev. Woodworth

Leader: El Señor esté con ustedes.

People: Y también contigo.

Leader: Levantemos nuestros corazones.

People: Lo tenemos levantado al Señor.

Leader: Demos gracias al Señor nuestro Dios.

People: Es justo dar gracias y
alabanzas a Dios.

Leader: Giver of life, receive these gifts as tokens of our lives. Send your cultivating Spirit to work among us until we yield and grow in grace. This we pray in the name of Jesus, your gift of love for the world.

People: Amén.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God
thanks and praise.

Amen.

* CLOSING HYMN #835 (*music printed in bulletin*)

CLOSER WALK

“Just a Closer Walk with Thee”

* CHARGE & BLESSING

The Rev. Schoenewolf



As part of ELPC's mission to extend radical hospitality to all, our full worship service is now being livestreamed on Facebook and archived at www.ELPC.church.

This notice is to inform you that by being in attendance, you give permission for incidences where you appear within the video.

Should you have any questions, please see one of our pastors.

Please silence all electronic devices before the service begins.

♦ PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preaching: The Rev. Heather Schoenewolf
Liturgists: The Rev. BJ Woodworth
Gene and Marva Harris
Eddie Willson
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore,
Organist/Music Director
ELPC Summer Choir
Sound: Wayne Gaines
Bobby Jarsulic

♦ SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP TIME

Water is available in the Highland Lobby.

♦ WORSHIP FLOWERS

If you would like to sponsor flowers for our weekly worship service in honor or memory of a loved one, contact Frances Wilson (wilson.franr@gmail.com). The cost is \$100 during the summer worship schedule.

♦ SUNDAY WORSHIP

10 am.....Summer Worship. Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from piano and choir and soloists. The service is also livestreamed on YouTube and Facebook. Weather permitting, this service will be held in the Courtyard. Additional seating is available in the Garth Overlook Room if you prefer to sit inside.
July 23 — The Rev. Patrice L. Fowler-Searcy preaching.

♦ WEEKDAY WORSHIP

Taizé: Prayerful Song and Quiet Meditation
Chants and periods of meditative silence modeled after the Taizé community in France. Rev. BJ Woodworth leads this service in the Chapel.

Wednesdays, 7 pm

Prayer Room (*in Highland Ave hallway*)

Come to sit and pray in silence. Come to experience the quiet in the midst of the wonderful busyness.

Available everyday

♦ WEEKLY SPIRITUAL LIFE OFFERINGS

Meditation Hour

Join John Benedict, retired psychologist and practitioner of insight meditation, in the Chapel for an hour devoted to meditation, which includes an opening reading, silent sitting, and walking. All are welcome!

Tuesdays, 6-7 pm

Cathedral Yoga

Yamuna will lead yoga in-person in the Sanctuary.

Wednesdays, 6 to 7 pm (*before Taizé*)

Journey Dance

Enjoy an evening of healthy, energizing, funky and divine dancing on the 3rd Friday of every month.

July 21, Aug 18, Sept 15, Oct 20, Nov 17

7-8:30 pm

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are grateful to have you join us for worship this morning and ask you to register your name in our red Friendship Books.

To learn more about our programs, church activities and volunteer services, we invite you to also:

Pick up a copy of our newsletter, the *Reaching Out*, either in the Narthex or at the Hospitality Desk near the Highland Avenue doors.

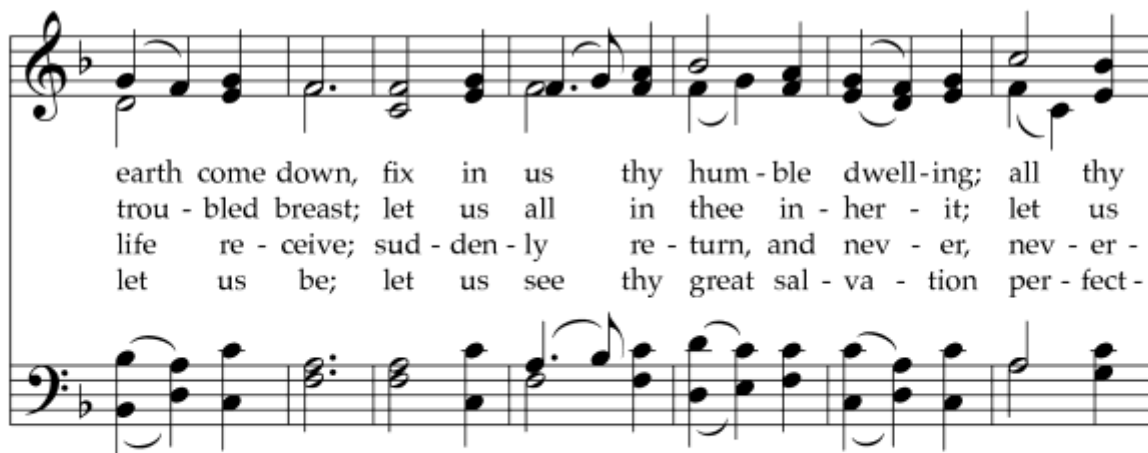
Attend an *Inquirers' Class* to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Please see one of the Pastors to attend, or contact Megan Leisher for more info on future classes (MeganL@coh.net).

