



GLAD TIDINGS



Vol. 39, Iss. 1

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg, MD

February 2020

SOUPer Bowl Sunday

The SOUPer Bowl drive is back on February 2! We will be collecting hearty soups and stew for [Gaithersburg HELP](#) through February



2nd. Pick up a can or two (or 10!) and place in the collection box decorated with your football pick for the Super Bowl! A new feature this year, invented especially for non-football fans or fans of neither team will be a "Who Cares?" box.



Sunday School is also collecting stew, hearty soup, or cash to benefit Gaithersburg HELP until Super Bowl Sunday.

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 **February 8 and 9**. 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 will have an inscribed Bible ready.



Updated Photo Directory Under Construction -Your Input Needed!



A draft of our updated photo directory has been posted in the narthex. Please review your entry and correct information, especially contact information, that has

changed. Place a check mark if your information is correct.

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



Congratulations to Our Church Council Members!



Newly elected: Jon Conary, Scott Gowing, Kwame Mensah (re-elected), and Katrena Huen (youth position).

Continuing: Lisa Adams, Pamela Cook, Lauren Gibson, Bill Harral, Chris Michel and Catherine Shober.

Thank you for your service on council: Ric Kienzle Susan Tritinger, and Carolyn Levine.

Copies of the Annual Report are available in the narthex.

Many Thanks to Pamela Cook, Melanie Zobel, and the rest of the Fellowship Team for the delicious lunch provided before the Annual meeting!

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner



All are welcome to attend the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner on **Tuesday, February 25th in the Fellowship Hall from 5-7 pm**. Youth, 6th grade and up, are needed to cook and serve a delicious

dinner of pancakes and sausage.

Gluten free pancakes are also on the menu. A free-will donation will be taken during the dinner to support youth activities.

Questions, please contact Pastor Christine (pastorchristine@poplutheran.org) or Lori Kohne (lorikohne@hotmail.com).



Ash Wednesday



Come join us as we begin our Lenten journey at our Ash Wednesday service on **February 26 at 7:30 pm**. Then during the Wednesdays in Lent beginning **March 4**, we will hold Evening Prayer at 7:15 pm.



From Pastor Steve...

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

On December 22, at the celebration of Pr. Christine's 10th Anniversary of Ordination, we signed the final check to pay off the church mortgage! And so we entered this new year and this new decade with no debt for the first time in 30 years. And don't things look and feel different around here now?!

Actually of course, nothing really looks different. And nothing probably feels different, unless you were part of a relatively small group of folks who worked with the finances over the years trying to figure out how to pay down the debt.

That's what makes debt reduction campaigns so hard to do. There are basically three kinds of capital campaigns that churches do. There are campaigns to: build new buildings; renovate and repair existing structures; and pay down debt. They get harder as you go down that list.

So we did a hard thing! About 5 years ago, when we started paying down the debt in earnest, we still had about \$600K left on our mortgage. But lots of folks at Prince of Peace made an effort to contribute and kept up the commitment. And now, our situation really is different, and in a good way!

The thing is, you can't see that difference by looking around. Other than the "Running to the Feast" little man who's now crossed the finish line, there's no visible difference. You can't feel the difference, except perhaps for a sense of relief that will probably fade in a few months. And nothing we do here will change because we've paid off the mortgage, *unless* we're willing to re-direct the money, time and effort we've been giving towards debt reduction to do some new things.

And so, we're asking everyone to help us move forward by contributing to the Feast Fund in support of our [Feast Fund goals for 2020](#) (many of which we WILL be able to see!) If you were making regular contributions to Debt Reduction, please re-direct those gifts to the Feast Fund. If

you weren't making regular contributions to Debt Reduction, please make an additional gift this year (weekly, monthly or annually) to the Feast Fund.

Now that our debt is gone, things really are different for us. Let's redirect the money, time and effort we put into debt reduction into new things, so that the difference can be seen and experienced!

Yours in Christ,

February 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

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

7:30 pm Grace Notes

Every Saturday

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

5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship

COMING UP...

February

1 Saturday Dinner Out (pp 6-7)

2 "Souper" Bowl Sunday (pg 1)

8-9 Bible Presentation (pg 1)

9 Confirmation Theme Event #9

11 Church Council Meeting

13 Women's Book Group (pg 7)

14 Valentine's Day

16 Bible Art Journaling (pg 6)

17 President's Day

20 Men's Book Club (pg 7)

23 Confirmation Theme Event #10

25 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner (pg 1)

26 Ash Wednesday (pg 1)

March

- 1 Confirmation Theme Event #11
- 4 Devotions and Holden Evening Prayer (pg 4)
- 5 Faith-Full Families (pg 5)
- 8 Daylight Saving Time Begins
- 10 Church Council Meeting
- 11 Devotions and Holden Evening Prayer (pg 4)
- 15 Confirmation Theme Event #12
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 18 Devotions and Holden Evening Prayer (pg 4)
- 21 Movie: "Emanuel" (pg 4)
- 22 Bible Art Journaling
- 25 Devotions and Holden Evening Prayer (pg 4)
- 29 Confirmation Theme Event #13

