



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)

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JULY 20, 2025 — 10 AM SUMMER WORSHIP

TIME OF PREPARATION

You don’t have to be productive to be worth something. Doing more doesn’t make you better or smarter or more valuable. And taking a break doesn’t make you lazy. It makes you human.

— Daniell Koepke

GATHERING HYMN

“Jesus is the Love of My Life”

I will praise the Lord, magnify his name
 Tell the world he’s coming again, Jesus is the love of my life
 I will praise the Lord, magnify his name
 Tell the world he’s coming again, Jesus is the love of my life
 I will praise the Lord, magnify his name
 Tell the world he’s coming again, Jesus is the love of my life
 I will praise the Lord, magnify his name
 Tell the world he’s coming again, Jesus is the love of my life
 He’s the love of my life, Jesus is the love of my life
 He’s the love of my life, Jesus is the love of my life
 I’ll sit at his feet, listen while he speaks
 Let him have his way with me, Jesus is the love of my life
 I’ll sit at his feet, listen while he speaks
 Let him have his way with me, Jesus is the love of my life
 He’s the love of my life, Jesus is the love of my life
 He’s the love of my life, Jesus is the love of my life
 If you want to walk in his perfect light
 Just begin to say to yourself, Jesus is the love of my life
 If you want to walk in his perfect light
 Just begin to say to yourself, Jesus is the love of my life
 He’s the love of my life, Jesus is the love of my life
 He’s the love of my life, Jesus is the love of my life
 He’s the love of my life, Jesus is the love of my life
 He’s the love of my life, Jesus is the love of my life
 He’s the love of my life, Jesus is the love of my life
 He’s the love of my life
 Jesus is the love of my life, He’s the love of my life
 Jesus is the love of my life, He’s the love of my life
 Jesus is the love of my life

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

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WELCOME & CHURCH NEWS

Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz, Rev. BJ Woodworth

Everyone in worship today is encouraged to please sign your name in the red Friendship Books that are in each pew.

Doing so will help ELPC maintain a pastoral connection with all who worship with us. Thank you!

CALL TO WORSHIP

Timothy Engelhardt

Leader: Beloved community, God calls us to be fully present as we gather.

People: Like Martha, we are here to show love through action. Like Mary, we seek truth through holy presence.

Leader: Jesus welcomed them both. Jesus welcomes us all.

People: In our busyness and in our stillness, in our questions and in our devotion, God meets us.

Leader: This is not a competition of calling. This is an invitation to choose what gives life.

People: Today, we open our hearts to worship, listen, and be awakened by the Spirit. Amen.

* **OPENING HYMN** (*printed in bulletin*) “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

CONVERSE

MOMENTS WITH OUR CHILDREN

Sara Hackett

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

- *Children age 4-3rd grade will go to Sunday School: Sacred Stories. Parents will pick up their kids after worship in Room 206.*
- *Tweens are encouraged to stay in summer worship.*
- *Children age 3 and younger can play, sing songs and hear stories in the nursery during worship.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

Timothy Engelhardt

Leader: In the story of Mary and Martha, we often rush to take sides. Who got it right? Who did it better? But Jesus was not looking for a winner. He was calling both into deeper relationship. We, too, fall into comparison. We measure ourselves against others. We draw lines between who's deserving and who's not. So let us readily lay down our pride and our fear. Let us be restored by the One who reconciles all humanity.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*written by Katy Stenta*)

Timothy Engelhardt

God, forgive us. We are all too ready to separate ourselves from others. We live in comparison, separating ourselves to be better, harder working, or more in need. We like to be the insiders, the ones who deserve things. Let us therefore reject any teaching which legitimizes separation from those we consider to be less worthy. Lead us on the path of obedience and reconciliation, casting out prejudice, fear, and selfishness, we pray.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Timothy Engelhardt

Leader: Friends, God never shuns us. This is good news.

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

HYMN OF RESPONSE (*printed in bulletin; sing 3x*)

“Sitting at His Feet”

Sitting at his feet, sitting at his feet. That is where my life is complete: sitting at his feet.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 10:38-42 (NASB)

Rev. Woodworth

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

People: Thanks be to God.

