



Glad Tidings



Vol. 35, Iss. 5

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg, MD

June 2016

Summer Worship Schedule

Take Note: From Memorial Day Weekend (5/29) through Labor Day Weekend (9/4), we'll have **ONE SUNDAY SERVICE** at 9:30 am, followed by fellowship! The Saturday 5 pm service will also continue each weekend.

PoP YARD SALE is June 4th!

Our annual Yard Sale will be held on **Saturday, June 4th from 7am-2pm** and we need everyone to get involved in order to make it a success! We will be accepting donations **starting Sunday, May 29th from Noon - 9pm thru Thursday, June 2nd.**



If you haven't already volunteered to help, please sign up in the narthex or contact Elizabeth Cockerham (cockerham_e@yahoo.com).

We also need sign-ups for donations of food and drinks. We look forward to everyone in the congregation being able to assist in some way!

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 that help those who are struggling.

For more information, visit <http://poplutheran.org/communitylife/yardsale2016.html>.

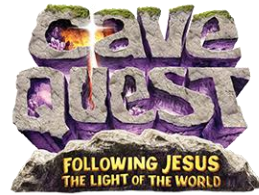
Recognition of Graduates

We are having a special Recognition of Graduates on **Sunday, June 12th**. Come help us celebrate their accomplishments!



Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendars and tell your friends, Prince of Peace Vacation Bible School 2016 is scheduled for **July 25th - 29th (9am-12pm)**. This year's theme is "Cave Quest - Following Jesus the Light of the World". VBS is for children ages 3 (potty trained) through entering 5th grade. Registration forms are available on the Prince of Peace website as well as at the church. Registration fee is \$50 per participant with a max of \$150 per family. Each family will receive a CD of the VBS music and a T-shirt for each child. Need based scholarships are available.



So gear up and come enjoy an over-the-top underground adventure! If you have any questions please contact Lori Kohne (lorikohne@hotmail.com).

Fruitful Fields



Growing your own food is the ultimate in eating locally. Have you been wanting to try your hand at growing some of your own food but aren't sure how to get started? Join other Prince of Peace members and friends in Fruitful Fields, the Prince of Peace community garden. There are 3 fenced areas behind the Youth Center; each has a large center plot where we grow food to donate to local charities. Individual plots surround the center plots, and are available for you to grow your own vegetables, herbs and flowers. We will have a schedule for those who are able to periodically help water the plots as well as pick and deliver donated produce. For more info on how to participate, contact Marybeth Stockman (mb_stockman@hotmail.com) or sign up in the narthex. You can also check out the Fruitful Fields page on Facebook.

Debt Reduction Campaign: Foundations for Our Future

is in Spotlight on page 3.





From Pastor Steve...

Pastor Steve Buechler
(pastor@poplutheran.org;
301-869-3666)

As we move into the summer, we call the Sundays the “Sundays after Pentecost.” These summer weeks are intended to be a time of learning and growing in our faith. But they begin with Pentecost, which we celebrated just a couple of weeks ago.

Pentecost is the story of the Holy Spirit coming upon the first disciples, and equipping them for the future ministry that Jesus was calling them to. But at the time, the disciples really didn’t know what that future looked like. They knew that Jesus would be with them. They knew that God had plans for them to be about more than themselves. And they knew that, like Jesus’ ministry, their ministry would be a mixture of joy and conflict as well as opportunity and challenge.

And it’s been like that for disciples of Jesus ever since. God always seems to be equipping and preparing us for a future that’s filled with God’s presence and promise, but also a future that holds opportunities and challenges that are never entirely clear at the moment. Like those first disciples at Pentecost, part of the movement of the Spirit is to prepare us to take the next steps into a future which is filled with promise and possibility but also a lot of unknowns.

This is especially true for us at Prince of Peace right now. In this edition of Glad Tidings, you’ll read more about our efforts to pay down (and ultimately pay off) our existing mortgage. We’re calling this campaign “Foundations for our Future.” For a long time, our debt has created stumbling blocks to moving forward. It was one of the key reasons we couldn’t afford to build and renovate last year. And over the years, dealing with the debt has sucked up an enormous amount of our time and energy. We’re not sure how long it will take, or what opportunities we may decide to explore when the debt is gone, but we know we need to take the next steps now toward a better future that God has in store for us.

