



GLAD TIDINGS



Vol. 37, Iss. 10

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg, MD

Dec 2018/Jan2019

Advent Vespers

Join us each **Wednesday** in Advent (**Dec 5, 12 and 19**) 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: <https://poplutheran.org/worship-and-music/advent/>

The Christmas Pageant



Interested in being a part of the Christmas Pageant this year? We need actors, coaches, photographer, lighting controller, sound person, microphone manager, etc. If you are interested, we can find a job for you!

Dates and Times:

Sunday, December 2, 2:00 - 4:30 pm

Rehearsal with props & finish costuming

Sunday, December 9, 2:00 - 4:30 pm

Rehearsal in costume with pictures

Saturday, December 15, 5:15 - 7:30 pm

Dress Rehearsal (audience welcome)

Sunday, December 16, 6 pm

The Christmas Pageant

For more info and/or to sign up, contact Jon or Lisa Conary at lconary@prodigy.net or sign up in the narthex.

During the winter months, if inclement weather requires us to cancel services or activities, a notice will appear on the website homepage (poplutheran.org).



Join Us As We Celebrate Christmas!

Saturday, Dec 22:

No Saturday service

Sunday, Dec 23:

One Sunday service at 10 am;

no Sunday School



Christmas Eve:

3 & 5 pm - Christmas Eve

Children's Services

7 & 10 pm - Christmas Eve

Carols & Holy Communion

Christmas Day:

10 am - Carols & Holy Communion

Share the Good News: invite friends and neighbors!

Christmas: <https://poplutheran.org/worship-and-music/christmas/>

New Years schedule:

December 29:

5 pm Saturday service

December 30:

one Sunday service at 10 am, no Sunday School

January 6:

Regular service times & Sunday School resumes

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 on

January 26 and 27. If your child is between 2nd and 5th grade and has not yet been presented a Bible, please contact Janet Levine (Lyle1Janet@msn.com) so that we have an inscribed Bible ready.



From Pastor Christine...

Pastor Christine Dunn
(pastorchristine@poplutheran.org;
301-869-3666)



Recently I subscribed to an online retreat. Please read that sentence again and notice all the irony contained within it. The very terms 'online' and 'retreat' seem in direct contrast with one another. There is very little about sitting in front of a computer while reading *more* emails and reflecting on *more* information and writing *more* responses that feels very 'retreaty.'

But, I needed something this Advent. Something to help me be contemplative and see the world and faith in a new light. Because, unfortunately, my natural inclination is to power through Advent still breathing and come Christmas morning skid to a hard stop.

I don't want to be wrapped up in commercialism and bogged down by lists. I don't want to rip my hair out every time I try to say something meaningful on the birth of Jesus and I don't want to miss out on the togetherness of family and friends. And yet... as Paul says, "I do not understand what I do. For what I *want* to do I do *not* do, but what I *hate* I do."

In the Gospel of Luke, we read that on the night of Jesus' birth, shepherds arrive at the manger with a story of angels who brought them astounding tidings of a Savior's birth. Luke tells us that all who hear the tale of the shepherds are amazed. The season shimmers with mystery and possibility and I long for that magic again. So, this year I gifted myself 'intention' by recognizing the importance of protecting and preserving promise, by hearing stories of hope through listening deeply to others' faith experiences.

Often the scriptures we read during this season remind us to 'Stay awake' for we do not know the time or the day when Jesus will arrive. This year, I'm praying for a new awakening, to look upon the manger with fresh eyes, to ponder mystery gently in my heart (and not explain it all away).

I share all this with you not because I'm in a bad place, but because I am hopeful and expectant

for this season. I pray you are too. And, I ask you to consider how you will be mindful of the season and the gifts that are offered to us in Jesus.

What will you be intentional about?
What will help you breathe deeply?
What will grant you retreat?

Blessings to you this Advent season. May the morning star which blazes within you guide your heart, mind, and spirit.

December/January Highlights

Every Sunday

8:30 am & 11:00 am Worship

9:45 am Sunday School

A Supervised nursery is available during Sunday Services

Every Tuesday

10:00 am Quilters

12:30 pm Women's Bible Study

Every Wednesday

7:30 pm Adult Choir

Every Thursday

7:30 pm Grace Notes

Every Saturday

8:00 am Men's Group

5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship

COMING UP...