* **HYMN** (*printed in bulletin*)

“I Surrender All”

SERMON

“What Is Needed Right Now?”

Rev. Dr. Diaz

* Indicates where you may rise in body or spirit.

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION &

THE LORD’S PRAYER (in the language or version closest to your heart)

Rev. Woodworth

The Lord’s Prayer can be found on pg. 35 (English), on pg. 40 (Español), or on pg. 45 (한국어) in the Glory to God hymnal.

SHARING GOD’S PEACE

Rev. Woodworth

Leader: La paz de Cristo esté con ustedes.

The peace of Christ be with you.

People: Y también contigo.

And also with you.

OFFERING INVITATION

Rev. Dr. Diaz

Thanks to everyone who has made a pledge for 2025. Your timely giving to fulfill your pledge helps us fulfill our mission to show God’s unconditional love to all.

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/donate.



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Live Pure”

Jonathan Nelson

* DOXOLOGY AT THE PRESENTATION #607

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Christ, all crea - tures here be - low;

praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more; praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore. A - men.

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & DEDICATION

Rev. Dr. Diaz

Rev. Woodworth

Leader: El Señor esté con ustedes.

The Lord be with you.

People: Y también contigo.

And also with you.

Leader: Levantemos nuestros corazones.

Lift up your hearts.

People: Lo tenemos levantado al Señor.

We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Demos gracias al Señor nuestro Dios.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: Es justo dar gracias y alabanzas a Dios.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Leader: God, we give with thankful hearts. May this offering be used for the sharing of good news as we serve your beloved community. Help us to respect the sacred worth of every person as we build the kin-dom of God. Amen.

* CLOSING HYMN (printed in bulletin)

“O How I Love Jesus”

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Diaz



Our full worship service is 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.

Assisted listening devices are available for our Sanctuary worship in the Ushers' Room. Please print your contact info and device number on the sign-out sheet if you need to use one.

Please silence all electronic devices before the service begins.

♦ PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preaching: Rev. Dr. Michael Diaz (he/him/él)
Liturgists: Rev. BJ Woodworth (he/him)
Sara Hackett (she/her)
Director of Christian Education
Timothy Engelhardt
Musicians: Gerald Savage
Journey Music Director
ELPC Journey Praise Team
Sound: Tim Benedict
Wayne Gaines
Lenore Williams

♦ WORSHIP FLOWERS

If you would like to sponsor flowers for our weekly worship service in honor or memory of a loved one, contact Norma (412.441.3800 x211). The cost is \$250.

♦ SUNDAY SUMMER WORSHIP

10 am.....**Summer Worship.** Our largest service with a multi-cultural congregation and music from organ, piano and choir.

♦ 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



Labyrinth Prayer Walk

A 35-foot floor mat with curved paths leading inward; an ancient tool for walking and seated meditation.

Wednesdays and Thursdays
10 am to 7 pm



♦ WEEKLY SPIRITUAL LIFE OFFERINGS

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 to 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

3rd Friday of month

7 to 8:30 pm

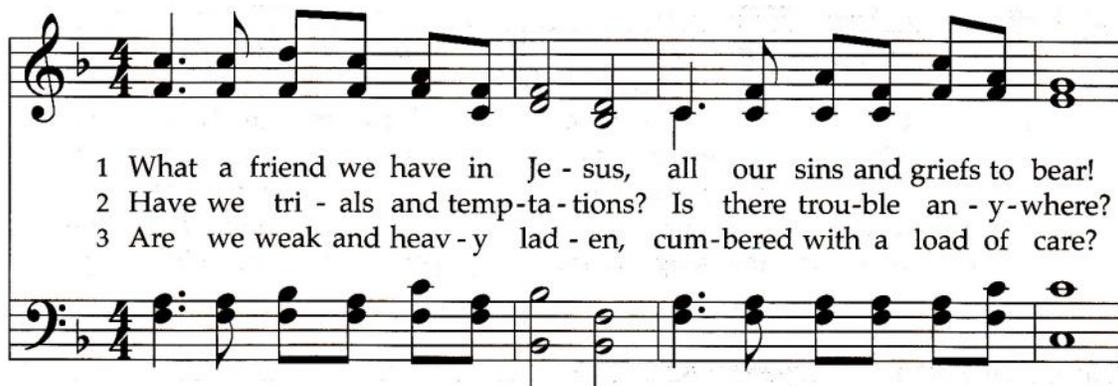
WELCOME VISITORS!

