



GLAD TIDINGS



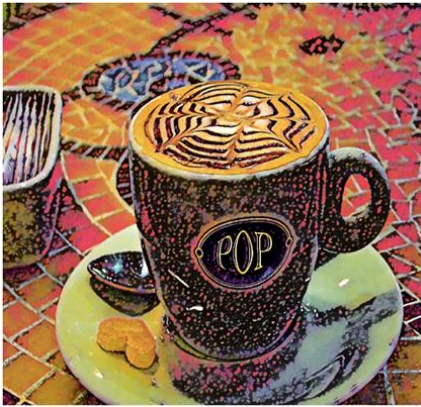
Vol. 41 Iss. 4

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg, MD

May 2022

SAVE THE DATE: May 14th at 6PM

- Coffeehouse Fundraiser
- Live auction with all proceeds going to LIRS
- Food and drinks will be available.
- Live Music and Fellowship
- Sponsored by Social Justice Ministry and Fellowship
- Mingle, eat, drink and donate!



Sunday School is Still Here!



Everyone in Kindergarten thru High School,

Sunday School is still being held. Those who are attending really miss seeing their friends.

Unsure when or where? Sunday School is held at 9:00 am every Sunday in the same places as before.

Questions about what Sunday School is like now? Contact (or have your parents contact) [Ms. Janet Levine](#). She can answer your questions or direct you to whom you need to speak.

Come on back before the last Sunday for the year before summer! More information can be found on pages 5 and 6 in this issue of Glad Tidings.

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 <https://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. **Please DO come in during the week of Yard Sale** to help sort and price. It takes hundreds of person-hours to prepare for this event so EVERYONE's help is essential. And those who come in to help during the week can indulge in pre-sales!

Special events!



From Pastor Steve...

Pastor Steve Buechler
(pastor@poplutheran.org;
301-869-3666)

In May, we've got two big events that we'll be holding or getting ready for. The first is our Coffeehouse / Auction on May 14. We'll be setting up the sanctuary as a coffeehouse, having music and food and raising funds for Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services. Then, we'll be getting ready in full force for our Yard Sale on Saturday, June 4.

As many of you know, we've held Coffeehouse events several times in the past, and before Covid, Yard Sale was an annual event. So, we know how to do both of these kinds of things and do them well. In both cases, they're big events. In both cases, we raise funds (although thankfully we no longer need the Yard Sale for our regular budget!) And both require a lot of effort and volunteers.

But we haven't been able to have any events like this for a couple of years. And one of the major objectives of both events this year is to bring us back together after having been apart for so long. Both are opportunities to reconnect with other members of the congregation. And both are opportunities for us to re-engage as a group with our wider community.

And since we're also in the midst of the Easter season this month, I think this is especially appropriate. After all, in one sense, the new life Easter brings was always about renewing and restoring community. After Jesus' death, the disciples felt cut off from God; they hid in the house and were separated from other disciples outside of Jerusalem; and they imagined that the work Jesus had been leading them to do in the lives of others around them was now over.

But the Resurrection changed all that. The Risen Jesus assured them that they were still loved, forgiven and claimed by the living God. The Risen Jesus brought them back together and empowered them to have joy and community with one another again. And the Risen Jesus sent upon them the gift of the Holy Spirit, which called them to engage in the wider world and share the good news of Jesus' new life in word and deed.

Restoring and renewing community - with each other and with the wider world around us - was an Easter tradition from the very start! And so I encourage everyone to join in this month - and in the months that follow - as we reconnect in-person with each other and with the wider world around us.

Yours in Christ,

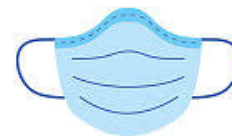
Second Saturday Service

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, May 14. 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.



May Highlights

Every Sunday

9:00 am Sunday School*

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

*Last day of Sunday School is May 22.

Every Tuesday

10:00 am Quilters**

12:30 pm Women's Bible Study

**Quilters will not meet May 31.

COMING UP...

May

5 Cinco de Mayo
8 Mother's Day
10 Church Council Meeting
12 Women's Book Group
14 Saturday Service
14 Coffee House Fundraiser
29 Yard Sale drop off starts
30 Memorial Day

June

4 YARD SALE!
9 Women's Book Group
11 Saturday Service
14 Flag Day
14 Church Council Meeting
19 Father's Day
19 Juneteenth

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

Sympathy

Family of Nancy Deeben (mother-in-law of Pr. Wendy Deeben)

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

Here are the updates from the April Church Council meeting.

