



# GLAD TIDINGS



Vol. 36, Iss. 7

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg, MD

September 2017

## Our Fall Worship Schedule resumes on Sept 9 & 10!

Saturday Worship at 5 pm  
Sunday Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 am  
Sunday School at 9:45 am—Rally Day!

## Blessing of Backpacks

**KIDS:** Bring your backpack with you to worship on September 2 or 3! We will bless your backpacks during the children's message as you begin a new school year. If you don't attend school or daycare, bring a coloring book or some other item that you do 'work' in at home. BIG Kids (middle & high school): Please bring your backpacks too and join the younger kids up front that day. The more the merrier!



## Rally Day

Join us on **September 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:45 am** as we begin our new season of Sunday School! Preschool through elementary-age kids and their families meet in the sanctuary for Opening as they register for Sunday School. Older students bypass the sanctuary and start right off in their classrooms in the Besecker Youth Center (BYC). **Sunday School meets weekly 9:45-10:45 am.** See page 4 for more information.

## PB&J for the Hungry



We are collecting peanut butter and jelly for Gaithersburg HELP to celebrate Back-to-School and help restock their pantry. Donations can be left in the special collection bucket in the narthex. The drive will continue through October, so please consider picking up something to donate each time you shop. The Sunday School will also be participating in this collection. If you have children, please encourage them to bring some to Sunday School.



## Tables for All

Tables for All is a fun adult fellowship program in which potluck meals are shared with other members of Prince of Peace.

After you sign up, you'll be provided with a schedule letting you know when you are hosting and/or attending. The food assignment is also specified: main dish (host), side dish, salad and bread, or dessert.

By **Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>**, sign up in the narthex or e-mail [Lisa Woodard](mailto:lisa.woodard@comcast.net) at woodard4@comcast.net .

See page 6 for more information.

## The Interfaith 5K

Once again Prince of Peace has partnered with Shaare Torah and the Islamic Society of the Washington Area to host the Montgomery County Interfaith 5K on **Labor Day, September 4**, at the Soccerplex in Germantown. Proceeds from this event will benefit Gaithersburg HELP and C4. Even if you have not signed up to participate or help, join us for this great family fun event!



## Disaster Response

Please consider giving to ELCA Disaster Response to help those on the Gulf Coast affected by Hurricane Harvey, one of the most catastrophic storms to hit the country in more than a decade. Visit the ELCA Disaster Response webpage (<http://www.elca.org/en/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response/Our-Impact/US-Hurricane-Relief>) to donate or learn more about how you can help.

## Blessing of Animals

Our Annual Blessing of Animals will take place at our **5 pm Saturday service October 7!** Come and bring your pets!





## From Pastor Steve...

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

In June and July, I led a series of discussion groups around the question of “Why?” Those “why” questions included:

- Why is being part of Christian community important to me?
- Why would anybody want to join me in being part of a Christian community?
- Why do I need Christian community (that is, what does the church offer that I can’t find or experience anyplace else?)

About 35 people participated in those discussions, and some really good insights were shared! I encouraged all of those who attended a discussion group to keep thinking, praying and talking about these questions. And it would be great to have more input from everyone!

How would you answer one or more of these questions? Did you already attend a discussion group, but have another thought? Since mid-August, and through the end of September, there will be a display in the narthex with a box and slips of paper for you to add your thoughts. As a way to get the creative juices flowing, I’ve included “word clouds” with some of the key words that came out of the answers from our group discussions of each question.



Please take some time to think, pray and talk about these questions with others, and to add your thoughts and comments to the box. All of

these questions are important as we consider how we’ll focus and enhance our life and ministry together at Prince of Peace!

Yours in Christ,

## September Highlights

### Every Sunday

8:30 am Worship with piano and guitar  
9:45 am Sunday School (pp 1,4)  
11:00 am Worship with organ and piano  
A Supervised nursery is available during Sunday Services

### Every Tuesday

10:00 am Quilters  
12:30 pm Women’s Bible Study (pg 5)

### Every Wednesday

7:30 pm Adult Choir (pg 5)

### Every Thursday

6:30 pm Youth Hand Bell Choir (pg 5)  
7:30 pm Grace Notes

### Every Saturday

8:00 am Men’s Group (pg 5)  
5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship

## COMING UP...

### September

- 2&3 Blessing of Backpacks (pg 1)
- 4 Labor Day
- 4 Interfaith 5K Run/Walk (pg 1)
- 4 Church Office Closed
- 6 Confirmation Parent Info Session (pg 4)
- 6 Adult Choir Kickoff (pg 5)
- 6 Confirmation Guide Huddle (pg 4)
- 7 Hand Bell Choir Kickoff (pg 5)
- 9 Men’s Group Resumes (pg 5)
- 10 Grandparents Day
- 10 Rally Sunday (pp 1, 4)
- 10 Confirmation Theme Event (pg 4)
- 12 Church Council Meeting
- 14 Women’s Book Group (pg 6)
- 17 Youth Gathering Info Meeting (pg 4)
- 17 9th Grade Confirmation Workshop
- 17 Bible Art Journaling (pg 5)
- 19 Theology on Tap at Dogfish Alehouse (pg 5)
- 21 Men’s Book Club (pp 5, 6)
- 23 Saturday Dinner Out at Gemelli’s (pg 5)
- 24 Confirmation Theme Event

## October

- 1 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat Day
- 7 Blessing of the Animals (pg 1)
- 10 Church Council Meeting
- 12 Women's Book Group (pg 6)
- 13-14 Confirmation Retreat at Mar-Lu-Ridge
- 14 Saturday Dinner Out at California Tortilla
- 22 Bible Art Journaling
- 22 Confirmation Theme Event
- 27 PoP Halloween Party
- 27 Trunk-or-Treating
- 28 Confirmation Rehearsal
- 29 Reformation Sunday
- 29 Confirmation at 11 am service
- 31 Halloween

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

### PoP Members

Lisa Adams, Eardie Baka, Elizabeth Langum Chung, David family, Alex Garretson, John Goble, Steven Hill, Roy Johnson, Pat Juhrs, Mike & Remi Langum, Kaitlyn McGurgan & her family, Sandy Moore, Heather Robinson, David Rogers, James Rogers, Martha Rogers, Denny Tritinger, Dick Walker, Laura Wilson.

### Sympathy

Family of Brady Davidson (husband of Pr. Kate Davidson)

Family of Jeffrey Garretson (brother of Scott Garretson)

Family of Alex Melnyk (godfather of Sofi Yanevskyy)

Family of David Orr (uncle of Scott Garretson)

Family of Irv Petrick (friend of Lisa Adams)

Family of Piper Samuels (daughter of Stephanie Mills' friend)

### Thanksgiving

Birth of Anna Rebecca Uhrig (daughter of Katie & Volker Uhrig, granddaughter of Gregg & Rebecca Claycamp)

Birth of Isaac Craig Zeller (son of Pastors Kim & Stephen Zeller; great-nephew of Gordon Gipe)

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

## SPOTLIGHT

This column focusses on groups in or resources provided by PoP. This month we are looking at Kids at Services.

Does your child (big or little) want to stay with you during services but tends to be antsy? Just look to Kids Corner. Kids Corner is located in the Narthex near the coat closets. Look on and under the table to find a variety of quiet activities.

Each week a new set of Kids Bulletins are available. These bulletins, Pre-Reader and Reader, are geared to the selected readings and main topic for that Sunday. (When we have Wednesday services, the previous Sunday bulletins are still out.) Bags of crayons with a pencil and a basket of pencils are available to fill-in and answer the activities and questions. Plain pieces of paper are available for those who want to do their own thing. Storybooks for young children and children's Bibles are, also, on top of the table.

Under the table is a large basket with coloring books, sticker books, and activity books. The page your child is coloring may be torn out and taken home to complete.

If you and your child prefer, the nursery is staffed during Sunday services. Many activities from playing grocery store to cooking in the kitchen to playing with cars to coloring are available. Take your child back just before service starts, immediately after the Children's Sermon, or make an impromptu decision during the service. A nursery attendant is available for Sunday services.

## STEWARDSHIP

**Have you considered giving to Prince of Peace online?** It's easy! Just go to the church webpage ([poplutheran.org](http://poplutheran.org)) and click the green Donate Online button. We all have very busy lives, and can't always get to church, so giving online can help all of us provide consistent support for the church. And because of this consistency, the church can properly budget for the year. Online giving is a win for the church and for the congregation. Please contact Chris Michel ([michel\\_christian@yahoo.com](mailto:michel_christian@yahoo.com)) or Kwame Mensah ([mensahkn@gmail.com](mailto:mensahkn@gmail.com)) with any questions.

You can support Prince of Peace with each Amazon purchase! Use our AmazonSmile link (<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/52-1283295>) and PoP receives .5% of your purchases. Use AmazonSmile every time you shop! AmazonSmile is completely integrated with Amazon.com; you use the same account and have the same shopping cart, Wish List, Registry, and account info. It's easy to set up and use. First click on the following link to tell Amazon that you want donations to be made to Prince of Peace: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/52-1283295>; then whenever you want to make a purchase at Amazon, go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) instead of [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com). (AmazonSmile will remember the nonprofit previously selected.) It's easy!