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

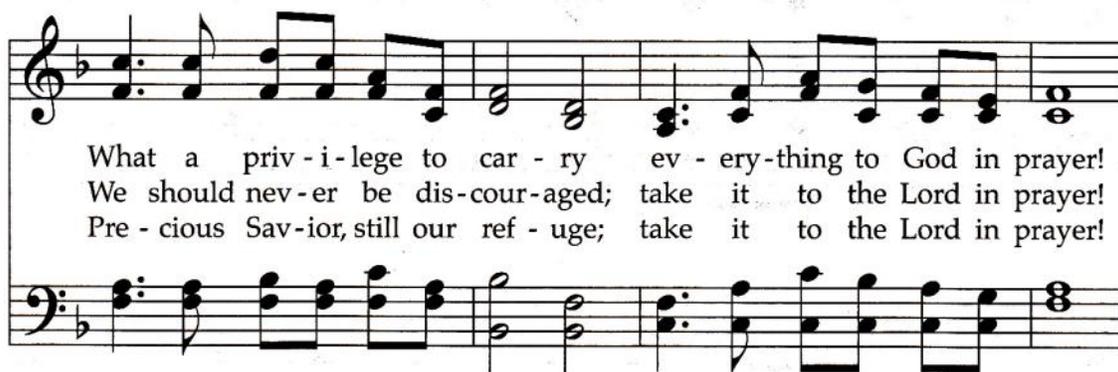
Attend an *Inquirers' Class* to learn more about ELPC, Presbyterian theology, and to explore membership. Please see one of the pastors to attend, or contact Jen King to register or for more info (JenK@coh.net; 412.441.3800 x222).

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

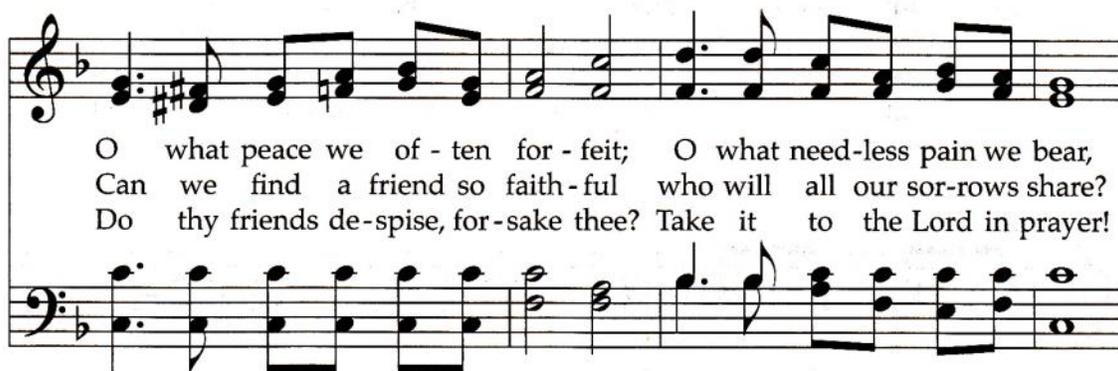
WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS



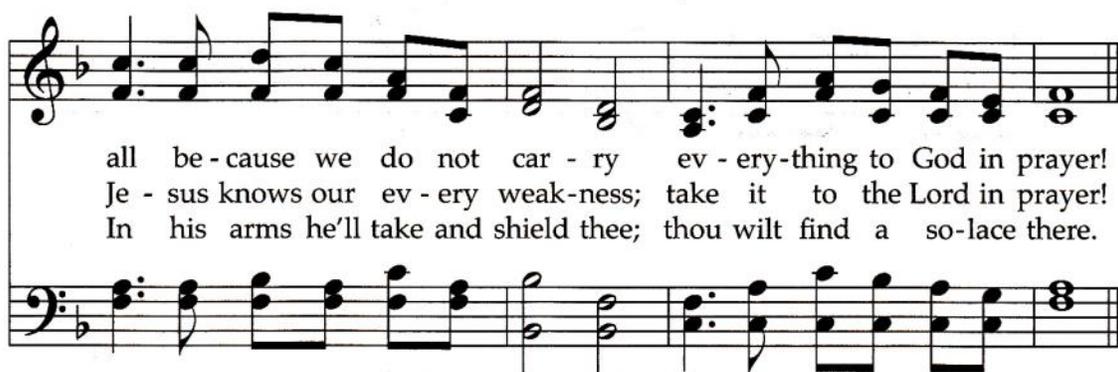
1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge; take it to the Lord in prayer!



O what peace we of - ten for - feit; O what need - less pain we bear,
Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share?
Do thy friends de - spise, for - sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer!
Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak - ness; take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a so - lace there.

This text was written by an Irish-born immigrant to Canada to comfort his mother in Ireland when she was going through a time of special sorrow. The role of prayer as a source of strength and consolation is underscored by its repeated use as a rhyme word in all three stanzas.

SITTING AT HIS FEET

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line and a bass line. The vocal line contains the lyrics: "Sit-ting at His feet, sit-ting at His feet." The second system also has a vocal line and a bass line. The vocal line contains the lyrics: "That is where my life is com-plete: sit-ting at His feet." The bass line in the second system features a triplet of eighth notes marked with a '3' above the notes.

Text: Steven Carey

Music: Steven Carey; arr. by Carol Cymbala

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CCLI #689547

I SURRENDER ALL

1. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der,
 I will ev - er love and trust Him,
 2. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der,
 World - ly pleas - ures all for - sak - en,
 3. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der,
 Fill me with Thy Ho - ly Spir - it—
 4. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der,
 Fill me with Thy love and pow - er,

All to Him I free - ly give;
 In His pres - ence dai - ly live.
 Hum - bly at His feet I bow;
 Take me, Je - sus, take me now.
 Make me, Sav - ior, whol - ly Thine;
 Tru - ly know that Thou art mine.
 Lord, I give my - self to Thee;
 Let Thy bless - ings fall on me.

I sur-ren-der all, I sur-ren-der all.
 I sur-ren-der all, I sur-ren-der all.

All to Thee, my bless - ed Sav - ior, I sur - ren - der all.

O HOW I LOVE JESUS



1. There is a name I love to hear, I love to sing its
2. It tells me of a Sav - ior's love, Who died to set me
3. It tells me what my Fa - ther has In store for ev - 'ry
4. It tells of One whose lov - ing heart Can feel my deep - est



worth; It sounds like mu - sic in my ear, The sweet - est
free; It tells me of His pre - cious blood, The sin - ner's
day, And though I tread a gloom - y path, Yields sun - shine
woe, Who in each sor - row bears a part, That none can



name on earth.
per - fect plea. O how I love Je - sus, O how I love
all the way.
bear be - low.



Je - sus, O how I love Je - sus, Be - cause He first loved me!



TODAY AT ELPC

Welcome Visitors!

If you are joining us for the first time, we're glad you are here! Please do not forget to write your name and contact info in the RED friendship book in your pew. Pastor Michael will reach out to you for any prayer requests and to answer any questions you might have.

Postcards for Pennsylvanians Against the Death Penalty

Please stop in the Garth Overlook Room immediately after worship to sign postcards to Harrisburg government officials to support ending the Death Penalty in PA. Get HB 888 out of Judiciary committee. Contact Vivienne Selia for more info (vselia@comcast.net).



