

# EAST LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## MAUNDY THURSDAY *Worship*

APRIL 17, 2025 - 7:00 PM



116 SOUTH HIGHLAND AVENUE ♦ PITTSBURGH, PA 15206  
412.441.3800 ♦ [WWW.ELPC.CHURCH](http://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)*

## MAUNDY THURSDAY

APRIL 17, 2025 — 7 PM SANCTUARY WORSHIP

### TIME OF PREPARATION

True humility is not thinking less of yourself; it is thinking of yourself less.

— C.S. Lewis

### PRELUDE

“O Waly Waly”

Emma Lou Diemer  
based on hymn #202  
Dr. Edward Alan Moore, organ

### WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Reed Williams

Leader: On this day in Holy Week, we remember how Jesus gathered with his friends for a meal together.

**People: We remember how Jesus said, “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.”**

Leader: He went further and said, “Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.”

**People: By this everyone will know that we are Christ’s disciples, if we have love for one another.**

### \* PROCESSIONAL HYMN #202 *(printed in bulletin)*

O WALY WALY

“An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare”

### CALL TO CONFESSION

Reed Williams

Leader: On this holy night, Jesus knelt to wash the feet of his friends, the disciples, including the one who would betray him. Throughout his life, Jesus served and fed others. As we gather this evening, let us acknowledge our shortcomings and the burdens we carry. Let us confess our complicity in an unjust world.

### UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Reed Williams

**God, our hearts are heavy for our friends whose lives and livelihoods are being threatened. We weep for children taken from their parents, for families living in fear of a knock at the door, for those whose dignity is denied by unjust systems. Forgive us when we turn our faces from the suffering of others. Forgive us when we grow numb to injustice. Forgive us when we doubt that love can still rise up.**

### TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

### ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

Reed Williams

Leader: Friends, we might fall short. We might not honor God in thought, word, and deed. Still, Jesus calls us friends.

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.**

### RESPONSIVE HYMN #209 *(verse 1 only; printed in bulletin)*

LOVE UNKNOWN

“My Song Is Love Unknown”

\* *Indicates where to please rise in spirit.*

Rev. BJ Woodworth

**READING**

“Loved to the End: A Poem for Maundy Thursday” by *Pamela C. Hawkins*

I’ve been thinking a lot about what it means to be loved.

It is a memory deeper in me than marrow  
or the worst pain I’ve ever felt  
or the dark, damp curve where my  
child’s life began –

Love – the real love that  
whispers, yet has no voice;  
knows, yet is without detail.

That kind of love is  
what I’m thinking about these  
long, thinning Jerusalem days.

How do I know what love can be?  
Love that rises up against all the  
storm’s fury that tells me I’m lost at sea –  
not worth saving.

Love that curls up under my body,  
turns me face up to air and light and sky;  
sputtering,  
gasping,  
but alive.

How do I know to hold my breath until that love comes in like the tide?  
Is love the buoyancy?  
the salt?  
the current?

Is love the power greater than any Leviathan  
I’ve ever been thrown against?  
How do I know this Love?

*May God blessing the hearing of these words. Amen.*

\* **HYMN #215** (*printed in bulletin*)

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

WONDROUS LOVE

**GOSPEL LESSON**

John 13:1-17, 34-35

Jan Herzer

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**REFLECTION**

“Do you know what Jesus has done to you?”

Rev. Dr. Diaz

**TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

Rev. Woodworth

Jesus says, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you.” (*John 14:27*)

**OFFERING INVITATION**

Rev. Woodworth

*Today’s offering will support the Mission Board’s work of justice in our community.*

*Please remember to write your name on your offering envelope.*

*You can also scan this QR code to give online or visit [www.ELPC.church](http://www.ELPC.church)/donate.*



**OFFERTORY**

“Ubi Caritas et Amor”

Gerald Near

*Where charity and love are, God is there.*

— THE LORD’S SUPPER —

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Rev. Dr. Diaz and Rev. Woodworth

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Rev. Dr. Diaz and Rev. Woodworth

SHARING THE BREAD & CUP

*As you approach the chancel to receive communion, Pastor BJ and Pastor Michael will anoint your hands with water as a symbol of Christ humbling himself and being a servant to the disciples in the story of the foot washing.*