Call the Church Office (412.441.3800), or visit the ELPC website at www.ELPC.church.

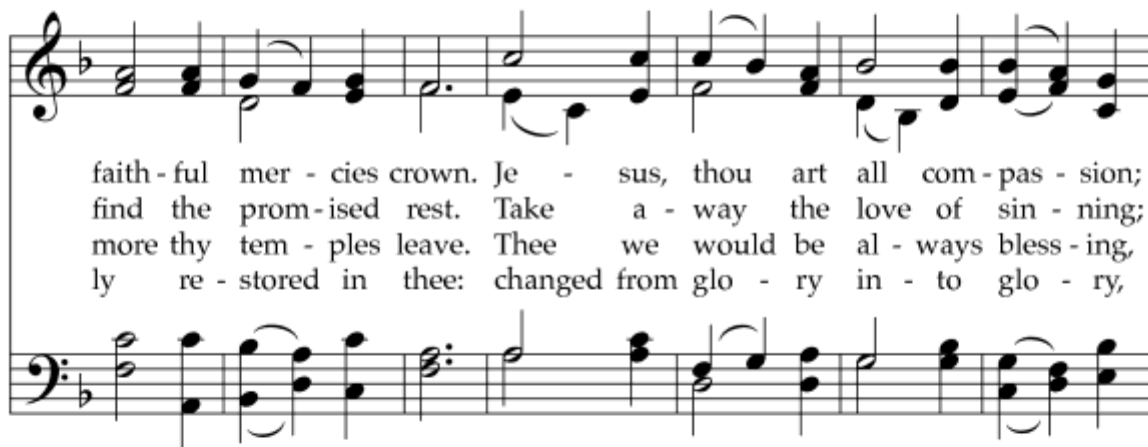
#366 — LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to
 2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

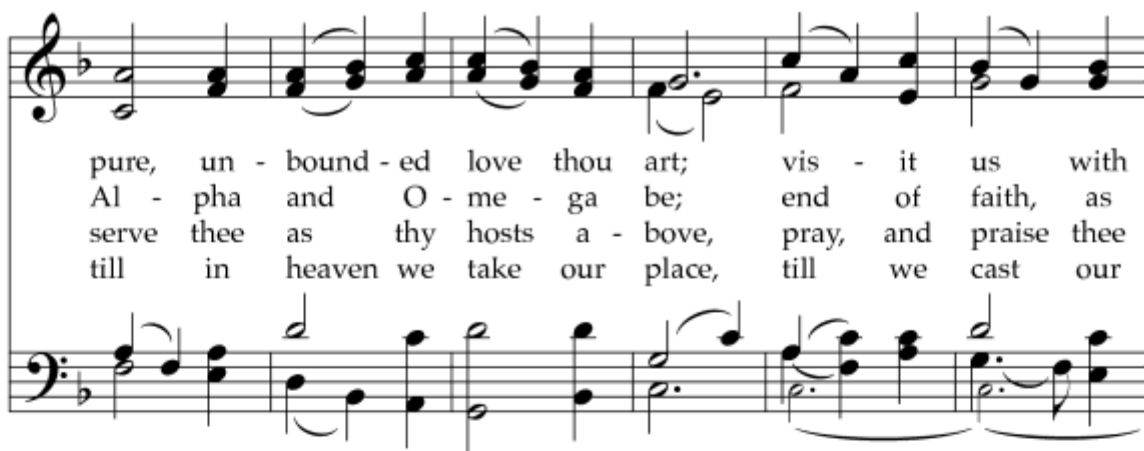


earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion;
 find the prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

This text and this tune occur in almost all English-language hymnals (though not always together). The transforming power of love motivates the unending praise of the life to come, and this fine Welsh tune (whose name means “delightful”) gives us a foretaste of endless song.



