



# GLAD TIDINGS



Vol. 34, Iss. 4

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg, MD

May 2015

## Kentlands Day

Visit us at Kentlands Day on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> between 10 am and 3 pm. Prince of Peace will once again have a booth oriented to kids, with a craft, Christian tattoos, POP toys, candy, and information about our church. Kentlands Day festivities are located just off of Kentlands Blvd., in the shopping area.

## Holy Land Trip in 2016

[Pastor Steve will be leading a trip to the Holy Land](#) in September of 2016! An informational session will be held during Adult Sunday School on Sunday, May 3 at 9:45 am for those who would like to learn more. For more info, see the link: <http://poplutheran.org/learnask/Prince%20of%20Peace%20Holy%20Land%20Trip.pdf>

## YARD SALE - Kick-Off Sunday

is on May 24! There will be only ONE Sunday morning worship service on May 24 at 10 am! After the service, we'll all share in a pot-luck bar-b-que and then begin our set-up for the Yard Sale on the following Saturday. We hope everyone can come prepared to worship, eat and enjoy fellowship, and then stay for a little while to help with initial setup! During the week, we also welcome and encourage folks to come by anytime between 9am - 9 pm to help sort and price. We'll also have the grill set up so that you can eat if you come during the dinner hour. [http://poplutheran.org/communitylife/yardsale\\_2015.html](http://poplutheran.org/communitylife/yardsale_2015.html)

## Large Boxes are needed for the Yard Sale!

Although we do not have a place to store them yet, it would be helpful if folks could save large boxes for us to use in the Clothing departments. Thanks!



## Yard Sale!



With Spring making its appearance it is time to start thinking of cleaning out our garages, attics, basements and getting ready for our annual Yard Sale that will be

held on Saturday, May 30 from 7am - 2pm.

We will be accepting donations starting Sunday, May 24, 1pm - 9pm thru Thursday of that week.

This is our opportunity to provide low cost goods to people in our community who are in need; to recycle and re-use as part of our commitment to good environmental stewardship and to give proceeds and donated items to organizations in our community which help others who are struggling in these economic times.

Sign up sheets for the various departments have been posted in the narthex, we look forward to everyone in the congregation being able to assist in some way in making the yard sale a success.

If you are interested in any further information please contact Elizabeth Cockerham ([cockerham\\_e@yahoo.com](mailto:cockerham_e@yahoo.com)).

Let the purging begin!

## Donating Computer Equipment?

Do you have Computer Equipment to donate to the Yard Sale? Please bring desktop and laptop computers to the church by May 10, as they take time to re-initialize for a new owner. Only computers with currently supported operating systems are refurbished and sold; all others are recycled. Other



computer equipment should be brought the week of the yard sale setup, starting 5/24. Questions? Contact [Gordon Gipe](mailto:gordon.gipe@gmail.com)

([gordon.gipe@gmail.com](mailto:gordon.gipe@gmail.com)).



## From Pastor Steve...

*Pastor Steve Buechler*  
([pastor@poplutheran.org](mailto:pastor@poplutheran.org);  
301-869-3666)

Whenever we pray the Lord's Prayer together in church, many people still get the "old" and "new" translations mixed up.

But in fact, even the "old" translation had several variations, partly because the versions of the Lord's Prayer in Matthew and Luke are slightly different. One of the differences is whether we ask for forgiveness of our "sins" (Luke); our "trespasses" (which is the old English version of "sins"); or our "debts" (Matthew).

Whether "sins", "trespasses" or "debts", all of these words remind us of the things that hold us back, weigh us down, or hinder us from living into the future that God calls us to. The forgiveness that Jesus calls us to pray for, and actually expect from God, isn't merely God saying, "OK, I'll forget about it this one time." Instead, forgiveness is actual freedom. It's real release from the past, so that you can live in a new way in the future.

At the end of April, our Council sent out a letter to let everyone know that we're going to focus in the next year and a half on paying off our existing mortgage debt. As we continued to look at our building needs (not only expansion and renovation, but even infrastructure needs like our aging roof and HVAC systems), we consulted with the ELCA's Mission Investment Fund and it became clear that our existing debt was the biggest thing holding us back from moving forward into the future.

