



# GLAD TIDINGS



Vol. 41 Iss. 8

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg, MD

October 2022

## Board Game Night

Board Game Night will be happening Saturday October 1st, at 6pm in the fellowship hall. There will be pizza and board games provided, but please feel free to bring any of your own that you would like to play. Contact [Dekker Spielman](#) for more information.

## Special presentation on October 2nd service to:



Lutheran Immigration  
and Refugee Service

The social justice ministry is honored to welcome the CEO of LIRS, Krish O'Mara Vignarajah, on October 2nd to Prince of Peace! We will be presenting Krish with a check of **\$12,775.00** to support the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service at **10:00 am**. This check is a result of the generous donations and success from our Coffee House fundraiser in May. Please don't miss out on this extraordinary event and **in-person presentation** to the CEO of LIRS! Krish will also talk a few minutes about the impact of a donation of this size to her organization.

See below the personal youtube that Krish made for us prior to the Fundraiser auction:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5h8xbh19oAM>



## PB&J for the Hungry



It's Peanut Butter and Jelly time! POP, with Sunday School tithing, is collecting peanut butter and jelly for Gaithersburg HELP to celebrate Back-to-School and help restock their pantry. Donations can be left in the special collection bucket in the narthex. The drive continues through October, so please consider picking up something to donate each time you shop. Any other donations of non-perishables are of course very welcome.



## Blessing of Animals



Our Annual Blessing of Animals will take place at our **5 pm Saturday service on October 8!** Come and bring your pets!

## Elementary Quilt-making Service Project Coming 10/16

Mark your calendars for Sunday School on **October 16**, when our elementary learners will help make quilts, which will be delivered to Lutheran World Relief for people in need around the world. Sunday School Leader, Lisa Conary, has been leading middle and high school students in quilt-making since early summer. Now it is the elementary school students' turn. Tear 9.5"x 9.5" squares of fabric for a patchwork quilt, create the design for a quilt top, and learn about additional steps.

Our congregation member, Anne Lomperis, grew up as the child of international missionaries and was involved in distributing quilts to those in need. She will share her experience and enlighten us about the distribution, use, and longevity of the quilts.

## LWR October Collection

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF provides PERSONAL CARE KITS to people in need in the nations of Ukraine, Haiti, Iraq, Lebanon, the Bahamas, and more. LWR Kits are specifically designed to help people fleeing from conflict and disasters, coping with poverty, and more. Personal Care Kits help someone maintain good hygiene and provide dignity and hope in the direst situations. Right now, LWR is in great need of these kits. *We will collect soap, toothbrushes, combs, towels, and nail clippers for LWR Personal Care Kits (specific details below) until Sunday, October 30.* You can create your own kit (link to the directions below) or bring some of the things needed. Please sign up at church or online at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0A4EADA729A3FA7-poppersonal>. Contact Jennifer Maloney at [Maloney.jenn@gmail.com](mailto:Maloney.jenn@gmail.com) for more information. <https://lwr.org/kits/personal-care-kits/instructions>



## From Pastor Steve...

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

In most Lutheran churches, we celebrate the last Sunday in October as “Reformation Sunday.” It’s a day on which we remember Martin Luther posting the 95 Theses on the church door in Wittenberg, and the beginning of the Reformation. But when we think of “reformation” either in church or in secular society, we often think about structural changes. How did something visibly change? How did we reorder the organizational structure? What programs got dropped and what programs got added? And certainly, those things were and are often important parts of any “reformation”, either in the church or in society.

But for Luther, and for the early Lutheran reformation movement, the “reform” wasn’t so much about organizational change as it was about refocusing on what was important. It was about looking at the church as Christian community and asking whether the church was focused on the important things that mattered. Were people spending time and energy to deepen their relationship with Jesus? Was the worship service helping people to learn and grow in faith? Were people focused on the grace of God in their lives, or were they just going through the motions?

Although sometimes buried under layers of Latin and German theological jargon, those were really the questions of the Reformation. It wasn’t initially about any kind of new church structure, or even new theology. It was about calling Christians to refocus on what was really important and meaningful in their life together as a Christian community.

And I’ve thought about that more over these last few months, as we’ve been moving into a post-Covid time. Lots of things came to a halt during Covid, and as we’ve been restarting things - and as things begin to develop into the “new normal” - Reformation is a good opportunity to remember that we’re always called to refocus. Indeed, after any seismic change, there’s often a knee-jerk reaction to want to get back to “the way things were.” But Reformation reminds us that this is a great time to ask ourselves what’s important for

the future. What are the activities we should be involved in that most help us grow in our relationship with Jesus? How do we focus on the things that will most help us grow in faith and discipleship? And even, what “structural changes” do we need to make to help that happen?