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

#767 — TOGETHER WE SERVE

Capo 3: (G) B \flat (D) F (Em) Gm (Bm7) Dm7



1 To - geth - er we serve, u - nit - ed by love,
 2 We seek to be - come a bea - con of hope,
 3 We wel - come the scarred, the wealth - y, the poor,
 4 To - geth - er, by grace, we wit - ness and work,

(C) E \flat (G) B \flat (Am7) Cm7 (Dsus) (D) Fsus F



in - vit - ing God's world to the glo - ri - ous feast.
 a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.
 the bus - y, the lone - ly, and all who need care.
 re - mem - ber - ing Je - sus, in whom we grow strong.

(G) B \flat (D) F (C) E \flat (Bm) Dm



We work and we pray through sor - row and joy,
 We learn, year by year, to let love shine through
 We of - fer a home to those who will come,
 To - geth - er we serve in Spir - it and truth,

(G) B \flat (C) E \flat (G) B \flat (Am) Cm (D7) F7 (G) B \flat



ex - tend - ing God's love to the last and the least.
 un - til we see Christ in each per - son we meet.
 our hands quick to help, our hearts read - y to dare.
 re - mem - ber - ing love is the strength of our song.

The first three words of this text appear in the website address for First Presbyterian Church of San Anselmo, California, for whose centennial the hymn was commissioned. The text draws on Ephesians 4:11-16, a passage describing the many gifts and ministries within the body of Christ.

#53 — O GOD, WHO GIVES US LIFE

1 O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb,
2 O God, who calls your people out to venture and to dare,
3 O God of cov - e - nant and law, re - vealed in cloud and flame,

who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb:
to plumb the bleak a - byss of doubt and find you e - ven there:
your might - y deeds e - voke our awe; we dare not speak your name.

de - liv - er us from fears that kill the life we have from you,
when we de - spair in wan - der - ing through wastes of emp - ty lies,
Yet we by faith are drawn to you and will your peo - ple prove,

Help us to know your Spir - it still is mak - ing all things new.
re - fresh us with the liv - ing spring of hope that nev - er dies.
as on our hearts you write a - new the cov - e - nant of love.

Christians often fail to appreciate how much we can learn about God from the Hebrew Scriptures. This text draws on a variety of passages that call attention to God's faithfulness toward the Chosen People and the promise of a new covenant written on the heart (Jeremiah 31:31-34).

#137 — HE CAME DOWN

1. He came down that we may have love; he

came down that we may have love; he came down that we may

have love; hal-le-lu-jah for-ev-er-more.

Leader: Why did he come?

Additional stanzas:

2. ... that we may have light
3. ... that we may have peace
4. ... that we may have joy

Because this traditional Cameroon piece begins with the refrain, it does not initially reveal that it is cast as a call-and-response song. Assigning the answers to the congregation rather than to the leader is a notable affirmation of the corporate wisdom of God's people.

#740 — LEAD ME, GUIDE ME (*sing 2 times*)

Capo 1: (D) Refrain

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way, for if you

lead me, I can - not stray. Lord, let me walk each

day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

I am weak and I need your strength and power to help me

o - ver my weak - est hour. Help me through the dark-ness your

face to see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Fine

to Refrain

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This African American gospel hymn can well be understood as an updated adaptation of Psalm 5:8, with the "enemies" of the psalm treated as the pressures and temptations of daily life. As with the psalms, the "I" here is understood to express a shared communal experience.

TEXT: Doris Akers, 1953

MUSIC: Doris Akers, 1953; arr. Richard Smallwood

Text and Music © 1953, ren. Doris Akers (admin. Chappell & Co., Inc./Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.)

LEAD ME, GUIDE ME

Irregular

CCLI #689547

#835 — JUST A CLOSER WALK WITH THEE

Refrain Just a clos - er walk with thee, grant it,
 1 I am weak, but thou art strong; Je - sus,
 2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I
 3 When my fee - ble life is o'er, time for

Je - sus, is my plea, dai - ly walk - ing close to
 keep me from all wrong; I'll be sat - is - fied as
 fal - ter, Lord, who cares? Who with me my bur - den
 me will be no more; guide me gent - ly, safe - ly

thee: let it be, dear Lord, let it be.
 long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.
 shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.
 o'er to thy shore, dear Lord, to thy shore. *Refrain*

The chromatic musical style of this anonymous short hymn suggests that it probably dates from the early 20th century. It also seems to owe much of its popularity to radio broadcasts and recordings as well as to evangelistic meetings and singing conventions of that era.

