



# GLAD TIDINGS



Vol. 41 Iss. 6

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg, MD

July/Aug 2022

## Delivering Quilts, Plus



In early July, the PoP Quilter's will deliver 17 plus quilts (including the one tied by the congregation), 26 personal kits (created with donations from the Lenten Sharing bags), 12 school kits and one baby kit to the LWR (Lutheran World Relief) warehouse in New Windsor, MD.

Thank you for your many donations of sheets, cotton and cotton blend fabrics and thread. Anyone interested in being a part of this group, working from home or with us on Tuesdays, 10am - noon, please contact Lisa ([lconary@prodigy.net](mailto:lconary@prodigy.net)). SSL hours are available.

## COLLECTING GLASSES and HEARING AIDS

Prince of Peace is collecting eyeglasses, sunglasses and hearing aids for the Lions Club International. Glasses may be prescription or non-prescription but should be usable.



The Lions Club motto is "Kindness Matters". As an act of kindness please donate and spread the word about our new project. The collection boxes will be located as you walk into Church and in the Besecker Center.

If you have any questions, contact [Cherie DeGeorge](mailto:Cherie DeGeorge).



## Back to School Supply Drive

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

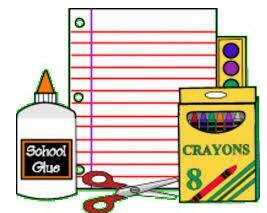
InterFaith Works will again be distributing backpacks with NEW SCHOOL SUPPLIES for the clients of the Interfaith Works Clothing Center.

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 7TH.

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](mailto:LauraCorbinHurst@yahoo.com).

## Interfaith 5K

The Montgomery County Interfaith 5K, a unique race that brings together people from all walks of life, religious backgrounds, ethnicities, and fitness levels, takes place on **September 5th at 8am** at the Maryland Soccerplex. When you register make sure to join the Prince of Peace team! Profit made by the race is DONATED to two area beneficiaries: Gaithersburg HELP and C-4 Clothing Closet. Find out [more about the MoCo Interfaith 5K here](#) or [on Facebook](#). More information will be in the September issue of Glad Tidings or check the bulletin board in the Narthex or contact [Chris Michel](#) or [Ric Kienzle](#).





## From Pastor Steve...

Pastor Steve Buechler  
([pastor@poplutheran.org](mailto:pastor@poplutheran.org);  
301-869-3666)

I have sometimes made the joke that the Altar Guild must feel that July and August are “the most wonderful time of the year” because they never have to change the paraments! The color is green, and stays green, for months.

And whenever the liturgical color is green, it’s supposed to remind us that these are the times and seasons of the year when we reflect on our growth in Christ. We read the stories of Jesus’ teaching and healing, and we consider how God is using these stories to teach us, to help us to grow spiritually and to point us in new directions of life and health.

But like all growth, spiritual growth often happens slowly, and it doesn’t happen evenly. As the summer moves along, I keep hoping that the flowers that I planted in my yard will double in size (and not get eaten by deer!) Meanwhile, the stuff I DON’T want to grow so fast (like the weeds that I just pulled yesterday), seem to spring up overnight. But that’s the way growth happens in my yard - it often takes time, and it requires a lot of weeding.

That’s the way it often is with our spiritual lives, too. I often want God to hurry up and help me to grow in a certain way. Or at least, I’d like not to have to spend so much time dealing with the “weeds” in my life, so I could get on to more exciting things. But God’s work in our lives often happens slowly, gradually and unevenly. Like the color of the paraments, it can seem liken nothing’s changing. Yet God is bringing about growth nonetheless.

So over these next couple of months, as we see green in church over and over again, I invite you to reflect on how God is helping you to grow. I invite you to use these slower months of summer to perhaps live into patience as you wait for the next thing God is revealing in your life. And I invite you to rest in the assurance that God really is working to bring about growth and healing in your life, even when things seem the same.