*The communion elements are gluten-free bread and grape juice. The congregation is invited to come forward by using the center aisle to the communion servers where each may receive the bread and the cup, then returning to their seats via the side aisles to partake of the elements. Those seated in the East Transept (the section near the Highland Entrance) will be directed by an usher to the walkway between the front and back section and will file in behind those in the first row of the back section. Those not able to come forward will be served in their seats. Please raise your hand and/or make eye contact with the roaming Communion server.*

COMMUNION HYMN #521 (printed in bulletin)

RED

“In Remembrance of Me”

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (in unison)

Rev. Woodworth

**Loving God, you graciously feed us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation. May we who have received this sacrament be strengthened in your service; may we who have sung your praises go now and tell of your truth; may we who have seen the greatness of your love yield ourselves, our wills and our works as a thank-offering to you and so share your love with others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

CHORAL MEDITATION

“Ave Verum Corpus”

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

*Hail the true body, born of the Virgin Mary: You who truly suffered and were sacrificed on the cross for the sake of all. From whose pierced flank flowed water and blood: Be a foretaste for us in the trial of death. O sweet, O merciful, O Jesus, Son of Mary. Have mercy on me. Amen.*

SCRIPTURE READING

John 18:1-8, 10-12 (Voice translation)

Carol Mullen

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE STRIPPING OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Diaz and Rev. Woodworth

Imagine Jesus as one who means everything to you, being violently arrested and taken from you. How would you feel? How would you feel if the forces of empire conspired against you, intimidated you, and tried take one of your family members or beloved friends? Would you desire to lash out with a sword? Would you freeze in panic? Would you try to run away? Maybe you wonder if you might be next, next in line to be arrested and taken away? Just as Jesus was violently stripped away from the disciples in the garden, the chancel will now be stripped of all decorations and the very symbols that point us to Jesus.

ORGAN MEDITATION

“Adagio for Strings”

Samuel Barber/William Strickland

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.



*At the end of the Stripping of the Church, you are invited to depart the sanctuary in silence.*

**ALL DEPART IN SILENCE. THE STORY CONTINUES ON GOOD FRIDAY AT NOON AND 7 PM.**

*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](http://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: Rev. Dr. Michael A. Diaz (he/him/él)  
Liturgists: Rev. BJ Woodworth  
Jan Herzer  
Carol Mullen and Reed Williams  
Musicians: Dr. Edward Alan Moore (he/him)  
*Director of Music and Arts*  
ELPC Chancel Choir  
Beadles: Jo Ellen Aleshire  
Heather Eng  
Crucifer: Jan Herzer  
Sound: Tim Benedict and Wayne Gaines

◆ **HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES**

*Below is a listing of the remaining Holy Week and Easter Sunday services we are offering at ELPC.*

**GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 18**

12 Noon.....**Good Friday Service.** In the Chapel.  
Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz preaching.  
7:00 pm.....**Stations of the Cross Good Friday Service.** In Sanctuary. Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz preaching.

**EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 20**

8:45 am.....**Journey Worship.** Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz will preach at this communion service in the Social Hall.

A continental breakfast will be served in the Fellowship and Garth Overlook Rooms from 9:45-10:45 am.

11 am.....**Sanctuary Worship.** Our largest service, with music from the Chancel Choir and guest instrumentalists. Special music begins at 10:45 am. Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz will preach at this communion service.

◆ **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**

**Contemplative Prayer on Mondays**

Rev. BJ Woodworth will lead a time on Zoom of 30 minutes of communal silence and guided meditation on scripture.

Mondays, 7:30 to 8 am

Meeting ID: 959 8065 3992

Passcode: bestill

**Tuesday Morning Zoom Prayer Group**

Join Steve Evrard on Zoom for a time of scripture readings, responsive prayer, and interactive dialogue.

Tuesdays, 8 to 8:30 am

Meeting ID: 896 9680 6662 • Passcode: 116

**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

**WELCOME VISITORS!**

We are grateful to have you join us for worship this evening 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:*

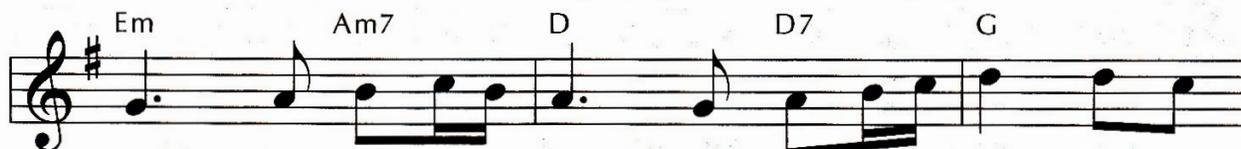
Pick up a copy of our newsletter, the *Reaching Out*, either in the Narthex or at the Hospitality Desk near the Highland Avenue doors.

