



GLAD TIDINGS



Vol. 40, Iss. 3

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg, MD

April 2021

Holy Week Schedule

Palms are available for pickup by the back door beginning Friday, March 26 at noon

Saturday, March 27 at 3 pm

Join us for a short, outdoor Palm Sunday Procession!

Sunday, March 28 at 10:00 am

Worship ([live stream on Facebook](#))

April 1 at 7:15 pm

Maundy Thursday Service ([live stream on Facebook](#))

April 2 at 7:15 pm

Good Friday Service ([live stream on Facebook](#))

Saturday, April 3 at 7:15 pm

Short Outdoor Easter Vigil in the Memorial Garden

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



Easter Sunday, April 4 at 10:00 am

Worship ([live stream on Facebook](#))



Easter Sunday at 11:30 am

Easter Egg Hunt - To participate, [please sign up by clicking here!](#)

Also, we need help filling Easter Eggs with candy. If you can help, empty eggs, and a bin for filled eggs, are available on the "Give & Take" Table outside the back door.

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

Do you miss in-person service?

Join us for a Zoom watch party for Sunday services. Bring your pets and children. Dress however you want - even pajamas. Don't worry about how you or your house looks. Attend service; follow along with the bulletin; say the liturgical response; sing the hymns; wish each other peace; chat after the service. See you there!



Online Lectors Wanted



Would you like to be an online lector? We are 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](#).

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.



Church Photo Directory



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;
301-869-3666)

During Easter, we celebrate the gift of new life that God offers us through the Resurrection of Jesus. Jesus, in rising from the dead, shows his disciples that God's power to give and restore life is stronger than even death. And that new life begins now and will continue in the life to come.

Usually for us, the concept of "new life" gives us a warm, fuzzy feeling! But for the first disciples, the new life that Jesus possessed in the Resurrection, and new life that Jesus was calling his disciples to in their current lives, was often strange and confusing. Jesus clearly was alive. He had a body. He could eat and drink. But this new life was not simply a resumption of the old life. Jesus was transformed in ways that made it possible for him to be in several places at once; to come into rooms that were shut and locked; and to appear and disappear suddenly without any warning. Jesus' new life was not a return to "business as usual," and the new life to which Jesus called his disciples wasn't a return to "business as usual" either.

Since we celebrate Easter in the spring, we often associate "new life" with the return of life to the earth after a long winter. We use this imagery in many of our Easter decorations. But when spring returns, we know how it's supposed to look - pretty much just like it did last year and the year before that. And so, we may be tempted to think of the new life that God offers us as "more of the same."

This spring, as vaccinations are increasing, many of us are looking forward to "new life" beyond the pandemic. We look forward to getting back to "normal." But it's pretty clear that the new life we're going to be living into beyond the pandemic won't just be a return to "business as usual." This time of "death and resurrection" is already turning out to be a time of transformation for how we live; and we're already living in some new ways.

It's not clear exactly how this time of "new life" will be the same and different from what came before. And as for those first disciples, this time of new life, while exhilarating and exciting, will also probably be strange and confusing, at least at first. But Jesus' new life shows us that new life, in all its forms, is a gift from God. Jesus' new life shows us

that God is always walking with us to help us learn the ways of new life. And most of all, Jesus' new life shows us that Jesus is walking with us, even when things are strange, confusing, and different, to show us the new opportunities and new possibilities that new life brings.

Yours in Christ,

April 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 Tuesday

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

Every Wednesday (beginning April 14)

7:15 pm Night Prayer - Pastor Steve will lead us in Evening Prayer (10-15 minutes near the close of the day). This will be streamed on our Facebook page.

COMING UP...