Connections Group Gatherings — July 25 and Aug 24

The ELPC *Connections Groups Ministry* invites everyone to attend the following summer events. Grab your blanket or chair and join us for these free outdoor concerts! Bring a picnic, buy food from the vendors, relax, enjoy music and talk with ELPC folks! RSVP to connectelpc@gmail.com.

- Friday, July 25: *Fridays at Frick* — The Stemtecs Band will dazzle us with jazzy melodies. Grounds open at 5 pm; music starts at 6:30 pm and ends around 8 pm.
- Sunday, August 24: *Reservoir of Jazz* — Join us at the Highland Park Reservoir for a performance by Paul Cosentino's Boiler Maker Jazz Band. Music starts at 5 pm and ends at 7 pm.

Pittsburgh Black Pride Events at ELPC — July 25 and 26

Everyone is invited to the FREE *Pittsburgh Black Pride* concert on Friday, July 25 at 6:30 pm in the ELPC Sanctuary.

Then return for a family fun day at ELPC on Saturday, July 26 from Noon-4 pm for *Pittsburgh Black Pride*, co-hosted by Pittsburgh Black Pride, and ELPC's Justice Committee and LGBTQIA+ Ministry. Come share fellowship, food and fun at this free event open to all! Contact Wil Forrest for more info (Wil@coh.net).

PW Bible Study Book Distribution — Aug 17 and 24

Presbyterian Women's 2025-2026 Bible Study begins in Sept, but they will be available after worship on Sundays, Aug 17 and 24 to answer questions and distribute the bible study books. For more information, please email Mary Alice Lightle (PW.ELPC@gmail.com).

Church Tower Tour — July 27

On Sunday, July 27, a *Tower tour* will be led by Steve Evrard and Tom Morton.

High above the bustle of the streets below, you will have an opportunity to view the entire East Liberty valley and beyond from the 300 foot spire of ELPC. The climb requires a bit of stamina, as there are 333 steps total (equivalent to about 13 stories), many of which are very narrow and circular. Please wear pants and comfortable, closed-toe shoes. The tour is not recommended for children under 12, those with heart or respiratory conditions, people with fear of heights or small enclosed spaces.

The tour capacity is limited to a total of 20 participants. You must pre-register for the tour online at tiny.cc/towertour, or scan this QR code.



There is no cost to participate but free-will donations are gratefully accepted. Please gather in the Highland Lobby after the 10 am Sunday worship service to participate, and allow 45-60 minutes for the tour.

ELPC Seeking a New Associate Pastor for Care and Connection

The process has started to seek a new Associate Pastor for ELPC who will oversee care and connection and be the liaison for the Board of Deacons and for the Membership and Outreach Committee. Session has appointed a search committee—or Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC)—that is busy developing a job posting known as a Ministry Discernment Profile. Although the position is listed as a temporary Associate Pastor, the successful candidate could become an installed pastor later. The position description can be found at elpc.church/careers.

Summer Sunday School for Kids

This summer, we are offering *Sunday School* for kids aged 4–grade 3. Tweens are encouraged to join in our Summer worship service, but if they would like to help out with the younger kids' class, contact Sara Hackett (SaraH@coh.net).

Summer *Sunday School* will have a different format and take place in Room 205. The *Invitations to Play* curriculum follows the lectionary texts we are using in worship and uses sensory and imaginative play materials to make space for the Holy Spirit to do its work of transformation. Together, we will make meaning of sacred texts and theological concepts through play!



Hope Academy's Fall Registration is OPEN NOW!

Visit our website ([ELPC.church](https://www.ELPC.church)) or scan this QR code to find out more about our scholarships, classes and private instrument lessons.





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

Conley and Charles, Dino, Nelson, Sam,
Scott and Josh, Sonia and children, U.S. government,
Marsh Anderson, Edith Battle and her daughter,
Henk and Michele Bossers’
brother-in-law and daughter-in-law,
Ashley and Emily DeTar Birt and their child,
Rev. Joe Hajdu, Sharon Hardnet, Jan Herzer’s friend,
Linda Lane, Felix Mallott, Courtney McCrimmon’s father,
Marti Moore, Joan Mukogosi, Rachel Neil’s mother,
Henry Petrilli, Paul Seif’s mother,
Michael Stapleton, and Beth Urbaitis.

