



# Glad Tidings



Vol. 34, Iss. 10 Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg, MD Dec 2015/Jan 2016

## Adopting a Family for the Holidays

Prince of Peace will be adopting a family for the holidays this year! We will provide a full Thanksgiving dinner to a family in need, and the confirmation class will help deliver the meal. We will also buy toys, books, and clothing for the children's Christmas, and we will provide some basic needs, like clothing, for the parents. We will also be purchasing books for the City of Gaithersburg to distribute to children for Christmas. Please see the bulletin for details and updates.

## Join us as we celebrate Christmas!

Christmas Eve Services:

3 & 5 pm - Children's Service

7 & 10 pm - Carols & Holy Communion

Christmas Day:

10 am - Carols & Holy Communion

Christmas:

<http://poplutheran.org/worship/christmas15.html>

Join us each Wednesday in Advent (December 2, 9 and 16) for Holden Evening Prayer at 7:15 pm. Take a short break from your busy holiday schedule to slow down and enjoy this meaningful 15 minute service. Invite a friend!

Advent:

<http://poplutheran.org/worship/advent.html>

## Make an Advent wreath for your

**home!** We'll have the supplies to create a beautiful Advent wreath during our Intergenerational Event on **Sunday, November 29th between services (9:30 - 11:00)** in the Fellowship Hall. This event replaces Sunday School. Your \$5 donation for candles helps offset the cost. Please bring your wreath form if you have one. When you are finished enjoying your wreath, please place the foam ring in the box in the narthex. Questions? Contact Janet Levine ([Lyle1Janet@msn.com](mailto:Lyle1Janet@msn.com)).



## Christmas Pageant Reimagined!



Everyone is invited for a fun "instant" Christmas play hosted at Prince of Peace on **Sunday, December 6.**

This three-and-one-half-hour, rehearsal-to-cast-party adventure provides a Christmas celebration for kids and adults as they rehearse a simple song, create a keepsake prop, and experience that Jesus is the true light of the world. Non-acting-guests (arriving at **3:00 pm**) will enjoy delightful music, a hilarious, engaging play, a Christmas carol sing-a-long, and the after play cast party – all while celebrating Jesus' birth in a new and refreshing way.

'Twas the Light Before Christmas takes place from **1:30-5pm on Sunday, December 6.** For more info, contact Lisa & Jon Conary ([LConary@prodigy.net](mailto:LConary@prodigy.net)). To sign up to be a part of the cast, please email or sign up in the narthex.

We will have a short reception after the Pageant. Signup in the narthex to bring cookies. If you want to participate in a Cookie Exchange, please bring extras cookies!

## Christmas Cantata



Our Annual Christmas Cantata will be held on Sunday, December 13 at 4:00 pm. Join our choir and guest musicians as we usher in the season with "Festival of Lessons

and Carols". Please join us and be part of this musical celebration! There will be a reception following the performance. Donations of fruits, sweets and other finger foods would be greatly appreciated, as well as help with set-up and clean-up for this event. **If you can donate food or help out, please sign up in the narthex or contact Pamela Cook ([cook1082@verizon.net](mailto:cook1082@verizon.net)) or Melanie Zobel ([mmzobel@aol.com](mailto:mmzobel@aol.com)).**



## From Pastor Steve...

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

Even though it's a crazy and hectic time for most of us, Christmas is always a great time of year! We love the music and

decorations; the food and the connections with family and friends; and we love story of the birth of Jesus. But sometimes, even when we focus on the birth of the Jesus as the center of our Christmas celebration, we get caught up in silent nights and angels and shepherds.

But here's the real point of Christmas: in Jesus, God himself entered our everyday world to meet us and save us in a way that nobody else could. The point of Christmas is really not about how or where Jesus was born, as much as it is the belief that God himself was doing something completely new and unique in and through Jesus. Before Jesus, God had spoken through somebody else - sometimes it was a prophet; sometimes it was an angel; sometimes it was through an unexpected person with a dream or a vision.

