



Glad Tidings



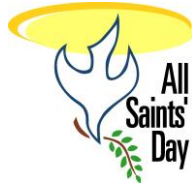
Vol. 35, Iss. 9

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg, MD

November 2016

All Saints' Day

On All Saints' Day, November 6, we will celebrate one of the oldest festivals of the Church. During worship there will be a time to remember family and friends who have gone before us. If there are some special people you would like to remember on this day, please submit their names to the Church Office (office@poplutheran.org) and their names will be spoken during the service. Please include your name, their name(s), relationship to you, and whether the passing occurred in the past year. Please submit names by **Tuesday, November 1.**



New Member Class

Are you interested in learning more about Prince of Peace and possibly becoming a member? Please join us for a New Member Class on **Sunday, November 6th.** Come hear about who we are, what we believe, and how you can partner with us in supporting our ministries. The class will **begin at 12:15 pm with lunch and conclude by 3:00 pm.** Onsite child care is available for families who request it. If you are interested in participating, please contact Pastor Steve (pastor@poplutheran.org) or Joan Kowalik (jkowalik@saes.org).

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 27th, between services (9:30 - 11:00 am)** 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 foyer. Questions? Contact Janet Levine (lyle1janet@msn.com).



Christmas Pageant

The Christmas Pageant will be held on **Sunday, December 11 at 6pm!** We need actors and helpers, please sign up in the narthex. Rehearsals begin on **Sunday, November 13 (12-3pm)** with pizza and a read through of the script. Additional rehearsals: **11/20 (2-5pm), 12/4 (2-5pm), & 12/10 (dress rehearsal; 6-8pm).** For further info, contact Lisa & Jon Conary (lconary@prodigy.net).



Commitment Sunday is Coming!!

This year your Stewardship Team is planning a great event to allow us to provide our individual commitment to the Mission and Life of Prince of Peace in 2017! We will have a **Commitment Sunday on the weekend of November 19 & 20** where your pledge card will be offered as an Act of Worship during the services on Saturday evening and Sunday morning. (Continued on page 4.)

Important Glad Tidings Notice

Several years ago Prince of Peace started offering the option of receiving Glad Tidings as an electronic document online. Glad Tidings is posted on POP's website and an email with the link is sent to everyone on the general email list. Since that time, many people have opted to not receive the paper copy and just look at it online. This has created a situation where it is no longer cost effective to pay for a bulk mail permit.

We (the Glad Tidings staff) have decided that it is time for another change. Starting with the **February 2017** issue of Glad Tidings, the primary method of delivery will be through the website. Paper copies of Glad Tidings are available in the narthex or **if you wish to receive a paper copy** by mail, please notify the office (office@poplutheran.org) or the Glad Tidings editor (GladTidingsEditor@gmail.com).



From Pastor Steve...

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

On the last Sunday of October, we celebrate Reformation Sunday. Reformation Sunday is the day closest to October 31, because that was the day in 1517 that Martin Luther posted his “95 Theses” on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany. The 95 Theses were what we would call “debate points.” They were assertions about church practices (particularly about indulgences) that people would be invited to either defend or refute. Wittenberg was a University town, and Luther was a professor. So what Luther was doing was inviting people to participate in a discussion. And he posted them on October 31, so that when folks came to church to celebrate All Saints Day on November 1, they would read the invitation to the debate and discussion.

Of course, that “discussion” set off a firestorm, because Luther was messing with a system that had not only religious, but also political and financial ramifications for many people inside and outside the church. Today, many Lutherans have heard about the 95 Theses (although few have read them or could tell you what they’re about). And most people only remember them as a trigger point in the Reformation, instead of as an invitation to deeply discuss what our Christian faith should really be all about.

In fact, the 95 Theses touched off the Reformation because they invited discussion about faith that touched on real life. Christian faith, for Luther and the Reformers, wasn’t just reflecting on how we get promised heaven after we die. Rather, it was understanding God as a living force in our real lives right now and how we live today in light of God’s presence in our lives.

Of course, Luther tried to inspire these kinds of discussions when he preached and when he taught. But he also led a lot of these discussions as he sat at home around the table and drank beer with students and friends!