We still have an existing mortgage of nearly \$600K. The good news is that we've raised almost \$400K in the past 2 and half years in our Capital Campaign. We're hopeful that if most of our Capital Campaign donors agree to transfer their gifts to the Debt Reduction Fund, and if others who haven't contributed yet join in making donations to the Debt Reduction Fund, we'll eliminate most of our debt by the end of the year. This should make it possible to completely

pay off the mortgage through a special debt reduction campaign in 2016, freeing us to focus on the new things that we know God needs us to do.

God has given us a bright future at Prince of Peace! Let's all work together in these next months so that we can be freed from the debt of the past, and live boldly into the future!

Yours in Christ,

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## May Highlights

### **Every Sunday**

8:30 am Worship with piano and guitar

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship with organ and piano

**10:00 am Only service on May 24**

Summer worship begins on May 31: 8:30 & 10 am

A Supervised nursery is available during all Services

### **Every Tuesday**

10:00 am Quilters

12:30 pm Women's Bible Study

### **Every Wednesday**

5:00 pm Youth Handbell Ensemble

7:30 pm Adult Choir

### **Every Thursday**

7:30 pm Grace Notes

### **Every Saturday**

7:45 am Men's Group

5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship

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## SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Each weekend during the summer, from May 30 - September 6, our worship schedule will be:

### **Every Sunday**

8:30 am Worship with piano and guitar

**No Sunday School**

10:00 am Worship with organ and piano

### **Every Saturday**

5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship

Sunday School, and our fall worship schedule, will resume on Sunday, September 13.

## SPECIAL PRAYERS

. . .My need was met because someone came and communicated . . . in words I could not express. . . .  
Pastor John B. McGarvey

### Sympathy

Family of Liat Ciardi's father (friend of the Solomons)  
Family of Eda B. "Junie" Stewart (aunt of David Rogers)  
Family and friends of Marilyn Carter

### Thanksgiving

Baptism of Clara Hibbits (daughter of Norah & Justin Hibbits)  
Baptism of Zachary & Evan Schneider (sons of Christina & Marty Schneider)



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Graduating? Let us know!**

Celebrating a Graduation this year? We are having a special **Recognition of Graduates on Sunday, May 17th**. If you or someone in your household is graduating, please email a brief bio to [office@poplutheran.org](mailto:office@poplutheran.org) by **Friday, May 8** including: Name, School, Degree (include any honors), and Post-graduation plans. Thanks!



### **Help Tell the Pentecost Story**

For Pentecost, May 23/24, we will read the Pentecost story in a variety of languages to celebrate the wide reach of the Spirit's power. If you speak another language, please sign up in the narthex to read the gospel in that language at one or more services.

## RECENT EVENTS

A wonderful Easter morning with ...

...a busy Easter Egg hunt...



...finding eggs in challenging places...



...an entertaining Children's Sermon...



...and a full church building!





# THANK YOU!

## Lenten Sharing Project



Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Lenten Sharing Project! We collected **82 bags** of supplies for needy individuals and families served by Interfaith Works.



## Lenten Soup Suppers

We would like to thank the congregation for bringing the soups, salad, bread and dessert for the Lenten Suppers. Mark Berninger your homemade bread was a hit. Everyone enjoyed it so much. Melanie and I appreciate all of you for helping us make the Lenten Suppers a success.

To The Fellowship Team, Deborah Dixon, Lesa Sullivan, Nancy Swanson, Nancy Wolejsza, thank you for all of your help with bringing food, setting-up, serving, and clean-up.

Blessings,  
Pamela Cook  
Melanie Zobel  
Fellowship  
Co-Chairs

## Easter Egg Hunt

**Recycle your plastic Easter eggs!** Leave them in the box in the foyer and we'll reuse them next year. Thanks to everyone who donated filled eggs this year and to Kim Drissel and Laura Hurst for organizing the event!

# SPOTLIGHT

SPOTLIGHT is a new column which focusses on a group in or resource provided by PoP. This month we are looking at Fruitful Fields.

**Fruitful Fields, the Prince of Peace Community Garden, has fenced-in plots ready for your favorite herbs, vegetables and flowers.** All plots were recently renewed with compost and are ready to be tilled. If you have been contemplating growing more of your own food, here is your chance. The gardens are located behind the Besecker Center, individual plots surround the three central plots in which food is grown for Gaithersburg HELP. Signup sheet for individual plots is in the narthex. We also need help watering, weeding and harvesting produce for donation. For more info or to help contact [Marybeth Stockman](mailto:Marybeth Stockman) ([mb\\_stockman@hotmail.com](mailto:mb_stockman@hotmail.com)).