But in Jesus, God himself became the "somebody else." God himself took the responsibility to speak and act and give himself away for the life of the whole world. That's the real marvel and mystery of Christmas. It's what the fancy theological word "incarnation" really means - instead of sending "somebody else," God took on flesh to become the "somebody else" in our lives.

As we consider our mission and ministry as a Christian community in 2016, our Council and Stewardship Team are asking us all to consider that, just as God became the "somebody else" in our lives, we too are called by God to be the "somebody else" through whom God works to share God's love and presence in our congregation, our community and our world.

Too often, we rely on "somebody else" taking care of something we all know requires everybody's commitment. But part of our calling as Christians is that each one of us is also called to imitate Jesus by being the "somebody else."

You and I are the "somebody else" who's called to act and make God's help a real and living experience in our world. You and I are the "somebody else" who's called to give and share so that important work gets done. And you and I are often the "somebody else" who makes God's love known to another person, even if we don't realize it at the time.

In Jesus, God has become the "somebody else" in our lives. And through Jesus, God calls each and every one of us to be the "somebody else" in the life of our congregation, our community and our world.

Yours in Christ,



## December/January Highlights

### Every Sunday

- 8:30 am Worship with piano and guitar\*
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am Worship with organ and piano\*
- 1:00 pm Youth Handbells

A Supervised nursery is available during all Services  
\*Only 10:00 am service on December 27

### Every Tuesday

- 10:00 am Quilters
- 12:30 pm Women's Bible Study

### Every Wednesday

- 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

## COMING UP...

### December

- 2 Advent Vespers (pg 1)
- 3 Faith-Full Families (pg 3)
- 6 JSSA Hospice Speaker (pg 3)
- 6 Christmas Pageant (pg 1)
- 8 Church Council meeting
- 9 Advent Vespers (pg 1)
- 10 Women's Book Group (pg 7)
- 12 PoP Playgroup (pg 7)
- 13 Giving Tree gifts due (pp 3,4)
- 13 Christmas Cantata (pg 1)
- 15 Women's Bible Study party (pg 4)
- 16 Advent Vespers (pg 1)
- 17 Books and Beer (Men's Book Club) (pg 7)
- 20 Caroling at Brightview Senior Living (pg 3)
- 24 Christmas Eve Services (pg 1)
- 25 Christmas Day Service (pg 1)
- 27 No Sunday School (pg 6)

### January

- 3 No Sunday School (pg 6)
- 7 Faith-Full Families (pg 3)
- 9 Holy Land Trip Presentation (pg 6)
- 10 Sunday School resumes (pg 6)
- 10 Human Trafficking class (pp 6,8)
- 10 Bible Art Journaling
- 12 Church Council meeting
- 14 Women's Book Group (pg 7)
- 17 Human Trafficking class (pp 6,8)
- 21 Books and Beer (Men's Book Club) (pg 7)
- 23 Saturday Dinner Out (pg 6)
- 24 Human Trafficking class (pp 6,8)
- 30-31 Bible Presentation Weekend (pg 6)
- 31 Annual Congregational meeting (pg 6)

For a current calendar, see:

[http://poplutheran.org/Media/calendars/pop\\_calendar.pdf](http://poplutheran.org/Media/calendars/pop_calendar.pdf)

## SPECIAL PRAYERS

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

Pastor John B. McGarvey



### Sympathy

Family of Sally Sawyer (mother of Sarah Bolek)

### Thanksgiving

Confirmation of: Anne Coulson, Sydney Kienzle, Ella Malmgren & Michaela Staab

## CHRISTMAS SEASON!

### Faith-Full Families

Faith-Full Families' Advent event will be held Thursday, December 3 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.

Our Epiphany event will be held Thursday, January 7.

Questions? Contact Judy Bruening  
([Judy.bruening53@gmail.com](mailto:Judy.bruening53@gmail.com))

### Mark Your December Calendar!

Learning: The speaker for December is Gail Kropf who is a RN with JSSA Hospice. She will speak to the congregation about Hospice between the services on December 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM. Please come and find out more about their services as well as possible opportunities to serve as a congregation or as an individual.