April

- 1 Devotions and Holden Evening Prayer (pg 4)
- 5 Palm Sunday (pg 4)
- 12 Easter Sunday (pg 4)

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

Elizabeth Langum Chung, Brittany (DeGeorge) Daniel, Kevin Ely, Annie Hampe, Roy Johnson, Chris Knaus (deployed to Afghanistan), Mike Langum, Remi Langum, Kaitlyn McGurgan & her family, John Miltzer, Dick & Sandy Moore, Heather Robinson, Martha Rogers, Sherry Schiebel, Laura Wilson, Angelo Witten & family, Nancy Wolejsza, John Zobel.

Sympathy

Bethany & Adam Johns (friends of Sarah Kuykendall)

Thanksgiving

Baptism of Logan Greenberg (son of Michael & Stephanie Greenberg)
Birth of Rowan Marie Kane (daughter of Lauren Rose Kane & Stephen Kane, granddaughter of Donna & Tim Rose)

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

SPOTLIGHT

We held our Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 26. Besides the pastor and financial reports, a few other items of business were addressed.



First, new members were elected to our Church Council. See page one for more information about who is on the Council for 2020.

Along with the Church Council, the nominating committee was chosen. Many thanks to Becky Carr and Sarah Kuykendall for volunteering.

We found out that we will continue with the Yard Sale, but there will be changes. More information about this is coming.



Announcements were made that Gordon Gipe and Gregg and Rebecca Claycamp are leaving. They will be missed.

At the end of the meeting, Pastor Steve and Pamela Cook burned a copy of our mortgage papers - a symbol that our mortgage is paid off.



Now we are looking forward to a more adventurous and fuller 2020!

More Celebratory Pics!



The Final Mortgage Check!



↑ The track for the race to the Feast! ↓



UPCOMING EVENTS

Lenten Wednesday Services

Each Wednesday evening during Lent you are invited to join us as we gather for spiritual engagement and fellowship. From 6:30-7:15pm there will be a devotional exercise 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 6:30-7:15pm for centering and fellowship. Holden Evening Prayer will begin at 7:15pm in the Sanctuary.



Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday

Service times for Palm Sunday (April 5) will be held at the usual times: Saturday, 5:00 pm; Sunday, 8:30 and 11:00 am.

There will be a change in service times for Easter Sunday (April 12). All services will be on Easter Sunday morning: 8:30, 10:00, and 11:30 am.

Movie Night: "Emanuel"

Please join us on Saturday, March 21st at 6pm for a screening of the movie "Emanuel." Pizza and lemonade will be provided. Feel free to bring something to share or an adult beverage. We encourage you to bring friends, too! After the movie, time will be provided for casual conversation, to debrief the movie.



The documentary chronicles the story of Dylan Roof, a 21-year-old white supremacist and member of the ELCA, who opened fire in church, leaving nine African Americans dead—leaving their families and the nation to grapple with this senseless act of terror. In the midst of unspeakable grief and suffering, the families of the Emanuel Nine faced the killer and offered words of forgiveness. Their demonstration of grace ushered the way for hope and healing across a city and the nation. The documentary powerfully weaves the history of race relations in Charleston, the significance and impact of Mother Emanuel Church, and the hope that somehow emerges in the aftermath. It's the story that rocked a city and a nation as it happened ... and the days that followed. "Emanuel" is a poignant story of justice and faith, love and hate, examining the healing power of forgiveness.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Ushers, Greeters, Team Leader,



Snacks

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!

Also needed for late service: snack provider for the 1st Sunday late and team leader (starting in March) for the 2nd Sunday.

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

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!

Electronic Giving

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



2020 Offering Envelopes

You'll find them on the table in the narthex. Pick yours up today! If you do not want your offering envelopes OR if you do not find a box with your name and want envelopes, please let [Bob Butler](#) or the [office](#) know.

Online Giving

It's easy and will make your life easier. Just go to the church [webpage \(poplutheran.org\)](https://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.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Faith-Full Families

Faith-Full Families' Lent event will be held Thursday, March 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](#) (Judy.bruening53@gmail.com)

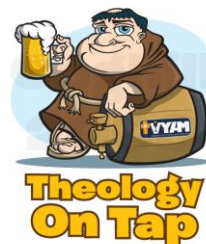
ADULT EDUCATION

Living into the Word

Each month, using material prepared by Pastor Steve, a few small groups meet to study and discuss a Sunday Bible reading. Look for new dates and times for February. Please sign up for a group using our [Sign up link](#). Come and join in!