Attend an *Inquirers' Class* on **Sunday, April 27** after the 11 am service to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Please see one of the pastors to attend, or contact Jen King for info on future classes (JenK@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x222).

## #202 — AN UPPER ROOM DID OUR LORD PREPARE



1 An up - per room did our Lord pre - pare for those he  
 2 A last - ing gift Je - sus gave his own: to share his  
 3 And af - ter sup - per he washed their feet, for ser - vice,  
 4 No end there is! We de - part in peace. He loves be -



loved un - til the end: and his dis - ci - ples still  
 bread, his lov - ing cup. What - ev - er bur - dens may  
 too, is sac - ra - ment. In Christ our joy shall be  
 yond our ut - ter - most: in ev - ery room in our



gath - er there to cel - e - brate their ris - en friend.  
 bow us down, he by his cross shall lift us up.  
 made com - plete: sent out to serve, as he was sent.  
 Fa - ther's house Christ will be there, as Lord and Host.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

This text brings together the two New Testament traditions regarding Jesus' final evening with his disciples: the Synoptic account of the Last Supper (Matthew 26:26–29/Mark 14:22–25/Luke 22:14–20) and the Fourth Gospel's report of his washing the disciples' feet (John 13:3–17).

TEXT: Fred Pratt Green, 1973, alt.

MUSIC: English folk melody; harm. John Weaver, 1988

Text © 1974 Hope Publishing Company

Music Harm. © 1990 Hope Publishing Company CCLI #689547

O WALY WALY

9.8.9.8

#209 — MY SONG IS LOVE UNKNOWN (*verse 1 only*)

1 My song is love un - known, my Sav-ior's love to

me, love to the love-less shown that they might

love - ly be. O who am I that

for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh, and die?

Glory to God 209

TEXT: Samuel Crossman, 1664, alt.

MUSIC (LOVE UNKNOWN 6.6.6.6.4.4.4): John Ireland, 1918

## #215 — WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my  
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing  
 3 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will  
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, what won - drous love is this, O my soul! What  
 down, when I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when  
 sing, to God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to  
 on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this that caused the Lord of  
 I was sink - ing down be - neath God's righ - teous  
 God and to the Lamb who is the great I  
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful



bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul, for my  
 frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul, for my  
 AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing, I will  
 be, and through e - ter - ni - ty, I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!  
 soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul!  
 sing; while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing!  
 on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

With its ballad-like repetitions before and after each stanza's central narrative lines, this meditative text needs performance in order to be effective. Its haunting melody proves the means of convincing us that the only adequate response to "wondrous love" is to "sing on."

# #521 — IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME

Capo 3: (G) (Bm) (C) (D7)  
 B $\flat$  Dm E $\flat$  F7

1 In re - mem - brance of me, eat this bread. In re -  
 2 In re - mem - brance of me, heal the sick. In re -

(C) (Am) (D) (D7) (Em)  
 E $\flat$  Cm F F7 Gm

mem - brance of me, drink this wine. In re - mem - brance of  
 mem - brance of me, feed the poor. In re - mem - brance of

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

me, pray for the time when God's own will is  
 me, o - pen the door and let your neigh - bors

1 (C) (D7) 2 (C) (D7) (G)  
 E $\flat$  F7 E $\flat$  F7 B $\flat$

done. in, let them in.

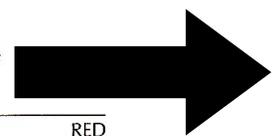
(E $\flat$ ) (G) (E $\flat$ )  
 G $\flat$  B $\flat$  G $\flat$

Take, eat, and be com - fort - ed; drink and re -

(Cm) (G) (Em) (D)  
 E $\flat$ m B $\flat$  Gm F

mem - ber too, that this is my bod - y and

This text is built on four familiar words of Christ at the Last Supper, as recorded in Luke 22:19 and 1 Corinthians 11:24-25. Radiating from that corporate memory of the church, additional actions are encouraged in Christ's voice using allusions to other passages of Scripture.