Those are not questions for one month, or even one year! Rather, they’re the questions we’re always called to ask in every year and every age, as we seek to be a community which more deeply experiences and shares the love and saving power of Jesus.

Yours in Christ,

## October Highlights

### Every Sunday

9:00 am Sunday School  
10:00 am Worship live and streamed on our Facebook Page

### Every Tuesday

10:00 am Quilters (pg 4, 8)  
12:30 pm Women’s Bible Study (pg 8)

## COMING UP...

### October

1 Board Game Night (pg 1)  
2 LIRS Presentation (pg 1)  
2 Confirmation  
8 Saturday Worship Service (pg 3)  
8 Blessing of the Animals (pg 1)  
11 Church Council Meeting  
13 Women’s Book Group (pg 9)  
16 Service Sunday (pg 1)  
16 Confirmation  
18 Interfaith Works Women’s Ctr Dinner  
31 Halloween

### November

6 Daylight Saving Time Ends  
6 Confirmation  
8 Election Day  
8 Church Council Meeting  
10 Women’s Book Group (pg 9)  
11 Veterans Day  
12 Saturday Worship Service  
20 Confirmation  
24 Thanksgiving Day

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 service will be on Saturday, October 8.** This service will have the same sermon and readings as the Sunday service but will not be livestreamed.

## COUNCIL CORNER

### September 2022

News and Views from the PoP Church Council

#### NEWS

Here are the updates from the September Church Council meeting. The Church Council did not meet in August.

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

**Shed project:** the old shed has been demolished and the new shed is in place work is underway to complete the roofing and the door.

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

**BYC:** We had a leak in Besecker during the last couple of storms. We have temporarily patched the leak and will be having the roof repaired in the very near future. We will have to have a small section of dry wall replaced inside the building.

**Church Cleanup Day:** We are in the process of scheduling a church cleanup day in October. Be watching for further information.

#### VIEWS

Rally Sunday was held a couple of weeks ago and we had small but enthusiastic classes. The Middle School and High School Sunday students are focused on service to the community this fall and include SSL hours.

A ministry fair/cookout was held in conjunction with Rally Sunday and they were very successful. Nineteen people from 12 families signed up as interested or seeking further information from the ministry groups and the cookout was delightful despite the wet weather.

Thank you again for your continued support with both time and talents.

Respectfully,  
Jon Conary

**Council met on September 13.** 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, William Bolek, Elizabeth Langum Chung, Brittany (DeGeorge) Daniel, 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 Dorothy Otis (mother of Kathy Mellott)  
Family of Paul & Cecilia Feng (friends of Sherry Schiebel)

#### 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.

## GET INVOLVED WITH MINISTRY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!

### Seasonal

#### Christmas Pageant



It is only October but - once again - Christmas is on its way! If you want to join the people who say that being a part of the Pageant helps them remember the 'Reason for the Season' - **please sign up as an actor or helper by the end of October.** Signup sheets are in the Narthex just outside of the office window. You may also contact [Lisa Conary](#) for more information and/or to sign up.

## VBS



Hands make Light Work.'

We are going to try something new for VBS 2023. Instead of a Director, we will have a Committee. This way, we utilize the principal of 'Many

We can all agree that the job of "Director of VBS" is daunting! But the idea of a committee of 12-40 people dividing the job up into 12-40 parts is much less overwhelming. **Please sign up by October 16 if you are willing to be a part of this VBS team.** A sign up sheet is in the Narthex just outside of the office window. You may also contact [Jon Conary](#), [Lori Kohne](#), or [Judy Bruening](#) for more information and/or to sign up.

## Christmas Decorating

Does decorating for the Holidays put you in the Christmas Spirit?



If so, you are invited to join the Group that makes our church feel so very special during the Advent and Christmas Season!

If interested, contact [Pamela Cook](#)!

## Ongoing

### Sunday School

The Sunday School leaders are excited to be back!



New this year: once-a-month Service Projects during Sunday School (Our next project: quilt making!). Snacks.

The Same: loads of Love, Mercy, and Grace. We are looking for students from Preschool to 12th grade. We are also looking for a Middle School assistant or co-leader and a shepherd (a second adult in the room) for Preschool or Elementary classes. You can contact [Janet Levine](#) for more information and/or to sign up.

