



GLAD TIDINGS



Vol. 40, Iss. 6

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg, MD

July/August 2021

Interfaith 5k is BACK!

We are pleased to announce the Interfaith 5k Run/Walk is back! Despite what we see in the news, people of different faiths get along with one another and cooperate wonderfully. As a symbol of interfaith respect, we are again supporting a 5k race on Labor Day, **September 6**. Join us for a day of family fun and fitness and celebrate our diverse Montgomery County communities of faith! We will have a Prince of Peace team again this year and look forward to having another LARGE turnout for PoP. Please follow the link [here](#), select Register Now, select teams on the left-hand side, and find the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church team to join. Then what? Train this summer by walking or running and get your fellow Prince of Peace family to sign up. Can we beat 50 sign-ups?!

This year we would like Prince of Peace to be a sponsor of the race. **YOU** can make this happen! By July 4th we would like to raise \$1,000 for the sponsorship. You can make donations online through regular church giving, putting a check in the offering plate, or mailing one in. Please put "Interfaith 5k" in the memo.



Sunday School

Sunday School leaders are looking forward to welcoming our learners back to in-person class on the morning of **September 12!** However, since the worship service time for the fall has not been finalized, we do not yet know what time Sunday School will be held.



We will have classes for youth from preschool through high school ages. Everyone is welcome any week they are able to attend!

See page 4 for detailed information.

PoP Directory

An updated PoP Directory is coming soon! Please email office@poplutheran.org by **July 31** with any updates (email, phone, cell, address). Need a current Directory? The latest E-version (Nov 2020) is available by email request to the [Office](#).



Back to School Supply Drive

Summer is just getting underway but **BACK TO SCHOOL** is on the horizon!!!!

InterFaith Works will again be distributing backpacks with **NEW SCHOOL SUPPLIES** for the clients of the Interfaith Works Clothing Center.

Please consider donating to help them reach their goal of 3000 filled backpacks.

School supplies can be left in the box in the Narthex until **SUNDAY, AUGUST 8TH**.

Needed items include:

- 1-to-2-inch binders
- Dividers
- filler paper
- pencil pouches
- blue and black pens
- colored pencils
- markers
- 2-pocket folders
- While picking up items for your own child or grandchild, please consider picking up an extra item or two to donate.



Any questions about the school supply drive, please email LauraCorbinHurst@yahoo.com.

They are also asking our donors to consider purchasing a package of **NEW underwear, to help the IWCC children start the new school year. **
You can, also, check out the Interfaith flyer [here](#).

Thank you.



From Pastor Steve...

Pastor Steve Buechler
(pastor@poplutheran.org;

301-869-3666)

While Covid has been a challenging situation for everyone, including Prince of Peace, this time has also given us a chance to reset and re-examine how we can move forward with ministry in ways which are realistic and sustainable, and which respect the time, money and bandwidth which members have been committing to the congregation.

At our Congregational meeting in January, we promised that we would involve the congregation in discussions about how this could happen. **We welcome and encourage your feedback and questions about the following things Council and I are now discussing:**

As we move into the final third of 2021 and into 2022, these are some of the ways we will initially plan to program, organize and staff our ministry together:

- There will be one regular weekend worship service on Sunday morning, which will continue to be livestreamed, and we will continue to develop and expand our online and virtual offerings;
- Sunday School will be held before and/or after the worship service, with the hope that the service time can be consistent throughout the year, regardless of whether Sunday School is in session;
- The office will be staffed for a few hours three weekdays a week, with office staff working remotely for a couple of hours on the other two weekdays to check and respond to voice mail and email. We will continue to use the “Give & Take” table to distribute and receive materials;
- Rather than trying to fund a second Pastor position, we will instead create a new staffing line in the budget called “Pastoral Support”, which will fund contract pastoral help. This line can be adjusted each year based on needs, but which will initially include funding to pay

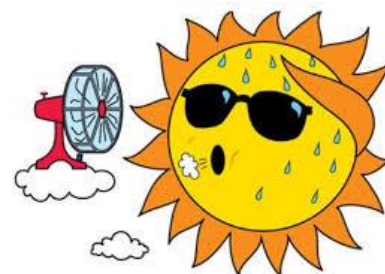
for a Women’s Bible Study leader; pastoral coverage when Pastor Steve is out; and at least 5-6 additional special Bible study leaders, retreat leaders or event leaders (such as our “Walk Through the Bible” event several years ago.)

- Pastor Steve and the Council will work on developing a new ministry organization structure which will be streamlined and flexible. We will seek to organize around three areas:
 - Congregational Life (e.g. worship, education & fellowship activities)
 - Service and Outreach (e.g. evangelism, community activities & social ministry)
 - Support (e.g. stewardship, finance & property)
- We will be committed to continually evaluating and adapting our ministries as we see how things develop.

