

# **GLAD TIDINGS**



Vol. 41 Iss. 3

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg, MD

**April 2022** 

## Holy Week Schedule

Join us (and invite friends and family!) for Holy Week and Easter worship! Check out the signup sheet in the narthex to help with worship.



Saturday, April 9 at 5:00 pm Join us for a short, outdoor Palm Sunday Procession!

Sunday, April 10 at 10:00 am

Worship (in person and live stream on Facebook)

April 14 at 7:15 pm Maundy Thursday Service (in person and <u>live</u> stream on Facebook)

April 15 at 7:15 pm Good Friday Service (in person and <u>live stream on</u> Facebook)

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



Easter Sunday, April 17 at 10:00 am
Worship
(in person and <u>live stream</u> on Facebook)



Easter Sunday at 9:00 am Easter Egg Hunt

Easter:

https://poplutheran.org/worship-and-

music/easter/

## Filled Easter Eggs Needed!

The Easter season wouldn't be complete without the Annual Easter Egg Hunt! This year's Easter Egg hunt will be held on Easter Sunday morning, April 17th, beginning at 9:00am. Children are encouraged to bring a basket or bag to collect the eggs.

If you would like to donate filled eggs for the hunt, there are bags of eggs in the Narthex. Please take a bag and return filled with goodies on or before 8 am on Easter morning. Thank you for your continued support of the annual Easter egg hunt. If you have questions or need additional information, please email Laura Hurst.







## **Easter Flowers**



If you would like to donate flowers for Easter Sunday, please fill out the form at church or email the office by Sunday, April 10. Lilies are \$12.00. Hyacinths are \$10 (color cannot be selected



due to the late date of the season).

## **Lenten Prayer Service**

Come join us in person or <u>livestream</u> as we finish <u>our Lenten journey</u> with a service of Holden Evening Prayer **Wednesday**, **April 6 at 7:15 pm!** Fellowship with wine & cheese, and an opportunity for self-directed Labyrinth reflection, will precede each service **beginning at 6:15 pm**.

## **Lenten Sharing Bags**

**Lenten Sharing bags are back!** Check out the ways you can help folks near and far by <u>checking out the Lenten Sharing Bags insert!</u> Bags are due back to church **by April 10.** 

For more information see page 8.



## From Pastor Steve...

Pastor Steve Buechler (pastor@poplutheran.org;

301-869-3666)

This month, we begin the season of Easter, in which we celebrate not only Jesus' new life in the Resurrection, but the new life Jesus gives us, not only at the end of time, but right now. New life is great! It's exciting! And it can be joyful! But over and over again in our biblical readings during this season, the most common reaction to the Resurrection and new life is "fear" and "doubt", even among the most committed disciples.

Fear and doubt often seem odd to us as we read the stories, and we're likely to pass over them as merely initial reactions of surprise. However, I think the fear and doubt of the first disciples was more than momentary, and it was more than simply a reaction to something surprising. After all, the new life shown forth by Jesus' Resurrection meant that the disciples were entering into a completely new phase of their lives. Everything was changing. And it wasn't at all clear how this would all work out, and what it would mean for next year, next month or even tomorrow!

When things are bad, and death is all around us, it's horrible. But most of us have been through those times before. We sort of know what to expect. We know how things are probably going to go. And we've probably developed some skills to deal with the bad stuff. But the disciples now faced something entirely new - which, in fact, was really great - but they had no idea what it would mean for their lives going forward. There was no road map for this. No wonder they were scared and even doubted if this could really be happening.

Especially as we begin to move forward after Covid, we're entering a different time where, in many respects, the old "road maps" don't work anymore. Like those first disciples, there is a sense of new life! But it's also normal to wonder what's next, what this will mean for our future, and to be confused and even a little worried about how things will all work out.

Easter is our annual opportunity to remember that it's OK to feel that way! After all, so did the first disciples, no matter how committed they were to

Jesus. But it's also a good time to remember that Jesus really was with them always, even when they were scared and doubting. Jesus continued to have a mission for his disciples, even when they weren't sure what the mission would look like or how it would work out. And while Jesus' presence in the lives of those first disciples didn't take away all the fear and doubt, his presence also gave them strength, joy and hope to meet the uncertainty of the future.

May this Easter season be a time for all of us, like those first disciples, to experience the living presence of Jesus, which can give us strength, joy and hope even and especially in times of fear and doubt!