Serving: PoP will have a serving event at Brightview Senior Living on December 20<sup>th</sup> and will meet there around 1:45 PM. Volunteers will have fun singing carols with the residents and bringing some holiday cheer! (no singing skills required!!) For more information, please contact Pastor Christine ([pastorchristine@poplutheran.org](mailto:pastorchristine@poplutheran.org)) or Gina Linton ([missginabee@verizon.net](mailto:missginabee@verizon.net)).

Giving: Tis the season! We will be bringing back the below opportunities for giving this December. Be on the lookout for more information in the bulletin.

- **Giving Tree - Make a child's Christmas joyful!** Each year, PoP members can select a child's name from the Giving Tree and purchase a special Christmas gift for him/her. The City of Gaithersburg sponsors the program and this year, the Social Ministry Committee is working with Rachel Carson Elementary School to provide a happy Christmas for selected students and their siblings. The tree will be located in the narthex by Thanksgiving

weekend. Please return your wrapped gifts with the identification card securely attached by **Sunday, December 13** for timely delivery to the families. This will be coordinated by Bertha Carraras and the confirmation class; for more information please contact Bertha ([bgcarreras@gmail.com](mailto:bgcarreras@gmail.com)).

- **Gifts of Hope - Shop, Receive, Give**  
Would you like to give a unique gift to your loved one this Christmas season? Would you, also, like your purchase to benefit those in need? You can do both with a purchase of a Gift of Hope. The Gifts of Hope Catalog has 40 different gifts, with prices ranging from \$10 to \$250. These gifts support the mission and the programs of area Lutheran social ministry organizations, camps, college or seminary, and our Synod's companion synods abroad. Your Gifts of Hope purchases will bring hope to others while you honor those on your gift list.

For each gift you select from the catalog you will receive a Christmas card to present to your honored loved one. The card will include a description of your purchased gift and beneficiary organization. Give the card and gift description to your honored loved one. Your Gift of Hope is guaranteed to benefit those in need and to please those on your shopping list.

Visit the Gifts of Hope display in the narthex for more info and to view the catalog of gifts. Purchases can be made between services starting **November 29**. Gifts of Hope can also be purchased at any time during the year at [www.GiftsofHopeDC.org](http://www.GiftsofHopeDC.org).

Please contact Joan Kowalik ([jkowalik@saes.org](mailto:jkowalik@saes.org)) for more information.

### **It's Poinsettia Time!**

If you would like to donate flowers for the altar this Christmas, please have your order and payment in by **Sunday, December 13**. Poinsettias are available for \$13/each in Red, Pink, and White. Flowers can be donated in honor or memory of a friend or loved one. You may take your flowers home any time after Christmas Day. Order forms are available in the narthex.

### **Jewelry Fundraiser**

JoAnn and David Pearcy's Annual Open House will be held on **Sunday, December 13, from 11 am to 4 pm**. Surprise her (or him) with a unique piece of handmade jewelry for Christmas. Also, Prince of Peace will benefit with a donation of 20% of all sales to our congregation. Their house is less than 2 miles from the church. Consult the PoP Directory or contact Dave ([dpearcy@pearcyis.net](mailto:dpearcy@pearcyis.net)) if you need the address.

### **Women's Bible Study Pot Luck**

#### **Christmas Luncheon**

Please join us on **Tuesday, December 15th** for our annual Women's Bible Study Pot Luck Christmas Luncheon. This will be our last meeting for this year. We will meet at **12:30 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a food or dessert item to share, especially if you have food allergies.

We will also have a fun Gift Exchange for those who want to participate. Rules for the gifts are that they can be handmade, a white elephant gift, or a gift that is purchased - limit of around \$5.

For more information, please contact June Herron ([june.herron@verizon.net](mailto:june.herron@verizon.net)) or Judy Bruening ([judy.bruening53@gmail.com](mailto:judy.bruening53@gmail.com)).