## Fellowship Committee



If you love having friends over or giving parties, then the Fellowship

Committee is for you!

If interested, contact [Pamela Cook](#)!

## Photographer



Looking for a designated photographer: someone who can take pictures to update and/or add to the church directory and our picture wall.

Also looking for a list of people willing to take pictures at church events.

Contact [Pastor Steve](#) or [Jon Conary](#) for more information.

## PoP Quilters



Join us on Tuesdays, 10am - Noon and once a month on Service Sundays! (Watch the PoP weekly email for the date.) If interested, contact [Lisa Conary](#)!

## Vice Treasurer



Actually, that is the Treasurer's job!

We need a Vice Treasurer to eventually take over the job of our Treasurer who wishes to retire after training his replacement.

If interested, please contact [Terry Forish](#) for more information.

## Counters



We COUNT because you COUNT!!!

Count the offering and prepare the bank deposit with a fun and friendly group of COUNTERS.

Goal: To have accurate bank deposits

Time Commitment: No more than an hour after church on your rotation.

If interested, contact [Helen Griffith](#) for more information.



## SPLASH Volunteer!



Looking for a volunteer opportunity that can be done from home, takes about an hour a month and benefits

the youngest members of our church?

Coordinating our SPLASH mailings could be the perfect fit! These monthly newsletters from Augsburg Fortress support caregivers of children birth to 36 months by helping them incorporate faith formation into the events of daily life.

Once a month it would be your job to:

- Check with the office for an update on new families and new babies to add to the mailing list
- If there are any newbies, order new supplies and send a welcome letter
- Finally, send out the pre-printed newsletter to everyone on the list

Contact [Jamie Pflasterer](#) for more information.

## Weed Warriors



First - are they really weeds? Or just grass and other miscellaneous plants that have volunteered to grow where we do not really want them to be. Like on our little parking lot islands or under our bushes or

between the bricks or in any little crevice they can find!

Needed - individuals to round them up and help them move out.

Goal: Make the landscape more attractive

Time commitment: Up to you

If interested please contact [Lisa Conary](#) for more information.

## Window Washers

Needed - magical individuals to make our windows transparent again!!



Goal: Sparkling windows

Time commitment: Up to you

If interested, contact [Jon Conary](#) for more information.

## Altar Guild



WANTED: An Altar Guild member for 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays (i.e., when a month has 5 Sundays - that 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday would be your turn.)

TRAINING PROVIDED!!

TIME COMMITMENT: About 30 minutes to set up before a church service, Communion Assistant during communion, and about 15 minutes to clean up after church (4 times a year).

If interested, contact [Pamela Cook!](#)

“...if you want a Holy Spirit moment, volunteer for Altar Guild. Coming into the chapel - with quietness - and preparing the Altar with the sacraments - you feel the Holy Spirit’s presence. It’s not a chore - it’s a blessing.” (Janis Dixon, Morristown, TN)

## Choir



DO YOU LOVE TO SING?

This is a survey to determine how much interest there is in the re-formation of the choir here at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church.

If you love to sing so much that you are actually looking for a good excuse to do so...above and beyond 3 hymns a week in church...with a group of like-minded people, then please, contact [Danielle Drobný!](#)

## Grace Notes



Grace Notes is looking for musicians and singers.

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”? 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.

Contact [Jon Conary](#) (for more information).

## The “Live Stream” Team



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.

Contact [Jon Conary](#) for more information.

## 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.

Contact [Pastor Steve](#) or [Jon Conary](#) for more information.

## OTHER EVENTS

### Haven Universe “Saturday Night Alive!”

Non-profit, Haven Universe has been partnering with Prince of Peace for several years and invites you to volunteer at HU “Saturday Night Alive” this fall. These events are hosted for individuals with special needs and their families and friends, many of whom are adults that attend with their caregivers.

“Saturday Night Alive” event assistance is needed on the following dates **from 4:00-7:00pm at Lakelands Park Middle School (1200 Main St, Gaithersburg):**

**October 15**

**November 12**

Positions for volunteers include front desk check-in, gym setup/takedown, AV tech setup/takedown, craft table, merchandise sales, or just mingling with participants. This is a chance to see God’s work through our hands. (High school students can also earn SSL hours by volunteering.) Contact [Ric](#) or [Sherry](#) Kienzle for questions. We hope you can join us to be a witness of Christ to others!