Yours in Christ,



## **Second Saturday Service**

In order to provide an additional opportunity for worship apart from Sunday morning, we will hold a 5 pm Saturday service on the 2nd Saturday of each month. Our next service will be on Saturday, April 9. This service will have the same sermon and readings as the Sunday service but will not be livestreamed.



**Mask Mandate** 

Whenever Montgomery County imposes an indoor mask mandate, masks will be required for worship and all other indoor activities at church. Otherwise, masks will be optional, except for Sunday School, where masking will follow MCPS guidelines.



## **April Highlights**

### **Every Sunday**

9:00 am Sunday School\* (pp 3, 6)

10:00 am Worship live and streamed on our

Facebook Page

\*Except Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday

#### **Every Monday**

6:30 pm Grace Notes Rehearsal (pg 7)

#### **Every Tuesday**

10:00 am Quilters (pg 7)

12:30 pm Women's Bible Study (pg 8)

## **COMING UP...**

#### **April**

6 Lenten Wednesday Service (pg 1)

7 Women's Book Group (pg 8)

9 Saturday Service (pp 1, 2)

9 Mar-Lu-Ridge Spring Work Day (pg 5)

10 Palm Sunday (pg 1)

10 No Sunday School (pg 6)

10 Last Day for Lenten Sharing Bags (pp 1, 8)

11 Deadline for LIRS collection (pg 8)

14 Maundy Thursday (pg 1)

15 Good Friday (pg 1)

17 Easter Sunday (pg 1)

17 No Sunday School (pg 6)

17 Filled Easter Eggs Due (pg 1)

17 Easter Egg Hunt (pg 1)

18 Tax Day

19 Church Council Meeting (note day change)

23 Prayer Vigil (pg 8)

24 Confirmation

#### May

5 Cinco de Mayo

8 Mother's Day

10 Church Council Meeting

12 Women's Book Group (pg 8)

14 Saturday Service

14 Coffee House Fundraiser (pg 5)

29 Yard Sale drop off starts (pg 5)

30 Memorial Day

#### June

4 YARD SALE! (pg 5)

9 Women's Book Group (pg 8)

11 Saturday Service (pg 2)

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 & James Baur, Elizabeth Langum Chung, Brittany (DeGeorge) Daniel, Clara Ely, Laura Hampe Garofalo, Annie Hampe, Roy Johnson, Mike & Remi Langum, Anne Lomperis, Kaitlyn McGurgan & her family, Dick & Sandy Moore, Heather Robinson, Martha Rogers, Sherry Schiebel, David Swanson, Denny Tritinger, Laura Wilson, John Zobel

#### Thanksgiving

Birth of Mason Everett Orzell
(son of Erin (Masterman) & Jeff Orzell)
Birth of Quinton Von Pieper
(son of Melissa Von Wald & Kyle Pieper)
Birth of Josephine Louise Satria
(little sister of Leonie & daughter of Clara
(Koenig) & Jonathan Satria)

#### Ongoing

The people of Ukraine
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.



## **COUNCIL CORNER**

News and Views from the PoP Church Council

#### News:

The March Church Council meeting was routine with updates on the finances (we are doing okay), the shed project (Dekker Spielman is working toward replacing one of our storage sheds as his Eagle Scout project), the solar panel project (progress is being made), the yard sale (yes, we will have one this year, Covid permitting) and the courtyard (work will commence after Easter, weather permitting).

#### Views:

I have been thinking a lot about volunteers recently. Thoughts such as: how important they are to what we do at Prince of Peace, how fortunate we are to have the volunteers we do, and that we really need more.

I know that everyone has limited bandwidth. And that no one is wanting to sign up to help with an activity where:

- 1) it is unclear what the commitment is or
- 2) that the only way you can get out of the role is to move out of state.

So, we (church council) are striving to ensure that we are accurate with what the volunteer role requires in terms of time commitment and that you are not signing up for life. We do encourage you to consider the volunteer opportunities that we have open and determine if you are a good fit. We appreciate your time and talents.

Respectfully, Jon Conary

**Council met on March 8.** You can read notes from that meeting (including the Pastor's and Treasurer's report) by clicking here.

## **SPOTLIGHT**

#### **Volunteers Needed!**

Volunteers are needed for a number of key positions! This includes, especially, needing someone (or a pair of people) to be VBS Coordinator. Please check out the Key Volunteer listings on the glass door in the narthex and let Pastor Steve or Jon Conary know if you can help!



We need a Vacation Bible School director!

Time commitment is the week of VBS and several hours a month to get ready.



