



GLAD TIDINGS



Vol. 39, Iss. 8

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg, MD

October 2020

Fall Opportunity Updates

And, as the weather becomes cooler, we are planning to offer multiple opportunities for outdoor in-person worship and fellowship apart from online worship. At this point, these include short, [monthly opportunities to receive communion](#) (pg 1), our annual [Animal Blessing](#) (pg 1), and the Service of Confirmation (pg 1).

We have also tweaked many of our regular fall activities, so that we can continue to hold them in a different format. This includes [Theology on Tap](#) (pg 5), [Bible Art Journaling](#) (pg 5) and [Faithful Families](#) (pg 5).

Please watch the emails and website for more events and additional opportunities.

Blessing of Animals

Our Annual Blessing of Animals will take place at 3 pm on Saturday, October 3!

This year, our animal blessing will be a stand-alone, live event in the back parking lot. The rite will last about 10 minutes, but you're welcome to come anytime between 3:00 - 4:00 pm to have your pets blessed and see one another. Please do wear a mask and maintain social distance.



Help Update Our Bulletin Board



Our bulletin board needs updating (it's still decorated for Lent!). While we aren't all in the building right now, we would love to have your

smiling faces for those of us who are. Please [email the office](#) (or send us) a picture or drawing of your family to display! The picture can be from a family event over the summer, a quarantine moment, back-to-school day, or a posed picture. We will periodically share the updated bulletin board on Facebook, so everyone can enjoy it. We are all in this together. #POPfamilystrong!

Outdoor, In-Person Communion

We will be offering outdoor, in-person Communion on **Wednesday, October 21st at 6pm** in the back parking lot of Prince of Peace. Pre-packaged individual communion kits will be available for each person. The rite will last approximately 15 minutes, with time for brief conversation afterwards. We will plan to be outside and maintain physical distance from one another. Please wear a mask. Questions? Contact either [Pastor Steve](#) or [Pastor Christine](#).



Confirmands!



Confirmation has resumed online classes! Ten of our young people and their parents are involved in this year's class. If you'd like to learn more, please contact [Pastor Steve](#) or [Lori Kohne](#)!

Also, everyone is invited to our **Outdoor Confirmation Service on Sunday, October 25 at 4 pm!** This will be just the service of Confirmation and will last about 20 minutes. We'll be in the back parking lot, and attendees are asked to wear masks and keep social distance. The service will also be streamed live on our Facebook page. **This year's Confirmands are Ricky Bolek, Rachel Carreras, Kate Hawley, Stella Meyer, and Sawyer Smith!**

All Saints' Day

On All Saints' Day, November 1, we will celebrate one of the oldest festivals of the Church. During worship there will be a time to remember family and friends who have gone before us. If there are some special people you would like to remember on this day, please submit their names to the [Church Office](#) (office@poplutheran.org) and their names will be spoken during the service. Please include your name, their name(s), relationship to you, and whether the passing occurred in the past year. Please submit names by **Wednesday, October 28.**



From Pastor Christine...

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



A few weeks ago, I presided at the wedding of a friend. It wasn't everything they had planned. Not even close. And in a couple more weeks, I am presiding at another wedding. And it's not going to be what they had envisioned either. It's hard to not think about how much COVID has taken away.

There was less hugging, less ease, less comfort. All I could do was offer the words. And I had to trust that the words would hold God's promises somehow.

This moment has got me thinking about all the loss of contact we've been experiencing in our lives. I miss terribly being able to look at each of you in the eyes as I place the bread in your hands. I miss hearing the whispered 'amens' and the 'thanks be to God's.' I miss making the sign of the cross on children. I miss the holy space that is created when we are in the presence of one another and God.

Since I've been pondering weddings, I've had the chance to think about miracles. When Mary tells Jesus they have run out of wine, he doesn't go and touch the water. His words bring the miracle about. And in Matthew when the paralyzed man is brought to Jesus by his friends, it is Jesus' words that compel him to get up. Not his touch. And when the 5000 are fed, Jesus does not touch the bread or fish. When the 10 lepers are healed - Jesus simply tells them to go and present themselves at the temple.

I am reminded that the Spirit moves and works and does the work of God in many ways, not just through touch. And it wasn't only through Jesus's hands that the miracles came to be - often it was through the hands of his disciples or friends or people in the crowd.

Since I am missing the physical presence of so many right now, this realization of how miracles so often come about matters to me. Just because we are separate during this time of struggle and heartache, it does not mean the space is any less

holy. Rather, I believe the Spirit just expands to surround us all in Her enveloping embrace.

Grace upon grace in these unknown times.