In that same tradition, I’m going to begin leading a new discussion series called “Theology on Tap”.

Many of you may have heard of these kinds of events, where folks gather (often at a restaurant or pub) to talk about issues of faith. My plan is to lead one of these events each month, and, as we approach the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, to begin by talking about some of the original Reformation documents (like the 95 Theses) and how and why they’re still relevant and important for our daily faith and life. For our first session, we’ll gather at Dogfish in Gaithersburg on **Tuesday, November 15 at 7:30 pm** (this is also the night of Gaithersburg HELP’s fundraiser at Dogfish, so it’ll be an opportunity to support Gaithersburg HELP as well). You don’t need to sign up, but if you know you’re coming, please let me know!

I hope that these discussions, and those like them, will continue to help us grow in appreciating how God’s living presence affects how we live our daily lives.

Yours in Christ,

November Highlights

Every Sunday

8:30 am Worship with piano and guitar

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship with organ and piano

A Supervised nursery is available during all Services

Every Tuesday

10:00 am Quilters

12:30 pm Women’s Bible Study

Every Wednesday

7:30 pm Adult Choir

Every Thursday

6:30 pm Youth Hand Bell Choir

7:30 pm Grace Notes

Every Saturday

8:00 am Men’s Group

5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship

COMING UP...

November

- 1 All Saints Day (pg 1)
- 1 Women's Bible Study resumes (pg 6)
- 6 All Saints Sunday (pg 1)
- 6 Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 6 New Member Class (pg 1)
- 7 Body & Soul @ Marybeth Stockman's (pg 7)
- 10 Women's Book Group (pg 7)
- 11 Veteran's Day
- 12 Saturday Dinner Out @ Nalley Fresh (pg 7)
- 13 Christmas Pageant Rehearsal (pg 1)
- 13 Confirmation Theme Event
- 15 Theology on Tap @ Dogfish (pg 2)
- 17 Faith-Full Families (pg 5)
- 17 Body & Soul @ PoP (pg 7)
- 17 Books and Beer (Men's Book Club) (pg 7)
- 19-20 Commitment Sunday (pp 1, 4)
- 20 Christmas Pageant Rehearsal (pg 1)
- 20 Bible Art Journaling (pg 6)
- 20 Confirmation Theme Event
- 23 Thanksgiving Service @ Christ the Servant
- 24 Thanksgiving
- 24 - 25 Church Office Closed
- 27 Advent Intergenerational Event (pg 1)
(in place of Sunday School)
- 30 Advent Vespers

December

- 4 Christmas Pageant Rehearsal (pg 1)
- 4 Confirmation Theme Event
- 7 Advent Vespers
- 8 Faith-Full Families (pg 5)
- 8 Women's Book Group (pg 7)
- 10 Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal (pg 1)
- 11 Christmas Pageant (pg 1)
- 13 Church Council Meeting
- 14 Advent Vespers
- 15 Books and Beer (Men's Book Club)
- 21 Advent Vespers
- 24 Children's Christmas Eve Services
- 24 Christmas Eve Services
- 25 Christmas Day
- 25 Christmas Day Service
- 26 Church Office Closed

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

Lisa Adams, Eardie Baka, Carol Barotti, Elizabeth Langum Chung, David family, Laura Hampe, Steven Hill, Jessica Jeffery, Roy Johnson, Pat Juhrs, Mike Langum, Remi Langum, Kaitlyn McGurgan & her family, Sandy Moore, Heather Robinson, David Rogers, James Rogers, Martha Rogers, Sherry Schiebel, Nancy Swanson, Laura Wilson

Sympathy

Family of Victor DeGeorge (Uncle of Mike DeGeorge)

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

SPOTLIGHT

On November 24 we celebrate Thanksgiving. Many of us think of turkey, football, and leaf piles when we think of Thanksgiving. Take a moment first to make your own 'thankful list' then add to the following list:

Our pastors who are ever vigilant in being our shepherds and guides.

Our talented and dedicated music team: Danielle Drobny, Claire Cho, and our new Adult Choir Director Lindsey Paradise.

