



# GLAD TIDINGS



Vol. 38, Iss. 3

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg, MD

April 2019

Each Wednesday evening during Lent you are invited to join us as we gather for spiritual engagement and fellowship. From 6:30-7:15 pm Self-guided Centering Stations will be available in the Fellowship Hall. Concurrently, refreshments of wine, cheeses and light desserts will be available in the Narthex. You may come at ANYTIME between 6:30-7:15 pm for centering and fellowship. Holden Evening Prayer will begin at 7:15 pm in the Sanctuary.



Holy Week: <https://poplutheran.org/worship-and-music/holy-week-at-prince-of-peace/>

Easter: <https://poplutheran.org/worship-and-music/easter/>

## Volunteers Needed



Volunteers are needed to serve during the Holy Week and Easter Sunday services. Sign-up sheets are posted on the window in the narthex; please sign up if you are available to serve at any of these services. Thanks!

## Filled Easter Eggs Needed!

We need filled Easter Eggs for our Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday! Use your own eggs or pick up some empty recycled eggs from the foyer; just fill and return by 8:30 am on Easter morning. Please include a label with the number of filled eggs in the package. Thanks for helping with this popular, annual event!



## Easter Sunday!

Come join us for one or more of the following activities on Easter Sunday, April 21.

### 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)



## Faith-Full Families

Faith-Full Families' Easter event will be held Thursday, April 25th 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@poplutheran.org)  
([Judy.bruening53@gmail.com](mailto:Judy.bruening53@gmail.com))



## From Pastor Steve...

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

A couple of years ago, some friends in Germany gave me one of those sets of weekly meditations that sit on your desk. For a while now, I've had it turned to one which says in German, "An end shows us the next beginning." And it has a picture of a shoot springing up from the stump of a tree.

As I was looking at that the other day, I thought it was a good page to turn to as we near Holy Week and Easter. For in fact, the journey we go on with Jesus from the cross to the empty tomb is, in fact, God showing us that he's bringing the next beginning from what had been the end.

After Good Friday, the disciples figured that their journey with Jesus had ended. And when Jesus rose and presented himself alive to them, it pointed them in the direction of the next beginning - a new way of following Jesus in the world. And it should be remembered that the next beginning wasn't clear. How were they going to follow Jesus when they couldn't physically see him in front of them? The next beginning wasn't easy. The disciples were sent to new places and new peoples that weren't always friendly or receptive. And the next beginning probably wasn't welcomed by the disciples. After all, they had become accustomed to the way things had been, and many of them probably would have preferred Jesus to lead them back to the way things were.

As modern disciples of Jesus, we're also called to live into the next beginnings that God is giving us. And while we'd like to think that's always a fun and exciting adventure, it often isn't. The next beginning means the loss of what was. And usually (unless it's the loss of having to keep paying on a mortgage!), we don't like loss. The next beginning means learning to follow Jesus in ways that don't have a template for how we need to do things. And the next beginning means accepting a certain amount of uncertainty and ambiguity, when what we'd really prefer is security and certainty.

But since the Resurrection, Jesus has always called his followers to the next beginnings. And while those next beginnings are often fraught with angst and uncertainty, Jesus always promises us that, like those first disciples, he really will be with us. Jesus promises us that there is hope and possibility in the next beginnings. And most of all, Jesus promises us, even when we only see endings, that God will always be giving us new beginnings.

Yours in Christ,



## April Highlights

### **Every Sunday**

8:30 am Worship with piano and guitar

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship with organ and piano

A Supervised nursery is available during Sunday Services

Special schedule on April 21 (pp 1, 5)

### **Every Tuesday**

10:00 am Quilters

12:30 pm Women's Bible Study (pg 5)

Women's Bible Study will not meet on April 2 and 16.

