



# GLAD TIDINGS



Vol. 36, Iss. 10

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg, MD

Dec 2017/Jan 2018

## Advent Vespers

Join us each **Wednesday** in Advent (**Dec 6, 13 and 20**) for Holden Evening Prayer, a 15 minute hopeful, gentle service of song and prayer starting at **7:15 pm**. Take a short break from your busy holiday schedule to slow down and enjoy this brief but meaningful service. Invite a friend!

Advent:

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

## Christmas Pageant

Come spend some time relaxing and enjoying the season at PoP's Annual Christmas Pageant and Carol Sing-A-Long held on **Sunday, December 10 at 6:00 pm!** This year's Christmas Pageant, "The Very Important Christmas Pageant" by Dennis Hartin, tells the Story of the Birth of Christ with Humor, Mystery and Awe! The performance will be followed by a reception with hot chocolate and desserts.



Pageant rehearsals are underway.

Next one: **Sunday, December 3 (2-5pm)**; then the dress rehearsal on **December 9 (cast and crew 5:15 -7:30 pm)**. Audience is welcome for the dress rehearsal on December 9 after the Saturday service.

## Parents: Bible Presentation

### Weekend

Second graders and older children through 5th grade who have not yet received a Bible from Prince of Peace will receive inscribed Bibles during worship **February 3 and 4**. 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.



## Join Us As We Celebrate Christmas!

**December 23:**

No Saturday service

**December 24:**

9:30 am - Advent service

(only one morning service)

3 & 5 pm - Christmas Eve Children's Services

7 & 10 pm - Christmas Eve Carols & Holy Communion



**Christmas Day:**

10 am - Carols & Holy Communion

**Christmas:**

<http://poplutheran.org/worship/christmas17.html>

**New Years schedule:**

December 30: 5 pm Saturday service

December 31: one Sunday service at 10 am

## PoP T-shirts

PoP T-shirts are back! Only \$15 per shirt! Just in time for your holiday ordering! The new version is a radiant navy blue with the PoP logo on the front, and PoP Rocks! / poplutheran.org on the back.

Great for casual Saturday services, walking the dog in the neighborhood, volunteering for events at church (Yay! Yard sale!), the kids' sporting events, and the list goes on! An order form is located in the narthex with payment due upon delivery. But wait, there's more! All proceeds will go to support the group attending the ELCA Youth Gathering next summer (individual donations are also welcome!) **We would like to place the order by December 11th.** In order to make this the most effective fundraiser, we would like to have an order of at least 100 shirts. If you have questions or are not able to make it to church to order, please email Ric Kienzle ([R.kienzle@yahoo.com](mailto:R.kienzle@yahoo.com)). Thank you for considering this fundraiser, and happy shopping!



## From Pastor Christine...

Pastor Christine Dunn  
([pastorchristine@poplutheran.org](mailto:pastorchristine@poplutheran.org);  
301-869-3666)



The season of Advent is upon us. It is a season of great hope, one which beckons us to holy listening. The characters we closely identify with the Advent and Christmas seasons are Mary and Joseph, and of course baby Jesus. Mary and Joseph are both impregnated with the Word of God through their ears. I know that's an odd distinction to make but I believe it matters a great deal in regards to hope.

Mary and Joseph were both able to find hope in listening, in talking, in partnership.

The church and even our secular society are loudly clanging that Christmas is upon us - a time for joy and family, a time for merry-making and laughter, a time for gift giving and beauty. But for some, the apparent happiness of others only highlights their own sadness, depression, and personal darkness.

People who are at risk for suicide often push through the holiday season for the sake of others, but then feel a tremendous let down afterwards. I know this isn't our usual entrée into Advent, but I bring up the underside of life for a few reasons:

First, Mary and Joseph. Now, it's true that they weren't suicidal or suffering from depression (at least that we know of), but what helped them through a rough period also helps those with depression. Someone listened. Someone reached out. Someone talked to them.

This holiday season (and afterwards when all the hubbub dies down) I strongly encourage you to reach out to that friend you know is going through a rough patch and listen to their story or even sit in silence with them; invite them to a quiet worship service or sit and pray with them; or pick up the phone and tell them you're thinking of them and they aren't alone.