Martha Rogers for doing a great job working in the office while I'm away. It is so seamless that no one even knows I'm gone! (And she does an awesome job producing Glad Tidings each month, too!) -- Donna

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

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.

Donna Von Wald for her patience in training me as her backup. Also, her 'silent partner' help with Glad Tidings is invaluable. --Martha

Janet Levine for leading our innovative Sunday School program.

Pamela Cook & Melanie Zobel for organizing our fellowship events (and bulletin board) with great style!

Lisa Conary and her team of volunteers for making the Baptismal bibs and stoles. With our Baby Boom, they have been busy over the past year!

AJ Oddo for always jumping in to help out with a variety of tasks, in addition to his work as our nursery attendant.

Everyone at Prince of Peace who complement not only the worship but, also, make us a family.

STEWARDSHIP

(Continued from page 1.)

There will be additional information in the coming weeks, but we are working to create a pledge card that can capture your commitment of Time, Talent and Treasure to this wonderful Christian Fellowship we call Prince of Peace.

Our goals include:

- * Keeping our daily operations funded
- * Aggressively reducing our mortgage debt
- * Using the dollars we free up in debt reduction for all the things we are called to do as Disciples of Jesus Christ here in our community and throughout Montgomery County.
- * Capturing everyone's time and talent to "share the load" in the operations of our Church and in supporting the community.

Our Congregation is very Blessed and we look forward to a great Commitment Sunday as we set the stage for our future. More information will be coming in future announcements, but it is not too early to start thinking about your individual commitment of Time, Talent and Treasure to your Fellowship Community.

Questions should be directed to your Stewardship Team: Chuck Dixon, Aubrey Merchant-Dest; Jim McNerney or Sarah Yonder.

We hope you will join us for Commitment Sunday on the **weekend of November 19 & 20!**

YOUTH MINISTRY

Confirmation Retreat 2016!

Our first-and-second-year Confirmation students attended their annual fall retreat at Mar-Lu-Ridge in October, building relationships with each other and participating in various team-building activities. The students practiced "trusting" a friend as they were guided (blindfolded!) through the outdoors, as well as worked together to find the best way to transport a hoop along a "human ring." They were able to discuss what worked well and what did not in order to arrive at a team consensus on strategy!

Students also studied The Beatitudes and how those apply in our daily lives, relating them to real-life experiences that many youth encounter as teens. They are quite wise beyond their years! We enjoyed our time together at the retreat and look forward to continuing to build deeper friendships throughout the course of the Confirmation year!



We look forward to celebrating our outgoing Confirmands as they participate in this year's Confirmation ceremony on **October 30th!** See the next issue of Glad Tidings for their picture.

Sunday School

The preK/K and elementary level Sunday School classes have just finished a unit on Joseph and the Pharaoh. Joseph has been sold into slavery to Egypt and has been unjustly thrown in jail. Things look bad, but God's plan for Joseph is about to be revealed!

In the preK/K classroom, we acted out the scene where God tells Joseph how to interpret Pharaoh's dreams, and warns him that a famine is coming. For our craft we made collages with different types of seeds and grain, to remind us how the Egyptians stored up food for 7 years. Through the goodness of God, the Egyptians had plenty to eat when the 7 years of famine arrived. For our classroom snack we tried many different kinds of seeds - pumpkin, sunflower, puffed rice, edamame, and popcorn!



Faith-Full Families

Faith-Full Families' Thanksgiving event will be held **Thursday, November 17th 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 Advent event will be held **Thursday, December 8th.**

Questions? Contact Judy Bruening (Judy.bruening53@gmail.com)



ADULT EDUCATION

Pop Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study starts back **Tuesday, November 1 at 12:30 pm**. We meet in the Fellowship Hall.

This is an open, fluid group of women. All are welcome to join us. Feel free to bring a bagged lunch. If you have questions or want to be included on our email distribution list, please contact Pastor Christine (pastorchristine@poplutheran.org).



Bible Art Journaling

For those who don't know, Pastor Christine started holding monthly get-togethers to do Bible Art Journaling in September 2015.

Following is part of her Pastor Article about this practice:

. . . what is it?

