



# GLAD TIDINGS



Vol. 42 Iss. 5

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg, MD

June 2023

## **YARD SALE is happening June 3 from 8:00 am -1:00 pm.**

The church will be open for donations, pricing and sorting:



- From 11 am until 8 pm on Sunday, May 28,
- From 9 am until 8 pm on Monday, May 29,
- From 4 pm until 8 pm on Tuesday through Thursday, May 30 - June 1,
- On Friday evening, from 4 pm until 8 pm, pricing and sorting only.

**Sign up to help in the narthex on the poster on the glass parking lot wall or on the Sign Up Genius links below.** There are plenty of jobs to go around. Sign up to help the week before, the day of and don't forget the food! Food donations are for the grill masters, so that dinner can be provided to workers the week prior to the sale, and so that there are items to sell at the snack bar during the sale on Saturday. Contact [Pamela Cook](#) with any food / snack bar questions. Yard Sale net proceeds will benefit Mar-Lu Ridge and PoP's bathroom renovations! Here are the Sign-up Genius links:

[Preparation signup](#)

[Sale day volunteers](#)

[Food donations](#)

Please save bags - plastic, paper, reusable - for people to put their purchases in as well as clothes hangers.

### **Yard Sale Clean Up Team Needed!**

If you can't make it out early, consider coming at around noon to help pack up the leftovers for charities and recycle boxes and other items. Help keep usable items and recyclables out of the trash!

We really need some fresh people to help so that those who have been there all day get a break!

Sign up on the glass wall in the narthex (last line of the poster) or use the Sign-up Genius (see the links above).

### **For tweens and teens:**

Service Opportunity: SSL hours available for the teens and tweens that help with Yard Sale!!

**Yard Sale Set-up begins on Sunday after the service.** Please help by sorting your donations when possible. At the very least, make sure they are in the correct area (see the posted yard sale maps). Please check out the signup sheets in the narthex and online to help and to bring food. Dinner will be provided Monday - Friday at approximately 6 pm.

## **Juneteenth Celebration**



Did you know that not all slaves were freed in April 1865 with the cessation of the Civil War? Territories out west had yet to be pacified by the Army. So, when on June 19, 1865, the Army formally declared all slaves freed in

Galveston, Texas, the African-American community has celebrated the date ever since. Made a federal holiday by President Biden in 2021, Juneteenth, as it has come to be known, has historically been a day of food and fellowship for communities longing for freedom and equal rights under the law.

Join POP for an all-ages interfaith Juneteenth celebration on **Monday, June 19 from 6:30-7:30 pm** in the sanctuary and fellowship hall, along with several of our Rt 28 faith communities including Fairhaven Methodist, Shaare Torah Synagogue, Poplar Grove Baptist Church, St. Nicholas Episcopal Church, and The Church of Jesus Christ Latter-day Saints, Kentlands Ward. Also known as Emancipation Day or Freedom Day, Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration of the ending of slavery. The event will include music from the Fairhaven gospel choir, education, and fellowship - with an ice cream social after the program. Come and meet members of our neighboring faith communities, and also learn more about the Pleasant View historical site next door.



## From Pastor Steve...

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

On May 11, I adopted Phoenix! He is a sweet, energetic 1 year old lab mix.

We are both so happy we found each other! I had been doggie-less for over a year, and on the day I brought him home, I instantly felt that I had begun a new chapter in my life. Of course, a lot of things will remain the same.



And some routines I've begun again are the same routines you have for any dog. But each doggie is different. And one of my sayings lately is that I've gone from the "adopting" process to the "adapting" process!

In many ways, the long green season we enter in June is also a time of remembering the "adapting" process of the first disciples. When the Day of Pentecost had come, they were filled with the Holy Spirit and empowered to be witnesses of Jesus. On that day, they began a new chapter in their lives.

And yet, many things still seemed to be the same. The cultural and political landscapes in which they lived hadn't changed. They were each, in many respects, the same people who had followed Jesus around before the Resurrection, with the same flaws and personal issues. And they weren't suddenly transformed by the power of the Spirit to be all-powerful and all-knowing people. In fact, that never happened!