### **Goodshop**

Starting to think about Christmas shopping? Take care of it early and help support Youth & Family Ministries at PoP at the same time! Earn money for the Youth program simply by doing online searches & shopping through [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and the *Goodshop* tab at the top.

### **Time To Order Daily Texts For 2016!**

With two daily Bible readings and a short prayer, these texts are a great way to spend time with God's word every day. To order sign up in the narthex and leave payment (\$8) in envelope. See sample in narthex. Books will be in by the end of December. If you would like a copy but cannot afford it, please let Pastor Steve ([pastor@poplutheran.org](mailto:pastor@poplutheran.org)) know.

## SPOTLIGHT

SPOTLIGHT is a new column which focusses on a group in or resource provided by PoP. This month we are looking at people behind the scenes (and in front).



### Thank you to the following:

Pamela Cook and Melanie Zobel for running fellowship events ranging from big (Chili Cook-off & Line dancing) to small (receptions after services) and all sizes in between (potlucks, soup suppers, event receptions). Their energy and style create memorable events.

Gordon Gipe for his expertise and countless hours spent dealing with our property and technology issues; our personal Help Desk.

Janet Levine for her energy and organizational skills that result in a fun and educational Sunday School program.

June Herron, Terry Forish, Pam Masterman, Shafer Smith, Bob Butler, and Chuck Dixon for the considerable time and effort they spend keeping our financial house in order.

Lisa & Jon Conary for their contributions to our drama ministry through the years organizing projects such as our Christmas pageants, puppet shows, and VBS drama stations.

Jamie Pflasterer and Lauren Gibson for organizing fun monthly adventures for our infant and preschool contingent (aka PoP Playgroup).

Peg Welborn and Cherie DeGeorge for decorating the church so beautifully for the Christmas season each December.

Martha Rogers for her considerable help in the office and the interesting and informative issues of Glad Tidings that she produces each month.

Emma Yanevskyy for coordinating this year's very successful Halloween party and Trunk-or-Treating.

AJ Oddo for the many ways he steps in to help out with events such as VBS, the Halloween party, and Chili Cook-off; and his willingness to always

provide some muscle for taking down and putting up the walls in the Fellowship Hall; in addition to his work as our nursery attendant.

Judy Bruening for the many ways she is involved in serving our children: Faith-Full Families, Parents' Night Out, Sunday School, and of course, VBS.

Sherry and Ric Kienzle for starting up fun Saturday Dinners Out each month at a different local eatery after the Saturday service.

Nancy Swanson for leading our Prayer Ministry and Sharon Wahl for leading our Care Ministry. They make a great team, coordinating their efforts to cover both the spiritual and physical for our members in need.

Jennifer Maloney for our Women's Book Group and Charles Sullivan for Books and Beer, our men's book club, as they meet a need for some intellectual fellowship.

Ann Callahan for organizing our Altar Guild lo these many years, always ensuring we're celebrating the church seasons with the right colors & banners and that our wine never runs out.

## MARK YOUR JANUARY CALENDAR!

*Please keep an eye out in the bulletin for exact dates and more information on these activities as we get closer to January.*

Learning: A representative from Gaithersburg HELP will be coming to speak to the congregation in January. Gaithersburg HELP and PoP have a long history of working together within our community in a variety of aspects, so come learn how you can become more involved!

Serving: PoP will be making and providing casseroles for N Street Village. Dig out your casserole recipes and donate your culinary skills to those in need. One casserole can feed several people, so this is a great way to have a large impact with minimal effort.

Giving: Once again PoP will be holding a soup drive for SOUP-er Bowl Sunday! Bring cans of stew or hearty soup and place in the box for the team that you think will win the Super Bowl! Have fun and give to those in need all in one drive!