October Highlights

Every Sunday

- 9:00 am Preschool and Elementary Sunday School on Zoom
- 9:00 am Middle School Sunday School on Zoom
- 10:00 am Worship streamed on our Facebook Page
- 11:00 am High School Sunday School on Zoom

Every Monday

- 8:30 pm Night Prayer - Pastor Steve will lead us in Compline (10-15 minute prayer at the close of the day). This will be streamed on our Facebook page.

Every Tuesday

- 12:30 pm Women's Bible Study

Every Friday

- 7:00 pm Story Time for Children - Pastor Christine will lead story time for children. This will be streamed on our Facebook page.

COMING UP...

October

- 3 Blessing of Animals (pg 1)
- 4 Online Bible Art Journaling (pg 5)
- 8 Women's Book Group (pp 6-7)
- 12 Columbus Day
- 13 Church Council Meeting
- 21 Outdoor In-person Communion (pg 1)
- 25 Service of Confirmation (pg 1)
- 28 Names for All Saints' Day due (pg 1)
- 31 Halloween

November

- 1 Daylight Saving Time Ends
- 1 All Saints' Day (pg 1)
- 3 Election Day
- 8 Due: Faith-Full Families kit request (pg 5)
- 10 Church Council Meeting
- 11 Veterans Day
- 12 Women's Book Group (pg 7)
- 14 Faith-Full Families "To Go" (pg 5)
- 26 Thanksgiving Day

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, Mike & Remi Langum, Kaitlyn McGurgan & her family, Gail Moran, Dick and Sandy Moore, Heather Robinson, Martha Rogers, Sherry Schiebel, Laura Wilson

Thanksgiving

Birth of Tomakyi Ilarion Yanevskyy (son of Emma & Alex Yanevskyy)
Marriage of James Rogers & Theodora Martin

Ongoing

For Racial justice and equality
All those struggling with Covid-19 and their Caregivers
All those impacted by the West Coast fires
All those impacted by the storms and hurricanes

The complete Prayer List is available in the Weekly Email sent on Thursdays and at the following website:

https://poplutheran.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/PoP_Prayer_List.pdf



SPOTLIGHT

Flash Clothing Drive

Columbus Day Weekend! Look no further, there is finally a place for all of the clothes you were waiting to donate to yard sale! Please stop by Prince of Peace over Columbus Day weekend, and drop off your gently used, clean adult and children's clothing. Clothes will be stored in the fellowship hall for several days to ensure safe handling, and then they will be delivered to [Interfaith Works Clothing Center in Rockville](#).

Clothes should be clean and folded, and preferably organized by size, age, and gender. Interfaith Works is also in need of new underwear and socks for adults and youth, so if you are feeling generous, we would be happy to take these items as well. Lastly, business attire is always a good donation.

Drop off times:

Friday, October 9
from 6-8pm

Saturday, October 10
from 6-8 pm

Sunday, October 11
from 1-3pm



Simply drive around to the rear parking lot and drop your items on the sidewalk. If you are able to volunteer during these times, please contact [Christian Michel](#) or [Bill Herral](#) (or just show up!). Interfaith Works Clothing Center in Rockville is also in need of volunteers, so if that is your cup of tea, please reach out to Chris or Bill, or check with IWCC directly.

STEWARDSHIP

Giving During Covid

You may send offering checks to the church (although [we're encouraging online donations](#) if you can do that.) But, mail will still be checked and your offerings deposited. We appreciate your continued support of our congregation during this time! See below for more information related to online donations.

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!

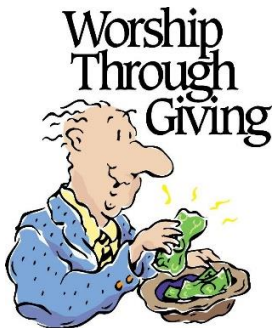


Online Giving

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.

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

Sunday School

Preschool and Elementary Classes

With our new Dig In curriculum from Group, we have a new Bible story each week. Coming up in October are stories about Hagar, the tabernacle, Elijah, and Elisha. Our activities so far have included a lot of science content. Here's a trivia question: Do you think there are more trees on Earth or stars in the Milky Way? (The answer can be found below, just keep reading.)

Our goal is to have the most age-specific experience possible while also giving the learners the chance to interact with their peers. Right now, we have a PreK - Lower Elementary class and an Upper Elementary class. If a few more preschoolers join us, we would be happy to have a dedicated class for them. Although the classes for the younger learners have been combined, we have content appropriate for the range of ages. Parents and other family members are welcome to join their child in our Zoom classes.

Our elementary learners use Bibles (Good News Translation, also called Today's English Version) weekly, so if your learner needs to borrow one, let us know, and we will get one to you.