## YOUTH MINISTRY

### Sunday School

(continued from page 1)

Below are this year's programs and leaders.

#### Preschool - Elementary School

Each week, Preschool through Elementary students meet for fellowship and singing in the sanctuary at 9:45 am before heading to their classrooms at 10 am. Preschool/Kindergarten has several in-class workshops each week, including Bible story time, craft, and snack. Elementary age groups participate in one workshop each week, such as drama, cooking, and games. We use the Spark Rotation Sunday School curriculum and usually spend three weeks on a Bible story, exploring from multiple perspectives.

Leaders:

Opening - Danielle Drobny, Jean Bernstein, Chris Michel

Preschool-Kindergarten - Jamie Pflasterer

Pre-K /K Shepherd - Jacqui Bardill

Elementary Workshop Leaders - Lisa Conary, Janet Levine, and Anne Witten

Lower Elementary Shepherd - Stephanie Mills

#### Middle School

Using the Sparkhouse Connect curriculum, Middle Schoolers take a journey through the Bible. Each week, we explore the connections between several Bible passages and relate biblical themes to their own lives. Fun videos and activities get the conversation going!

Middle School Leaders - Samuel Bornhorst and Sarah Kuykendall

#### High School

The High School Class uses Sparkhouse re:form Ancestors to explore the New Testament ancestors of our faith. Using more cool and quirky worksheets and short films, we'll discover similarities between ourselves and the many unlikely people chosen by God to do the extraordinary.

High School Leader - Jon Conary

Contact Sunday School Superintendent, [Janet Levine](mailto:Lyle1Janet@msn.com) (Lyle1Janet@msn.com), with any questions or comments.

See you on Rally Day!

### Confirmation Parent Info

Parents of first and second year confirmation students are invited to hear more details about the Confirmation program and the plans for the upcoming year on **Wednesday, September 6 at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall**. The first Confirmation class Theme Night will be held on **Sunday evening, September 10 at 6:00 pm in the sanctuary**. We're looking forward to seeing our returning students and welcoming new ones! Questions? Please contact Lori Kohne

([lorikohne@hotmail.com](mailto:lorikohne@hotmail.com)) or Sanna Sander ([sannasander@gmail.com](mailto:sannasander@gmail.com)).

The 2017-2018 Confirmation schedule is on the website:

[http://poplutheran.org/Media/calendars/Confirmation Calendar 2017-2018.pdf](http://poplutheran.org/Media/calendars/Confirmation%20Calendar%202017-2018.pdf)

### ELCA Youth Gathering



Summer 2107 is winding down... Time to start planning for next summer! Youth currently in grades 8-12 are invited to the **ELCA Youth Gathering June 27-July 1, 2018 in Houston Texas**

(<http://www.elca.org/YouthGathering>). This once-every-three-year event brings together 30,000 high school aged youth from all over the country to learn, serve, and be energized together. If you might be interested in joining 30,000 of your closest Lutheran friends at NRG stadium in Houston next summer, then join us for an informational meeting between services on **Sunday, September 17th at 10:00 am** or contact Susan Hawley at [susanhawley@ymail.com](mailto:susanhawley@ymail.com).



## ADULT EDUCATION

### Men's Group

Men's Group Bible Study resumes the first Saturday after Labor Day (**September 9**). The group meets every **Saturday morning around 8:00 am** for about an hour and a half. There's always donuts and always time to talk about what's going on in your life and with the family. Oh, and we always look at the readings of the weekend too. It's kind of like a co-op: everyone gets a chance to talk and lead the group. It is a good way to get ready for the Sunday sermon - and helps you get more meaning out of it. It really does help! Everyone is welcome.

### Theology on Tap

Join us for our next Theology on Tap session on **Tuesday, September 19 at 7:30 pm** at [Dogfish Head Alehouse](#) (800 West Diamond Ave; Gaithersburg)! We have the "Dome" reserved for our discussion. This month, we'll discuss Jews and Gentiles in the New Testament, the church's first experience dealing with race. You don't need to sign up, but if you know you're coming, please let Pastor Steve know!

### Bible Art Journaling

Bible Art Journaling meets on **Sunday, September 17 from 6-7:30pm!** All are welcome to this devotional class which encourages you to engage actively with the word of God through doodling, illustration, and note-taking in your Bible. We meet once a month, but you do not need to attend every session. Please bring a 'journaling Bible' with you to class. Questions? See Pastor Christine.