Jesus embodies that hope in small, normal, and simple ways.

Second, Talk Saves Lives. During the month of January (we still have to firm up the date, but I wanted to give you a heads up) we will be having a training session here at Prince of Peace from the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Their presentation will focus on warning signs to look for and on tangible ways we can help those with depression who may be at risk for suicide.

While none of us ever thinks suicide will touch our lives personally, the statistics tell us that the United States averages 121 suicides per day and for every 'successful' suicide there are 25 attempts. As Christians we know that Hope has come to us through the Word. If each of us is able to offer just a small amount of hope through words and listening, it could make all the difference in the world. More information coming soon!

Job 11: 18-19 (not your typical Advent verse, but seems apropos)

You will be secure, because there is hope; you will look about you and take your rest in safety. You will lie down, with no one to make you afraid, and many will court your favor.

Blessed and hopeful Advent to you all.  
Pastor Christine

## December/January Highlights

### Every Sunday

8:30 am Worship with piano and guitar

9:45 am Sunday School (not 12/24 and 12/31)

11:00 am Worship with organ and piano

A Supervised nursery is available during Sunday Services  
See page 1 for changes in Worship schedule.

### Every Tuesday

10:00 am Quilters

12:30 pm Women's Bible Study (pg 6)

### Every Wednesday

7:30 pm Adult Choir (pg 6)

### Every Thursday

6:30 pm Youth Hand Bell Choir

7:30 pm Grace Notes

### Every Saturday

8:00 am Men's Group (pg 6)

5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship

## COMING UP...

### December

- 3 Christmas Pageant Rehearsal (pg 1)
- 3 Confirmation Theme Event
- 3 New Members Reception
- 6 Advent Vespers (pg 1)
- 7 Faith-Full Families (pg 6)
- 9 Mission Trip Mtg at G'burg Church of the Nazarene (pg 5)
- 9 Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal (pg 1)
- 10 Deadline for Poinsettia Order (pg 4)
- 10 Deadline for PoP T-shirt Order (pg 1)
- 10 Christmas Pageant (pg 1)
- 11 Theology on Tap (pg 6)
- 12 Finance Committee Meeting
- 13 Advent Vespers (pg 1)
- 14 Church Council Meeting
- 14 Women's Book Group (pg 7)
- 17 Giving Tree Deadline (pg 4)
- 17 Confirmation Theme Event
- 19 Women's Bible Study Luncheon (pg 6)
- 20 Advent Vespers (pg 1)
- 21 First Day of Winter
- 21 Men's Book Club (pg 7)
- 23 No Saturday Service (pg 1)
- 24 One Morning Service at 9:30 am (pg 1)
- 24 No Sunday School (pg 5)
- 24 Children's Christmas Eve Services- 3 & 5 pm (pg 1)
- 24 Christmas Eve Services - 7 & 10 pm (pg 1)
- 25 Christmas Day Service - 10 am (pg 1)
- 25-26 Church Office Closed
- 30 Saturday Evening Service at 5 pm (pg 1)
- 31 One Morning Service at 10:00 am (pg 1)
- 31 No Sunday School (pg 5)

### January

- 1 New Year's Day
- 1 Church Office Closed
- 4 Faith-Full Families (pg 6)
- 6 Saturday Dinner Out at Panera (pg 7)
- 7 Sunday School Resumes (pg 5)
- 7 Confirmation Theme Event
- 9 Church Council Meeting
- 11 Women's Book Group (pg 7)
- 18 Men's Book Club (pg 7)
- 21 Confirmation Theme Event
- 21 Bible Art Journaling (pg 6)
- 28 Potluck Luncheon (pg 5)
- 28 Annual Congregational Meeting (pg 5)

### February

- 3-4 Bible Presentations (pg 1)
- 3 Saturday Dinner Out at Chipotle

- 4 Souper Bowl Sunday
- 11 Confirmation Theme Event
- 13 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
- 13 Church Council Meeting
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 14 Ash Wednesday Service
- 15 Men's Book Club
- 21 Evening Prayer
- 22 Faith-Full Families
- 24 Chili Cook-Off
- 25 Confirmation Theme Event
- 28 Evening Prayer

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, Madelyn Berkeley-Miltzer, Elizabeth Langum Chung, Brittany (DeGeorge) Daniel, David family, Alex Garretson, Steven Hill, Roy Johnson, Pat Juhrs, Mike Langum, Remi Langum, Kaitlyn McGurgan & her family, Sandy Moore, Heather Robinson, David Rogers, James Rogers, Martha Rogers, Denny Tritinger, Laura Wilson.

