



GLAD TIDINGS



Vol. 37, Iss. 3

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg, MD

April 2018

Easter Sunday!

Come join us for one or more of the following activities on [Easter Sunday](#), April 1.

Worship



8:30, 10:00 & 11:30 am (a different Sunday worship schedule)

Easter Egg Hunt
for Children at 9:45 am



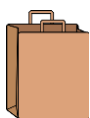
Resurrection Run

Those fabulous Sunday morning runs/walks have precedence in the Bible as the women RAN from the tomb because they couldn't contain their excitement! Here at PoP we are going to greet Easter morning with our own Resurrection Run/Walk. All distances and paces are welcome and we will conclude our Run/Walk with a hymn around the fire and donuts. Each group will have two different speed 'coaches' and the 'coaches' will have map routes so nobody gets lost.

- 5:45am: 5+mile loop leaves from PoP
- 6:00am: 3+mile loop leaves from PoP
- 6:15am: 1+mile loop leaves from PoP
- 6:45am: hymn, donuts, and fire (AKA how runners worship the risen Christ)



For more information, go to <http://poplutheran.org/worship/easter18.html>.



Thank you to all who supported our Lenten Sharing Bags project and to Becky Carr for organizing it!

Thank you to everyone who has offered prayers and support to the Gibson family during Dara's illness! A Caring Bridge page has been set up: <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/daragibson>. See page 3 for more some new ways that you can help.

Sunday School Calendar

Sunday School resumes on April 8, after Easter. Our last Sunday is May 20. All are welcome, any week they are able to attend!

Faith-Full Families

Faith-Full Families' Easter event will be held **Thursday, April 5th 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.



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

Feasting with God

Join us for our annual Women's Retreat on **Saturday, April 14th 9:30am-2:30pm**. The day will include feasts of conversation, foods, hospitality, and thanksgiving. And FUN! And Jesus! The cost is \$35 which will cover lunch and supplies. Sign up in the narthex or email [Pastor Christine](mailto:Pastor.Christine). Please note any dietary restrictions.

Yard Sale



It's time to start planning for our annual Yard Sale! The date for the Yard Sale is **Saturday, June 2**. Start going through your treasures and outgrown items to collect for yard sale drop off **beginning Sunday, May 27 after the church service**. If you can help with planning and organizing, please contact the Office (office@poplutheran.org). Watch for announcements of more ways to help before and during the Yard Sale.



From Pastor Steve...

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

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! We begin and end each service during the Easter season with these words. But in fact, this is the message that frames and focuses every day of our lives as Christians. The Resurrection of Jesus isn't simply one event among many we remember about Jesus' life. Instead, it's THE message that makes all the difference. And we gather every Sunday because we're remembering this event.

But the Resurrection isn't just about remembering a past event in Jesus' life. We say that Christ IS Risen (in the present tense) because the Resurrection of Jesus is a present reality in our lives that is intended each day to give us:

- Hope for the future - life didn't suddenly get easier for the first disciples (in fact, it often got harder!). Like us, they still lived in a world full of threats, war, disease, and death. And eventually, they all died. But the Resurrection was a living hope that even their death was not the end. God had more in store for each of them, as God has more in store for each of us. And that hope meant that the Resurrection also gave them
- Strength to live in the moment - and that didn't mean sitting around until Jesus came back. Instead, because they had experienced new life in Jesus, they actively shared that new life with others. They spoke of their hope. They helped others with their physical needs. And they lived in new ways to give believers and unbelievers alike a foretaste of the coming kingdom of God. The Risen Jesus sent them, and us, into the world to be a present foretaste of the Resurrection. And that kind of living meant that Christians were, and always should be, people who share
- A sense of transcendence in the midst of the turmoil of the world - Jesus didn't suddenly fix the problems of the world. But the Resurrection was and is the assurance that more is at work in the world than chaos, evil,

intrigue, and death. Even more, the Resurrection is the assurance that what God is doing ultimately lasts in ways that evil never can. And that means that the Resurrection of Jesus should condition how we face every day and every challenge in our lives.

Christ is Risen! May these words and this reality give you hope, strength and sense of transcendence during this season of Easter and each day of your life!

Yours in Christ,

February Highlights

Every Sunday

8:30 am Worship with piano and guitar

9:45 am Sunday School (pg 1)

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

Every Thursday

6:30 pm Youth Hand Bell Choir

7:30 pm Grace Notes

Every Saturday

8:00 am Men's Group (pg 5)

5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship

COMING UP...