(C) (G) (A) (A7) (D7sus) (D7)  
 Eb Bb C C7 F7sus F7

pre - cious blood shed for you, shed for you.

(G) (Bm) (C) (D7)  
 Bb Dm Eb F7

3 In re-mem-brance of me, search for truth. In re-

(C) (Am) (D) (D7) (Em)  
 Eb Cm F F7 Gm

mem-brance of me, al-ways love. In re-mem-brance of

(C) (F) (D) (G) (D7sus) (D7)  
 Eb Ab F Bb F7sus F7

me, don't look a-bove, but in your heart, look for

(G) (D7sus) (D7) (G)  
 Bb F7sus F7 Bb

God. Do this in re-mem-brance of me.

## Tween Kickball – April 25

Youth in grades 4–6 will be gathering for pizza and kickball on Friday, April 25 from 5–7 pm. Friends are always welcome. RSVP to Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net).

## Tool Drive for GCF – April 27

As part of ELPC's celebration of Earth Day, the Neighbors Committee is sponsoring a *Tool Drive* for Garfield Community Farm (GCF) on Sunday, April 27. You can view GCF's wish list and sign up to donate new or gently used items at [tiny.cc/gcf-tool-drive](http://tiny.cc/gcf-tool-drive). A representative from GCF will be here after the 11 am service on April 27 to provide more info and sign up volunteers.

## Church Tour – April 27

Jo Ellen Aleshire will lead a *Sanctuary and Chapel* tour on Sunday, April 27. Please gather in the Highland Lobby after the 11 am service to join.

## Embodying the Spirit Retreat – May 2 to 4

Join us for a weekend of quiet, rest, prayer, community and embodiment from Friday, May 2 at 6 pm to Sunday, May 4 at 11 am at Villa Maria Retreat Center. We will paint, walk, dance, sing, lament, sleep, eat, chant, swim, bend and bow. Our retreat leader is Joanne Spence, D.Min. RSVP to Norma by Easter Sunday, April 20 (412.441.3800 x221).

*Costs Options: (Contact Pastor BJ to discuss scholarships)*

1. One Night: (Fri-Sat or Sat-Sun)  
Private Room/Common Bath | \$100
2. One Night: (Fri-Sat or Sat-Sun)  
Private Room/Private Bath | \$125
3. Two Nights (Friday-Sunday)  
Private Room/Common Bath | \$150
4. Two Nights (Friday-Sunday)  
Private Room/Private Bath | \$175
5. Saturday Day | \$50

## No Worship Services on Marathon Sunday – May 4

Due to the route of the Pittsburgh Marathon, ELPC will not have any worship services on Sunday, May 4. The church building will be closed.

## Hope Academy's Recital Schedule – May 8, 11 and 15

Thanks to the generosity of our partners, Hope Academy students have had many wonderful opportunities to attend great performances this season. The students now invite everyone to attend their upcoming recitals:

- Thursday, May 8 at 6 pm  
*Sing + Dance Recital* with Shana Simmons Dance in the Social Hall
- Sunday, May 11 at 1:30 pm  
*Music Recital* in the Sanctuary
- Thursday, May 15 at 6 pm  
*PBT Dance Recital* in the Social Hall

For more info, please visit [sites.google.com/view/hopecademy2024-2025/home](https://sites.google.com/view/hopecademy2024-2025/home).

## Garden Crew Work Day – May 10

If you enjoy outside yard work, and want to help clean up the church grounds, please join Don Breitbarth and the Garden Crew on Saturday, May 10. Work begins at 9 am, and typically goes until Noon. Please bring garden gloves. Please contact Don Breitbarth for more info (412.225.7649; [don.breitbarth@gmail.com](mailto:don.breitbarth@gmail.com)).



## Children and Family Event – May 11

The next family event is volunteering at Garfield Community Farm on Sunday, May 11. The Children and Families Ministry team is hosting monthly family events to foster a caring community of families at ELPC, where kids and adults feel loved and empowered to explore their faith.

## Vacation Church School – Volunteers Needed

Student registration is currently full, BUT please email Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net) if you would like to have your child added to the waitlist. Volunteers are still needed for Vacation Church School at ELPC on June 23–27 from 9 am–3 pm. Our theme this summer is LIVE it OUT: Discover How to Love like Jesus! Teens in 6th–12th grade and adult volunteers are needed; register at [ELPC.church](http://ELPC.church).



