



# GLAD TIDINGS



Vol. 40, Iss. 2

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg, MD

March 2021

## Lent and Palm/Passion Sunday

Holden Evening Prayer, Wednesday, March 3, 10 17, 24 at 7:15 pm and Holy Week details can be found at Lent: <https://poplutheran.org/worship-and-music/len-at-prince-of-peace/>

Ways to challenge yourself and grow during Lent can be found in our Lenten Challenge 2021: <https://poplutheran.org/event/lenen-challenge-2021/>



Palm / Passion Sunday is on March 28 at 10 am ([on our Facebook page](#)). Palms will be available for pickup, for those who wish them, on the "Give & Take" table by the parking lot door, beginning at noon on Friday, March 26.

## Online Lectors Wanted

Would you like to be an online lector? Beginning in Lent, we'll be looking for people to read and record the Sunday readings for online worship. If you'd like to help, or want more info, please [contact Pastor Steve](#).

## Daylight Saving Time

Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour when you go to bed **Saturday, March 13** for the start of Daylight Saving Time on Sunday, March 14.



## Holy Week!

Maundy Thursday, April 1 at 7:15 pm (online)

Good Friday, April 2 at 7:15 pm (online)

Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 3 at 7:15 pm (shortened, in-person in the Memorial Garden)

Easter Sunday, April 4 at 10 am (online)



## Congratulations to Our Church Council Members!



Newly elected: Laura Dillon, Lauren Gibson (re-elected, Vice President), Rainer Sahmel, Chet Wolejsza, Katrena Huen (re-elected, Youth Position).

Continuing: Jon Conary, Scott Gowing (Secretary), Kwame Mensah (President), Pamela Cook, Bill Harral.

Thank you for your service on council: Lisa Adams, Chris Michel, Catherine Shober.

## PoP Office Notes

Please continue saving used ink & toner cartridges for PoP. We still recycle them for store credit on office supplies. You can leave them in the labeled bin on the "Give & Take" table outside the back door.



A new church directory is now available to help us keep in touch with each other during these distanced times! You can request a pdf copy [by emailing the office](#). But, we'll also have hardcopy directories available during live gatherings.



## From Pastor Steve...

Pastor Steve Buechler  
([pastor@poplutheran.org](mailto:pastor@poplutheran.org);

301-869-3666)

Lent is a time to focus on strengthening our relationships with God, with one another and with the world Jesus came to save. Even though we have to do this differently this year because of Covid, I hope that everybody by now has had a chance to look at and maybe even do a few things as part of our Lenten Challenge - 2021!

During the six weeks of Lent, everyone is encouraged and challenged to do at least 3 things in each of these three areas:

### ***Strengthen your relationship with God***

- Attend at least 3 additional events outside of Sunday online worship (e.g. Online Wednesday evening prayer, Outdoor Communion, Women's Bible Study, Theology on Tap, etc.)

### ***Strengthen your relationship with others in our congregation***

- Reach out to at least 3 people you know personally from church who you haven't been in contact with lately (by phone, email or by sending a card)

### ***Strengthen your relationship with God's wider world***

- (pick three - for example one of each; two food donations and one invite; etc.)
- Make a direct online donation to one of our social ministry partners (e.g. [Gaithersburg HELP](#), [Interfaith Works](#), [Lutheran World Relief](#))
  - Drop off food for Gaithersburg HELP at the church
  - Invite someone you know who doesn't go to church to participate with you in online worship

If we all do these things, we'll end Lent having grown closer to God. We'll have reconnected with one another. And we'll have made a difference in the life of the world Jesus came to save!