Whether or not you have the time to plant, water, weed, and harvest, Fruitful Fields is in need of Lowe's/Home Depot Gift Cards to buy lumber and hardware for fence and gate repairs, tools and equipment to make the gardens more successful. If you can support the garden in this way, please leave your donation in the church office labeled "Fruitful Fields."

# STEWARDSHIP

## All In for Prince of Peace

As we continue to celebrate the Easter Season leading to Pentecost, our Stewardship Campaign shifts its focus to our second pillar. If you were with us on Easter Sunday, you experienced our first pillar of Worship in its finest form. THANK YOU to all the hard working individuals and groups that made Holy Week so special.

For May we will focus on the pillar of **Caring For and Serving Others**. This pillar manifests itself in many ways in our church... from our Giving Tree at Christmas, to Souper Bowl Sunday, to support for the Village at Rockville, to our Youth's participation in Work Camps, and the list goes on and on. We are Blessed as a congregation to have many ways to Care For and Serve Others.

In the coming weeks, we'll have announcements about a number of these opportunities and how you can get involved in the ones that speak to your heart. And, one of our biggest events of the

year where we touch our community occurs at the end of this two month period, the YARD SALE. The sign up sheet for volunteers is posted and as we focus on Caring For and Serving Others it is time to think about signing up for important roles in the week of preparation and the fun day of executing the Annual Yard Sale.

We remain Blessed to have 71 households that have pledged to be "All In for Prince of Peace." If you have not pledged your support, please let us know you are with us. Cards are on the table in the Narthex with a collection box available. It only takes a minute, but knowing we have your SUPPORT for the future execution of the Mission of our Church is priceless.

Please contact [Chuck Dixon](mailto:chuckdixon@me.com) ([chuckdixon@me.com](mailto:chuckdixon@me.com)) with questions or comments.

## YOUTH MINISTRY

### Sunday School

The Middle School Sunday School class has been showing true signs of maturity in their faith journey, continuing to show kindness to others in our community as well as documenting journals intended to build and strengthen their personal relationships with God. We're learning that we have power to shine God's light in our own environments as we act out generosity and service to those around us. Our final class field trip/service project for the school year will occur on **Sunday, April 26**, with the last official Sunday school session being held on **Sunday, May 17**.



### Faith-Full Families

Faith-Full Families' Pentecost event will be held **Thursday, May 21 from 6-7:30 pm** in the Fellowship hall. Families with pre-school - elementary age children, and their siblings, are

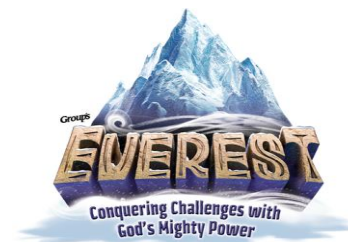
invited for dinner, crafts, a Bible story and fellowship. Sign up in the narthex, email Judy Bruening, or just come! We will provide a main dish. If you would like to bring a side dish/salad or a dessert sign up in the narthex or let Judy know. If you just have younger children you are welcome to join us for fellowship, too.

Questions? Contact [Judy Bruening](mailto:Judy.Bruening53@gmail.com) ([Judy.Bruening53@gmail.com](mailto:Judy.Bruening53@gmail.com))

### Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for **July 27-31**. This year's theme is "Everest - Conquering

Challenges with God's Mighty Power". VBS is always a lot of fun for current members and a great way to attract new families as well. If you are interested in helping with VBS please contact Lori Kohne ([lorikohne@hotmail.com](mailto:lorikohne@hotmail.com)).



Tell your friends to mark their calendars. Registration forms will be available in early June. See you on the mountain!

### Upcoming Youth Events

Please refer to the website calendar or the Youth Ministry bulletin board for details about events throughout the year. If you have any ideas or would like to volunteer, please contact Kim Drissel ([Drissels@comcast.net](mailto:Drissels@comcast.net)).

## ADULT EDUCATION

### Pop Women's Bible Study

Join Women's Bible Study on Tuesdays at 12:30 pm as we study the book of Exodus. Selected readings are assigned for each week (5/5 - Chap 28, 29, 30; 5/12 - Chap 31, 32, 33; 5/19 - Chap 34,35), subject to change. This is a great time to join this open and fluid group. We base our meetings around the joy of coming together over the word of God. Come when you can; bring your lunch or a snack, if you would like. If you have questions or want to be included on our email distribution list, please contact Pastor Christine ([pastorchristine@poplutheran.org](mailto:pastorchristine@poplutheran.org)).