### **Every Wednesday**

7:30 pm Adult Choir (pg 5)

### **Every Thursday**

7:30 pm Grace Notes

### **Every Saturday**

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

5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship

No Saturday service on April 20

## COMING UP...

### April

- 1 April Fool's Day
- 3 Lenten Prayer Service (pg 1)
- 6 Saturday Dinner Out at YoYoGi (pg 6)
- 7 Confirmation Theme Event
- 9 Church Council Meeting
- 10 Lenten Prayer Service (pg 1)
- 11 Women's Book Group (pg 6)
- 14 Palm Sunday
- 18 Maundy Thursday Service (pg 1)
- 18 Men's Book Club (pg 6)
- 19 Good Friday Service (pg 1)
- 20 No Saturday Service
- 21 Easter Sunday! (pg 1)
- 21 Resurrection Run (pg 1)
- 21 No Sunday School (pg 5)
- 21 Easter Egg Hunt (pg 1)
- 22 Earth Day
- 23 Theology on Tap (pg 5)
- 24 Administrative Professionals Day
- 25 Faith-Full Families (pg 1)
- 26 Arbor Day
- 28 First Communion Class

### May

- 2 National Day of Prayer
- 5 First Communion Class
- 6 Saturday Dinner Out at Panera (pg 6)
- 9 Women's Book Group (pg 6)
- 12 Mother's Day
- 12 First Communion Class
- 14 Church Council Meeting
- 18 Armed Forces Day
- 18 First Communion Bread Baking
- 18-19 First Communion
- 19 Last Sunday School (pg 5)
- 26 Start Summer Worship Schedule
- 26 Start Yard Sale collections
- 27 Memorial Day
- 27-31 Yard Sale Prep

### June

- 1 YARD SALE!

For a current calendar, see:

[http://poplutheran.org/Media/calendars/pop\\_calendar.pdf](http://poplutheran.org/Media/calendars/pop_calendar.pdf)

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The Yard Sale (The Big One!) will be on June 1.



We are busy planning for Vacation Bible School. This year's theme is ROAR Life is Wild God is good! Mark your calendars for July 22 - 26. We hope you can join us for another fun adventure.

Montgomery County Interfaith 5K will be on September 2.

## 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, Elizabeth Langum Chung, Brittany (DeGeorge) Daniel, Kevin Ely, Roy Johnson, Mike Langum, Remi Langum, Kaitlyn McGurgan & her family, Jim Mc Nerney, Heather Robinson, Sherry Schiebel, Denny Tritinger, Paul Welborn, Laura Wilson, Angelo Witten

### Sympathy

Family of Eardie Baka  
Family of Florence Forish (mother of Terry Forish)  
Family of Estelita (Titi) Martinez (friend of Nettie Horne)

Family of Dara Gibson

Many of us travelled (through aid and prayer) with the Gibson family in caring for Dara during her journey with DIPG. Many prayers are still needed and updates can still be found at Dara's Caring Bridge page

<https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/daragibson/journal>.

### (EDITOR'S NOTE:

If you are unable to open the link in the newsletter, copy the link into your browser. It should work then.)

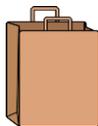
The complete Prayer List is available from the credenza in the narthex and in the Weekly Email sent on Thursdays.

## SPOTLIGHT

This month we are looking at getting a head start on helping others.

### Lenten Sharing Bags are back!

Through April 14th, we will collect items for: [Interfaith Clothing Center](#)-serving needy families in our county; [Shepherd's Table](#)-providing help for the homeless & monetary donations (no bag needed) for [Defeat DIPG Foundation](#)-benefitting children with DIPG through research and support. Please pick up a bag from the narthex (or use your own), fill with as many listed donation items as you'd like, and leave all donations in the narthex by Palm Sunday, April 14.



### It's Not Too Late to Start!

Use this season of reflection and preparation, to start planning for Yard Sale (June 1) with some purposeful decluttering. For ideas on how this can work, consider taking the [40 Bags in 40 Days Challenge](#). The goal is one bag a day, but you can have more or less as appropriate (and you don't have to limit yourself to Lent). To make this work DO keep your treasures for Yard Sale separate from the things that need to go to the trash.