### Haven Universe “Bible Study” on Zoom

Non-profit, Haven Universe will be hosting a 4-week Bible study on Friday evenings via Zoom this fall for individuals of all ages and abilities. A sample lesson can be found [here](#). This is a great way to learn more about God’s Word and include the whole family (from the comfort of your own home!)

Come when you can, (you do not need to attend every week.) These will be presented online **from 7:00-8:30pm on the following dates:**

**October 7**

**October 14**

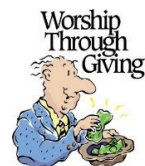
Email [hu@havenuniverse.org](mailto:hu@havenuniverse.org) to receive the Zoom link and lessons for this series. Contact [Ric](#) or [Sherry](#) Kienzle for questions. We hope you can join us!

## Honduras Mission Trip 2023

Prince of Peace members are invited once again to join non-profit, Haven Universe on a mission trip to Honduras in June of 2023! Members have participated in this trip in recent years and have had an enriching experience of traveling to Honduras and assisting with medical brigades, construction projects, and community food donations. Haven Universe has also since begun to sponsor a unique school in that area called, CEPI which offers educational supports for children with special needs.

If you are thinking of whether a mission trip to Honduras is for you, an **interest meeting will be held on Sunday, October 2 at 9:15am in the Sanctuary** to provide additional information on the trip, (exact trip dates TBD.) Please contact [Ric](#) Kienzle if you would like more information on this interest meeting or the mission trip in June.

## 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](https://smile.amazon.com) instead of [www.amazon.com](https://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

#### PreK/K Class Learns About Using God's Name

In the launch of the Pre-K/K class, we talked about the different names we have for God and why we respect God's name when we talk to others. We also discussed that our names are special, too, and learned what each of our names mean. We made a nameplate as a craft as a reminder that God loves us and knows our names.

#### Elementary Learners Discover What the Bible Says about Grandparents

Rally Sunday this year, September 11th, in addition to being a National Day of Service and remembrance, was also national Grandparents Day. As part of our Sunday School lesson, we talked a little about our own grandparents - some families have grandparents who live nearby, and several

have grandparents who live farther away. Then we read several Bible verses about grandparents:

- Grandchildren are the crown of the elderly, and the glory of children is their parents. (Proverbs 17:6)
- Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is gained in a righteous life. (Proverbs 16:31)
- I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also. (2 Timothy 1:5)

After reading the verse from 2 Timothy, we talked about how what we were reading is actually an Epistle, or letter, written by the Apostle Paul to Timothy, a young Christian living in another place, and how Paul wrote lots of letters to new churches and congregations starting up all over the Roman Empire. Writing letters back and forth allowed them all to stay in touch and share their ideas, teachings, and faith.

For our craft project, we made a "traveling journal" (see also

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Exchange\\_diary](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Exchange_diary))

that can be used by students to stay in touch with grandparents who live farther away. Everyone decorated the cover of a small spiral-bound notebook and took it home along with a manila envelope.



Learners can write a short note or draw something inside on the first page, and then mail the traveling journal to their grandparents. Grandparents can then write their own note or make their own drawing on the second page before mailing it back. Exchanging the journal back and forth, families can stay in touch and have a record of all the things they talked about and shared.

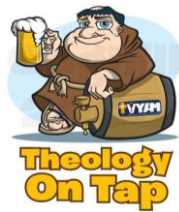
We closed out our lesson with another verse from 2 Timothy:

- But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. (2 Timothy 3:14-15)

## 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.



### 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](#).

## SOCIAL MINISTRIES

### Gaithersburg HELP

Gaithersburg HELP is facing a daunting decrease in financial reserves, due to multiple factors: ongoing increase in number of clients, significant decrease in individual donations, and an astounding 99% increase in costs, as compared to pre-covid 2019. Deficit spending year-to-date has been \$110K, with \$41K of that in August. For now, we can continue providing for client needs, but at a foreseeable point, services will need to be reduced. If you are able to include Gaithersburg HELP in your personal giving, it would be hugely appreciated.

URGENT NEED



Here is a chart showing comparison numbers:

#### What's Up with the Vanishing Gaithersburg HELP Financial Reserves?

2022 Compared to 2021:

- Income is down 21% Year-To-Date
- Expenses are up 36% YTD
- YTD deficit is \$110,000, with \$41,000 of that in August

Compared to 2019, the last pre-covid "Normal" year:

- Number of clients up 50%
- Income up 43%
- **BUT – Expenses are up 99% !**
- Please consider Gaithersburg HELP for your 2022 giving, to help us continue to meet the ongoing high community needs. United Way and CFC both list Gaithersburg HELP as one of their agencies.