There will be a couple of opportunities to discuss this (and other aspects of moving forward) as we gather live for a barbeque in August, and at the August Theology on Tap (watch for those dates!) But, you may also email questions or feedback either [to me](#) or to [Council President Kwame Mensah](#).

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Steve



July/August Highlights

Every Sunday

10:00 am Worship live and streamed on our Facebook Page

Every Tuesday

10:00 am Quilting

12:30 pm Women’s Bible Study

COMING UP...

July

- 4 Independence Day
- 5 Independence Day Observed
- 8 Women's Book Group
- 13 Church Council Meeting
- 18 Bible Art Journaling (pg 4)

August

- 8 School Supply donations due (pg 1)
- 10 Church Council Meeting
- 12 Women's Book Group (pg 5)
- 15 Bible Art Journaling (pg 4)

September

- 6 Labor Day
- 6 Interfaith 5K
- 9 Women's Book Group (pg 5)
- 12 Sunday School Resumes (pp 1, 4)
- 14 Church Council Meeting

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, Richard Farrar, Laura Hampe Garofalo, Annie Hampe, Roy Johnson, Mike & Remi Langum, Anne Lomperis, Kaitlyn McGurgan & her family, Dick & Sandy Moore, Jim McNerney, Gail Moran, Heather Robinson, Martha Rogers, Sherry Schiebel, Denny Tritinger, Laura Wilson

Sympathy

Family of Mark Berninger

Thanksgiving

Baptism of Amy Gibson (daughter of Lauren & Dan Gibson)

Baptism of Gia Lynn Gouker (daughter of Allison & Mike Gouker; granddaughter of Jim & Lois Bostrom)

First Communion Classes of 2020/2021: Luke Dillon, Luke Shober, Kalliope Spielman, Zachary Bornhorst, Carter Jodts, Ray Spivak, Athena Huen, Beth Bardill, Aubrey Taylor, Adrian Mensah, Garrett Hillman, and Sam Gibson

Ongoing

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

The complete Prayer List is available in the Weekly Email sent on Thursdays. Printed copies can be found on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

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.

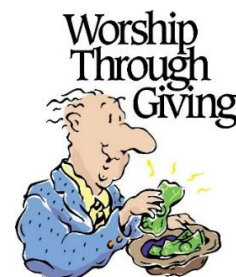
Electronic Giving

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 .5% of your purchases. **We have received \$825.27 as of March 2021!** 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

Sunday School leaders are looking forward to welcoming our learners back to in-person class on the morning of **September 12!** However, since the worship service time for the fall has not been finalized, we do not yet know what time Sunday School will be held.

We will have classes for youth from preschool through high school ages. Everyone is welcome any week they are able to attend!



Preschool through Elementary School

Each week, we will meet for Opening in the sanctuary, where we will introduce a Bible truth, share our offerings, and participate in music led by Danielle Drobny.

Next, we will head to our Preschool - Kindergarten, 1st - 2nd Grade, and 3rd - 5th Grade classrooms, where we will use Group's Dig In curriculum. Dig In features a "you are there" approach with a new Bible story each week. We are excited about resuming in-person activities such as active games, crafts, and science experiments. Our workshop leaders will be Lisa Conary, Janet Levine, Jamie Pflasterer, and Anne Witten. Jacqui Bardill and Trish Taylor will be our elementary shepherds.

We want your students to feel comfortable, so remember that parents are always welcome in class.

Middle School

We will use Sparkhouse Re:form Ancestors to explore the biblical ancestors of our faith. Using quirky worksheets and short films, we'll discover similarities between ourselves and the many unlikely people chosen by God to do the extraordinary. Our Middle School leaders are Samuel Bornhorst and Sarah Kuykendall.

High School

We use movies such as "Courageous, The Grace Card, and Miracles from Heaven" to open discussions on how to handle difficulties people face. We will watch part of a movie, identify the difficulties the characters are facing and, using the Bible, concordances, and topical Bibles, explore what help we can find there.

So, if you are in 9th through 12th grade, please come by and check us out.

Jon Conary will lead our High School class.

Covid 19 Precautions

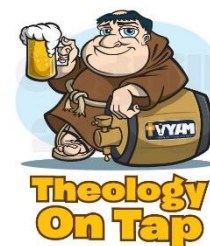
We anticipate following MCPS safety protocols. In addition, we will incorporate some additional safety measures for now, such as refraining from cooking or eating snacks together and not sitting in a cluster during Opening.

Please contact Janet Levine (lyle1janet@msn.com) or your learner's Sunday School leaders with any questions or concerns.

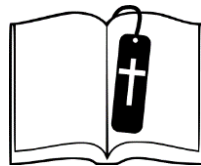
ADULT EDUCATION

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 in person and on Zoom. Join us live or online, whichever is more comfortable for you!



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. Our next gathering is **Sunday, July 18, 6:00 - 8:00 pm** 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](#).