April

1 Maundy Thursday (pg 1)

2 Good Friday (pg 1)

3 Easter Vigil (pg 1)

4 Easter Sunday (pg 1)

4 Easter Egg Hunt (pg 1)

5 Easter Monday

6 Faith-Full Families kit request due (pg 3)

8 Women's Book Group (pg 4)

10 Faith-Full Families kit pick-up (pg 3)

13 Church Council Meeting

14 Restart Evening Prayer (pg2)

May

5 Cinco de Mayo

9 Mother's Day

11 Church Council Meeting

13 Women's Book Group (pg 4)

23 Last Sunday--Middle/High School classes (pg 3)

31 Memorial 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

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

Sympathy

Family of Roberta Lucas
(friend of Forish family;
sister-in-law of Jennifer Schambura)
Family of Mary Lee Kleinfelter
(friend of Sherry Schiebel)

Ongoing

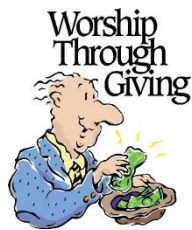
For Racial justice and equality
All those struggling with Covid-19 and their
Caregivers
All those impacted by winter storms

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

STEWARDSHIP

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.



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!



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 0.5% of your purchases. **To date we have received \$825.27!** 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

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) 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.

Faith-Full Families "To-Go"

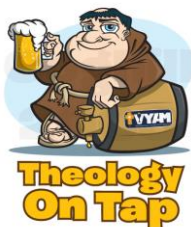
Are you a parent or grandparent of young children and want some hands-on, fun, faith-enriching activities to do at home? We will have Easter To-Go Boxes available on Saturday, April 10th from 10 am - 12 pm. The kits will include: crafts, prayer, story, table decorations, and family-fun items related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



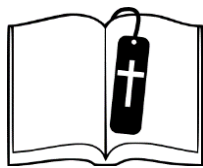
ADULT EDUCATION

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)

Bible Art Journaling

Bible Art Journaling typically meets one Sunday evening per month. Check the Weekly Email for our next gathering on Zoom. Carmen Hooks-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, soups, and diapers (sizes 5 and 6) 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) for more information.



FELLOWSHIP

Women's Book Group

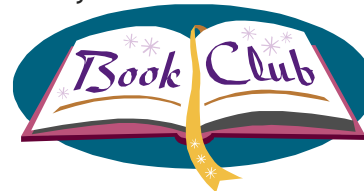
The Women's Book Group's selection for Thursday, April 8 at 7:30 pm is *The Water Dancer* by Ta-Nehisi Coates.

Excerpts from GoodReads: Young Hiram Walker was born into bondage. When his mother was sold, Hiram was robbed of all memory of her – but was gifted with a mysterious power. Years later, when Hiram almost drowns in a river, that same power saves his life. Even as he's enlisted in the underground war between slavers and the enslaved, Hiram's resolve to rescue the family he left behind endures.

Contact Kathy Mellott for the Zoom link:
ufda_gal@yahoo.com

Future Book Selections and Hosts

| | |
|---------|--|
| 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 |



HONDURAS MISSION TRIP 2021!

Dear Prince of Peace, it has been a long year and we are all looking forward to getting things back to normal. We are continuing to support Haven Universe and are planning for a 2021 mission trip to Honduras! A small group of vaccinated missionaries will be traveling to Honduras in June to assist with medical missions, construction projects, and work with a local Special Needs school in Copan. We will be bringing down hundreds of pounds of medications greatly needed for the patients there, supplying food, and supporting with rebuilding following the flooding from the hurricanes this past summer. The mission team is requesting prayers and accepting financial contributions toward trip and supply costs. Tax-deductible donations can be made payable to Haven Universe and mailed to the church office or directly to Ric Kienzle through April. Our goal is to raise over \$5,000 by the end of April. Any contribution (large or small!) would be greatly appreciated, and most importantly we ask for continued prayers for a safe and successful mission! You can also make a donation through the [link here](#) and please note in the "Add special instructions to seller" box "PoP Mission Honduras" so that we are able to track and allocate correctly. Any questions - please contact Ric Kienzle (r.kienzle@yahoo.com).

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/>) 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

If we are going to wait until every possible hindrance has been removed before we do a work for the Lord, we will never attempt to do anything.
--T.J. Bach

Be more concerned with your character than with your reputation, because your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are.
--John Wooden

The resurrection is not only the Good News, it is the best news imaginable.
--Ray C. Stedman

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Glad Tidings is online at www.poplutheran.org

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