Finances: Finances are doing okay ([Council notes](#)).

Shed project: the building supplies for the new shed are onsite and the old shed is scheduled to be emptied on April 23. Demolition of that shed has not yet been scheduled.

Solar panel project: the solar panels should be in place by mid-July.

Yard sale: Bill Harrel and Christian Michael are leading the Yard Sale effort and are actively seeking station leaders and workers. [Learn more and sign up to help on our Yard Sale web page!](#)

Courtyard: Building material has been delivered and work should start on or about April 25.

VIEWS

First, thank you to all the volunteers at Prince of Peace. You are essential to what we do as a church, we are so grateful for your time and talents!!

Second, there are several volunteer opportunities available. These opportunities are great ways of connecting with other members of PoP and impacting the life of the congregation. The list is posted on the glass by the door to the parking lot. If you are interested in any of these please feel free to ask about them and we will be happy to provide more details.

Respectfully,
Jon Conary

Council met on April 19. You can read notes from that meeting (including the Pastor's and Treasurer's report) [by clicking here.](#)

SPOTLIGHT

Gloria in Excelsis Deo

By, Susan Weiner

Gloria, Gloria in Excelsis, called the Lord
And the mists were hung from bay to fjord,

And the voice of the elk was beside the lake
And the breath of calf came fully awake.

Every tulip tree flowered with the dawn
And the geese rose as pale as the swan:

For *in Gloria* is written the works of God,
Who has cast each hill with staff and rod,

So yellow daffodils spring beneath the sun
And hollyhock from each simple seed is spun.

So, if mountains smoke and lands begin to quake
And raging seas make the heavens start to shake,

If even stars can fall and planets stop their spin,
Still glory will win, and all of grace will conquer sin.

This is from her book *Before the Foundation of the World*.

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



We need a Sound Board Operator

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 an Online Greeter

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.

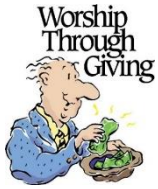


Time commitment: 20 minutes to train, then the Sunday service.

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](#).

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. 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!

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

Learners - Please Help with the Students Rebuild Project

On May 8, during Sunday School, the Elementary and Middle School classes will learn about / think about refugees and humanitarian aid. Then they will use those thoughts and feelings to create posters or other art. We will email photos of our art to the Students Rebuild organization, which will donate \$5 for each artwork to an organization aiding refugees.

Our Sunday School classes have been learning about issues and then taking action through Students Rebuild projects annually since 2014. Learners, please help us help others on May 8!

Sunday School Easter Story

Elementary learners reviewed Jesus's death and resurrection using physical evidence and notes from interviews collected by Bible-times detectives. The final piece of evidence was the empty tomb.



Using a permanent marker to write “sin” on a whiteboard and an alcohol-based pen to erase that word, we discussed our need for Jesus’s death and resurrection to erase our sins.



Then we made Easter cards proclaiming the Good News!



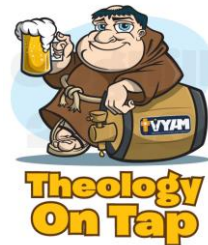
Sunday School Ends May 22

Our last Sunday School class for this school year is May 22. Thanks to all our learners for their enthusiastic participation, thoughtful discussion, and kind interactions.

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 and how to 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 8:00pm 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

Gaithersburg HELP



WANTED

1 or 2 Strong produce sorters for 1 hour on Mondays
Can you lift 20-pound crates to shoulder height?
Are you available for an hour between noon and 2:00pm on Mondays?
The Pantry is on Muddy Branch Road.



WANTED -

Daytime drivers to take mostly elderly folks to doctor appointment. One ride a month at a convenient time for you, or as many rides as you would like to do.



WANTED -

IT Person, working from home
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.

Can you help? For more information, please contact Hope Walker (hope.walker@gaitersburghelp.org) or fill out an application on the GaithersburgHELP.org website.

Food and diaper donations are always needed.
Thanks for your continuing support.