Our meeting the following month is **Sunday, August 15.**

MUSIC

Grace Notes

Grace Notes, with their new members, is hard at work practicing to sing for and with us in the, hopefully, near future.



SOCIAL MINISTRIES

Gaithersburg HELP

Overall things are going quite well at Gaithersburg HELP. Intermittent and changing shortages occur, and canned fruit is the shortage of the moment. All nutritious non-perishables are welcome. The county is fortunate to have many new resources now providing food, so the current covid-driven big need is being well met. When these other resources that quickly



sprang up eventually go away, we predict that the need will be huge. Thanks for your ongoing support. There is always a need for new volunteers. Check the GaithersburgHELP website or talk to

Hope Walker (hope.walker@GaithersburgHELP.org) for more information.

FELLOWSHIP

Women's Book Group

On August 12 at 7:30 pm, the Women's Book Group will be discussing *The Giver of Stars* by JoJo Moyes. Nancy Wolejsza will be hosting at her home. From GoodReads: Set in Depression-era America, a breathtaking story of five extraordinary women and their remarkable journey through the mountains of Kentucky and beyond. Please RSVP to nwolejsza@aol.com by August 9.

Future Book Selections and Hosts

September 9 *America's First Daughter*
by Stephanie Dray

October 14 *The Memory of Us*
by Camille Di Maio

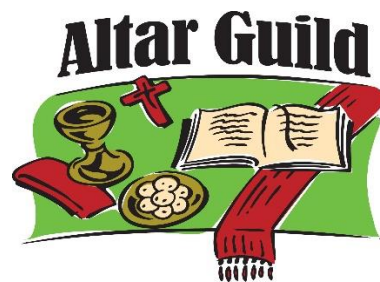
November 11 *American Kingpin: The Epic Hunt for the Criminal Mastermind Behind the Silk Road*
by Nick Bilton



Thank You, Ann Callahan!

Have you ever wondered who fills all those little communion cups with wine or juice? Or who washes them all after communion? Where does the unleavened bread come from? Who changes the paraments every season or the banners? It is the Altar Guild and for the past 38 years, one of the dedicated leaders and teachers on the Altar Guild has been Ann Callahan. Through rain, snow, sleet, hail or heat, Ann has without fail made it to church to perform her duties to the glory of God. We are so grateful to Ann for her persistence and commitment to PoP as a member of the Altar Guild since 1983! As Ann now retires from this position, please take a moment to thank her and let her know how much you appreciate her efforts throughout the years on behalf of all of us. Thank you, Ann!

Special thanks to Pamela Cook and Sarah Kuykendall for stepping up to fill Ann's role!



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

Author John Claypool shares this story:

Years ago a thunderstorm swept through southern Kentucky at the farm where my Claypool forebears have lived for six generations. In the orchard, the wind blew over an old pear tree that had been there as long as anybody could remember. My grandfather was grieved to lose the tree on which he had climbed as a boy and whose fruit he had eaten all his life.

A neighbor came by and said, "Doc, I'm really sorry to see your pear tree blown down."

"I'm sorry too," said my grandfather. "It was a real part of my past."

"What are you going to do?" the neighbor asked.

My grandfather paused for a moment and then said, "I'm going to pick the fruit and burn what's left."

That is the wise way to deal with many things in our past. We need to learn their lessons, enjoy their pleasures, and then go on with the present and the future.

Adversity is often the window of opportunity for change. Few people or organizations want to change when there is prosperity and peace. Major changes are often precipitated by necessity.

--Leith Anderson

The Bible was not given to increase our knowledge but to change our lives.

--D.L. Moody

It is not the business of the church to adapt Christ to men, but men to Christ.

--Dorothy Sayers

With me a change of trouble is as good as a vacation.

--David Lloyd George

Lord, when we are wrong, make us willing to change. And when we are right, make us easy to live with.

--Peter Marshall Sr.

God loves us the way we are, but he loves us too much to leave us that way.

--Leighton Ford

Nature is the art of God.

--Thomas Brown

You can close your eyes to reality but not to memories.

--Stanislaw J. Lee

The *Atlantic Monthly* (11/94) told about superstars Jose Carreras, Placido Domingo, and Luciano Pavarotti performing together in Los Angeles. A reporter tried to press the issue of competitiveness between the three men.

"You have to put all of your concentration into opening your heart to the music," Domingo said. "You can't be rivals when you're together making music."

That's also true in the church.

A telemarketer phones a home and says, "I'd like to talk to the person who makes the final purchasing decisions for your family."

The woman replies, "I'm sorry. That person is still at kindergarten and won't be home for another hour."

--Hope Health letter

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

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Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
11900 Darnestown Road
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878-2210
Email: office@poplutheran.org
Web: www.poplutheran.org

Senior Pastor Steven Buechler
Council President Kwame Mensah
Glad Tidings Editor Martha Rogers
Production Martha Rogers
Photography TBD

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Glad Tidings is online at www.poplutheran.org

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