Yours in Christ,

## March Highlights

### ***Every Sunday***

9:00 am Preschool and Elementary Sunday School on Zoom (pg 3)

9:00 am Middle School Sunday School on Zoom (pg 3)

10:00 am Worship streamed on our Facebook Page

11:00 am High School Sunday School on Zoom (pg 3)

### ***Every Tuesday***

12:30 pm Women's Bible Study (pg 4)

### ***Every Wednesday***

9:00 am Night Prayer - Pastor Steve will lead us in Holden Evening Prayer with reading and brief reflection. This will be streamed on our Facebook page. (March 3, 10, 17, 24) (pg 1)



## COMING UP...

### **March**

- 3 Holden Prayers (pg 1)
- 9 Church Council Meeting
- 10 Holden Prayers (pg 1)
- 11 Women's Book Group (pg 4)
- 14 Daylight Savings Time Begins (pg 1)
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 17 Holden Prayers (pg 1)
- 20 First Day of Spring
- 21 Bible Art Journaling (pg 4)
- 24 Holden Prayers (pg 1)
- 28 Palm Sunday (pg 1)

### **April**

- 1 Maundy Thursday (pg 1)
- 2 Good Friday (pg 1)
- 4 Easter Sunday (pg 1)
- 5 Easter Monday
- 6 Faith-Full Families kit request due (pg 3)
- 8 Women's Book Group (pg 4)
- 9 Faith-Full Families kit pick-up (pg 3)
- 12 Church Council Meeting
- 15 Tax Day

## SPECIAL PRAYERS

. . . My need was met because someone came and communicated . . . in words I could not express. . . .  
Pastor John B. McGarvey



### PoP Members

Alice Baur, Elizabeth Langum Chung, Brittany (DeGeorge) Daniel, Annie Hampe, Allison Hurst, Roy Johnson, Mike & Remi Langum, Kaitlyn McGurgan & her family, Gail Moran, Dick and Sandy Moore, Heather Robinson, Martha Rogers, Sherry Schiebel, Laura Wilson

### Sympathy

Family of Skip Day (friend of Dick Moore)  
Family of Arnie Sorenson (friend of Richard Farrar)

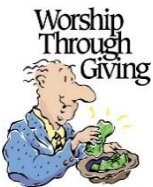
### Ongoing

For Racial justice and equality  
All those struggling with Covid-19 and their Caregivers  
All those impacted by winter storms

The complete Prayer List is available in the Weekly Email sent on Thursdays.

## STEWARDSHIP

### Giving Envelopes



2021 Giving Envelopes are available for those who would like them this year. If you are interested, please contact [Bob Butler](mailto:BobButler) to request a box. He will assign you a box number and make arrangements for pickup at the church.

### 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](mailto:michel_christian@yahoo.com)) or Kwame Mensah ([mensahkn@gmail.com](mailto:mensahkn@gmail.com)) with any questions.

### Electronic Giving

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



## AmazonSmile

You can support Prince of Peace with each Amazon purchase! Use our AmazonSmile link (<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/52-1283295>) and PoP receives .5% of your purchases. Use AmazonSmile every time you shop! AmazonSmile is completely integrated with Amazon.com; you use the same account and have the same shopping cart, Wish List, Registry, and account info. It's easy to set up and use. First click on the following link to tell Amazon that you want donations to be made to Prince of Peace: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/52-1283295>; then whenever you want to make a purchase at Amazon, go to [smile.amazon.com](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

### Virtual Sunday School



Although we would love to be spending time in person, our learners have been so engaged that they have helped make our virtual model very enjoyable!

Everyone is welcome, any week they are able to join. Contact Janet Levine ([lyle1janet@msn.com](mailto:lyle1janet@msn.com)) for the Zoom link.

### Calendar update

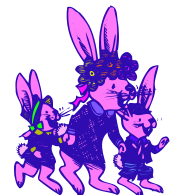
Elementary classes will continue **through June 13**. Middle and High School classes are still scheduled to **end on May 23**.

### Upcoming Elementary Topics

This month's Elementary classes will include Jesus's parables and miracles, as well as Holy Week and Easter. Following spring break, we will learn more about the early church, focusing on stories about Peter and Paul.

### Faith-Full Families "To-Go"

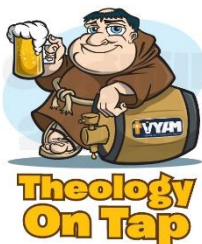
Are you a parent or grandparent of young children and want some hands-on, fun, faith-enriching activities to do at home? We will have Easter To-Go Boxes available on Saturday, April 10th from 10 am - 12 pm. The kits will include: crafts, prayer, story, table decorations, and family-fun items related to the theme. Please email [Judy Bruening](mailto:JudyBruening) by Tuesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> 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!