## SOCIAL MINISTRIES

### The Auxiliary at the Village at Rockville

We will hold our annual membership drive for the Auxiliary April 18<sup>th</sup> - May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Enrich the lives of the residents of the Village at Rockville (formerly the National Lutheran Home) by joining The Auxiliary. The Auxiliary provides the "extras" that make life for the residents an enjoyable experience: birthday parties and gifts, bus trips, Christmas gifts, hearing aid batteries, etc. Join or renew your membership April 18 through May 3 between services or leave your membership form in the POP Office. Contact Donna Von Wald (dlhsjvw@rcn.com) for more info.

The Village at Rockville is also a great place to volunteer. It is conveniently located near Darnestown Rd and Glen Mill Rd. There are many opportunities to volunteer such as reading to or visiting residents, wheelchair escorts, administrative duties, leading activities, and sharing your talents. Pick up a Volunteer brochure at POP or contact Volunteer Services (301-354-8447, volunteers@thevillageatrockville.org). There are also opportunities for students to earn SSL hours.

## FELLOWSHIP

### Saturday Dinner Out

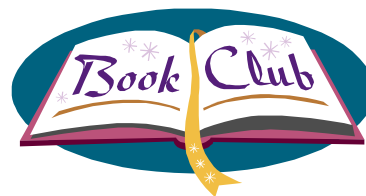
Saturday Evening Service Go-ers! Looking to join other Saturday attenders for dinner out? Approximately once a month we would like to hang out at a local eatery for good food and fellowship after the 5:00pm Saturday evening service. A different dinner destination will be chosen each month in hopes to offer a variety for all. The next meet-up will be Saturday, May 16 around 6:15pm at Jersey Mike's Subs in the Kentlands. We look forward to spending time (and eating!) together in a casual environment. All are welcome!

### Men's Book Club

The Men's Book Club will discuss Malcolm Gladwell's Outliers: The Story of Success. Outliers deals with the cultural and societal forces that give rise to opportunistic individuals. Gladwell insists that we have all too easily bought into the myth that successful people are self-made; instead, he says they "are invariably the

beneficiaries of hidden advantages and extraordinary opportunities and cultural legacies that allow them to learn and work hard and make sense of the world in ways others cannot." Join us at 7:30PM Thursday, May 21, location TBA. All men of PoP and their male friends are cordially invited for fellowship and fun. Please RSVP to Charles Sullivan ([charles@homesflash.com](mailto:charles@homesflash.com)).

To wrap up the year on a fun note before summer vacation, The Men's Book Club will discuss The Lost Symbol by Dan Brown. Set within the hidden chambers, tunnels, and temples of Washington, D.C., the work relies on Freemasonry for both its recurring theme and its major characters. Join us at 7:30PM Thursday, June 18. All men of PoP and their male friends are cordially invited for fellowship and fun. Please RSVP to Charles Sullivan ([charles@homesflash.com](mailto:charles@homesflash.com)).



### Women's Book Group

- May 14 - Open: An Autobiography by Andre Agassi, hosted by Susan Tritinger
- June 11 - The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion: A Novel by Fannie Flag, hosted by June Herron
- July 9 - Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption by Lauren Hillenbrand, hosted by Susan Victor and Joan Kowalik
- August 13 - Defending Jacob: A Novel by William Landay, hosted by Deborah Dixon
- September 10 - On Sal Mal Lane by Ru Freeman, hosted by Nancy Wolejsza
- October 8 - Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker: A Novel by Jennifer Chiaverini, hosted by Judy Bruening
- November 12 - The Invention of Wings: A Novel by Sue Monk Kidd, hosted by Donna Rose
- December 10 - To be determined, hosted by Pamela Cook

## PoP Playgroup

The playgroup will have some outdoor fun! On **Saturday, May 9** we'll meet at the church playground at **11am** for bubbles and chalk - and maybe even a short walk on the nature trail! In case of rain, we'll meet in the church nursery.

Then come and "get wild" with the playgroup in June! On **Saturday, June 20 at 11am**, we'll meet at Meadowside Nature Center to see the raptors outside and some of the bugs and snakes inside at well! The center is located at 5100 Meadowside Lane (in Rock Creek Regional Park) in Rockville. For additional information, see [http://www.montgomeryparks.org/nature\\_centers/meadow/index.shtm](http://www.montgomeryparks.org/nature_centers/meadow/index.shtm).