## **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

Mark your calendar for our Annual Congregational Meeting on **January 31 at 1:00 pm!** At our annual meeting, we approve our budget, elect Church Council members and make other important decisions about our ministry together in the coming year. A Potluck lunch will be held prior to the meeting (following the late service). Food donations for the luncheon will be needed as well as volunteers for set-up and clean-up. Please look for a Signup Sheet in January or contact Pamela Cook ([cook1082@verizon.net](mailto:cook1082@verizon.net)) or Melanie Zobel ([mmzobel@aol.com](mailto:mmzobel@aol.com)).

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Pastor Christine will be hosting a class on human trafficking on **January 10, 17, and 24 following the late service (about 12:30 pm)** in BYC conference room. Watch for more information in the bulletin inserts and Weekly Email or contact Pastor Christine ([pastorchristine@poplutheran.org](mailto:pastorchristine@poplutheran.org)).

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**Pastor Steve will be leading a trip to the Holy Land in September of 2016!** Many of you have seen pictures and heard Pastor Steve speak about his last two trips, but this time, Pastor Steve is leading the trip and inviting Prince of Peace members and friends to join in!

If you'd like to learn more, Pastor Steve will be offering an information session at **6 pm on Saturday, January 9** (right after the Saturday service). If you can't come, you can [click here to read the brochure](#) (<http://poplutheran.org/learnask/Prince%20of%20Peace%20Holy%20Land%20Trip.pdf>) or email [Pastor Steve](mailto:pastor@poplutheran.org) ([pastor@poplutheran.org](mailto:pastor@poplutheran.org)).

This will be a great trip and an excellent opportunity to deepen your faith and to learn more about the Bible and biblical history in a hands-on, experiential way!

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**We are excited to be leading a Work Camp trip again this year.** We will be traveling to **Braxton County, West Virginia from June 25 - July 1.** This trip is open to rising 9th graders (in 2016) through graduating 12th graders (in 2016). Much of our service and work will be centered on roofing, painting, drywall, and light construction.

If interested, please see Pastor Christine ASAP for additional information!

## **YOUTH MINISTRY**

### **Parents: Bible Presentation Weekend**

Bible Presentation Weekend will be **January 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>.** Second graders and older children through 5th grade who have not yet received a Bible from Prince of Peace will receive their Bibles during worship. If your child is between 2nd and 5th grade and has not yet been presented a Bible, please contact Janet Levine ([Lyle1Janet@msn.com](mailto:Lyle1Janet@msn.com)) so that we have an inscribed Bible ready.

### **Upcoming Sunday School Schedule**

Regular Sunday School classes will be held on **12/6, 12/13, and 12/20.** Enjoy making an Advent wreath during the **Intergenerational Event on 11/29** and celebrating the season with your family and friends at home on 12/27 and 1/3! Sunday school resumes on 1/10.

## **ADULT EDUCATION**

### **Pop Women's Bible Study**

Women's Bible Study meets on **Tuesdays at 12:30 pm.** Check bulletin inserts and Weekly Email for information about the new study set to start in January. It is not necessary that you attend every week. This is an open and fluid group. We base our meetings around the joy of coming together over the word of God. 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)).

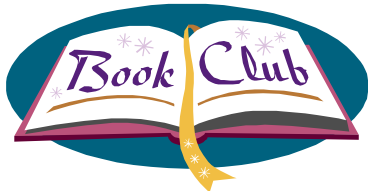
## **FELLOWSHIP**

### **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 5pm Saturday evening service. A different dinner destination will be chosen each month in hopes to offer a variety for all. **We will take a break during December and will start back up full speed in January.** **January 23 we are planning on going to Hot Breads in the Kentlands.** We look forward to spending time (and eating!) together in a casual environment. All are welcome!

## Books and Beer (Men's Book Club)

Books and Beer, the men's book club at PoP, will meet on **Thursdays, December 19 and January 21 at 7:30pm**. All men from PoP are welcome. Keep an eye out for bulletin inserts and Weekly Email for information on what book will be discussed and where to meet. For more information, contact Charles Sullivan ([charles@homesflash.com](mailto:charles@homesflash.com)).