### PoP Women's Bible Study



The Women's Bible Study meets every Tuesday from 12:30-2pm on Zoom. We are currently studying the Book of Acts. Questions? Contact Pastor Wendy Deeben

([wdeeben@gracerock.org](mailto:wdeeben@gracerock.org))

### Bible Art Journaling

Bible Art Journaling typically meets one Sunday evening per month. Our next gathering will be Sunday, March 21 6-8 pm on Zoom. Carmen Hill, a member at Prince of Peace, uses her artistic skills to guide us in our creativity based on a religious or pastoral theme. 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 [Carmen](#).

<https://poplutheran.org/event/bible-art-journaling/>.



## MUSIC

### Adult Choir

The Adult Choir is singing virtually! 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!](#)

### Grace Notes

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



## SOCIAL MINISTRIES

### Gaithersburg HELP

Please keep those wonderful food donations coming in. Cereal, tuna and peanut butter are always in high demand, and soups are especially hard to get right now. At the moment, client need has settled into about a 50% increase over pre-Covid times. New safety procedures, generous donations and grants plus hardworking volunteers are managing the situation. There is always a need for new volunteers, especially as drivers and in a few leadership positions, including Treasurer. Check the GaithersburgHELP website or talk to Hope Walker ([hope.walker@GaithersburgHELP.org](mailto:hope.walker@GaithersburgHELP.org)) for more information.



## FELLOWSHIP

### Women's Book Group

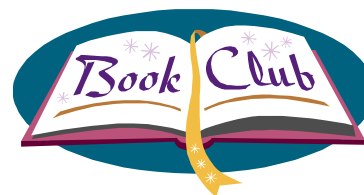
The Women's Book Group will meet via Zoom on Thursday, March 11 at 7:30 pm.

The selection for March is a memoir: *Know My Name* by Chanel Miller.

From GoodReads: She was known to the world as Emily Doe when she stunned millions with a letter. Brock Turner had been sentenced to just six months in county jail after he was found sexually assaulting her on Stanford's campus. Now she reclaims her identity to tell her story of trauma, transcendence, and the power of words, entwining pain, resilience, and humor.

### Future Book Selections

April 8	<u>The Water Dancer</u> by Ta-Nehisi Coates
May 13	<u>The Silent Patient</u> by Alex Michaelides
June 10	<u>The Nickel Boys</u> by Colson Whitehead



## RECENT EVENTS



This sign was prominent on the front yard for Pastor Christine’s drive-by farewell.

## MAR-LU-RIDGE SUMMER CAMP

Our staff knows how much you are missing camp. We are missing you! With that in mind, we have worked hard to develop safe operating procedures for the coming season. Please visit the [Summer Camp 2021](https://www.mar-lu-ridge.org/current-season/) (<https://www.mar-lu-ridge.org/current-season/>) page of our website, read the [FAQ](#), and make plans for your comfort level. We will still offer Virtual MLR at Home, as well as Family Cabin Camping in addition to residential summer camp for your youth. Being outdoors in God’s beautiful creation, surrounded by your friends and our qualified, caring staff is a gift for the soul. We are here to assist you in registering. Get ready for a joyful Welcome Home!



## 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 winter storms, 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

In prayer, we are aware that God is in action and that when the circumstances are ready, when others are in the right place, and when our hearts are prepared, he will call us into the action. Waiting in prayer is a disciplined refusal to act before God acts.

--Eugene Peterson

My three-year-old grandson found a quarter in the driveway as the family left for church. When they returned home, he pulled it out of his pocket and handed it to his mother.

“You can have this money, Mommy. I was going to give it to Jesus, but he wasn’t there.”

--Joyce Parson

I was listening to my five-year-old son, Mathew, as he worked on his Speak-and-Spell computer. He was concentrating intensely, typing words for the computer to say back to him.

Mathew punched in the word *God*. To his surprise, the computer said, “Word not found.”

He tried again with the same reply. With great disgust, he stared at the computer and told it in no uncertain terms, “Jesus is not going to like this!”

--Mary Farwell

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Articles for the April issue of *Glad Tidings* are due **March 14**. Please email 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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