PoP Playgroup is a great way for families and their babies/toddlers/preschoolers to connect with each other. Please contact Jamie ([jlplast@hotmail.com](mailto:jlplast@hotmail.com)) or Lauren ([laurenkategibson@gmail.com](mailto:laurenkategibson@gmail.com)) for more info!

## HOSPICE CARING, INC. NEW VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Hospice Caring, Inc. will provide a three-day training May 12, 13, & 14 for new hospice caregivers and bereavement volunteers. The training covers topics such as communication and active listening, understanding grief, cultural competency, and self-care. Trained Hospice Caring volunteers provide companionship, home assistance and transportation, adult bereavement support group facilitation, school-based Good Grief Clubs, and Health Class facilitation. Training will take place from 8:30 am - 4 pm each day at the Hospice Caring Cottage at 518 South Frederick Avenue in Gaithersburg. To sign up for a volunteer training session please contact Penny Gladhill at [pennyg@hospicecaring.org](mailto:pennyg@hospicecaring.org) or [301-990-8904](tel:301-990-8904). (For more information see the flyer on the Social Ministry bulletin board.)



## LEAD THE WAY

Registration is open for the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Derek Sheely LEAD THE WAY 4.0-Mile Run and 1-Mile Walk on **May 30 at 8 am** at Northwest High School in Germantown. There's a unique

stadium start and finish, medals for all finishers, music, and door prizes!

**THE DEREK SHEELY FOUNDATION**, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, was created to increase awareness of concussions, including supporting advancements in education, prevention, and treatment for all causes of traumatic brain injuries, with a focus on youth sports. **THE DEREK SHEELY FOUNDATION** is named in honor of Derek Thomson Sheely, a strong and healthy honor student, member of Prince of Peace, captain of his Northwest High School football team, and a two-time academic all-conference selection in college. In August 2011, during practice for his senior season at Frostburg State University, Derek suffered a brain injury. He did not recover. It is believed that Derek died from Second Impact Syndrome, which is when a second concussion is sustained before the brain can recover from a first concussion.

There is a growing concern about concussions in sports: the CDC estimates that there are 3.8 million sports-related concussions in the U.S. each year. *This equates to one concussion every 8 seconds!* An estimated 90% of these concussions go unreported and therefore untreated.

**THE DEREK SHEELY FOUNDATION** educates young children and their parents about the signs, symptoms, dangers, and prevention of concussions so children can continue to enjoy sports safely. We have distributed over 6,500 Concussion Awareness Kits and our annual Race held in honor of Derek, who wore #40, raises money for this grassroots effort.

The Sheely family is dedicated to preventing other families from suffering through the devastating effects of concussions, and hope you will join us in this important cause. Please help us prevent traumatic brain injuries from affecting someone you know.

Visit [www.thederekshelyfoundation.org](http://www.thederekshelyfoundation.org) to register for the race or to make a donation. We also need volunteers: please email Kristen Sheely at [Kristen@thederekshelyfoundation.org](mailto:Kristen@thederekshelyfoundation.org) for information on ways you can help.



## Gifts of Hope



### *Gifts of Hope*

During Advent, 2014 Gifts of Hope raised more than \$120,000, supporting the work of our 17 Beneficiary Organizations. GOH began in 1992 with the vision and hard work of several