Yours in Christ,

## July / August Highlights

### Every Sunday

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

### Every Monday

12:30 pm Women’s Bible Study (pg 7)

### Every Tuesday

10:00 am Quilters (pg 7)



## COMING UP...

### July

- 4 Independence Day
- 9 Saturday Worship Service (pg 2)
- 10 Start Interfaith School Supply Collection (pg 1)
- 12 Church Council Meeting
- 14 Women’s Book Group (pg 8)
- 22 Tables for All (pg 8)
- 23 Eagle Project Shed Construction (pg 4)

### August

- 7 Last Day School Supply Collection (pg 1)
- 9 Church Council Meeting
- 11 Women’s Book Group (pg 8)
- 13 Saturday Worship Service (pg 2)

### September

- 5 Labor Day
- 5 Montgomery County Interfaith 5K (pg 1)
- 8 Women’s Book Group (pg 8)
- 10 Saturday Worship Service
- 11 Sunday School Resumes (pg 6)
- 13 Church Council Meeting

For a current calendar, see:

<https://poplutheran.org/church-calendars/>

**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 services will be on Saturday, July 9 and August 13. This service will have the same sermon and readings as the Sunday service but will not be livestreamed.

## COUNCIL CORNER

### July 2022

News and Views from the PoP Church Council

#### NEWS

Here are the updates from the June Church Council meeting.

**Finances:** Finances are doing okay (Council notes).

**Shed project:** The old shed has been demolished and the new shed should be put in place sometime this summer.

**Solar panel project:** The solar panels should be in place by the fall. We are in the permitting process at this time.

**Yard sale:** THE YARD SALE WAS A SUCCESS!! Thank you to all who participated either by donating your goods, your time, your talents and/or your dollars.

**Courtyard:** The Courtyard project was completed in time to be used for the Yard Sale.

#### VIEWES

First, thank you to all who helped with the Yard Sale!!

Second, there are still several opportunities to share your time and talents. Please see the poster on the door to the back parking lot.

Third, there will not a be a VBS this year. We are hopeful that we will be able to host a VBS in 2023.

Respectfully,  
Jon Conary

**Council met on June 14.** You can read notes from that meeting (including the Pastor's and Treasurer's report) [by clicking here.](#)

## 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 & friends of Lisa Bain  
(life-partner of Bill Harral)  
Family of Ora Lee Hepner  
(mother of Donna Von Wald)

#### Thanksgiving

Baptism of Taliyah Gray Abdul-Wahid  
Birth of Leo James Von Wald  
(son of Greg & Meghan Von Wald)  
Wedding of Sarah Kuykendall & Frank Browning

#### Ongoing

The people of Ukraine  
For Racial justice and equality  
All those struggling with Covid-19 and their  
Caregivers  
All those impacted by weather

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





# SPOTLIGHT

## Shed Demolished to Kick off Eagle Project

Long, long ago, there were two sheds in the back corner of the parking lot. Then, one awful day, one of those two sheds caught fire in a terrible accident. In the many years since then, the burnt shed has grown more and more decrepit. Council decided the time was right for the shed to be replaced, and Dekker Spielman agreed to take on the task for his Eagle Project. On May 28th, the shed was destroyed by multiple Boy Scouts primarily from Troop 1097. Thanks to Chet Wolejsza, who provided the majority of the crowbars, and to Bill Harral, who brought both the sawzall and the generator. The destruction of the shed would not have succeeded without either of you. Also thanks to Pastor Steve and to Jon Conary for consulting during the demolition to help to determine how much of the floor could be saved. Another big thanks for the big roll-off dumpster, which made disposal a breeze.

Now we get to the *real* fun part, Construction!

## Shed Construction Eagle Project

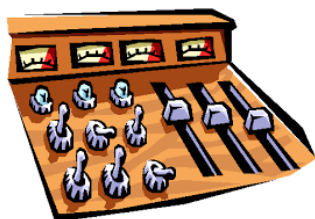
The second part of Dekker Spielman's Eagle Scout project is coming up on **Saturday July 23**. In this part, we will be rebuilding the shed in the back corner of the parking lot that was demolished just before yard sale. Volunteers are welcome, and any who have experience with carpentry or roofing are welcome to come and work, or just contribute by bringing tools, such as hammers, screwdrivers, paint rollers/brushes, etc. Both breakfast and lunch will be provided. **Arrival will be at 8:30 am, with work beginning at 9.** However, the project is planned to last well into the afternoon, and not a massive number of people can work on it at once. Woodworking will be done first thing and installing the tar paper and shingles will be happening later in the day, so please arrive when you think your skills will most be appreciated. Thanks in advance! For any questions, contact [dekker.spielman@gmail.com](mailto:dekker.spielman@gmail.com)



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Volunteers are needed for a number of key positions! 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 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.