December

- 2 Christmas Pageant Rehearsal (pg 1)
- 2 Confirmation Theme Event
- 5 Advent Holden Evening Prayer (pg 1)
- 6 Faith-Full Families (pg 6)
- 9 Christmas Pageant Rehearsal (pg 1)
- 9 Confirmation Theme Event
- 11 Church Council Meeting
- 12 Advent Holden Prayer (pg 1)
- 12 Men's Book Club (pg 8)
- 13 Women's Book Group (pg 8)
- 15 Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal (pg 1)
- 16 Confirmation Project (pp 3, 6)
- 16 Christmas Pageant (pg 1)
- 19 Advent Holden Prayer (pg 1)
- 21 First Day of Winter
- 22 No Saturday service (pg 1)
- 23 One Sunday Service at 10 am (pg 1)
- 23 No Sunday School (pp 1,
- 24 Christmas Eve
- 24 Christmas Eve Services (pg 1)
- 25 Christmas Day
- 25 Christmas Day Service (pg 1)

25-26 Church Office Closed
 30 One Sunday service at 10 am (pg 1)
 30 No Sunday School (pp 1, 6)
 31 New Year's Eve

January

1 New Year's Day
 1 Church Office Closed
 3 Faith-Full Families (pg 6)
 5 Saturday Dinner Out at Hot Breads (pg 7)
 6 Sunday School Resumes
 6 Confirmation Theme Event
 8 Church Council Meeting
 10 Women's Book Group (pg 8)
 13 Bible Art Journaling (pg 6)
 13 Confirmation Theme Event
 19 Confirmand Project (pg 6)
 21 Martin Luther King, Jr Day
 26-27 Bible Presentation (pg 1)
 27 Annual Congregational Meeting (pg 5)

February

2 Saturday Dinner Out at Noodles & Co. (pg 7)
 10 Confirmation Theme Event
 12 Church Council Meeting
 21 Women's Book Group (pg 8)
 24 Confirmation Theme Event

For a current calendar, see:

<https://poplutheran.org/church-calendars/>

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, Elizabeth Langum Chung, Steve Crookshank, Brittany (DeGeorge) Daniel, Kevin Ely, Dara Gibson, June Herron, Steven Hill, Roy Johnson, Mike Langum, Remi Langum, Kaitlyn McGurgan & her family, Pr. Dave Pearcy, Heather Robinson, David Rogers, James Rogers, Martha Rogers, Tim Rose, Sherry Schiebel, Denny Tritinger, Laura Wilson, Angelo Witten.

Sympathy

Family of Jane Bulla (mother-in-law of Tami Bulla)

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 9.**

Poinsettias are available for \$13 each in Red, Pink, and White. Orders received after Sunday, December 9 but by Monday, December 16 will be for red only.

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.



Our Giving Tree is Here!



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

first and second year Confirmation classes are working with Brown Station 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 **Sunday, December 16th** (late service) for timely delivery to the families.



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.

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 1st to make your purchases.

Questions? Please see Joan Kowalik.

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

SPOTLIGHT

During this time of hope and promise, others find themselves in need. Some of those in need can be found in our own church family. Read on to see how you can help.

The Mensah Family

Join the Mensah family on **December 8th** at the Jingle Bell Run which benefits the Arthritis Foundation. Nyla Mensah has juvenile arthritis and she and her family have been working hard to raise awareness and money to help find a cure. The race is at **8am** and takes place at Seneca Creek State Park. Runners/walkers are encouraged to wear jingle bells and festive attire. Registration info: [www.https://events.arthritis.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.event&eventID=675](https://events.arthritis.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.event&eventID=675). Questions? See Pastor Christine, Kwame, or Dori Mensah.

When registering, please choose Nyla's team 'Dashers'. She's the team captain.

The Gibson Family

Our Care Team will soon resume arranging for evening meals for the Gibson family on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you can help, sign ups will be posted on [Dara's Caring Bridge calendar](#). By again providing meals, we can alleviate some of their daily burdens to allow Lauren and Dan to focus on Dara and the decisions to be made. Please know that your love, prayers and support provide a foundation for the Gibsons' courage and strength as they move forward in this journey.

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 and Dan are back to work currently and their family is enjoying some normalcy, however the future is unknown and leave donations will be needed if things change. Updates can be found on the CaringBridge site.

OTHER EVENTS

Annual Congregational Meeting

Congregational Meeting



Mark your calendar for our Annual Congregational Meeting on January 27 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. Lunch will be served prior to the meeting (following the late service). Fellowship is providing the main course (fried chicken from Popeyes!) and asking the congregation to bring salads, bread, and dessert for the luncheon as well as volunteer for set-up and clean-up. Please look for a Signup Sheet in January or contact Pamela Cook (cook1082@verizon.net) or Melanie Zobel (mmzobel@aol.com).

UPCOMING EVENTS

2019 Trip to the Holy Land

Pastor Steve will be leading a trip to the Holy Land in October of 2019! Would you like to come along? Check out the brochure in the narthex or [click the link here to learn more!](#) This will be a great trip and an excellent opportunity to deepen your faith and to learn more about the Bible and biblical history in a hands-on, experiential way! Please contact [Pastor Steve](#) if you have questions!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Ushers and Greeters



Critical Need for Ushers and Greeters! Please consider volunteering to serve 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!