April

1 Easter Sunday! (pg 1)

1 Resurrection Run (pg 1)

1 Easter Egg Hunt (pg 1)

2 Church Office Closed

5 Faith-Full Families (pg 1)

7 Saturday Dinner Out at Hot Breads (pg 5)

8 Bible Art Journaling (pg 5)

8 Confirmation Theme Event

10 Church Council Meeting

12 Women's Book Group (pp 5, 6)

14 Women's Retreat (pg 1)

19 Men's Book Club (pg 5)

22 Earth Day

22 Confirmation Theme Event

May

- 5 Saturday Dinner Out at Noodles & Co. (pg 5)
- 6 Confirmation Theme Event
- 8 Church Council Meeting
- 10 Women's Book Group (pp 5, 6)
- 17 Men's Book Club
- 20 Confirmation Family Finale
- 24 Faith-Full Families
- 27 Yard Sale drop off starts (pg 1)
- 28-31 Yard Sale Prep (pg 1)

June

- 1 Yard Sale Prep (pg 1)
- 2 Yard Sale! (pg 1)

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, Madelyn Berkeley-Miltzer, Elizabeth Langum Chung, Steve Crookshank, Brittany (DeGeorge) Daniel, David family, Ellen DePalo, Debbie Forish, Alex Garretson, Dara Gibson, Scott Gowing, Steven Hill, Roy Johnson, Pat Juhrs, Sarah Kuykendall, Mike Langum, Remi Langum, Kaitlyn McGurgan & her family, Heather Robinson, David Rogers, James Rogers, Martha Rogers, Sherry Schiebel, Denny Tritinger, Susan Victor, Laura Wilson.

Sympathy

Family of Kim Bardill (sister of Matt Bardill)
Family of Laverne Logan (mother of Barney Cook)
Family of Kathy Rossmeisl
Family of Doris Younkers (mother-in-law of Jaye Younkers)

Thanksgiving

Baptism of Annabelle Mae Smith (daughter of Ashley & Philip Smith)

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

SPOTLIGHT

This month we will take a look at our Care Team.

Our Care Team works together to help our members in time of need. They perform tasks anything from preparing meals for someone who is recently home from the hospital, to taking someone to a doctor's appointment, to sitting with family members when someone needs surgery. The options are endless. If you are interested in volunteering to help, want more information or are in need of help, please contact our Care Team leader, Sharon Wahl (smwahl16@gmail.com).

Following is a notice where our Care Team is currently helping one of our families and is requesting additional help from the rest of the congregation:

Thank you to everyone who has offered prayers and support to the Gibson family during Dara's illness! A Caring Bridge page has been set up: <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/daragibson>. In addition to providing updates, the page is being used to coordinate assistance for the family (such as meals). Click on Ways to Help, then Planner; or contact our Care Team leader, Sharon Wahl (smwahl16@gmail.com), to learn about ways you can help. Additional tasks including childcare, transportation, running errands, etc. will be added as these needs emerge. Please check back to Caring Bridge frequently as support for the Gibsons will continue in the weeks and months ahead.

Special Note to any federal employees: If you would like to support the Gibson family by donating leave to Lauren, please see the 3/15 Journal entry on Dara's Caring Bridge page: <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/daragibson>. Lauren has been approved for the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program. Lauren and Dan are alternating staying home with Dara but Lauren is running out of leave. This is a concrete and meaningful way to help their family.



SAVE THE DATE



Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendars and tell your friends, Prince of Peace Vacation Bible School 2018 is scheduled for July 23-27 (9am-12pm). This year's

theme is "Shipwrecked-Rescued By Jesus". VBS is for children ages 3 (potty trained) through entering 5th grade. Registration forms will be available on the Prince of Peace website as well as at the church starting in May. 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.

Join us for a venture onto an uncharted island where kids survive and thrive while learning there is someone bigger than their struggles and stronger than their weaknesses.

If you have any questions please contact Lori Kohne at lorikohne@hotmail.com.

Interfaith 5K

Mark your calendar for the Montgomery County Interfaith 5K on Labor Day, Monday, Sept 3.

STEWARDSHIP

Donation Statements

All PoP Donation Statements for 2017 have been mailed or emailed. If you did not receive one or have any questions about your Statement, contact Helen Griffith at finsec@poplutheran.org.



Simplify With Online Giving

It's easy and will make your life easier. Just go to the church [webpage \(poplutheran.org\)](http://poplutheran.org) and click the green [Donate Online](#) button. Giving online can help all of us easily provide consistent support for the church. Signup today! Online giving is a win for the church and for the congregation. Please contact Chris Michel (michel_christian@yahoo.com) or Kwame Mensah (mensahkn@gmail.com) with any questions.

Electronic Giving

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



AmazonSmile

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 instead of www.amazon.com. (AmazonSmile will remember the nonprofit previously selected.) It's easy!

YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Gathering 2018!

It's Youth Gathering fundraising time! Youth from Prince of Peace are scheduled to attend the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, TX in June and need your help! These youth are working diligently on several fundraising activities over the next few months, so be on the lookout for these announcements! It often "takes a village" to send a group to this event, which only happens once every three years. We ask that congregation members also prayerfully consider a small donation to alleviate the costs associated with this event. Every little bit helps! If you decide to make a donation, you may drop it in the offering plate or church office noting "Youth Gathering Donation." Thank you for considering a contribution!



ADULT EDUCATION

Theology on Tap

Join us for our next Theology on Tap session. 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 next 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. Our next gathering will be **April 8 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.

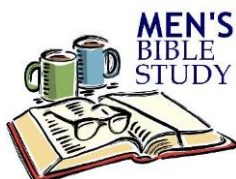
PoP Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study meets every Tuesday from 12:30-2pm. We are reading [Grounded](#) by Diana Butler Bass. You do not have to attend every week. Please join us and feel free to bring a bagged lunch. Questions? See [Pastor Christine](#) (pastorchristine@poplutheran.org).



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!



SOCIAL MINISTRIES

Gaithersburg HELP

Support the Gaithersburg HELP Food Pantry. Currently there is a great need for Cereal and Canned Fruit! Please leave any non-perishable foods donations in the designated bucket in the foyer. Many thanks for all the ongoing donations!

FELLOWSHIP

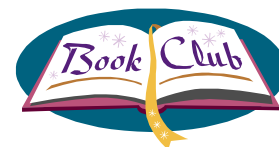
Saturday Dinner Out

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, April 7**, we will be going to [Hot Breads \(70 Market St, Gaithersburg\)](#) 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

On **Saturday, May 5**, we will meet at Noodles & Co. in Kentlands.

Men's Book Club

Continuing in the grand tradition of good books about men written by women, the Men's Book Club tackles [The River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey](#) by Candice Millard. "After his humiliating election defeat in 1912, Roosevelt set his sights on the most punishing physical challenge he could find, the first descent of an unmapped, rapids-choked tributary of the Amazon." All men of Prince of Peace and their male friends are welcome to attend our meeting on **Thursday, April 19, at 7:30pm**. Snacks and beverages will be provided. Our host will be Mike DeGeorge. Please RSVP to Mike at mpd1023@aol.com



Women's Book Group

The Women's Book Group will discuss [The Paris Architect](#) by Charles Belfoure.

A Paris architect is offered a large sum of money to devise hiding places for Jews in Nazi-occupied Paris. He struggles with risking his life for a cause he doesn't really believe in as he has little empathy for the Jews. Yet, he can't resist the challenge and needs the money so he designs expertly concealed hiding places. The more he becomes involved with the project, the more he comes to know the Jews and the more he begins to struggle with his morals. Written by an architect, this book contains detailed descriptions of the architecture during that time. Alice Benson will host this gathering on **Thursday, April 12 at 7:30 pm**. Please RSVP to Alice (bensonfitch@icloud.com).

Future Book Selections and Hosts

May 10 - Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood
by Trevor Noah
host Cherie DeGeorge

June 14 - A Gentleman in Moscow
by Amor Towles,
host Nancy Wolejsza

July 12 - The Girl Who Slept with God
by Val Brelinski,
host Hope Walker

LENT AT POP – 2018

Usually many of us would meet on Wednesdays during Lent for a soup and salad dinner in the Fellowship Hall, then meet with other worshippers in the sanctuary for Holden Evening Prayer. This year we did something different.

From the February and March issues of Glad Tidings:

Seldom do we travel in a straight line. It is rare that our journey follows a singular path. Our lives are filled with twists and turns, some leading us towards God and some leading us away; some turns take us to new and exciting places and some turns are difficult and traumatic.

Lent is a season of conversion and turning. We acknowledge the ways we have turned from God in our lives, and we focus on turning our hearts and minds back towards God.

As is our Lenten practice, we will gather for Holden Evening Prayer at 7:15pm. However, this year, instead of soup suppers we will offer two 'stations' to feed your soul and help you refocus on God.

The two stations mentioned above were a Labyrinth with guided intentions in the Fellowship Hall and a Refreshment Table in the Narthex.