### Sympathy

Family of Conrad Potemra (husband of Susan Potemra)

Family of Nancy Blumenschein (teacher of Rachel & Max Carreras)

Family of Tabita Camerino (neighbor of Richard Farrar)

### Thanksgiving

Baptism of Carter Hoffman (son of Lauren Ballou & Steven Hoffman)

Marriage of Lauren Rose & Stephen Kane (daughter of Tim & Donna Rose)

Baptism of Oliver Koundinya (son of Laura & Shank Koundinya)

Baptism of Jeremy & Wesley Watson

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



## CHRISTMAS EVENTS

### 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 10**. 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.



### 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 is located in the Narthex. **Please return your wrapped gifts with the identification card securely attached by December 17th for timely delivery to the families.**



### Daily Texts

Time to order Daily Texts for 2017! 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 by **December 3** and leave payment (\$9) 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 know.



### Shop, Receive and 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 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. View all the participating organizations on the back of the catalog or on the web at [www.GiftsofHopeDC.org](http://www.GiftsofHopeDC.org).

There are a wide variety of gifts such as a week at camp, transportation for women going to job interviews, nutritious meals, backpacks with healthy snacks for foster children. For each gift you select from the catalog you will receive a beautiful Christmas card and a description of the gift you purchased and of the beneficiary organization. Your Gift of Hope is guaranteed to benefit those in need and to please those on your shopping list.

Visit the Gifts of Hope table between or after worship services, starting on **Saturday, December 2nd** to make your purchases.

### AmazonSmile

Don't forget to use AmazonSmile for all your holiday shopping --- 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!

## Joint Bethlehem Service

On Saturday, December 16 at 9:30am, the 11th annual Bethlehem Christmas Simulcast Service joins worshipers here with brothers and sisters at Evangelical Lutheran Christmas Church in Bethlehem. Readings, prayers and carols in both English and Arabic alternate between Washington, DC and Bethlehem via live simulcast. Bishop Graham takes part in worship leadership, and this year Bishop Munib Younan is scheduled to preach. Attend in person at Washington National Cathedral or watch it via livestream at: [youtube.com/wncathedral](https://www.youtube.com/wncathedral). For more info see: <https://metrocelca.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/171216bethlehemsimulcastservice.pdf>

## OTHER EVENTS

### Annual Congregational Meeting

Mark your calendar for our Annual Congregational Meeting on **January 28 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)).



### Honduras Mission Trip

#### Informational Meeting

Haven Universe (a partner with us in the 5K and a Christian community with whom the Kienzle family is involved) has invited us to partner with them on a mission trip this upcoming summer. They are hosting an informational meeting on **Saturday, December 9 from 9-10:30am** at Gaithersburg Church of the Nazarene. Cost of the trip will be approximately \$1500. Pastor Christine plans to attend the meeting and invites anyone to join her. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Christine.

## STEWARDSHIP

### Online Giving

Have you ever considered giving to Prince of Peace online? It's so easy to do! Just go to the church webpage ([poplutheran.org](http://poplutheran.org)) and click the green Donate Online button. There you can create a profile and set up your donations to be direct deducted from a bank account or charged to a credit card in any time increments you'd like. You can also use the website for one-time donations. The benefits to you are that it provides reliable tax records, it allows for easy management of donations, and you don't have to worry when you leave your checkbook sitting on the kitchen counter! 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 then 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.

### Electronic Giving

To donate right now or become an E-Giver, go to [www.poplutheran.org](http://www.poplutheran.org) or scan this QR code with your smart phone or tablet. Thanks for supporting the ministries of Prince of Peace!