We meet each Sunday on Zoom from 9:00 - 9:40 am. We realize that another Zoom experience may not be right for your child every week. Feel free to give us your information so we can send you a Zoom link for those weeks a Sunday School class will work.

Sunday School leaders take turns leading each of the two classes and we also take turns shepherding the Upper Elementary class, so we can continue to see all the children. Ms. Danielle joins us each week to lead us in song and dance.

Opening Music: Danielle Drobny

Leaders for both classes and Upper Elementary Shepherd: Lisa Conary, Jamie Pflasterer, Janet Levine, and Anne Witten

PreK - Lower Elementary Shepherd: Trish Taylor

Email Janet Levine (Lyle1Janet@msn.com) to be added to our email list, and contact Janet or any of the leaders with questions, concerns, or comments. (Answer to the trivia question: The Earth is estimated to have about 1 trillion trees and the galaxy is estimated to have 100-400 billion stars.)



Peanut Butter and Jelly for Gaithersburg Help



Please join Sunday School families in contributing peanut butter and jelly to help kids in our community have filling and simple sandwiches they can make themselves. Although MCPS provides free breakfasts and lunches, it is not always easy for students to make their way to school four days a week during the lunch hour to pick them up. Please consider dropping off donations in the containers outside the doors at church or making an online donation by clicking here (<https://www.gaithersburghelp.org/>).



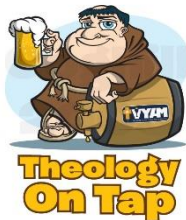
Faithful Families "To Go"!

Faithful Families is now available "To-Go." Are you a parent or grandparent of young children and want some hands-on, fun, faith-enriching activities to do at home? We will have **Thanksgiving To-Go Boxes** available on **November 14th**. The kits will include: crafts, prayer, story, table decorations, and family-fun items related to the theme of Thankfulness. Please email [Judy Bruening](mailto:judybruening@gmail.com) or [Pastor Christine](mailto:pastorchristine@poplutheran.org) by November 8th to receive a kit.

ADULT EDUCATION

Theology on Tap

Join us for our next Theology on Tap session to talk about issues of faith. Pastor Steve leads one of these events each month. Check Weekly Email and the online worship notice for the next date. We are currently meeting on Zoom. Logon and join us!



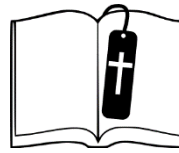
Bible Art Journaling



The Bible Art Journaling Class is coming BACK! We've been working diligently to create a Zoom space to allow for creativity and expression. [Join us on October 4th at 6 pm on Zoom](#) as we work on a new project entitled "Sowing Seeds." This project is a stand alone work, so it's a perfect time to try something new and connect with friends. [A supply list can be found here](#). Please contact [Pastor Christine](mailto:pastorchristine@poplutheran.org) with any questions.

PoP Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study meets every Tuesday from 12:30-2pm. We are currently meeting on Zoom, studying various verses using lectio divina procedure and looking at participating in a different study soon. For more information or questions, see [Pastor Christine](mailto:pastorchristine@poplutheran.org) (pastorchristine@poplutheran.org).



MUSIC

Adult Choir

The Adult Choir will be singing virtually this fall! Check emails, the website, and the Sunday bulletins to find out when the choir will be singing.

If you'd like to find out more about this interesting and new way of doing choir, please contact [Lindsey Paradise](mailto:lindsey@poplutheran.org)!



Grace Notes

Grace Notes will be singing virtually this fall! Check emails, the website, and the Sunday bulletins to find out when they will be singing.

SOCIAL MINISTRIES

Gaithersburg HELP



Our number of hungry clients is for the moment back to usual levels and the need for drivers is going back to normal - meaning we need more drivers. There are still supply chain issues buying some foods. Most needed right now are Mac & Cheese, cereal, pasta and rice (1 lb is best - we can't break down 10lb bags to share between families). An interesting twist is that the POP neighborhood animals, squirrels or raccoons, have discovered the HELP barrels and especially appreciate cardboard or plastic containers, so we're trying to get things quickly moved inside.

There are a number of positions seriously requiring volunteers. Your help would be deeply appreciated if you have time to share. For more information look at GaithersburgHELP.org or talk to Hope Walker (Hope.Walker@GaithersburgHELP.org). If you fill out an application on the website, someone will contact you.

1. A Treasurer, with a CPA type of skills - hugely needed
2. UMAN also needs a treasurer, and this job can be done by someone with bookkeeper skills - also hugely needed
3. A leadership role in the Prescription/Financial aid area, medical background not required, but good organizational skills.
4. Drivers, 18 or older, available during weekdays hours. The clients are coming back, but not all of the usual volunteer drivers have returned. How often you drive and to where is your choice.
5. Ride scheduler, works virtually
6. Food and Infant Needs Coordinators, work from home one day a month from 9am-2pm, using phone and internet.