Bible Art Journaling is a devotional practice which encourages the individual to engage more freely and actively with the word of God through doodling, illustration, and note-taking/personal reflections. This means, the individual writes, colors, and draws in their Bible.

Yes. You write in the Bible. Get over it. You won't mess up. You can't. You are recording how God is speaking to you. In some ways, you are creating a gift to your future self; a work of art which will serve to remind you of moments of faith and reflection on your personal journey with God.

. . . Please bring a journaling Bible to this first class. Journaling Bibles have larger margins and thicker pages (. . . google it and you'll find options. If you have trouble, let me know and I'll help you locate one).

We will plan on meeting once a month on a Sunday evening to reflect on the word together, share artistic ideas, insights, and have good fellowship. Throughout the month you can continue to use this practice at home or you can just do it monthly with the group.

You don't have to be artistic to participate in this class. We will be following a devotional plan that will provide creative ideas that you may incorporate into your Bible if you would like (or you can do your own thing).

You may still be confused about how this works and what it looks like and that's ok. Come, give it a try and see what you think. I'm really looking forward to diving into this practice with you (and just for the record - this *isn't* just for the women).



Bible Art Journaling class resumes on **Sunday, November 20, 6:00-7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall**. Come if you are interested even if you haven't been before.

MUSIC

Hand Bell Choir

Kids! Want to praise the Lord in song and have fun learning some great music? Then join the PoP Hand Bell Choir! The Hand Bell Choir is for children age 7 and older; and we are looking for new members!! Rehearsals are on **Thursdays from 6:30-7:15 pm**. Signup in the narthex or contact Danielle Drobny (danielledrobny@gmail.com) for more info.

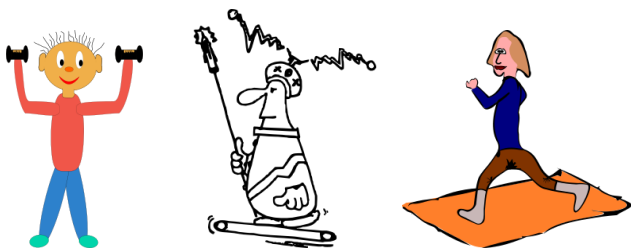


Adult Choir

The POP Adult Choir is looking for singers! We are a group that loves to sing, and we warmly encourage all levels of experience to sing with us. We rehearse every **Wednesday 7:30-9:00 pm**, and we sing at the late service one Sunday a month. Please join us Wednesday evening! Please contact our new Choir Director, Lindsey Paradise (Lindsey_paradise@yahoo.com) if you have any questions.

BODY & SOUL WELLNESS PROGRAM

Body and Soul will meet from **6:30-7:30 PM on Monday, November 7** in Marybeth Stockman's basement gym. Here is your chance to tryout a treadmill, elliptical, or rowing machine, as well as a variety of strength training equipment and stability balls. On **Thursday, November 17** we will meet at the church in the Besecker Youth Center from **6:30-7:30 PM** where we have a step riser or mini-trampoline as well as weights, resistance bands, medicine balls, and stability balls. For questions or directions, call or email Marybeth at mb.stockman@gmail.com.



FELLOWSHIP

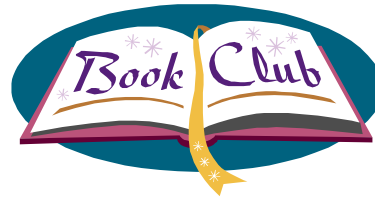
Saturday Dinner Out

The next Saturday Dinner Out will be **Saturday, November 12th, at 6:15 pm** following the Saturday service. This month we will be meeting at Nalley Fresh (261 Kentlands Blvd). As a reminder, Saturday Dinner Out 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)

The Men's Book Club will meet on **Thursday, November 17 at 7:30 pm** at Garry Linton's home. We will discuss A Short Stay in Hell by Steven Peck. All men are welcome! RSVP to Garry at cglinton@verizon.net.