We need a Vice Treasurer



Covid-19 has had a dramatic impact on how we perform many of our daily/weekly activities including how we do church. Would you like to be part of the team that makes our "Live Stream" church possible? We are looking for a few more people to control the cameras and sound during our worship services.



We need someone to sit in the office during church and do the following: greet on-line worshippers, monitor the service on Facebook and let the sound person know if there is a problem, post links at the appropriate times in the service, share the peace, say bye and thank you to virtual attendees. The greetings and comments would all be as posts to Facebook.

Time commitment: 20 minutes to train, then the Sunday service.

## **COMING EVENTS**



## **SAVE THE DATE: May 14th at 6PM**

- -Coffeehouse Fundraiser
- -Reunite with POP friends
- -Raise funds for LIRS to support Ukrainian and Afghan neighbors
- -Live music and food
- -Sponsored by Fellowship & Social Justice Ministry

#### YARD SALE NEEDS YOU!!!



We are in full planning mode for our annual Yard Sale. Yard Sale Day is Saturday, June 4. Yard sale drop off will begin on Sunday, May 29 after church service. Sign up can

be done on posted sign-up sheets or on sign-up on the Yard Sale website at

www.poplutheran.org/yardsale. The Yard Sale is a great way to give back to the community, to meet members of the congregation you don't know, and to have FUN!!! The event is also an important fundraiser for the congregation. Direct any questions to Christian Michel at

christian.c.michel@gmail.com or Bill Harral at billharral@comcast.net and they can also find just the "job" to match your time and talents. If each adult member will do at least two things on the list below, the event will be a huge success.

- 1. Say "YES" when approached by a Council member to coordinate or co-coordinate a department.
- 2. Say "YES" when approached by a Department Coordinator to help with a department.
- 3. Each time you drop off items, make sure that items arrive at the department they belong; sort clothes into designated sections.
- 4. After you properly drop off items, donate at least an hour to help with a department that needs help sorting and/or pricing. How-to guides will be posted in most departments.
- 5. Have expertise? Help identify valuable items from the mounds of stuff.

- 6. **Starting on Sunday, May 29** bring in large sized cardboard boxes, plastic grocery bags and spare hangers for the Clothing Department.
- 7. Work any day/evening with truck pick-up of furniture.
- 8. Donate needed food items for our snack bar.
- 9. **On Saturday, June 4**, work in a department for at least 2 hours, especially between 7-10 am (the busiest time).
- 10. Volunteer to help with clean-up (2 pm on Saturday).

## **OTHER EVENTS**

Haven Universe, sponsor of our Honduras Mission, requests volunteer help at their Saturday Night Alive events this spring, scheduled to meet at Lakelands Park MS. They especially need help with gym time/ setup/ takedown and AV Equipment/ slide facilitator. Dates are April 9 and May 21. Also needed are volunteers for Community Clean Road/ Picnic and Wheaton Train/ Hike on May 15. If you'd like to be involved, please contact Sherry Kienzle.

## Mar-Lu-Ridge Spring Work Day

It's that time of year again - the Annual Mar-Lu-Ridge Spring Work Day will be held Saturday, April 9, 2022 from 8 am - 3 pm. Join the staff for projects and chores as they ready the camp for a busy spring and summer season. All ages and abilities welcome! Breakfast served at 8 am in Agape Hall. Lunch served at noon. Contact Jamie Pflasterer for information. Please RSVP to mlr@mar-lu-ridge.org.

## **STEWARDSHIP**

## **Online Giving**



It's easy and will make your life easier. Just go to the church webpage (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. 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 <a href="mailto:smile.amazon.com">smile.amazon.com</a> instead of <a href="www.amazon.com">www.amazon.com</a>. (AmazonSmile will remember the nonprofit previously selected.) It's easy!

Or you can use the Amazon app at no extra cost to you. Simply follow the instructions below to select "Prince of Peace Lutheran Church" as your charity and activate AmazonSmile in the app. PoP will continue to receive applicable donations from your purchases.

#### How it works:

- 1. Open the Amazon app on your phone
- 2. Select the main menu (=) & tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programs & Features
- 3. Select "Prince of Peace Lutheran Church" as your charity
- 4. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the mobile app

## YOUTH MINISTRY

## **Sunday School Masking Guidelines**

Masking in Sunday School will follow MCPS guidelines.

#### **Sunday School Holiday Schedule**

There will be no Sunday School on Palm Sunday, April 10 or Easter Sunday, April 17.