For questions or information, contact [Hope Walker](#)

## Quilters



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

**On Tuesday, October 11**, hike along Mar-Lu-Ridge Camp to experience the wonders of creation. Exploring the flora and fauna of mountains, this interactive program is for all ages. Bring comfy walking shoes and even binoculars. A \$25.00 fee includes lunch. **From 9 am - 1 pm.**

**On Tuesday, November 15**, join us again for Service Quilt Day to support Lutheran World Relief. No experience necessary in helping to assemble quilts while learning more about LWR. Lunch included, **from 9 am - 1 pm.** helpers needed and welcome.

Register here for either or both activities, [Mar-Lu-Ridge MountainTopics Registration \(jotform.com\)](#).

So, you want to talk about race. Join Fairhaven United Methodist Church on Rt. 28 on **monthly Tuesday evenings from 7 - 8 pm** for virtual discussions on racial justice and healing. Let's think about action to mitigate the school-to-prison trajectory. Those interested may contact Jamie Pflasterer, [jlplast@hotmail.com](mailto:jlplast@hotmail.com).

**On Saturday, October 15**, join N. Street Village at **9:30 am** for a morning walk in support of the SHERO community. N. Street Village is celebrating 50 years of helping transform the lives of women experiencing homelessness in the District. Street Village is located at 1333 N. St., N.W., DC. They would be grateful for fund-raising pages to help contribute to their goal of meeting \$150,000 in pledges. See their website for more info. You are needed in the fight to end homelessness. **Check in starts at 8:30 am.** [SHERO 2022 \(nstreetvillage.org\)](http://nstreetvillage.org)



## FELLOWSHIP

### Women's Book Group

The Women's Book Group October selection is *The Eyre Affair* by Jasper Fforde. **The Group meets on Thursday, October 13, beginning at 7:30 pm with a Zoom option at 8:00 pm.** Please RSVP to Debbie at [latour22@comcast.net](mailto:latour22@comcast.net).

Excerpt from GoodReads: Suspenseful and outlandish, absorbing and fun, *The Eyre Affair* is a caper unlike any other and an introduction to the imagination of a most distinctive writer and his singular fictional universe.

### Future Book Selections and Hosts

November 10 *The Mystery of Mrs. Christie*  
by Marie Benedict

hosted by Jennifer Maloney

December 8 *The Authenticity Project*

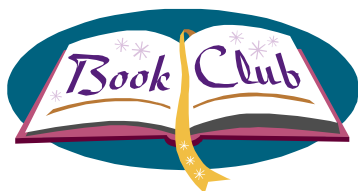
by Clare Pooley

hosted by Judy Bruening

January 12 *The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane*

by Lisa See

hosted by Nancy Morton



## RECENT EVENTS



At the Interfaith 5K, we had religious fun bandz and leis as giveaways, plus a sheet with upcoming activities at PoP / church contact info.

Great to connect have dinner with Gordan Gipe and Barbara on Labor Day in Rehoboth! He misses us but not as much as we miss him!!!



Two Crab Fests that were donated from the May Coffeehouse fundraiser by Joan Kowalik, Susan Victor, Cherie, and Mike DeGeorge took place this summer. Crabs were great, terrific fellowship, and the kids loved the pool and their loaded ice cream sundaes!



## 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.

## THINK ABOUT IT

In *Directions*, James Hamilton writes:

Before refrigerators, people used icehouses to preserve their food. Icehouses had thick walls, no windows, and a tightly fitted door. In winter, when streams and lakes were frozen, large blocks of ice were cut, hauled to the icehouses, and covered with sawdust. Often the ice would last well into the summer.

One man lost a valuable watch while working in an icehouse. He searched diligently for it, carefully raking through the sawdust, but didn't find it. His fellow workers also looked, but their efforts, too, proved futile. A small boy who heard about the fruitless search slipped into the icehouse during the noon hour and soon emerged with the watch.

Amazed, the men asked him how he found it.

"I closed the door," the boy replied, "lay down in the sawdust, and kept very still. Soon I heard the watch ticking."

*Often the question is not whether God is speaking, but whether we are being still enough, and quiet enough, to hear.*

--Phillip Gunter

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