Counters



Who doesn't love to count money?

Come join the counting team for fun with money!! We

have a wonderful team at Prince of Peace who count and enter the donations into the computer. No experience necessary- there isn't much to it! It's a great way to make new friends and find an easy way to participate at PoP. We are looking for a couple more people to count after church about once a month. We have a very flexible schedule to fit our lives.

For more information or to volunteer, email Helen Griffith (Hgriffith22@gmail.com).

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) 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) or Kwame Mensah (mensahkn@gmail.com) with any questions.

Electronic Giving

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



YOUTH MINISTRY

Sunday School

Sunday School for preschoolers through high schoolers meets weekly from 9:45 am-10:45 am, through 5/19/19, except for:

12/23/18 Christmas weekend

12/30/18 MCPS winter break

04/21/19 Easter Sunday

Everyone is welcome at Sunday School, any week they are able to attend!

Buying a Washing Machine for Namibian Children!

After collecting peanut butter and jelly this fall for Gaithersburg Help, our Sunday School offering for November and December is now going toward the purchase of a washing machine - only \$75! From ELCA Gifts of Hope:

Many children in Namibia live in hostels when they attend school far from home or when parents are unable to care for them. This Gift of Hope will buy a washing machine for one of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Republic of Namibia's 19 hostels, keeping children in clean clothes, and easing the burden on the house mothers.

In Opening, our learners have been talking about how long it takes them to get to school, whether they help with laundry, how much harder they think it is to wash clothes by hand...

A washing machine can change lives! Thanks for your support!

Confirmands

The confirmands have two community service projects in December and January.

Our 1st and 2nd Year Confirmands are continuing to help with the "Giving Tree" in December. They put up the "Giving Tree" on Sunday evening, November 18. They will sort the gifts after late service on Sunday, December 16.

On January 19, starting early in the morning, they will join other volunteers to participate in the Wreaths Across America clean up. They will help clean up and remove the wreaths from the headstones that were placed there by the Wreaths Across America campaign. They will also learn about the unique history of Arlington National Cemetery.

For all inquiries, please contact TL@Huen.com

Faith-Full Families

Faith-Full Families' Advent event will be held Thursday, December 6th 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 3.

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



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. We are taking off

the month of December. Our next gathering will be January 13 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 discussing the book What Is the Bible? by Rob Bell. This is a great time to join our group! All are welcome, come when you can! Feel free to bring a bagged lunch.



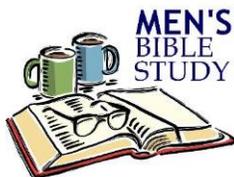
Our Annual Christmas Party is on **Tuesday, December 11**. Come join the fun of the white elephant gift exchange (handmade gift, regift, or \$5 or less) and enjoy a wonderful pot luck luncheon.

Tuesday, December 18 will be a regular class but will not meet on **December 25 and January 1**. Enjoy your holidays! We will resume classes on **Tuesday, January 8**.

Questions? See [Pastor Christine](mailto:pastorchristine@poplutheran.org) (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!



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).



SOCIAL MINISTRIES

Gaithersburg HELP

A huge thanks from Gaithersburg HELP to the Sunday School and all others who contributed to the PB&J drive. When the donated money was converted into jars, the grand total came to 132 jars of peanut butter and 51 jars of jelly. Pretty impressive!

For November and December, Gaithersburg HELP especially needs tuna, boxed cereal and canned fruits. Thanks for your ongoing generosity.

Back Door Ministries

It's easy to participate in our Back Door Ministries! As an extension of our Social Ministry outreach, we have ongoing collections of items for various organizations.

Our Back Door Ministries include:

- collections of food & diapers (for Gaithersburg HELP)
- hotel-size toiletries (for local Shelters)
- Box Tops for Education (for Navajo Lutheran Mission School in AZ)
- cancelled stamps (for the Village at Rockville)
- used ink/toner cartridges (we 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 5!** This is a casual way to gather with others, break bread, and enjoy some fellowship. We will be going to **Hot Breads (70 Market St)** 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

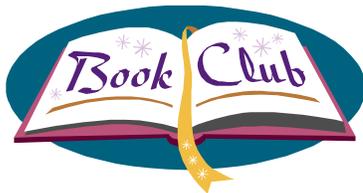
On **Saturday, February 2 at 6:15 pm**, we will meet at Noodles and Co. in the Kentlands.

Men's Book Club

The Men's Book Club concludes its 2018 campaign with a lively discussion of The Language of God: A Scientist Presents Evidence for Belief by Frances Collins. "It has long been believed that science and faith cannot mingle. Faith rejects the rational, while science restricts us to a life with no meaning beyond the physical. It is an irreconcilable war between two polar-opposite ways of thinking and living. Written for believers, agnostics, and atheists alike, The Language of God provides a testament to the power of faith in the midst of suffering without faltering from its logical stride."