*Condolences to the family of **Pat Valoon** on her passing.*

Committee Meetings This Week

Justice..... Wednesday, July 23 @ 5:30 pm

Neighbors Wednesday, July 23 @ 6:00 pm

Peace Thursday, July 24 @ 5:30 pm

*For more info about how to join a meeting, please contact
Jen King (JenK@cob.net; 412.441.3800 x222).*

Interested in Being a Tour Guide?

Are you interested in joining one of the ministries of ELPC by leading members and visitors as a tour guide of our Gothic Sanctuary and Romanesque Chapel, stained glass windows, or views from the landmark central tower? The tours include the church's 206 year history, architectural details, beauty and symbolism designed by famed architect Ralph Adams Cram. Training will be provided. Please contact Jo Ellen Aleshire (joaleshire@gmail.com) if interested.



ELPC Fire Safety Training and Drill – Aug 17

ELPC’s Safety & Security Advisory Committee (SSA) will be presenting a series of trainings over the next several months concerning important issues to create a safer church for us all. We will have trainings on first aid, Stop the Bleed, AED, CPR, and intruder threat. All these trainings will be attended by staff members and open to church leaders. Some, such as August’s fire safety/fire drill and intruder threat, will include sessions intended for all congregation members to attend.

On Sunday, Aug 17 after the 10 am service, all are invited to stay for a fire safety training presented by our very own Isaiah Wilson who is a fire safety professional. Please note that this training will include a fire drill which includes a loud alarm. The congregation will be invited to stay in the Sanctuary after worship ends for this session.

The SSA Committee is Sandy Brake, Don Breitbarth, Lynne Chadwick, Carol Chonoska (chair), Carol Chontos, Pastor Michael Diaz, Wil Forrest, Sara Hackett, Tom Morton, Rev. Jim Tinnemeyer, Isaiah Wilson, and Nancy Wright.

In our

COMMUNITY



All Together Now! Music Festival – Aug 7 to 10

Ted Cmarada and Susan Spangler have organized the *All Together Now! Music Festival* to benefit our immigrant community. The music festival will be held from Aug 7 to 10 at various venues around Pittsburgh.

All proceeds will go to the Collaborative for Immigrant Impact to help immigrants access legal services, housing, healthcare, education, English classes, career development, food assistance, and more, ensuring our immigrant neighbors have the opportunity to thrive. The Collaborative for Immigrant Impact is a network of 20 Pittsburgh-based organizations that serve as a critical safety net for over 20,000 immigrants in our community.

The music festival ends on Sunday, Aug 10 at 3 pm with *An Afternoon of Storytelling and Multicultural Music and Dance* in the ELPC Sanctuary.

Please visit www.alltogetherpgh.com for a schedule of events and ticket prices, the listing of bands and artists, to purchase tickets and t-shirts, and to make a donation.

Renaissance City Choir Comes Out with New Name for 40th Anniversary

Western Pennsylvania’s only LGBTQIA+ and allies choral group proudly announces its new name: Pittsburgh Pride Choir. The choir has been a cornerstone of Pittsburgh’s LGBTQIA+ cultural community since 1985. The name change marks a new era — one that clearly reflects the group’s identity and mission in a vibrant, visible, and proudly queer-forward way. The Pittsburgh Pride Choir is an artist in residence at ELPC, where they rehearse and perform.



The group’s origins trace back to its founding as the Pittsburgh Gay Chorus in 1985. However, for safety and broader public acceptance, the name was changed in the same year to the Renaissance City Choir, referencing Pittsburgh’s “Renaissance II” era. Over time, as the nickname “Renaissance City” faded from common usage, the choir's name became less clear to newer audiences and occasionally led to confusion about the choir’s musical repertoire.

The Pittsburgh Pride Choir continues its mission to affirm and celebrate LGBTQIA+ identity through the unifying power of music. To learn more, sign up for concert notices, or get involved, please visit www.pittsburghpridechoir.org.