And of course, as we wait with excitement for Pastor Christine’s new arrival, we also know that

her maternity leave and later part time work with us will mean that our ministry together will be different than it was a couple of years ago. While Pastor Christine and I, together with the Council, are carefully thinking about this, we all know that there will surely be opportunities, challenges and surprises that none of us can envision at this point.

The key for us, as with those first disciples, is not to have all the answers before we act. Rather, the key is to trust in God’s presence and purpose for us. And living in trust means being open to what God is doing right now to prepare us for the future: to be willing to try new things, to envision new ways of living as the people of God, and to be open to thinking “outside the box”, because that’s often where we find God waiting for us.

Yours in Christ,



June Highlights

Every Sunday

9:30 am Worship

A Supervised nursery is available during all Services

Every Tuesday

10:00 am Quilters

12:30 pm Women’s Bible Study

Every Thursday

7:30 pm Grace Notes

Every Saturday

7:45 am Men’s Group

5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship

COMING UP...

June

- 1-3 Yard Sale Prep (pg 1)
- 4 YARD SALE! (pg 1)
- 5 One service - 9:30 am (Summer Sched/pg 1)
- 9 Body & Soul at Soccerplex (pg 6)
- 9 Women's Book Group (pg 7)
- 11 Derek Sheely LEAD THE WAY Run (pg 8)
- 11 Saturday Dinner Out @ Yoyogi Sushi (pg 6)
- 12 Recognition of Graduates (pg 1)
- 12 Confirmation Family Finale
- 14 Church Council Meeting
- 16 Books and Beer (Men's Book Club) (pg 7)
- 19 Father's Day
- 20 First day of summer
- 23 Body & Soul at Quince Orchard HS (pg 6)
- 25 POP Game Night (pg 4)

July

- 4 Independence Day
- 4 Church Office Closed
- 7 Body & Soul at PoP/Kentlands (pg 6)
- 12 Church Council Meeting
- 14 Women's Book Group (pg 7)
- 16 Saturday Dinner Out Picnic & Games (pg 6)
- 25-29 Vacation Bible School (pg 1)
- 28 Body & Soul at C&O Canal (pg 6)

For a current calendar, see:

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



PoP Members

Eardie Baka, Carol Barotti, Elizabeth Langum Chung, David family, Goodwin family, Laura Hampe, Steven Hill, Jessica Jeffery, Roy Johnson, Pat Juhrs, Greta Kunkle, Mike Langum, Remi Langum, Kaitlyn McGurgan & her family, Sandy Moore, Heather Robinson, David Rogers, James Rogers, Martha Rogers, Julie Stokes, Nancy Swanson, Laura Wilson.

Sympathy

Family of Norcie Green (former PoP member)

Thanksgiving

Baptism of Paige Fitzpatrick (daughter of Suzanna & Glenn Fitzpatrick)
Birth of Aaron Flores (son of Marie & Ari Flores, grandson of Cathy & Mark Berninger)
Our Sunday School Volunteers

The complete Prayer List is available from the credenza in the narthex and in the Weekly Email sent on Thursdays.

SPOTLIGHT

SPOTLIGHT is a new column which focusses on a group in or resource provided by PoP. This month we are looking at **Debt Reduction Campaign: Foundations for Our Future.**

Where we *are* now...

Our mortgage is paid every month out of our Debt Reduction Fund. We have a little more than ten years left on our mortgage, with our monthly payment just under \$3,000. Right now we are not bringing in enough monthly donations designated to the Debt Reduction Fund to cover our monthly payment. We are luckily not operating in a deficit because we have some money in the fund that we can use to cover the difference. Every month we are using about \$1,000 from the pool of money in the fund, along with our monthly donations to the fund, in order to make our mortgage payment. Although we are able to make our mortgage payments right now, our excess funds will eventually run out.

Where we *need* to be...

In order to make our monthly mortgage payments, we need to increase our donations to the Debt Reduction Fund. Any donations received above the mortgage amount can be applied to the principal, at the treasurer's discretion.

Where we *want* to be...

Ideally, we would like to try to get to a place where we can double our mortgage payments, which would result in paying off our mortgage early. An early payoff would result in Prince of Peace having more options, financially, for ministries and/or building improvements.

What can we start to do now?

We would like to ask the congregation to *prayerfully consider* making additional donations to the Debt Reduction fund in order to 1) make the mortgage payments, and 2) hopefully begin to make additional payments to pay off the mortgage early. Please be sure that any additional donations you are providing are designated to the **Debt Reduction Fund.**

Who can answer questions I may have?