We will come together for fellowship and good cheer on **Wednesday, December 12, 7:30 pm** at the home of Sean Dillon. Beer and munchies will be provided. All men of PoP and their male friends are cordially invited. Please RSVP to Sean at sdillon@pinnacleadvisory.com

Check Weekly Email and the bulletin inserts for the next date, book title, and host.



Women's Book Group

The Women's Book Group choice for **Thursday, December 13** is Less by Andrew Sean Greer. Sharon Wahl will be hosting this holiday potluck gathering at **6:30 pm**. Please RSVP to Sharon at smwahl16@gmail.com.

Less is described as a love story, "scintillating satire of the American abroad, a rumination on time and the human heart, a bittersweet romance of chances lost, by an author The New York Times has hailed as inspired, lyrical," "elegiac," "ingenious," as well as "too sappy by half."

Our book choice for **Thursday, January 10, at 7:30 pm**, The Indigo Girl by Natasha Boyd will be hosted by Kathy Mellott. Please RSVP to Kathy at (ufda_gal@yahoo.com).

The Indigo Girl is historical fiction (1739-1744) of how a teenage girl produced indigo dye, which became one of the largest exports out of South

Carolina. Although largely overlooked by historians, the accomplishments of Eliza Lucas influenced the course of U.S. history. When she passed away in 1793, President George Washington served as a pallbearer at her funeral.

Future Book Selections and Hosts

February 21 - The Pearl that Broke its Shell
by Nadia Hashimi*,
host TBD
*Dr. Nashimi is a local pediatrician/author/aspiring Congressperson; we hope that she might be able to join us.

RECENT EVENTS

Confirmation Class of 2018

Congratulations to our most recent Confirmands: Ryne Acheson, Cassidy Bach, William Bolek, Daniel Butler, Jack Kohne, Jack Pogorelc, Connor Robinson, and Zachary Scheider who were confirmed on Reformation Sunday, October 28, capping more than two years of study, preparation and reflection. Thank you to Bob Butler and Chrissie Schneider, their small group leaders, who gave so generously of their time over the last two years to provide guidance, wisdom and support. Additional thanks to the many adults who joined with Pastor Steve to plan and present the theme events during the Confirmands' two years of study.

Sunday School

Prince of Peace preschoolers and kindergartners have been busy for the last six weeks! First we talked about the story of Adam and Eve and how, even when they left the garden of Eden, God was still with them and still loved them. We made apple signs with our names that said, "I am forgiven". For our snack we ate apple rings and made a snake by stringing Froot Loops together. During this unit we also made a snake collage, ate apple slices with caramel dip, and made a fruit snake out of bananas and strawberries. Next we talked about the story of Abraham and Sarah - how God came to them and said that they needed to travel to a new land far away, a land that would be their home. We also talked about how God promised Abraham that his descendants would be more numerous than the stars. Even though Abraham didn't have any children at the time, he trusted that God would find a way! For our craft we made large paper bag stars, to remind us of God's promise to Abraham. Then for

our snack we ate pizzelles - star-shaped cookies! Other crafts and snacks we made included origami tents and trail mix, when we talked about Abraham's journey to a new land. We also made paper star babies, to remind us that we are also children of Abraham and part of God's promise, and decorated star sugar cookies with icing.

Unit on Abraham and Sarah



Unit on Adam and Eve



POP OFFICE

The Flower Chart for 2019 has been posted! Flowers can be given in memory or honor of a person or special occasion. A donation of \$35 covers the flowers for a week, and they are yours to take home after the late service. Sign up on the Chart posted on the bulletin board in the narthex and place your donation (marked "Altar Flowers") in the Offering. Thanks for adding to our worship experience!



Recycling Toner/Ink Cartridges

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!



ELCA 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. With wildfires, hurricanes, flooding, and an earthquake, there are many immediate needs here 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 to donate or learn more about how you can help.

<https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response>

THINK ABOUT IT

The best way to prepare for the coming of Christ is never to forget the presence of Christ.
--William Barclay

Be not angry that you cannot make others as you wish them to be, since you cannot make yourself as you wish to be.
--Thomas á Kempis

Good Friday came after Christmas, but the angels still sang at the manger. In the midst of the hardest reality of life, there is always a welcome for tenderness and beauty.

--Bruce W. Thielemann

God, help us not to despise or oppose what we do not understand.

--William Penn

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 garbage 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

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Articles for the February issue of *Glad Tidings* are due **January 20**. Please e-mail articles to Martha Rogers at GladTidingsEditor@gmail.com. Photos and/or graphics are welcome!

Glad Tidings is online at <https://poplutheran.org>

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