Thanks for your ongoing support.



How to Donate to Gaithersburg HELP

Because many people have asked how they can help [Gaithersburg HELP](http://GaithersburgHELP.org), we are offering the following three options - drop food off to either of two locations, ship food, or donate money. Details are provided below. Please note that if you already have an organization or friend collecting food for HELP, you may continue using that approach. Thank you for your concern.

Drop-off: If you want to drop off food at the **Pantry**, please adhere to the specified time frame. Deliveries can be safely dropped outside only during the time period shown. If you want to drop off donations at the church, please leave them outside:

- **Gaithersburg HELP Pantry**, 301 Muddy Branch Rd, **only** between 1:00 and 3:00 PM, Mon- Fri when volunteers are in the pantry and can move deliveries inside. Do not leave things at other hours as they will likely disappear.
- **Prince of Peace Lutheran Church**, 11900 Darnestown Rd. (**Leave food under the covered area by either the front or back doors.**)

Online: If you would like to order online and have food shipped, here are four home addresses of volunteers who have covered porches to receive deliveries. **Specify Gaithersburg HELP as the addressee** on the order form:

- 157 Bralan Lane, Gaithersburg MD 20877
- 12829 Doe Lane, Gaithersburg MD 20878
- 211 E. Deer Park Dr, Gaithersburg MD 20877
- 18430 Cape Jasmine Way, Gaithersburg MD 20879

All types of nonperishable, healthy foods are needed, including cereal, canned fruit, vegetables, beans, tuna, peanut butter, rice, spaghetti. We also need diapers in all sizes. See the section above for specific needs at different times.

Donate Money: Financial donations can be mailed to Gaithersburg HELP at the above address or through the donate link on the Gaithersburg HELP website [by clicking here.](#)

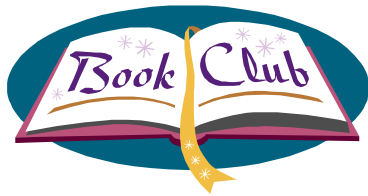
FELLOWSHIP

Women's Book Group

In October, the Women's Book Group will be reading *Stoned: Jewelry, Obsession, and Desire* which is described as "a raucous journey through the history of human desire for what is rare, and therefore, precious". In this account of how eight jewels shaped the course of history, jeweler and scientist Aja Raden tells a story about our addiction to beauty and the darker side of human desire.

We're going to try meeting outside at **6 pm on October 8** in the church parking lot, weather permitting. The decision will be made the day before.

For anyone that is interested in attending that is not on the email distribution for the Group, please contact Kathy Mellott at ufda_gal@yahoo.com for the latest information.



Future Book Selections and Hosts

- November 12 *Tribe: On Homecoming and Belonging*
by Sebastian Junger
- December 10 *The Book of Longings*
by Sue Monk Kidd
- January 14 anti-racism book TBD
- February 11 *The Dutch House*
by Ann Patchett
- March 11 *Know My Name*
by Chanel Miller
- April 8 *The Water Dancer*
by Ta-Nehisi Coates
- May 13 *The Silent Patient*
by Alex Michaelides
- June 10 *The Nickel Boys*
by Colson Whitehead

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. Most current for many of us is the Covid-19 pandemic. Visit the [ELCA Disaster Response webpage](https://elca.org/disaster) (<https://elca.org/disaster>) to donate or learn more about how you can help.

THINK ABOUT IT

The church must be reminded that it is not the master or the servant of the state, but rather the conscience of the state.

--Martin Luther King, Jr.

Just be glad you're not getting all the government you're paying for.

--Will Rogers

The whole art of government consists in being honest.

--Thomas Jefferson

To tie Jesus Christ to the very best human system is to tie a star, light years distant, to a dead horse here on earth. Neither the star nor Christ will thus be bound.

During World War II when housing was in short supply, a lady in our church told a five-year-old girl, "It's too bad you folks don't have a home."

The child quickly replied, "We have a home. We just don't have house to put it in!"

--Margaret T. Hiscox

The bad news: The average American has just \$83.42 in the bank.

The good news: The average American is \$4.6 trillion richer than the U.S. government.

--Hope Health letter (2/96)

There are three ways to get something done:

1. Do it yourself.
2. Hire someone else to do it.
3. Forbid your kids to do it.

--Homiletics

Glad Tidings is published monthly (July/August and December/January issues combined) by:
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Articles for the November issue of *Glad Tidings* are due **October 18**. Please email 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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