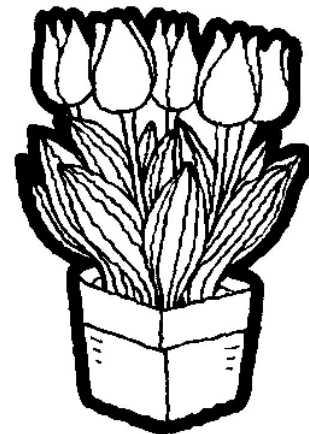
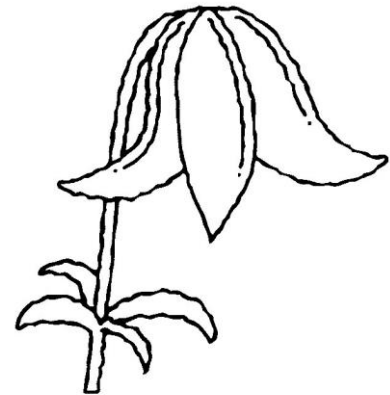
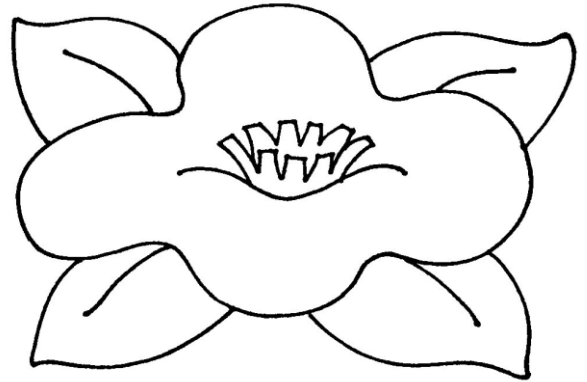
volunteers. Because of their work, determination, prayers, and responses from congregation members throughout our Metropolitan DC Synod, Gifts of Hope has now raised more than \$3,100,000! Wow and Thanks!

An alternative to traditional gift-giving, Gifts of Hope is available year-round via our website: [www.giftsofhopedc.org](http://www.giftsofhopedc.org) which was redesigned last fall. So if you are looking for a unique Mother's Day gift, consider a Gift of Hope. Do you shop on Amazon? Now you can shop and support GOH, via AmazonSmile (choose Metropolitan Washington DC Synod as the charity). More information about the process is on our website.

If you would like to learn more about GOH, please contact Carolyn Sowinski ([director@giftsofhopedc.org](mailto:director@giftsofhopedc.org))



## COLOR ME!





## COMING UP...

### May

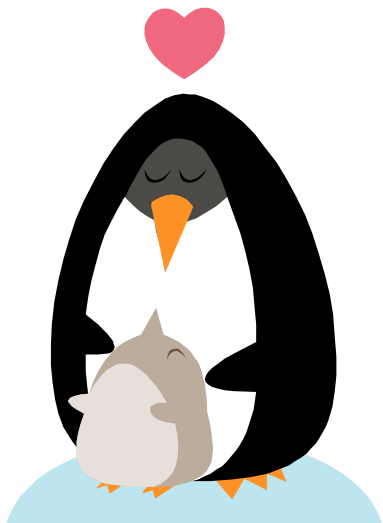
- 2 - Kentlands Day
- 3 - New Member Reception
- 3 - Holy Land Information Session
- 9 - POP Playgroup
- 9-10 - First Communion
- 10 - Mother's Day
- 12 - Church Council meeting
- 14 - Women's Book Group
- 16 - Saturday Dinner Out
- 17 - Recognition of SS Teachers
- 17 - Recognition of Graduates
- 17 - Confirmation Family Finale
- 21 - Faith-Full Families
- 21 - Men's Book Club
- 23-24 - Pentecost
- 24 - One service at 10 am (Mem'l Day weekend)
- 24 - Yard Sale Kick-off pot luck
- 24-29 - Yard Sale prep week
- 25 - Memorial Day
- 30 - YARD SALE!
- 30 - Lead the Way Run/Walk
- 31 - Summer worship begins: 8:30 & 10 am

### June

- 11 - Women's Book Group
- 13-20 - Cuba Mission Trip
- 18 - Men's Book Club
- 20 - POP Playgroup

### July

- 9 - Women's Book Group
- 15-19 - ELCA Youth Gathering (Detroit)
- 27-31 - Vacation Bible School



## THINK ABOUT IT

Seen on a church sign: If evolution is true, how come mothers still have only two hands?  
- Donna Waldeyer

My mother was babysitting my son, Dirk, at her house one day. When I stopped to pick him up, Mom told me that Dirk had followed her into the bedroom as she put some things away in the closet. "Grandma," he asked, "what room is this?"

"This is a closet, Dirk," she explained.

"We don't have a room like this in our house," he said.

"Of course you do," she insisted. "You have lots of closets at your home."

When he again denied having closets at our house, she tried another tack. "Where do you keep all your clothes?" she asked.

He replied, "In the dryer."

- Shari Hanson

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Articles for the June issue of *Glad Tidings* are due **May 17**. Please e-mail articles to Martha Rogers at [GladTidingsEditor@gmail.com](mailto:GladTidingsEditor@gmail.com). Photos and/or graphics are welcome!

*Glad Tidings* is online at [www.poplutheran.org](http://www.poplutheran.org).

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