## Women's Book Group

Women's Book Group will celebrate Christmas together on **Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**, sharing thoughts about The Invention of Wings: A Novel by Sue Monk Kidd. Aly Willard described the novel on Amazon.com, "Wings is based loosely on the real-life story of Sarah Grimke, a Southern aristocrat whose father is a bigshot judge on South Carolina's Supreme Court, where Sarah wants to be eventually. She is given a slave (Handful) for her 11th birthday, which strikes the little firebrand as something ridiculous. How can someone OWN another person? She doesn't want the "gift" but she's forced to accept.

From there, the story is set in motion and follows the two women as they struggle for a common goal: freedom. Handful, naturally, struggles for her freedom from bondage, and Sarah for her freedom from the misogynist oppression of pre-suffrage era sexism. She's taught how to needlepoint and play piano, but she escapes her constrained existence by getting into her father's forbidden library and dreaming of great things like abolition work.

Kidd does a wonderful job portraying the barbarism of that time in American history and especially the horrid mistreatment of the slaves, graphically detailing whippings and other abuses. She also intertwines the characters beautifully in almost a female version of Huckleberry Finn." The evening is hosted by Pamela Cook. Festivities begin at **7:30 pm** and include a Christmas tradition, a Yankee swap. Each attendee is asked to bring a wrapped book (new or gently used)

that is "given" to another member. RSVP to Pam ([cook1082@verizon.net](mailto:cook1082@verizon.net)).

In January, the group will meet to discuss The Painted Girls by Cathy Marie Buchanan. Gina Linton hosts the meeting on **Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm**. RSVP to Gina ([missginabee@verizon.net](mailto:missginabee@verizon.net)).

The Women's Book Group generally meets the second Thursday of the month. All POP women are welcome to attend the book group for one evening or for all.

### Future Dates and Book Selections:

February 11 - A Prayer for Owen Meany

by John Irving,  
hosted by Nancy Speicher

March 10 - The Light between Oceans

by M. L. Stedman,  
Host TBD

April 14 - A Fall of Marigolds

by Susan Meissner,  
hosted by Susan Victor

May 12 - Still Missing

by Chevy Stevens,  
hosted by Lisa Woodard

June 9 - Under the Wide and Starry Sky

by Nancy Horan,  
Host TBD

July 14 - The Rent Collector

by Camron Wright,  
hosted by Jennifer Maloney

August 11 - Mrs. Grant and Madame Jule

by Jennifer Chiaverini,  
Host TBD

## PoP Playgroup

Calling all early birds in December! The playgroup will meet for breakfast on **Saturday, December 12 at 9am** at the Derwood McDonalds, located at 15801 Frederick Rd. Children can enjoy the playspace and a bite to eat, while parents and caregivers enjoy chat and coffee.

Keep an eye on bulletin inserts and Weekly Email for January's get-together.

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

# RECENT EVENTS

## Sunday School

### Cards for Veterans Experiencing Homelessness

We used the creativity God has given us to do good in the world. As part of our study of the creation story, preschoolers through fifth graders made cards for veterans who are experiencing homelessness. Thirty-two cards were given to the Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless (MCCH) for distribution on Veterans Day.

Heartfelt messages and engaging artwork are sure to remind our veterans that they are appreciated.



### Elementary Classes

Elementary Sunday school learners have been experiencing Bible stories through science, drama, games, cooking, and art workshops. During a workshop on the story of Mary and Martha, we were reminded to focus our attention on God. We brainstormed ways to pay attention

to God during the worship service. Then we did a couple of activities which required paying attention, including trying to replicate one another's coin patterns. The more we practice paying attention, the more our skills and understanding grow.

During an Art Workshop on the Creation Story, the Lower Elementary class made life-size self-portraits. They saw themselves as a unique part of God's creation endowed with creative abilities.