## YOUTH MINISTRY

### Upcoming Sunday School Schedule

Regular Sunday School classes will be held on **12/3, 12/10, and 12/17**. There will be no Sunday School on **12/24 and 12/31**. Sunday School resumes on **1/7**.

## Faith-Full Families

Faith-Full Families' Advent event will be held **Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

The Epiphany event will be held on **Thursday, January 4<sup>th</sup>**.

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

## ADULT EDUCATION

### Theology on Tap

Join us for our next Theology on Tap session **Monday, December 11 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 Luther's "Seven Marks of the Church". 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. Pastor Steve leads one of these events each month. Check Weekly Email and the bulletin inserts for the January date, location, and topic. Come join us! 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 typically meets one Sunday evening per month (although we are taking December off). Our next gathering will be **January 21 from 6pm-8pm**. Carmen Hill, a member at Prince of Peace, uses her artistic skills to guide us in our creativity based on a brief scripture lesson led by Pastor Christine. No advance preparation or materials are necessary. This is a fun and creative way to get into God's Word and to enjoy one another's company. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Christine.

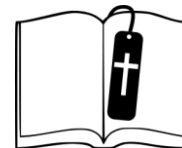
### Men's Group Bible Study

Men's Group Bible Study meets **every Saturday morning around 8:00 am**. Join us for coffee, donuts, fellowship, and a discussion on the Bible

readings for the weekend. It's a good way to get ready for the Sunday sermon!

## PoP Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible study is currently studying the book of Revelation. All are welcome to join us. We meet most Tuesdays from 12:30pm-2pm for studying and fellowship. Feel free to bring a bagged lunch. We are an open and inviting group.



During the month of December we will be meeting on **December 12th and December 19th**. On December 19th we will be having our annual Christmas party. Please bring a white elephant gift and a snack to share. **In January we will meet on the 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th**. If you have questions please see Pastor Christine.

## MUSIC

### 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. If you have any questions, please contact our Choir Director, Lindsey Paradise ([Lindsey\\_paradise@yahoo.com](mailto:Lindsey_paradise@yahoo.com)).

## SOCIAL MINISTRIES

### Gaithersburg HELP

Thank you for supporting the Gaithersburg HELP food pantry! During Sept/Oct we collected **63 peanut butters and 44 jellies!** The collection bucket is always in the foyer... ongoing donations of non-perishable food, diapers, and formula are encouraged!

### Back Door Ministries

#### Box Tops for Education

We support the Navajo Lutheran Mission School in Rock Point, Arizona, with donations of "Box Tops for Education". These special Box Tops can be found on products from brands such as: General Mills, Pillsbury, Green Giant, Old El Paso, Ziploc, Kleenex, Hefty & Scott. The Navajo Lutheran Mission uses the earnings to support the many needs of the school. Our collection basket is on the Social Ministry table in the foyer at the back door. Thanks for supporting this project!

## Other Collections

Our other Back Door Ministries include:

- collections of food & diapers (for Gaithersburg HELP)
- cancelled stamps (for the Village at Rockville)
- hotel-size toiletries (for local Shelters)
- used ink/toner cartridges (receive credit toward office supplies).

Leave your donations in the baskets in the foyer. Thanks!

## FELLOWSHIP

### Saturday Dinner Out

We will take a break in December but invite you to PoP Dinner Out immediately following the Saturday evening service on **Saturday, January 6!** This is a casual way to gather with others, break bread, and enjoy some fellowship. We will be going to Panera Bread in the Kentlands and invite you to join us **around 6:15pm**. 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

The Men's Book Club wraps up the year with a lively discussion of Kim Stanley Robinson's Aurora, which explores what will happen when humanity tries to get beyond Earth and to settle the stars. Aurora is the story of a generation ship sent from Earth to Tau Ceti in hopes of establishing a human colony there. All men of Prince of Peace and their male friends are welcome. We will meet **Thursday, December 21 at 7:30pm**. Snacks and beverages will be provided. Our host will be Chet Wolejsza. Please RSVP directly to Chet at [cwolejsza@aol.com](mailto:cwolejsza@aol.com).