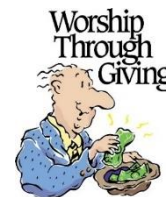


Time commitment: 20 minutes to train, then the Sunday service.

## 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](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!

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

Sunday School leaders are looking forward to welcoming our learners back on **Sunday, September 11 at 9 am!**

We will have classes for youth from preschool through high school ages. Everyone is welcome any week they can 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 Epic Teachings of the Bible curriculum. This fall, we will explore each of the Ten Commandments with a different Bible story each week and hands-on activities, such as active games, crafts, and science experiments. Our workshop leaders will be Lisa Conary, Janet Levine, Jamie Pflasterer, and Anne Witten. Trish Taylor will be our elementary shepherd.

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: Old Testament to explore the ancestors of our faith by exposing the real, unpolished, and unexpected personalities. In addition, Middle School will team up with High School monthly to work together on service projects during the Sunday School hour. Our Middle School leader is Samuel Bornhorst.

### High School

We will decide together the topics to explore this fall. In addition, we will team up with Middle School to work together monthly on service projects during the Sunday School hour. So, if you are in 9th through 12th grade, please come by and check us out. Jon Conary will lead our High School class.

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

## Middle School and High School Students

This past spring, we started to focus, in our Middle and High School Sunday school classes, on service projects. It is possible that the idea was inspired by our new Social Justice Ministry group! We have contributed items to the auction to benefit refugees and we put together kits for Lutheran World Relief from the items collected during Lent from the Sharing Bags. We believe that we not only benefited the refugees and the recipients of the LWR Personal Kits with these projects, but it also gave us an opportunity to help others. Another benefit can sometimes be, when the project benefits the community at large, and not just PoP, some of the SSL hours that students need to graduate high school.

We would like to continue with this focus over summer and into the fall. First order of business is to collect more ideas for projects. And second, to plan, organize and implement the projects.

If you would like a reminder that a project is coming up, please send your preferred contact info to Lisa Conary ([lconary@prodigy.net](mailto:lconary@prodigy.net)).

Ideas we have collected so far:

Help Dekker with the construction of the new shed on July 23 - contact [Dekker Spielman](#) to see if he still needs workers and for details.

Create quilts for LWR - any Tuesday from 10am until noon in the fellowship hall and a TBD time one weekend in July and one in August, you can contact [Lisa Conary](#) for details or just show up

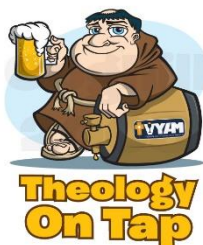
Plugging together as a group - yes, plugging is a thing, you can read about it on the Montgomery County volunteer website. You would have to register with them, but we could make it a group event - let [Lisa Conary](#) know if you want to volunteer to be the contact for that project.

More ideas would be very welcome!

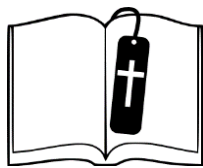
## ADULT EDUCATION

### 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 Monday from 12:30-2pm on Zoom. We are currently studying the Book of Genesis. Questions? Contact Pastor Wendy Deeben ([wdeeben@gracerock.org](mailto: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



Financial, food and infant needs donations keep Gaithersburg HELP going strong. Sizes 4 and 5 diapers are requested most often. The kids are out of school, eating lunch at home for the summer, so tuna and peanut butter are winners. Canned

fruit has been hard to get from suppliers, as well as pasta and one-pound bags of rice. All non-perishable foods are great. Any donations you can make would be very much appreciated.

For questions or information, please contact Hope Walker ([hope.walker@GaithersburgHELP.org](mailto:hope.walker@GaithersburgHELP.org) .)

## 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 [Lisa Conary](#) 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 and sheets for quilts. We use sheets for the backing and other pieces of cloth for squares. Cotton is best but blends work as well. Please leave any fabric donations in the church office or music room.

If you have questions, please contact [Lisa Conary](#).

### Social Justice Ministry News

A generous donor to Lutheran Disaster Response will match your donations up to \$25,000 for Ukrainian Refugees in Eastern Europe. Help is needed more than ever. Monies will fund such activities as finding language classes, schooling, and medical care for children and families as well as providing assistance integrating into society. Give to [Evangelical Lutheran Church in America \(elca.org\)](http://elca.org) to be of help today.