### PoP Women's Bible Study

The women's bible study meets every Tuesday from 12:30pm-2pm. We discuss a myriad of topics via different means (i.e. Bible, books, podcasts). Beginning September 5th the group will be reading [The Road Back to You: An Enneagram Journey to Self-Discovery](#). The authors of this book use the enneagram, an ancient personality typing system, to help us individually explore how our personality affects our relationships with others and with God. It explores spirituality through knowledge, compassion and love for God. Please join us and feel free to bring a bagged lunch. Questions? Please see Pastor Christine.



## MUSIC

### Hand Bell Choir

Would you like to have the excellent opportunity to praise the Lord in song and have fun learning some great music? Then come out and join the Prince of Peace Hand Bell Choir!  The Hand Bell Choir will begin rehearsals for the Fall 2017 season and we are looking for new members!! The Hand Bell Choir is for children age 7 and above; **we will rehearse each Thursday evening from 6:30-7:15pm beginning on Thursday, September 7th.** We need a minimum of 6 children to form the choir. Please sign up in the narthex or contact [Danielle Drobny](mailto:danielledrobny@gmail.com) (danielledrobny@gmail.com) for more information.

### 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 each Wednesday evening **beginning September 6 at 7:30 pm.** If you have any questions, please contact our Choir Director, Lindsey Paradise ([Lindsey\\_paradise@yahoo.com](mailto:Lindsey_paradise@yahoo.com)).

## FELLOWSHIP

### Saturday Dinner Out

We invite you to PoP Dinner Out immediately following the Saturday evening service! This is a casual way to gather with others, break bread, and enjoy some fellowship. On **Saturday, September 23**, we will be going to Gemelli's Italian Market (12169 Darnestown Rd) and invite you to join us **around 6:15 pm.** We keep it low-key and just pull tables together to enjoy each other's company. All are welcome! Any questions please contact Ric Kienzle at [r.kienzle@yahoo.com](mailto:r.kienzle@yahoo.com).

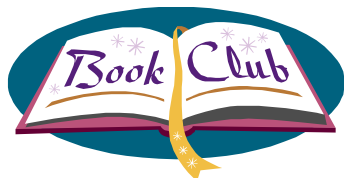
### Men's Book Club

Our first 2017-18 POP Men's Club Book selection is Michael Lewis's [The Undoing Project](#).

How a Nobel Prize-winning theory of the mind altered our perception of reality. Forty years ago, Israeli psychologists Daniel Kahneman and Amos Tversky wrote a series of breathtakingly original studies undoing our assumptions about the decision-making process. Their papers showed the ways in which the human mind erred,

systematically, when forced to make judgments in uncertain situations. Their work created the field of behavioral economics, revolutionized Big Data studies, advanced evidence-based medicine, led to a new approach to government regulation, and made much of Michael Lewis's own work possible.

Our host will be Sean Dillon. We will meet on **Thursday, September 21 at 7:30 pm**. Please RSVP directly to [Sean](mailto:sdillon_5@hotmail.com) at [sdillon\\_5@hotmail.com](mailto:sdillon_5@hotmail.com).



### Women's Book Group

On **September 14 at 7:30 pm**, the Women's Book Group will gather at the home of Nancy Speicher in Gaithersburg to discuss Leaving Time by Jodi Picoult. RSVP to [Nancy](mailto:nancyspeicher@gmail.com) ([nancyspeicher@gmail.com](mailto:nancyspeicher@gmail.com)).

For more than a decade, Jenna Metcalf has never stopped thinking about her mother, Alice, who mysteriously disappeared in the wake of a tragic accident. Refusing to believe she was abandoned, Jenna searches for her mother regularly online and pores over the pages of Alice's old journals. A scientist who studied grief among elephants, Alice wrote most of her research among the animals she loved, yet Jenna hopes the entries will provide a clue to her mother's whereabouts. Desperate to find the truth, Jenna enlists two unlikely allies in her quest: a psychic and a jaded private detective. As the three work together to uncover what happened to Alice, they realize that in asking hard questions, they'll have to face even harder answers. As Jenna's memories dovetail with the events in her mother's journals, the story races to a mesmerizing finish.