A Debt Reduction Campaign team is being formed to head these efforts. If you have any questions about the campaign or the Debt Reduction Fund, please contact Sarah Yonder, the council liaison on the team (sarah.yonder@gmail.com).

UPCOMING EVENTS

POP Game Night

There will be a POP Game Night on **Saturday, June 25 from 7-10pm** in the Fellowship Hall. Bring out your favorite board game or try someone else's. This event is open to all and recommended for ages 13+. Contact Christian Michel (michel_christian@yahoo.com) if you have any questions.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Confirmation Class

The 2015-16 Confirmation class has had a fruitful year of learning and growing in Christ together as "one body, one church." They most recently took part in an activity focusing on being "connected" (with string!) and more importantly on the connection of all members of Christ's church body. They each took note of "something they excelled in," revealing that we all have unique skills and talents to contribute!

1 Corinthians 12:12

"There is one body, but it has many parts. But all its many parts make up one body."

We are looking forward to wrapping up the year with the Confirmation Family Finale picnic/potluck on **Sunday, June 12 after the Sunday morning service**. Thank you to ALL the students for their enthusiastic participation in class and various service events, as well as to the tireless parent volunteers that made the program run splendidly this year!

Special thanks to Sherry Kienzle and Susan Hawley for coordinating our Confirmation Program!



Sunday School Leader Recognition

On Sunday, May 22 we said "Thanks" to our dedicated Sunday School leaders for their loving commitment to our children!



Opening Leaders - Danielle Drobny, Eardie Baka, Jean Bernstein, Rebecca Claycamp, Adriana Larios
with tech support by Jon Conary, Chris Michel, Jason Mills

Preschool-Kindergarten
Jamie Pflasterer, Stephanie Mills



Elementary Workshop Leaders
Lisa Conary, Janet Levine, Anne Witten

Shepherds
Sanna Sander, Bill & Sally Acheson



Middle School Leaders
Samuel Bornhorst
Tom Panning

High School Leader - Judy Bruening with AJ Oddo

Sunday School Superintendent - Janet Levine

The leaders appreciate the participation of our learners. We look forward to seeing you this summer at worship and VBS, and on September 11th when Sunday school resumes!

More Sunday School Pictures



ADULT EDUCATION

Pop Women's Bible Study

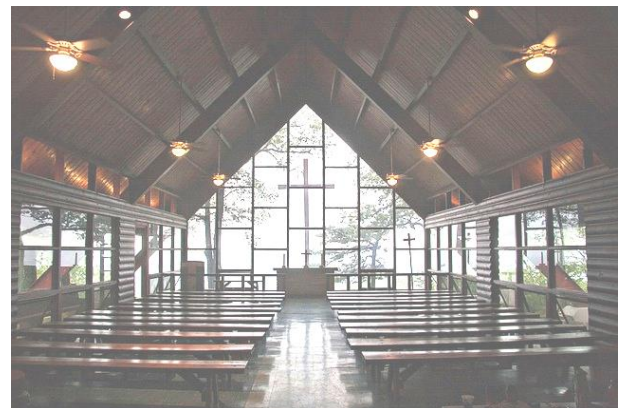
Women's Bible Study continues our study of the book Accidental Saints by Nadia Bolz-Weber. We meet on **Tuesdays at 12:30 pm**. Feel free to bring your lunch with you. This is a great time to join the group! You do not need to attend every week. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Christine (pastorchristine@poplutheran.org)

SOCIAL MINISTRIES

Learning and Giving Opportunities in May

Learning...

On May 1st at 10:00 am, Karl Muhlbach, the Associate Director of Mar-Lu-Ridge came to speak to the congregation between services in the sanctuary. Although the rain kept many away, Karl was able to engage with several kids right before Sunday School, and had some very meaningful conversations with the folks who stayed for the presentation. Mar-Lu-Ridge is a Summer Camp and Education and Conference Center that serves as an outdoor ministry site of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. If you'd like to learn more about how to volunteer or participate in any of their programs, there are flyers in the narthex (while supplies last!) or you can visit their website at <http://www.mar-lu-ridge.org/>



The sanctuary at Mar-Lu-Ridge

Giving...

During the entire month of May we are hosting a drive for Gaithersburg HELP, collecting what they need most: canned fruit and tuna! Please be sure to pick up a can or two when you go to the store to help keep the pantry in constant supply this summer. Donations can be dropped off in the foyer.