Theology on Tap

Join us for our next Theology on Tap session, 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

February 16 from 5pm-7pm. 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 switching gears back into studying a book of the Bible. We are reading and discussing 1 Chronicles. 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).

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).



FELLOWSHIP

Board Game Night



Happy 2020! We've had a little hiatus due to the holidays, but I'd like to schedule another board game night. Let me know which of the following dates would or would not work for you:

Fri Feb 7 Sat Feb 8 Sat Feb 15
 Fri Feb 21 Sat Feb 22

I also posted a poll on the Facebook group. You can answer there instead of it's easier.

If you're on Facebook and want to find our group just search of Prince of Peace Board Gamers and ask to join.

As a reminder - here is a list of games I have available, in roughly descending order of complexity (read right to left and go down). Let me know if you'd like to add any of your games to the list.

Dominant Species	Eclipse
Game of Thrones	Twilight Struggle (2 player only)
Scythe	Terraforming Mars
The Castles of Burgundy	Viticulture
Champions of Midgard	Agricola
Pandemic (cooperative)	Robo Rally
Settlers of Catan	Memoir '44
Quarantine	Imhotep
Star Realms	Shards of Infinity
Takenoko	Quarriors!
Ticket to Ride	Ticket to Ride: Europe
Carcassonne	Wasabi!
Azul	Splendor
Tak	Onitama
Bottom of the 9th	King of Tokyo
Codenames	Sushi Go Party
Tsuro	The Mind
Kingdomino	Dr. Eureka

For questions or more information, contact [Chris Michel](#).

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, February 1**, 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

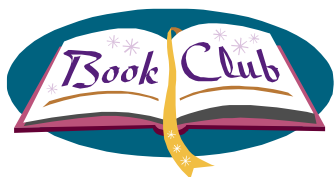
tables together to enjoy each other's company. All are welcome! Any questions please contact Ric Kienzle @ r.kienzle@yahoo.com



Men's Book Club

The Men's Book Club crosses the Atlantic with a lively discussion of Patrick Radden Keefe's [Say Nothing: A True Story of Murder and Memory in Northern Ireland](#) which is an account of the bloody sectarian conflict between Catholics and Protestants that extended from the late 1960's to the Good Friday peace accord of 1998.

All men of Prince of Peace and their male friends are warmly invited to our next meeting on **Thursday, February 20 at 7:30 pm**. Beer and munchies will be provided. Please RSVP to [Sean Dillon](#).



Women's Book Group

February's selection is [Educated](#) by Tara Westover. Cherie DeGeorge will host on **Thursday, February 13 at 7:30 pm**. Tara Westover was seventeen the first time she set foot in a classroom. Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, her father forbade traditional medicine and education. She taught herself and was admitted to Brigham Young University and eventually received a PhD from Cambridge University. This is a story of fierce family loyalty and the grief of severing ties. RSVP to cdegeorge@aol.com.



The POP Book Group ended a wonderful year of reading and fellowship with the annual Christmas party and book swap. Many thanks to Lisa Woodard for hosting the gathering.

RECENT EVENTS

Sunday School: Lower and Upper Elementary

Lower and Upper Elementary classes each made a Christmas story trifle. The bottom layer was animal crackers for the manger animals, next were strawberries for the straw in the manger, then angel food cake for the angels, next vanilla pudding since its golden color reminds us of the wise men's gift to baby Jesus, and finally, whipped cream and star cookies to represent the star in the sky over Bethlehem.



Sunday School Offering

In January, our offering went toward the Souper Bowl Sunday collection to provide stew and hearty soup to clients of Gaithersburg HELP.

Now, we are working toward providing a solar-powered lantern for a family in sub-Saharan Africa through the *ELCA Good Gifts* catalog. In



sub-Saharan Africa, only 25% of rural households have access to electricity. Without lighting, it's difficult for children and

families to read, study, or complete other household tasks without burning costly fuel and breathing in dangerous fumes. A \$30, portable, solar-charged lantern is a perfect solution. Let that little light shine!

Sunday School: Preschool/K and Elementary

Preschool/K and Elementary School classes have been learning about Joseph and his experiences with his brothers and Pharaoh. Here, two members of our PreK/K class model their visions of Joseph's coat of many colors.



POP OFFICE

Serving in Worship Schedule

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

Flower Chart

The 2020 Flower Chart is now available on the bulletin board in the narthex for your flower dedications for the coming year. 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!



Kitchen Care

Help us keep the kitchen tidy and organized! Please check out our new kitchen rules so that we can keep it clean and tidy and make it easier for everyone to use.

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 earthquakes, there are many immediate needs here and around the world. Visit the [ELCA Disaster Response webpage \(https://elca.org/disaster\)](https://elca.org/disaster) to donate or learn more about how you can help.

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Articles for the March issue of *Glad Tidings* are due **February 16**. 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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