Details can be found in the March issue of Glad Tidings. Contact [Rebecca Claycamp](#) with questions.

### [Honduras Mission Trip 2019!](#)

Prince of Peace has 5 members who'll be joining non-profit org., Haven Universe, for their 2019 trip to Honduras! Chet & Nancy Wolescza, Ric & Grey Kienzle, and "returning champion" Catherine Shober will be traveling in June to assist with medical missions, construction projects, & local outreach. The PoP team asks for prayers and financial contributions toward trip and supply costs. Tax-deductible donations can be made payable to Haven Universe and placed in either the offering plate or the Mission Trip envelope in the Council President's mailbox in the narthex. Our goal is to raise \$10,000. Contributions (large or small!) and continued prayers for a safe & successful mission would be greatly appreciated!

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

### 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](mailto:Hgriffith22@gmail.com))

### 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](mailto:office@poplutheran.org)). You will be scheduled every 6-8 weeks. Thank you for helping us fill this critical role!

## STEWARDSHIP

All PoP Donation Statements for 2018 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](mailto:finsec@poplutheran.org).



2019 Offering Envelopes are now available on the table in the narthex. Please pick yours up today!

### 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!



## 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.

## 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](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

Sunday School will not meet on **Easter, April 21st**. Enjoy a beautiful Easter service with your family! **Our last Sunday School is May 19th**. Everyone is welcome at Sunday School any week you are able to attend!

## 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!

### PoP Women's Bible Study

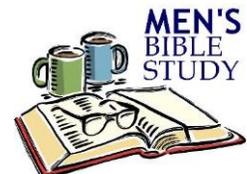
The Women's Bible Study meets every Tuesday from 12:30-2pm. We are reading and discussing [A Life That is Good](#) (based on the book of Proverbs). Please join us any week you can and feel free to bring a bagged lunch. Questions? See [Pastor Christine](#) ([pastorchristine@poplutheran.org](mailto:pastorchristine@poplutheran.org)).



We will not meet on April 2 and 16. Enjoy Lent and Holy Week on those Tuesdays.

### 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](mailto:Lindsey_paradise@yahoo.com)).



## SOCIAL MINISTRIES

### Gaithersburg HELP

Thanks for your ongoing generous food donations. Cereal, tuna and peanut butter are always in high demand, and other items like canned fruits are very much appreciated. Or anything else!

Several new volunteers from POP are starting to get involved, serving as daytime drivers for elderly and disabled neighbors who need to get to medical appointments in the area. We also have some new "food runners" who, as needed, pick up donations or grocery store orders of items on sale. Please check the HELP website, GaithersburgHELP.org or contact Hope Walker if you are interested in volunteering.

### FELLOWSHIP

**Fellowship:** We need great new people to join our team. Please add your name and email to the Fellowship list. There's no pressure, you can pick and choose the events you would like to be involved in!!! Contact [Pamela Cook](mailto:Pamela.Cook).

### Saturday Dinner Out

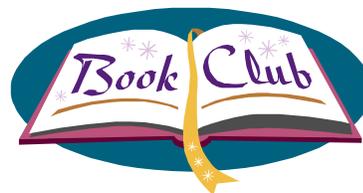
We invite you to PoP Dinner Out immediately following the Saturday evening service! This is a casual way to gather with others, break bread, and enjoy some fellowship. On **Saturday, April 6**, we will be going to YoYoGi Sushi (317 Main St. in the Kentlands) and invite you to join us **around 6:15pm**. 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 @ [r.kienzle@yahoo.com](mailto:r.kienzle@yahoo.com)

On **Saturday, May 4**, we will be going to Panera (285 Kentlands Blvd).