## **Sunday School Offering**

Our elementary classes learned about the three Lenten Sharing Bag giving opportunities and chose to contribute their offerings to Lutheran World Relief's Personal Care Kits. They hope to donate enough to provide a good amount of bar soap for the kits. Our last offering before our two-week class break will be on April 3. Families can also contribute other needed kit items such as light-weight, dark-colored bath towels. Sign up to donate these items on Sign-Up Genius (https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0a4eada729a3fa7-poplenten) and bring them to PoP by April 10!

## **Fruits of the Spirit Lessons**

The elementary classes completed their study of the Fruits of the Spirit as described in Galatians 5:23. Our last Fruit of the Spirit was self-control, and we talked about the self-control Jesus showed as he allowed himself to be captured and nailed to the cross.

We talked about how we need God's support to help us with our daily selfcontrol and made a craft that would allow us to exercise self-control. We secured a piece of candy in each of five





cups, which we then covered. On our crafts, we wrote 1 Peter 1:13, "So prepare your minds for action and exercise self-control." Our goal was to try to open

only one cup a day for five days.

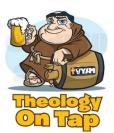
After nine weeks of learning about each of the Fruits of the Spirit, we had a recap lesson on them all, complete with Fruits of the Spirit bingo.



## **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 Genesis. Questions? Contact Pastor Wendy Deeben (wdeeben@gracerock.org)

## **MUSIC**

#### **Grace Notes**

Is this the year to dust off your trumpet, trombone, saxophone, drums, guitar or other musical instrument and start playing again? Have you always wanted to sing or play with "the Band"? Grace Notes is looking for musicians and singers.

We rehearse Monday nights from

**6:30 to 8:00 pm** and are working toward the goal of playing once a month during our worship service.

**Time commitment** is rehearsal 3-4 times a month and playing at one Sunday service a month Contact Jon Conary for more information.

## SOCIAL MINISTRIES POP CARES UPDATE!

Souper Bowl Sunday

- 243 cans of soup
- 356 lbs food donated

Interfaith Women's Shelter

• 80 lunches packed and delivered

The \$718.01 collected (in coins and bills) for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal will provide:

- Vaccinations for 3 children
- Farmers field school for 4 women
- 3 goats
- 4 flocks of chicks
- Meals for 30 people at a soup kitchen

## **Gaithersburg HELP**

As always, thanks for the great donations of food and infant needs. Please keep them coming cereal, canned fruit, 1 lb bags of rice, tuna, peanut butter, etc.!





As you know,
HELP is an all-volunteer
organization. In addition to the
ongoing need for drivers, the
awesome IT guru has moved
away and needs to transition his
role. If you

have 5-10 hours a month and good computer skills, please consider this. The ideal candidate would be a current or retired IT professional familiar with Google Apps and Microsoft Office products. For

more information, please contact Hope Walker (<a href="https://hope.walker@gaithersburghelp.org">hope.walker@gaithersburghelp.org</a>) or fill out an application on the GaithersburgHELP.org website.

#### **Quilters**



Would you like to change the world for someone? Can you tie a knot or tear/cut a piece of cloth? Then join the Quilter's group, Tuesday mornings from 10:00 am till noon at the church or work from home. We also can use donations of cloth (cotton preferred). We are

changing the world one quilt at a time! Contact <u>Lisa Conary</u> for more information.

#### **Fabric Donations Needed**

Do you have some fabric in your home that you are not going to use? The PoP Quilters are in need of fabric for quilts. Please leave any fabric donations in the church office or music room.



If you have questions, please contact Lisa Conary.

## **Social Justice Ministry News**

Lutheran World Relief is providing support to the Ukrainian people. Your help will go to food, shelter, and other critically needed items; mission quilts and kits for families who have fled their homes; and medicine and supplies for clinics. Every second counts and LWR is already desperately working with partners in and around Ukraine. You can donate by clicking here.

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service is helping to assist newly arrived Afghan refugees. Currently they're in sore need of . . . well, underwear. From girl's to women's sizes, toddler to medium, and men's sizes, medium to large. If you can help, LIRS would like to collect 500 pair of underwear that may be purchased for their warehouse in Northern VA and sent directly from Amazon. The deadline for help is Monday, April 11.

A Sacred Silence Prayer Vigil will be held on Saturday, April 23 from 5-6 pm in the Sanctuary to aid countries and refugees affected by war, as a lead-in for our coffeehouse to benefit our Afghan neighbors and Ukrainian refugees. Light refreshments to be served. Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service will provide guided readings and prayers along with educational videos about their work and efforts to help our Afghan allies resettle in America. Information on families still in Afghanistan will also be presented. Sponsored by our own Social Justice Committee.