TODAY AT ELPC

LGBTQIA+ Ministry

You are invited to attend our LGBTQIA+ Ministry's next **Spiritual Gathering** following today's worship service. Join us and share conversation and lunch. Allies and LGBTQIA+ folks alike welcome! Contact Wil Forrest to attend or for more info (Wil@coh.net).

Today's Deacon-On-Duty (DOD)

Every Sunday, a DOD (*Deacon-on-Duty*) is available to assist with any emergencies that may occur during our services. The *Summer* service DOD is Nate Stephens.



The Chapel Market Requests Toiletry Items

The Chapel Market is in need of toiletry items, including bar soap, tooth brushes and paste, lotion, shampoo, toilet paper, etc. Donations can be left in the baskets in the Highland Lobby.

Sharing ELPC Good News

This summer, as part of our Sunday service at 10 am, we will be sharing ELPC GOOD News! Who is someone you've noticed quietly serving, giving, loving, or simply using their gifts and passion as an embodiment of the mission and vision of ELPC? As a person comes to mind, consider "telling" on them so we can see and hear God at work through our siblings as they live out the good news of the gospel, in our church and/or in their daily life. Email Pastors Patrice (PatriceFS@coh.net), Heather (HeatherS@coh.net), or BJ (BJW@coh.net).

Fridays in The Rain Garden

Please join the Environmental Team and Gardening Crew for a morning of weeding and mulching the rain garden from 9 am to Noon on every second Friday through Sept. Contact Don Breitbarth (don.breitbarth@gmail.com).

Church Tower Tour — July 23

Tim VanFleet will guide a tour of the church tower on Sunday, July 23 after the 10 am service. Please wear closed-toe shoes and gather in the Highland Lobby to participate.

ELPC Matters: The More You Know — July 23

As we navigate this season of transition together, ELPC is offering a series of informational sessions to broaden congregational awareness of different aspects of our life together that may seem to be more behind-the-scenes, but are fundamental to how we engage our faith in community together.

Our next session in this series will be held on Sunday, July 23 at 11 am, and will offer more information on our church's 2022 finances, as requested at the February Congregational Meeting. Jim Tinnemeyer, ELPC Director of Administration and Facilities, along with Elder Tiffany Sudar, Chair of the Finance Committee, will present at this session. Join us in the Social Hall or on Zoom (Meeting ID: 188 135 194).

Do you have questions about how the church's finances work? We want to hear from you! Please submit your questions to the Finance Committee via Jim Tinnemeyer (JimT@coh.net). We'll do our best to answer as many as possible at this session.

PW Hosts Diaper Drive — July 30

Clean diapers are a basic need of every infant and toddler. Yet 1 in 3 families cannot afford enough diapers to keep their child clean, dry and healthy. Three in 5 parents miss work or school because they can't afford the diapers required to leave their baby in childcare.

The Western Pennsylvania Diaper Bank (www.wpadiaperbank.org) has been helping families meet diaper need for more than a decade. The Diaper Bank began as an outreach at New Light Temple Baptist Church, serving families in Allegheny County through six partner agencies. Last year, the Diaper Bank provided over 2 million diapers to families in Allegheny, Washington and Westmoreland counties through 53 partner agencies. Members and friends of ELPC have generously supported this ministry for many years.

Presbyterian Women will host a *Diaper Drive* at the Highland Ave entrance on Sunday, July 30 following our 10 am worship, until 12:30 pm. Sizes 5 and 6 are most needed. For more info, contact PW.ELPC@gmail.com.

Special Guest Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Asa J. Lee

Sunday, July 30 at 10 am in Courtyard

The Rev. Dr. Asa J. Lee currently serves as the president of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. He comes to the presidency after seven years of service at Wesley Theological Seminary as vice president for Campus Administration and associate dean for Community Life. He has served on the faculty of Northern Virginia Community College and is often a guest lecturer at workshops and seminars dealing with Christianity in the 21st century; religious difference; and issues affecting church leadership.