The Men's Book Club starts the new year with a lively discussion of Jonathon Tropper's This Is Where I Leave You, "a riotously funny, emotionally raw novel about love, marriage, divorce, family, and the ties that bind -- whether we like it or not. The death of Judd Foxman's father marks the first time that the entire Foxman family -- including Judd's mother, brothers, and sister -- have been together in years. Simultaneously mourning the death of his father and the demise of his marriage, Judd joins the rest of the Foxmans as they reluctantly submit to their patriarch's dying request: to spend the seven days following the funeral

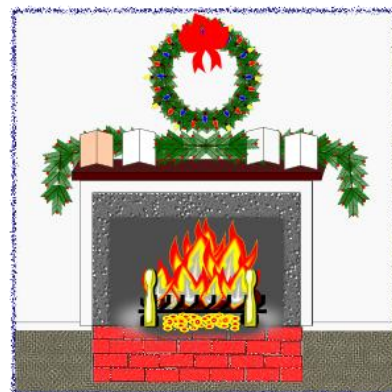
together. In the same house. Like a family." All men of Prince of Peace and their male friends are welcome. We will meet **Thursday, January 18 at 7:30pm**. Snacks and beverages will be provided. Our host will be Steve Von Wald. Please RSVP directly to Steve at [stevevonwald@starpower.net](mailto:stevevonwald@starpower.net)



### Women's Book Group

The Women's Book Group will discuss A Man Called Ove at their meeting on **December 14 at 6:30 pm** at the home of Judy Bruening. This is a story about a grumpy yet lovable man who finds his solitary world turned on its head when a boisterous young family moves in next door. Ove is a curmudgeon, has staunch principles, strict routines, and a short fuse. Behind the cranky exterior there is a story and a sadness. It is a comical and heartwarming tale set in Sweden by Swedish author, Fredrik Backman. Please RSVP to Judy at [judy.bruening53@gmail.com](mailto:judy.bruening53@gmail.com).

On **January 11 at 7:30 pm**, we will discuss The Last Days of Night by Graham Moore, in the home of Jennifer Maloney. Synopsis: New York, 1888. Gas lamps still flicker in the city streets, but the miracle of electric light is in its infancy. The person who controls the means to turn night into day will make history - and a vast fortune. A young untested lawyer takes a case that seems impossible to win. His client, George Westinghouse, has been sued by Thomas Edison over a billion-dollar question: Who invented the light bulb and holds the right to power the country? The task facing him is beyond daunting. Please RSVP to Jennifer at [maloney.jenn@gmail.com](mailto:maloney.jenn@gmail.com).



# RECENT EVENTS

## YOUTH MINISTRY

### Confirmation

Our Confirmation Class of 2017 celebrated their Confirmation as well as the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation on Sunday, October 29th! Congratulations to Cora Barr, Vincent Bornhorst, Max Carreras, Ella Coulson, Tyler Eyester, Kelly Garretson, Adam Hawley, Grey Kienzle, Carolyn Levine, Cooper May, Kaitlyn McGurgan, Hensley Smith, and Camden Spielman!



We thank the confirmands for their continued dedication to the program, and extend thanks to the adult leaders for their time and support in teaching and mentoring these 13 students!



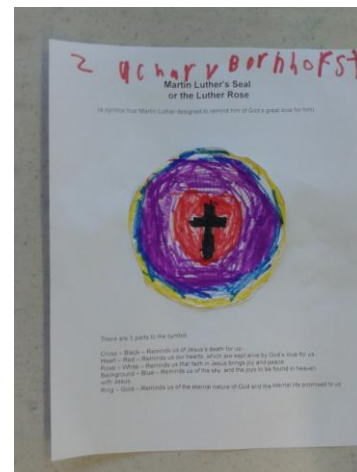
### Sunday School

#### Commemorating Reformation 500

The PreK/K and Elementary classes spent the weeks leading up to the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Reformation Day on October 31<sup>st</sup> studying Martin Luther.