### Future Book Selections and Hosts

October 12 - Stones from the River  
by Ursula Hegi  
hosted by TBD

November 9 - The Bad-Ass Librarians of Timbuktu: And Their Race to Save the World's Most Precious Manuscripts  
by Joshua Hammer  
hosted by Nancy Morton

December 14 - A Man Called Ove  
by Fredrik Bachman  
host TBD

### Tables for All

(continued from page 1)

The meals are hosted at the homes of church members; guests provide some of the food. The 2017-18 series will consist of three rounds: Oct-Nov, Jan-Feb, and March-May. The exact dates and times are determined by mutual agreement of the host and guests. The usual host and guest list includes eight people. Sorry, this program is just for adults, but we can help identify potential babysitters.

Tables for All is a wonderful way to meet others at Prince of Peace and to reconnect with old friends.

## RECENT EVENTS

### VBS

We had another successful VBS. This year we had fun being inventors and learning about GOD when we visited Maker Fun Factory - Created by God and Built for a Purpose. We had approximately 50 children attend VBS. Special thanks to the many volunteers who helped make the week a success with their time and energy, making decorations, and donating food/supplies. Special thanks to **Lori Kohne** for coordinating the event. Check out our Facebook page for pictures of all the fun. We had a wonderful week and it would not have been possible without all of the support from the congregation! We are already looking forward to next year when we get "Shipwrecked - Rescued by Jesus" (July 16th - 20th). Mark your calendars!







- 35 backpacks
- 145 notebooks and composition books
- 200 pocket folders
- 41 pencil cases / pouches
- 85 packages of pencils & colored pencils
- 120 highlighters
- 90 packages of pens and markers
- 30 three-ring binders
- Over 200 other items

The distribution was conducted through the month of August to needy children in Montgomery County Public Schools. To see a video on the Interfaith Works Backpack Distribution Program, click on the following:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B0qF7v-VWE>



## School Supply Drive

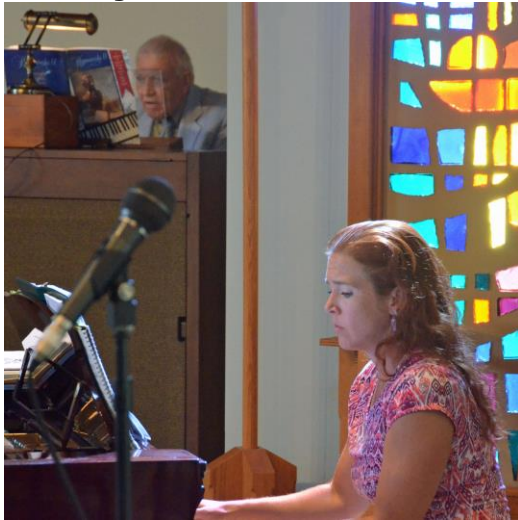
Many THANKS to the members of the congregation and the community who generously donated backpacks and numerous other items for the very successful 2017 School Supplies Drive. The Interfaith Clothing Center (Interfaith Works) was thrilled to receive our car load of supplies which included:

# THANK YOU!

## Summer Office Task

Many thanks to Clara, Eric, and Kevin Ely for their help this summer with office tasks! They also prepared all the empty recycled eggs so they are ready to distribute for next year's Easter Egg hunt - 25 bags of 24 eggs - 600 eggs!

## Sunday Music



Thank you for the wonderful music provided by Danielle Drobny and Bruce Wachholz at our Sunday service, August 27.

## POP OFFICE

We need your used toner and ink cartridges! Bring them to PoP for recycling and we can get a credit toward purchasing office supplies.



Please leave them in the designated box on the table in the foyer. We can save hundreds of dollars each year through this program. We appreciate those who have already been participating!



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.

The Flower Chart still has openings! Flowers can be given in memory or honor of a person or special occasion. A donation of \$30 covers the flowers for a week. Sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex or email the [Office](#).

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

Roadwork around PoP: MD DOT is starting sidewalk work and a road resurfacing project along Rt 28 between Quince Orchard Rd and Argosy Dr. There will be potential one lane closures both directions Mon-Fri 9am-4pm and Sun-Fri 8pm-6am. The projects are expected to be complete by the end of the year.

## THINK ABOUT IT

We teach what we know; we reproduce what we are.

--Robert Schmidgall

Peter Marshall, former chaplain of the U.S. Senate, wrote a little poem worth recalling:

We have the nicest garbage man.  
He empties out our garage can.  
He's just as nice as he can be.  
He always stops and talks to me.  
My mother doesn't like his smell.  
But mother doesn't know him well.

--Calvin Miller

Kites rise highest against the wind, not with it.

--Winston Churchill

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Articles for the October issue of *Glad Tidings* are due **September 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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