As a caring congregation of faith, we ask you to remember the following people in your prayers:

Linda Benedict's sister's
husband and his sister,

The Rev. Dr. Randy Bush, Alysha Carroll,

Todd Hoffman, Diane Jackson's brother-in-law Dan,

Gloria Knopp, Paul Miller, and Larry Sweeny.

Condolences to Henk Bossers on his brother's passing.

Environmental Book Study — Aug 3

For their next session, the Environmental Team of the Justice Committee has selected two fiction books: *Waste Tide* by Chen Quifan and *Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck. Feel free to read one or both! And plan on joining us to discuss them on Thursday, Aug 3 at 7 pm in the Courtyard. Come at 6:30 pm for some time to socialize. Penn Hackney will lead our discussion of *Waste Tide*, and Sally Jo Snyder will lead our discussion of *Grapes of Wrath*. For more info, please contact Nancy Heastings (n.heastings@comcast.net).

Still Thinking About Doing a Mission Trip? — Aug 6 to 11

There's still time to register for our summer Mission Trips! High school youth in grades 8–12 are serving with North Street Mission in Wooster, Ohio from Aug 6–11. Participants in the high school summer mission trip must meet certain requirements, including participating in three service projects with ELPC.

Register online at www.ELPC.church and contact Sara Hackett with questions (SaraH@coh.net).

Parking on Whitfield St — Aug 13

An outside group has applied for a permit to close Whitfield St outside ELPC on Sunday, Aug 13 to hold a mental health awareness event. If you typically park on Whitfield St on Sundays, please make alternate plans on that date.

Meditation Hour — Tuesdays

The Spiritual Life Committee invites you to join John Benedict in the Chapel each Tuesday from 6-7 pm for an hour devoted to meditation. John is a retired psychologist and a long time student and practitioner of insight meditation. No experience necessary, and all are welcome!

Download the ELPC App

ELPC published a mobile app to serve as a hub for all ELPC-related news, events, and digital offerings. On the app, you can stream live and archived worship services and concerts, watch sermons, listen to our Taizé podcast, download bulletins, browse events, connect with our social media pages, read up-to-date news, and more. The app is available for free on Google Play™ and the App Store®. Search for "East Liberty Presbyterian." Google Play is a trademark of Google LLC. App Store is a registered trademarks of Apple Inc.

News From Your PNC

The Pastoral Nominating Committee along with ELPC Session, pastoral staff, and program staff spent June 10 with Michelle Snyder, the consultant ELPC contracted to assist in interpreting and understanding the data received from 301 people (yay for you!) via the CAT Scan (Congregational Assessment Tool). It was fascinating, revealing, and enlightening to begin to learn what many of you are thinking about where we are as a church presently, where we might consider heading to in the future, and what your thoughts are about new pastoral leadership.

In the coming days, ELPC's Session will prepare a summary of the CAT Scan results. The summary will be made available to our congregation to provide an interesting snapshot of the responses given. As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to speak with any member of the PNC or with Pastor BJ.

The PNC's next step will be to review the data we received and to determine where we need more information from you. Stay tuned to hear about the possibility of focus groups/listening sessions this summer, and consider your willingness to serve in this way. (These groups will be open to all in our congregation; completing the CAT isn't a pre-requisite for your participation in this important work.) It would be a huge help to the PNC to learn about your views on ELPC as we work our way toward writing the MIF (Ministry Information Form).

After completing the MIF in the fall, we will submit this job/church/congregation/activities description to the Presbytery for dissemination nationally for clergy in all 50 states to see who and what ELPC is and what we are looking for.

Additionally, Jim Eng, Sara Hackett, and Linda Lane talked with some of our youth on June 12 to hear their thoughts about our church. We are working as hard as we can to learn as much as possible from all active participants in the life of ELPC.

So there you have it! Please keep us in your prayers as we continue this important work for OUR church, and also feel free to speak with any of us individually. We feel honored to serve on the PNC and we are committed to doing the very best job we can so that ELPC can continue to move steadily forward in our community.

—Polly McQueen

ELPC Pastor Nominating Committee:

Doug Booth, Bill Buchanan, David Carl, Andrea DeVries, Jim Eng, Linda Lane (*Chair*), Rebecca McGregor (*Secretary*), Polly McQueen, Antwone Wright

Visit us online at

www.ELPC.church

to learn more about our ministries and opportunities