The Labyrinth

The Labyrinth and intention instructions were made by Pastor Christine. The intentions we focused on (one each week) were:

Walk of Celebration - write on a slip of paper something for which you give thanks; such as a celebration at work, a wish for the future, a personal accomplishment

Walk of Letting Go - use your hands to symbolize the act of letting go; hands palm down - a gesture of release, palms up - give your worry/concern/fear to God, folded hands as in prayer or across your chest - giving thanks to God

Walk of Forgiveness - find a rock (or something else you can write on with a sharpie) and write on it the name, initials, or a symbol for someone you need to ask forgiveness *from* OR grant forgiveness *to*

Walk of Healing - find a Bible verse related to physical, emotional, or spiritual healing (several were supplied for that Wednesday); receive communion at the center of the labyrinth

Walk of Joy - blow bubbles or carry a helium balloon and a smile on your face whether you feel joy or not (Unfortunately, we were not able to participate in this one due to snow and ice.)

For each intention, we walked through the labyrinth, at our own pace, with shoes off, while meditating or focusing on the intention for that week. Going in we asked for God's help, coming out we acknowledged and thanked Him for taking our troubles, helping us, and being there for us. The overhead lights in the Fellowship Hall were turned off with only tea lights to see by. Signs and posters with quotes describing the labyrinth and its experience were on the walls. Soft music played in the background helping to create a relaxed, meditative, prayerful experience.



The Refreshment Table

The Refreshment Table was well stocked each week by a different group from PoP. Every Wednesday we could find a variety of cheese and crackers, cookies, brownies, mixed fruit, muffins, and other dessert/snacks. Drinks consisted of a variety of wines, lemonade, and water. Everyone was able to snack and socialize, connecting with other members of the congregation and guests.

Many thanks to Pamela Cook and Melanie Zobel for their hard work setting up, keeping stocked, and taking down the Refreshment Table.

RECENT EVENTS

Sunday School Opening

Sunday School Opening is a lively time!



Chris Michel and the learners act out Palm Sunday events.



Danielle Drobny teaches the group a new song.

Cooking in Sunday School

Our elementary classes love to cook, so Sunday School Leader Anne Witten has tied a cooking activity into each of her lessons for the past 3 ½ years. Here are some photos of the Upper Elementary Class cooking this school year.



Upper Elementary talked about the Christmas story and decorated Christmas cookies.

To illustrate Jesus and Peter walking on water, they made banana boats and retold the story with Teddy Grahams as disciples.



They used peppers to make heart-shaped pizzas and retell the parable of the sower.

POP OFFICE

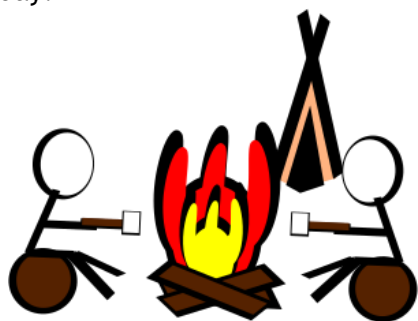
Needed: Ushers

Critical Need for Ushers! Please consider volunteering to serve as an Usher at your preferred Sunday service. If willing, sign up in the narthex or contact the Office (office@poplutheran.org). You will be scheduled every 6-8 weeks. Thank you for helping us fill this critical role!



IT'S SUMMER CAMP!

Registration is open for Mar-Lu-Ridge Summer Camp in nearby Jefferson, MD. Are you ready for the best week of your summer? We have camps for any interest: Space, Adventure, Horseback, Night Owls, Sports, Wild & Crazy, Arts, Cooking, Makers, and so much more! Mar-Lu-Ridge Summer Camp offers Day and Residential camp opportunities for ages 6-17, plus Family Camp. Join us at an Open House **May 20 from 2-4:30pm**; it's a great way to see the camp and meet our staff! Visit our website (<http://www.mar-lu-ridge.org/>) to view the brochure or pickup one from the narthex Bulletin Board - choose your camp today!



WOMEN OF THE ELCA

Want to learn about the Women of the ELCA (WELCA)? Check out their website: <http://www.womenoftheelca.org/>.

To learn more about our local Metro DC Synodical Women's Organization (SWO), please visit the SWO website (dwyercl2.wixsite.com/welca-metrodcsynod) and read the SWO Newsletter, The Joyful News (metrocelca.org/publications/joyfulnews/).

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

Lutheran Disaster Response brings God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, LDR is still there to provide ongoing assistance to those in need. Visit the [ELCA Disaster Response webpage](http://www.elca.org/en/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response) to donate or learn more about how you can help. [<http://www.elca.org/en/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response>]

THINK ABOUT IT

My Sunday school class of kindergarteners was studying the creation story. After several weeks, we were ready to review.

"What did God make the first day?" I quizzed. "The second day?" They answered both questions correctly.

"And what happened on the third day?" I asked.

One little child, face shining with enthusiasm, exclaimed, "He rose from the dead!"

--Michele L. Hardie

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

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Articles for the May issue of *Glad Tidings* are due **April 15**. 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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