Women's Book Group

Mystery, exotic locale, and passion make this month's selection a great read. The Women's Book Group meets at Deborah Dixon's home on **Thursday, November 10, at 7:30 pm** to discuss The Art of Hearing Heartbeats by Jan-Philipp Sendker. The book is described on Amazon.com as "A poignant and inspirational love story set in Burma, *The Art of Hearing Heartbeats* spans the decades between the 1950s and the present. When a successful New York lawyer suddenly disappears without a trace, neither his wife nor his daughter Julia has any idea where he might be...until they find a love letter he wrote many years ago, to a Burmese woman they have never heard of. Intent on solving the mystery and coming to terms with her father's past, Julia decides to travel to the village where the woman lived. There she uncovers a tale of unimaginable hardship, resilience, and passion that will reaffirm the reader's belief in the power of love to move mountains." Reviewers commented that the book would "remain in my head and heart for a long time"; another commented that she felt "absolutely changed by it."

All POP women are welcome to join the fun. RSVP to Deborah at ddixon@asha.org.

Future Book Group Dates and Selections

December 8 - The Secret Chord

by Geraldine Brooks,
hosted by Gina Linton.

January 12 - Pompeii

by Robert Harris,
hosted by Debbie Chan.

February 9 - The Aviator's Wife

by Melanie Benjamin,
hosted by Cherie DeGeorge

March 9 - Last Night at Twisted River

by John Irving,
hosted by Jennifer Maloney

SOCIAL MINISTRIES

YOU CAN *Gaithersburg* HELP



Come support Gaithersburg HELP on Tuesday, November 15 anytime during the hours of 11:00 am to 11:00 pm at Dogfish Head Alehouse (800 West Diamond Ave). Dogfish Head Alehouse will donate 15% of all proceeds to Gaithersburg HELP. Come dine, take a chance to win a prize in the raffle and silent auction, and support a great cause!

Gaithersburg HELP Needs Volunteers

IT Specialists: Need volunteers with various skillsets related to web site development and cloud-based applications, including Joomla (Content Management System); HTML; PHP; JavaScript; and Google Apps administration. We also need individuals with IT project management and leadership experience.

Grant Writers: Work with other volunteers to write content for grants and research opportunities for funding. Work from home primarily. Must have good writing skills and solid computer skills. Time commitment ranges from 5 to 15 hours a month.

Transportation Drivers: Provide transportation for clients to and from medical or social services appointments. Must be at least 21 and have a clear driver's license. Provide two or more rides a month. Additional training will be provided by Gaithersburg HELP.

Transportation Schedulers: Using specialty software, work from home using own phone, computer, and Internet access. Return calls and schedule clients in accord with availability to provide a maximum of 3 to 5 accumulated hours of support within volunteer-selected time range from 9 am to 5 pm.

Spanish Translators: Work from home using own phone, computer, and Internet access; return calls and assist Spanish-speaking clients in obtaining HELP services. Need to be available to provide 3 to 4 hours of support within volunteer-selected time range.

Food Coordinators: Work from home using own phone, computer, and Internet access: return

calls and schedule clients to pick up food at pantry. Commitment of 8 to 12 hours a month.

Please visit our web site: gaithersburghelp.org

- To ask questions about volunteering: gaithersburghelp.org/utility-contact
- To submit a volunteer application: gaithersburghelp.org/volunteer-application

The Auxiliary at the Village at Rockville

The Fall Festival at the Village at Rockville is coming up: Saturday, November 12, 9:30am-2pm. Come enjoy shopping for wonderful treasures, handmade crafts, baked goods and fudge, and much more. Enjoy a delicious lunch 11am-1:30pm. Enjoy a Village Chorus & Chimes Concert at 2:00pm in the Chapel. Independent Living Cottage tours at 11am, 12pm, & 1pm. Donations of baked goods and used household items, books, and jewelry are needed. Call 301-354-8460 or email auxiliary@thevillageatrockville.org if you want to make a donation. All proceeds benefit the residents of The Village at Rockville (formerly the National Lutheran Home) which is located at 9701 Veirs Drive, near Wootton Parkway in Rockville. For more details, pick up a flier from the Social Ministry table in the foyer.

Glad Tidings is published monthly (July/August and December/January issues combined) by:
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Articles for the December/January issue of *Glad Tidings* are due **November 13**. 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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