**INQUIRERS CLASS**  
**Sunday, April 27**

Attend an Inquirers' Class after the 11 am service on Sunday, April 27 to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Lunch will be provided.

Register online using this QR code, or visit [elpc.church/visit-us/becoming-a-member](http://elpc.church/visit-us/becoming-a-member).

Please contact Jen King for more info:  
(JenK@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x222)





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

Adelaide and Liam, Amanda, Jean, Miriam, Doris Dick and her son Dylan Geibel, Edward Copeland, Nicholas Genger-Boeldt, Suzan Krauland, Barbara Lockie-Brown, Brenda Nalubega, Lisa Petrilli, and Judy Winstead Foster.

Condolences to **Brandy Berner** on her grandmother's passing.

Condolences to **Janet Pollard** on a family member's passing.

Condolences to **Jason Van Ness** on his grandfather's passing.

### Alternative Transportation Challenge – May 18

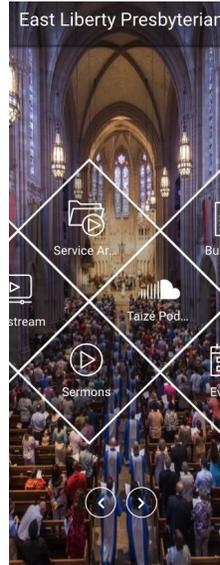
Transportation is one of the largest contributors to carbon emissions and plays a crucial role in ensuring equitable access to services and opportunities for all communities. The Environmental Team of the Justice Committee would like to challenge the ELPC congregation to consider lowering its transportation carbon footprint. We can make an impact by working together to care for God's creation.

Join the challenge on Sunday, May 18 if you are able, to get to ELPC by biking, walking, running, carpooling, using public transportation, or driving a hybrid or electric vehicle. Secure indoor bicycle parking will be available in the Harambe Room. Information will be available after worship services on Sundays, April 27 and May 11 to assist you in making a plan!

On Sunday, May 18 we will gather data as people arrive, and report on the total carbon emissions saved compared to single occupancy gas vehicles. Members with electric vehicles will be present after both services to demonstrate and provide information. Contact Nancy Heastings for more info ([n.heastings@comcast.net](mailto:n.heastings@comcast.net)).

### New Signs, Same Policy, more RADICAL Hospitality

You'll notice new signs at our Highland Ave entrance, asking everyone who comes into our building to sign in – unless you are coming for worship or a large public event like a concert. This has been part of our *Child Safety Policy* for many years, but we are renewing our commitment to welcome everyone who enters our building by name. ELPC has implemented a *Safety & Security Advisory* to review and revise our *Emergency Response Plan*, updating emergency equipment and training of staff and church leadership. Writing your name will help us keep the most vulnerable safe, better understand how our building is being used, and create a point of connection and welcome for each person who comes through our doors.



### Download Our New App

ELPC recently 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 on the App Store®. Search for “East Liberty Presbyterian.” Google Play is a trademark of Google LLC. App Store is a registered trademark of Apple Inc.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ADULTS

*There are no classes on Easter Sunday.*

Please join us for an Easter breakfast in the Fellowship and Garth Overlook Rooms from 9:45 to 10:45 am.

### Tuesday Morning Zoom Prayer Group

ELPC offers an online prayer group each Tuesday morning from 8-8:30 am, hosted by ELPC member Steve Evrard. These 20-minute sessions feature scripture readings, responsive prayer, and interactive dialogue. All are welcome at this opportunity for fellowship and prayer. The Zoom Meeting ID is 896 9680 6662 (passcode is 116), or you may call in by dialing 929.205.6099.

### Donations for Chapel Market



The Chapel Market needs:

- **spring and summer clothes**
- **diapers (sizes 3-7)**
- **full-sized toiletries items** (soap, body wash, toothpaste, toilet paper, toothbrushes, lotion etc.)

Donations can be left at the Highland Lobby, or dropped off at the Chapel

Market when open (on the first and third Tuesday of each month from 5–7 pm, or Thursdays from 10 am–12 pm).

If you would like to volunteer in the Chapel Market, please contact Gerald McClendon ([GeraldM@coh.net](mailto:GeraldM@coh.net)).