### Men's Book Club

The theme of old boys attending old schools has been much in the news lately. To keep pace with the current narrative, in April the Men's Book Club will discuss Tobias Wolff's Old School. "The protagonist is a boy at an elite prep school in 1960, an outsider who has learned to mimic the negligent manner of his more privileged classmates. Old School explores deceptions and betrayals with an unblinking eye and a bottomless store of empathy. Wolff is an authentic American master." The Men of PoP and their male friends are cordially invited to meet at the home of Sean Dillon on **Thursday, April 18 at 7:30 pm**. Beer and munchies will be provided. Please RSVP to Sean at [sdillon@pinnacleadvisory.com](mailto:sdillon@pinnacleadvisory.com)



### Women's Book Group

On **Thursday, April 11, 7:30 pm** the Women's Book Group will meet at the home of Judy Bruening to discuss Costly Grace: An Evangelical Minister's Rediscovery of Faith, Hope, and Love by Rob Schenck.

In his memoir, Schenck reflects on his path to God, his unconscious abandonment of his principles, and his return to the convictions that guide him. Costly Grace is a story of one man's life in politics and faith.

Please RSVP to [judy.bruening53@gmail.com](mailto:judy.bruening53@gmail.com).

### Future Book Selections and Hosts

May 9 - The Wife Between Us

by Greer Hendricks, Sarah Pekkanen,  
hosted by TBD

June 13 - The Marriage of Opposites

by Alice Hoffman,  
hosted by TBD

July 11 - This Is How It Always Is

by Laurie Frankel,  
hosted by TBD

August 8 - The Gifts of Imperfection: Let Go of Who You Think You're Supposed to Be and Embrace Who You Are

by Brené Brown,  
hosted by TBD

## RECENT EVENTS

The elementary classes studied the wedding at Cana story and learned that Jesus turning the water into wine was a sign that Jesus brings change. Jesus took the old -- the ritual bath water -- and turned it into the new -- fresh wine. We are becoming something new through Jesus, too.

That includes becoming more caring about others, and because we care, doing something to help. We participated in the Students Rebuild Challenge, as we do every year. This year, the Students Rebuild Ocean Challenge invites young people to learn about environmental problems related to our oceans and to help save marine life and support coastal communities. We focused on the problem of plastics pollution in the oceans by watching a video; to see it, Google "TED-Ed plastic bottle video."

We compared a lunch bag with throw-away plastics to one with re-usable items, and talked about ways to avoid using disposable plastic. Then we made a variety of sea-creature art. Students Rebuild will donate \$2 for every artwork submitted - up to \$500,000 - towards youth-focused, science-based programs aimed at developing a new generation of citizen-conservationists who can help restore ocean health.

This is a great project for schools and scouts troops. The challenge continues through World Oceans Day, June 8, 2019. Learn more by Googling: "students rebuild ocean challenge." An easy way for young people to learn about a problem and do something to help!



## 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!



## Serving in Worship Schedule

The Serving in Worship schedule for April and May has been posted on our [website](#) and the bulletin board in the narthex. Please review it and make arrangements for any conflicts. Thanks!

## 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.

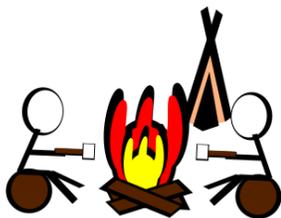
<https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response>

## SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Ready to jump into a new adventure?!? The programming at Mar-Lu-Ridge is Christ-centered, fun, and safe. Residential camps for ages 6-17, day camps for ages 6-10, and off-site Mobile Mar Lu day camps are offered.

Check out the [brochure](#) for information about the different camps and cost. Also available is a [registration link](#).

Do you love working with children and being outdoors? Is God calling you to serve in a new and exciting way? We have just the job for you! Check out our [application](#) today!



## 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

The accounting department of a large insurance company was working on year-end reports when the computers went down. An emergency call was put in to the systems analyst. Busy with other troubleshooting, the man didn't appear until three hours later. Yet even then several clerks cheered, “He's here! Our savior!” the analyst said with a smile. “I remember what they did to the last savior.”

--Marla J. Kiley

Woman--last at the cross, and earliest at the grave.

--E.S. Barrett

*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 21**. 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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