The PreK/K class learned how the printing press made it possible for many more people to have a copy of the Bible in their own homes. We also looked at books written in other languages and talked about how important it is to have a Bible in a language we understand. The class then did a printing activity where we put paint on wooden letters and then pressed paper down on top of them to make an impression - just like a printing press!

In Elementary Cooking Workshops, classes read about the life story of Martin Luther and made pudding desserts with gummy worms to remember the council that tried Luther's case - the Diet of Worms. We also read books and watched videos about Luther and the Reformation, colored Luther's rose, and played Luther bingo and Pin the Theses on the Wittenberg Door.





## The Plagues

Preschool and Elementary classes continued our study of Moses with the plagues. In a Science Workshop related to the first plague of water turned to blood, Elementary classes talked about common water pollutants as we created “plagued” water. We talked about the choices that Moses and Pharaoh made, and considered the impact of our choices on water quality. Then we created our own simple filtration systems to clean our “plagued” water.



## Offering

This fall, we contributed to provide peanut butter and jelly to Gaithersburg Help. In addition to the jars of pb&j we brought in, we were able to buy 15 more peanut butters and 3 jellies with our cash offering.

We also contributed to UNICEF both through trick-or-treat for UNICEF and our November offering. UNICEF is the United Nations Children’s Fund, an organization that works in more than 190 countries and territories to help kids get what they need to survive and grow such as food, water, medicine, and shelter. Here is an idea of the good that our contributions can do: \$8 - kit to give a family clean water to drink and \$15 - 5 mosquito nets to protect kids from malaria.

Our December offering will help support the resident pet program at The Village at Rockville through ELCA Gifts of Hope. Pets give residents a sense of well-being and purpose and play a therapeutic role for vulnerable individuals.

## LWR Personal Care Kits

The preK / kindergarten Sunday School sends out a \*huge\* thank you to all who donated supplies and helped assemble [LWR Personal Care Kits](#)! Thanks to your generosity, the preK/kindergarten Sunday School class was able to assemble over 50 kits with towels, soap, toothbrushes, combs, and nail clippers. Lutheran World Relief, the same organization that distributes our church quilts, will send the personal care kits all over the world to people

fleeing violence or recovering from a natural disaster.



# THANK YOU!

## Reformation Celebration

Many thanks to our Fellowship chairs Pamela Cook and Melanie Zobel, and their crew of volunteers for making our Reformation Celebration such a great success! They decorated the sanctuary for our Reformation services and organized the wonderful German Dinner the following weekend. It was a fun celebration of the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation, and we appreciate everyone who helped and especially Pamela and Melanie for taking the lead!

Many Hands Make Light Work



Thank You For Being So Kind

### A note from Pamela and Melanie:

We would like to give a special thank you to Kathy Mellott, Astrid Crookshank, Jennifer Maloney & Regina Harrington for all their help in decorating and set-up, and to everyone that helped with food donations, breakdown, and clean up!! This event was so much fun and a huge success because of you the Congregation!!! The Fellowship team is very grateful for everyone that helped us!! The Fellowship committee is looking for members, to join the fun or find out more please contact Pamela Cook ([cook1082@verizon.net](mailto:cook1082@verizon.net)) or Melanie Zobel ([mmzobel@aol.com](mailto:mmzobel@aol.com)).

## POP OFFICE

Thanks for your used toner and ink cartridges and keep 'em coming! 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.

## PASSPORT TO THE WORLD: CELEBRATE 100 YEARS WITH LSS/NCA

With your support, LSS/NCA has served the community for 100 years. On March 1, 2018, you're invited to launch another century of serving boldly with us. *Passport to the World* celebrates our community's vibrant diversity, talent, and determination. Guests will be immersed in an enjoyable, colorful, interactive environment showcasing the global

voices we are privileged to serve through the arts and cuisines of Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Eastern Europe. Learn more and purchase tickets at [lssnca.org/passport-to-the-world/](http://lssnca.org/passport-to-the-world/).

## ELCA DISASTER RESPONSE

Please consider giving to ELCA Disaster Response to help those affected by the hurricanes or other disasters. Visit the ELCA Disaster Response webpage to donate. <http://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response>

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