Serving...

On Saturday, May 21st, a group of 7 volunteers from Prince of Peace volunteered to help with Habitat for Humanity. Despite the rain, the PoP volunteers worked with the Habitat staff to prep floors, start the installation of a hardwood floor, and frame out and drywall a closet in one of the bedrooms. The homeowner was able to work alongside the group of volunteers for most of the day, making the work that much more personal. Future plans for more serving opportunities like this are already being requested, so if you're interested in something like this, please look for future serving opportunities in the bulletin and announcements made in church!



Back Door Ministries

Campbell Soup Labels

Sadly, the Campbell Soup Label program is being discontinued on July 31.

Please turn in all labels to the basket in the foyer by June 12th so we can get them to the Navajo Lutheran Mission by their July 1st deadline. The Campbell Soup Label program has been a God-send to the Navajo Mission. Over the years they have earned 8 new vehicles, along with tables, chairs, school supplies, and much, much more. They are sincerely grateful to all those who have participated. And, we are grateful to Sandy Moore who has coordinated this "Back Door" project at PoP for many years!



BODY & SOUL WELLNESS PROGRAM

The Body and Soul program will move outdoors for the summer months and will meet on a limited schedule. Weather permitting, we will meet to exercise at the specific locations listed. If you've been wanting to give Body and Soul a try but have been hoping for a different format, here

is your opportunity to check it out. For more information on the program contact Marybeth Stockman (mb.stockman@gmail.com).

June 2 - no meeting (Yard Sale week)

June 9 - Walk the paved trails at the Maryland [Soccerplex](#), 18031 Central Park Circle, Boyds (off Shaeffer Rd). Meet at the pool entrance at **6:30 pm**. Bring water.

June 23 - Meet at Quince Orchard High School at **6:30 pm** for a walk around the track. Other activities might include stretching, resistance exercises, and/or stairs if desired. Bring water.

July 7 - Meet in the church parking lot at **6:30 pm** for a walk through the Kentlands, followed by light resistance training, balance activities and/or stairs if desired. Bring water.

July 28 - Meet on the [C & O Canal](#) at the Great Falls Tavern Visitors' Center (11710 MacArthur Blvd.) at **6:30 pm** for a walk on the canal towpath to the Great Falls viewing area. Parking should be free after 5:00. Drive up to the gate and it will open even if no one is in the booth. If the booth happens to be staffed you will need \$10 for parking.

August 4 - Meet at Quince Orchard High School at **6:30 pm** for a walk around the track. Other activities might include stretching, resistance exercises, and/or stairs if desired. Bring water.

August 25 - Walk the paved trails at the Maryland [Soccerplex](#), 18031 Central Park Circle, Boyds (off Shaeffer Rd). Meet at the pool entrance at **6:30 pm**. Bring water.

In the event of inclement weather, call Marybeth at 240-644-4146 to check whether the activities are canceled.

FELLOWSHIP

Saturday Dinner Out

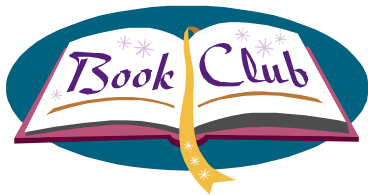
The next Saturday Dinner Out will be **Saturday, June 11, at 6:15 pm** following the Saturday service. This month we will be meeting at **Yoyogi Sushi in the Kentlands (328 Main St #100)**.

On **Saturday, July 16** stay after the service for a picnic and yard games here at PoP.

This is a great time to come together and get to know (and eat with!) other families at Prince of Peace in a casual environment. All are welcome!

Books and Beer (Men's Book Club)

Books and Beer, aka The Men's Book Club of Prince of Peace, concludes its spring 2016 literary friendship campaign with a lively discussion of The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History by Elizabeth Kolbert. "Earth is in the midst of a modern, man-made, sixth extinction. . . . Kolbert chronicles previous mass extinction events, and compares them to the accelerated, widespread extinctions during our present time." You read the book, we'll provide the beer and munchies. On **Thursday, June 16 at 7:30 pm**, we will meet at the home of Chet Wolejsza. Please RSVP to Chet at cwolejsza@aol.com. All men of PoP and their male friends are cordially invited. Our next meeting will be in September.