## **Lenten Sharing Bags**

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY runs an afterschool program for elementary school children of Langley Park. The children come from a multi-cultural community that unfortunately, is marked by high unemployment, language barriers, gang violence, drugs, and poverty. The program pairs each child one-on-one with a university student, who is their "buddy" for the semester. Through play and activities, CARing buddies focus on developing the children's language, reading, and math as well as their self-image and social abilities.

https://www.thehumblewalk.org/caring-project We will collect healthy snacks and books (new or used) for The CARing Project

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF provides PERSONAL CARE KITS to people in need in the nations of Georgia, Haiti, Honduras, Iraq, Lebanon, and the Bahamas and more. LWR Kits are specifically designed to help people coping with poverty, disaster, conflict and more. Personal Care Kits help someone maintain good hygiene and provide dignity and hope in the direst situations.

https://lwr.org/kits/personal-care-kits/instructions

We will collect soap, toothbrushes, combs, towels, and nail clippers for LWR Personal Care Kits.

INTERFAITH WORKS - Interfaith provides direct social services to 35,000 neighbors with the help of

7,000 volunteers. Last year, the organization distributed \$2.5 million worth of clothing and household goods. POP supports the ministry through donations in kind, financial support, and projects such as making sandwiches for the women in the Interfaith shelter.

#### www.iworksmc.org

We will collect paper towels, toilet paper, napkins, dish soap and laundry soap for Interfaith Works.

## **FELLOWSHIP**

## **Women's Book Group**

On Thursday, April 7 at 7:30 pm, the Women's Book Group will be discussing Apples Never Fall by Liane Moriarty. Nancy Morton will be hosting the group at her home but for those who prefer a Zoom option, Kathy Mellott (ufda gal@yahoo.com) will be sending out a Zoom link just prior to April 7.

#### **Future Book Selections and Hosts**

May 12 The Nature of Fragile Things by Susan Meissner hosted by Hope Walker

June 9 *Hamnet*by Maggie O'Farrell

hosted by Becky Carr

July 8 The Arctic Fury
by Greer Macallister
hosted by Nancy Wolejsza



## POP OFFICE

#### Office Hours

Our office is now being staffed by Martha Rogers on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, from 9:30 am - 1:30 pm. However, it is always possible to:

- Call or email the office (or the Pastor directly)
   we will be monitoring email and voicemail daily, so it's always possible to contact us;
- Drop off food for Gaithersburg HELP at the church - the bins continue to be located outside each door under the covered walkways.
- Send offering checks to the church (although we're encouraging online donations if you can do that.)

## **Recycling Toner/Ink Cartridges**



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 box in the Narthex or in the labeled bin on the "Give & Take" table outside the back door.



#### **Kitchen Care**

Now that we are doing more in the building, help us keep the kitchen tidy and organized! Kitchen rules are posted in the kitchen, usually on the refrigerator, so that we can keep it clean and tidy and make it easier for everyone to use.



## **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, earthquakes, and war there are many immediate needs here and around the world. Most current for many of us is the Covid-19 pandemic. Visit the <a href="ELCA Disaster Response webpage">ELCA Disaster Response webpage</a> (<a href="https://elca.org/disaster">https://elca.org/disaster</a>) to donate or learn more about how you can help.

## **MAR-LU-RIDGE**

## **Summer Camp**

Come join us this upcoming summer for a wonderful week of camp! The summer camp brochure with the full schedule and camp descriptions is available here at the church as well as online at www.mar-lu-ridge.org

Mar-Lu-Ridge offers:

- -a fun, small group, Christ-centered week in the woods
- -affordable pricing starting at \$415 per week
- -friendships and memories that stay with your child
- -camperships to ensure that all children can attend camp
- unique specialty programs for all ages!

-ACA certification means MLR meets the highest safety standards

Camp Day: April 3 - everyone is welcome for tours and fun activities! No reservations needed: 1 - 4 p.m.

If you have any questions, please contact MLR by email at <a href="mailto:mlr@mar-lu-ridge.org">mlr@mar-lu-ridge.org</a> or by phone at 800-238-9974.

NOTE: Registration is now open. The schedule and form for financial assistance are online and in PoP's office.



Glad Tidings is published monthly (July/August and December/January issues combined) by:

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Articles for the May issue of *Glad Tidings* are due **April 17**. Please email articles to Martha Rogers at <u>GladTidingsEditor@gmail.com</u>. Photos and/or graphics are welcome!

Glad Tidings is online at www.poplutheran.org

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