Quilters



Join our Quilters every Tuesday 10am to noon as we make mission quilts for Lutheran World Relief. No sewing skills required! No experience necessary!
Questions? Contact Lisa Conary (lconary@prodigy.net).

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

From Interfaith Power & Light:

Go Solar at Home, in Good Company!

If you've ever thought about powering your home with energy from above, it's a great time to go solar at home in our area. Neighbors are coming together to form a solar purchasing group right now, and Interfaith Power & Light invites homeowners in our congregation to join them.

Don't assume you can't afford to participate. The Montgomery County Green Bank can bring the price of solar way down for low- and moderate-income homeowners in the County!

To find out if your home is a good fit for solar panels, go to bit.ly/solarmd22. Press the orange "Join the co-op" button, and enter your address to get started!

(Rent? If you pay an energy bill in DC or MD, you can subscribe to a community solar project through Neighborhood Sun: nsunsolar.com/ipl)

Lutheran World Relief

Lutheran World Relief continues to provide care for people around the world. Right now the needs in South Sudan are critical. Violence and civil unrest have forced thousands from their homes. Historic rains have washed away houses and destroyed crops and farms. The rains have even swept away what roads existed before, cutting off the outside world. You can help LWR provide lifesaving food, water purification tablets, safe shelter, and more. To donate, go to <https://lwr.org/>.

School Supply Drive

Coming this summer, we will have the School Supplies Drive. Donations of binders, pencils and pencil pouches, markers, backpacks, and more are needed. More information will come soon.

FELLOWSHIP

Women's Book Group

On Thursday, May 12 at 7:30 pm, The Women's Book Group will be discussing *The Nature of Fragile Things* by Susan Meissner.

Excerpt from GoodReads: April 18, 1906: A massive earthquake rocks San Francisco just before daybreak, igniting a devouring inferno. Lives are lost, lives are shattered, but some rise from the ashes forever changed.

Hope Walker will be our hostess either at her home or at Prince of Peace. Location will be announced a few days prior to our meeting. There will also be a Zoom option. For anyone not on the email list, contact Kathy Mellott -ufda_gal@yahoo.com- for details.

Future Book Selections and Hosts

June 9 *Hamnet*

by Maggie O'Farrell
hosted by Becky Carr

July 8 *The Arctic Fury*

by Greer Macallister
hosted by Nancy Wolejsza

August 11 *The Lost Apothecary*

by Sarah Penner
hosted by Susan Victor

September 8 "Banned Book"

hosted by Alice Benson

October 13 *The Eyre Affair*

by Jasper Fforde
hosted by Judy Bruening

November 10 *The Mystery of Mrs. Christie*

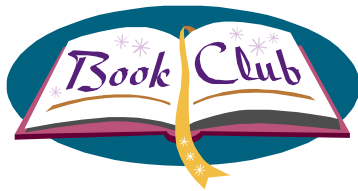
by Marie Benedict
TBD

December 8 *The Authenticity Project*

by Clare Pooley
TBD

January 12 *The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane*

by Lisa See
TBD



RECENT EVENTS

Mar-Lu-Ridge is now looking all spruced up and is getting ready to welcome campers soon! On the April 9th workday, volunteers were treated to breakfast and lunch in the dining hall as they worked on washing windows, cleaning the camp office, mulching, spreading gravel, and cleaning up branches on the grounds.



THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who participated in the Sacred Silence Prayer Vigil on April 23. A big thanks go out to our readers: Gerry Pfaff, Christina Levine, Anne Witten, Lisa Conary, Jane Sahmel, and Jennifer Maloney. Thanks also to Jane for providing refreshments and to Jon Conary for tech support and running the board. Learn more about [Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service](#), the beneficiary of our coffeehouse / action fundraiser on May 14th at 6pm, at any time by checking out their [educational videos about their work and efforts to help our Afghan allies](#) and refugees from Ukraine resettle in America.

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, and earthquakes, there are many immediate needs here and around the world. Most current for many of us is the continuation of the Covid-19 pandemic, Afghan and Ukrainian refugees, and the war in Ukraine. Visit the [ELCA Disaster Response webpage](https://elca.org/disaster) (<https://elca.org/disaster>) 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

If you have any questions, please contact MLR by email at mlr@mar-lu-ridge.org 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.



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Articles for the June issue of *Glad Tidings* are due **May 15**. 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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