Women's Book Group

The Women's Book Group moves in a different direction in June, discussing Still Missing by Chevy Stevens. "Still Missing is ... focused around Annie, a Realtor, who is abducted while running an open house. When I started the book, I expected the entire story to be about the abduction, her survival, and eventual escape. I was wrong. The abduction, and her survival through it (and being that the book is written in the first person as Annie talks to her therapist, the fact that she survives is no secret) is only half of the book. It's the vivid and introspective view into what happens to Annie AFTER the abduction, including some completely unexpected plot twists, where the story gets interesting," reviewed by GoldwingDocs on Amazon.com. Nancy Morton hosts the gathering **Thursday, June 9, at 7:30 pm** at her home in Germantown. In addition, please bring your ideas for future book discussions to this meeting as we will select books for September and beyond at the meeting. Members must read the book before recommending it. RSVP Nancy at nancy.morton@octagon.com.

The Women's Book Group meets the second Thursday of the month. All POP women and friends are welcome to attend one, two, or all the gatherings.

Future Dates and Book Selections:

June 9- Still Missing

by Chevy Stevens,
hosted by Lisa Woodard

July 14 - The Rent Collector

by Camron Wright,
hosted by Jennifer Maloney

August 11 - Redeployment

by Phil Klay,
hosted by Deborah Dixon

THANK YOU!

Gifts of Hope—Making a Difference Today and Tomorrow

Thank you for supporting Gifts of Hope last Advent. Gifts of Hope raised a total of \$111,635.00 from the congregations in our Synod and from online support. Members and friends of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church purchased gifts valued at \$1,835.00 (a 7.6% increase from 2014). All funds have been distributed to the designated beneficiary organizations. Your support provides hope for today and hope for tomorrow. Thanks to the volunteers (Joan Kowalik and her helpers) who presented this alternative gift-giving option to your congregation. Anniversaries, birthdays, holidays, memorials—the Gifts of Hope Catalog is available year-round at our website: www.giftsofhopedc.org. Select a gift from the online catalog and you will receive an all-purpose card to present to your honored loved one.

Carolyn Sowinski, Director

POP OFFICE

Our Worship Services require the efforts of many dedicated volunteers. Please help by serving as usher, greeter and/or snack helper. Signup through VolunteerSpot

(<https://www.volunteerspot.com/login/entry/1127029098031>) or contact the Office (office@poplutheran.org). You will be scheduled approximately once every two months (with the ability to reschedule). Thank you for contributing your time and talents! Many hands make light work!

We are experiencing phone problems in the Office. If you do not get through, please wait a few minutes and try again. Email is a great way to reach us: office@poplutheran.org, Pastor Steve (pastor@poplutheran.org), Pastor Christine (pastorchristine@poplutheran.org).

The Serving in Worship schedule for June and July has been posted on our [website](http://www.poplutheran.org) (www.poplutheran.org) and the bulletin board in the narthex. Please review it and make arrangements for any conflicts. Thanks!

The Flower Chart for 2016 has been posted! Flowers can be given in memory or honor of a person or special occasion. A donation of \$30 covers the flowers for a week, and they are yours to take home after the late service. Sign up on the Chart posted on the bulletin board in the narthex and place your donation (marked "Altar Flowers") in the Offering. Thanks for adding to our worship experience!

OTHER NEWS

Lead the Way



Registration is open for the 5th Annual Derek Sheely LEAD THE WAY Fun Run/Walk on Saturday June 11, 2016 at 8:40 am at Northwest High School in Germantown. There's a unique stadium start and finish, medals for all finishers, music, food, 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. We believe that Derek died from Second Impact Syndrome, which is when a second concussion is sustained before the brain can recover from a first concussion.

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 nearly 8,000 Concussion Awareness Kits in 16 states, 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 to register to run and/or walk for Derek. This is our last race, and we hope to see you there.

Lutheran Disaster Response

The last few months have been a somber season. We have seen one of the highest concentrations of significant disasters in decades. As a church we are called to respond. Through Lutheran Disaster Response, your gifts will provide help and hope in the face of devastation. Thanks to a generous donor, your gifts now will be matched - dollar for dollar - until we reach \$100,000. Visit the ELCA Disaster Response webpage (<http://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response>) to donate or learn more about how you can help.

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Articles for the July/August issue of *Glad Tidings* are due **June 19**. Please e-mail articles to Martha Rogers at GladTidingsEditor@gmail.com. Photos and/or graphics are welcome!

Glad Tidings is online at www.poplutheran.org.

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