In a first in Poland, nine women have been ordained as pastors in Warsaw's Holy Trinity Church. Read more about this significant development in [Poland: First nine women ordained as pastors | The Lutheran World Federation](#).

Shop for quality chocolate from Uganda and support farmers who seek to further their agricultural development and economic security. Chocolate from Uganda helps support local families and schools for their children. Make their lives better by buying your tasty chocolate from Africa. Shop here, [Chocolate - Lutheran World Relief Farmers Market Coffee \(lwrfarmersmarket.org\)](http://lwrfarmersmarket.org)

## FELLOWSHIP

### Tables for All

Tables for All will be holding a summer barbecue at the home of Nancy and Chet Wolejsza, on **Friday, July 22 at 6:30pm**. Most of the time we can be outdoors or on our screened-in porch. This is a prelude for anyone who is interested in possibly setting up a regular round of Tables for All in the fall or next spring. Chet and I will provide barbecued chicken, kielbasa, and drinks. Please join us and bring an hors d'oeuvre, side dish, or dessert to share. RSVP to Nancy at [nawolejsza@aol.com](mailto:nawolejsza@aol.com).

### Women's Book Group

On **Thursday, July 14**, the Women's Book Group will discuss *Arctic Fury* by Greer Macallister. Susan Victor will host at her home at **7:30 pm/Zoom option at 8:00 pm**. Please RSVP to [svictor@asha.org](mailto:svictor@asha.org).

Excerpt from GoodReads: In early 1853, experienced California trail guide Virginia Reeve is summoned to Boston by a mysterious benefactor who offers her a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity: lead a party of 12 women into the wild, hazardous Arctic to search for the lost Franklin Expedition. When not all of the women return, a murder trial ensues.

The selection for **Thursday, August 11** is *The Lost Apothecary* by Sarah Penner. Nancy Wolejsza will host at her home at **7:30 pm/Zoom option 8:00 pm**. RSVP to [nwolejsza@aol.com](mailto:nwolejsza@aol.com).

Excerpt from GoodReads: A female apothecary secretly dispenses poisons to liberate women from the men who have wronged them - setting three lives across centuries on a dangerous collision course.

For PoP members who are not on the Group's email list, contact Kathy Mellott at [ufda\\_gal@yahoo.com](mailto:ufda_gal@yahoo.com) for more information.

### Future Book Selections and Hosts

September 8 "Banned Book"  
hosted by Alice Benson

October 13 *The Eyre Affair*  
by Jasper Fforde  
hosted by Judy Bruening



## 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>) to donate or learn more about how you can help.



# THINK ABOUT IT

Nature is the art of God.

--Thomas Brown

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

--Stanislaw J. Lee

Away with those who want an entirely pure church. That is plainly the same thing as wanting no church at all.

--Martin Luther

The church is the only cooperative society in the world that exists for the benefit of its nonmembers.

--William Temple

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.

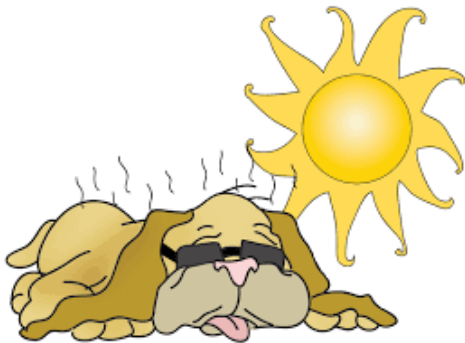
--Dorothy Sayers

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

--Peter Marshall Sr.

The church is the glue that keeps us together when we disagree. It is the gasoline that keeps us going during the tough times. It is the guts that enables us to take risks when we need to.

--Mary Nelson



# 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](http://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](mailto: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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 Prince of Peace Lutheran Church  
 11900 Darnestown Road  
 Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878-2210  
 Email: [office@poplutheran.org](mailto:office@poplutheran.org)  
 Web: [www.poplutheran.org](http://www.poplutheran.org)

Senior Pastor ..... Steven Buechler  
 Council President ..... Jon Conary  
*Glad Tidings* Editor ..... Martha Rogers  
 Production ..... Martha Rogers  
 Photography ..... TBD

Articles for the September issue of *Glad Tidings* are due **August 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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