### How PoP Learned and Served in November!

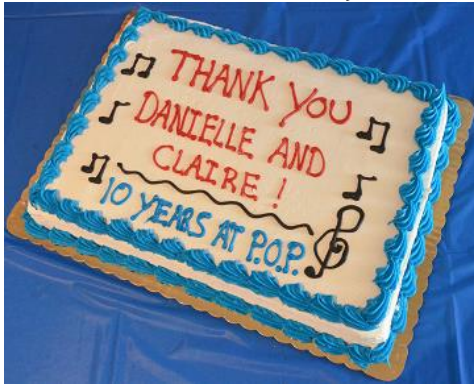
Learning: Gail Hambleton from the Global Peace Foundation came to speak to the congregation on Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup> to educate us on human trafficking. There was a great turn out of about 20 people from the congregation and a wealth of information was shared. Follow-up sessions are being planned due to level of interest. See page 6 for classes beginning January 10 at 12:30 pm.

Serving: The PoP congregation served the Villages of Rockville on Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers helped the senior residents prepare for Christmas by wrapping Christmas presents and writing, addressing, and stamping Christmas cards!



**And More**

Danielle Drobny and Claire Cho were recognized for their 10 years of tireless energy and commitment to our music ministry!



Saturday, November 7 saw another fun and successful Chili Cook-off...



...with prizes...



...and exercise with line dancing!



Thank you to Pamela Cook and Melanie Zobel for organizing it!

## POP OFFICE

We are experiencing phone problems in the Office and voicemail is not working. If possible, please send an email ([office@poplutheran.org](mailto:office@poplutheran.org)) instead of calling.

## Advent Family Fun at Mar-Lu-Ridge!

On Sunday, December 6, 1-4 pm, everyone is welcome for an old-fashioned day on the mountain. Campfires, Advent crafts, nature walks, hot chocolate and wreath making are just part of the fun. Invite your family and friends - \$7/adult and \$3/youth includes a delicious meal. Start a new tradition and join us on December 6! Questions? Contact the office ([mlr@mar-lu-ridge.org](mailto:mlr@mar-lu-ridge.org), 800-238-9974) or see website: <http://www.mar-lu-ridge.org/>. RSVP by December 1. Please bring your own wire and wire wreath frames all other supplies are provided.

## Walk for Water Concert

Emmanuel Lutheran, Vienna, is hosting the Walk for Water Concert on Friday, January 8 at 7:30 pm. Agape and Rachel Kurtz will be performing at the event, which will also include folks from around the Metro DC area for an evening of stories, and raising awareness and support for ELCA World Hunger. The event is free (a freewill offering will be collected). All donations will directly support the Walk for Water campaign (<http://elca.org/walk4water>) that began at the 2015 ELCA Youth Gathering in Detroit. For additional info and an invite to share, please visit: [www.facebook.com/events/1642640622690506](http://www.facebook.com/events/1642640622690506). Invite your friends and family to this night of Jesus, justice, and jammin'!

## THINK ABOUT IT

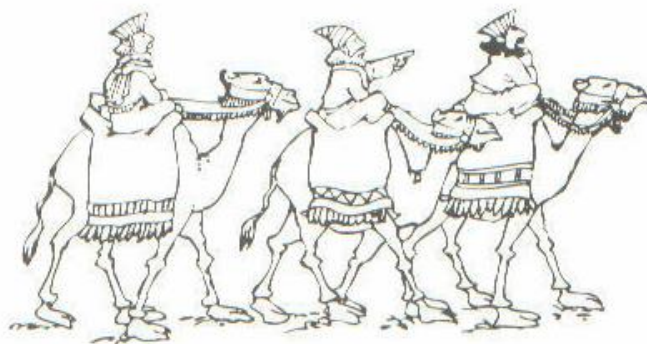
Advent was one week away, so we thought we'd see what the children remembered from our family devotions the year before. "Who can tell me what the four candles in the Advent wreath represent?" I asked.

Luke jumped in with seven-year-old wisdom and exuberance. "There's love, joy, peace, and . . . and . . ."

"I know!" six-year-old Elise interrupted to finish her brother's sentence: "Peace and quiet!"

--Michelle L. Hardie

## COLOR ME!



*Glad Tidings* is published monthly (July/August and December/January issues combined) by:  
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