But something new and powerful had happened. God had done something transformative in their lives. And now they were called to new adventures; to try things they hadn't done before; and to live in ways that weren't exactly the same as the way they used to live. That's what adapting is all about.

As we head into these summer months, we'll read a lot of stories about the things Jesus said and did. And as we reflect on those stories, it's a good opportunity for us, also, to reflect on the ways God is calling us to a process of adaptation - both personally and as a community - to the new times

in our lives to which God is calling us. Often, things may seem much the same. But through Baptism, God has also given us the gift of the Spirit. God has done something new and life changing in us and with us. And God is calling us, also, to a new chapter of adapting.

Yours in Christ,

## June Highlights

### Every Sunday

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

### Every Monday

7:00 pm Grace Notes Rehearsal

### Every Tuesday

10:00 am Quilters

12:30 pm Women's Bible Study

## COMING UP...

### June

1-2 Yard Sale Prep (pg 1)

3 YARD SALE (pg 1)

8 Women's Book Group (pg 7)

10 Saturday Worship Service (pg 2)

11 VBS Meeting

13 Church Council Meeting

14 Flag Day

18 Father's Day

19 Juneteenth

19 Juneteenth Event (pg 1)

21 First Day of Summer

### July

4 Independence Day

8 Saturday Worship Service

11 Church Council Meeting

13 Women's Book Group (pg 7)

16 - 20 VBS (pg 4)

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 Sat., June 10. This service will have the same sermon and readings as the Sunday service but will not be livestreamed.

## COUNCIL CORNER

### June 2023

News and Views from the PoP Church Council

#### NEWS

Here are the updates from the May Church Council meeting.

**Finances:** Giving has been increasing a little every month. We are still a little bit behind expenses but trend is positive ([Council notes](#)).

**Solar panel project:** A contract has been signed and we are in the process of scheduling a structural analysis.

**Feast Fund:** The next Feast Fund project will be a renovation of the bathrooms in the main church building. Updates to follow.

- **Yard Sale:** We still need some additional Yard Sale Workers both for the week before and the day of Yard Sale. Yard Sale this year on Saturday, June 3 from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. We need volunteers to come on Friday, June 2 at 6:00 pm and help put the Yard Sale items (toys, shoes, furniture, garage items). Sign up forms are in the Narthex and on-line ([Preparation signup](#), [Sale day volunteers](#), [Food donations](#))

#### VIEWS

The Cinco De Mayo celebration was a lot of fun (THANK YOU FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE). We have a number of activities coming up at the church (Yard Sale, Juneteenth). Please watch for announcements and join us as you can.

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

Respectfully,  
Jon Conary

**Council met on May 9.** 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, Carmen Hooks-Hill, Roy Johnson, Mike & Remi Langum, Anne Lomperis, Kaitlyn McGurgan & her family, Madelyn Berkeley-Militzer, John Militzer, Dick Moore, Heather Robinson, David Rogers, Martha Rogers, Sherry Schiebel, David Swanson, Denny Tritinger, Cynthia Watter, Susan Weiner, Laura Wilson, Nancy Wolejsza, John Zobel

#### Sympathy

Family of Jay Solomon  
(father-in-law of Tracy Solomon)

#### Thanksgiving

First Communion Class of May 2023 - Juliet Dillon,  
Fiona Haran, Zach Jodts, Kenny McKnight, Tyrus Shober, Alycia Taylor and Ian Wooldridge!  
Birth of Willow Horiguchi  
(grandson of Helen and Crawford Griffith)

#### 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.



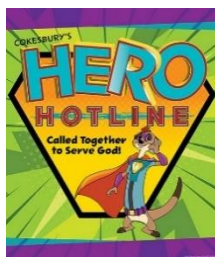
## SPOTLIGHT

### COMING THIS SUMMER VBS for Kids and Adults!

Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup> through Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup>  
6:00pm until 8:00pm

Dinner will begin at 6:00 for anyone interested (main dish provided).

At 6:30 adults will join Pr. Steve for a Bible Study on the same lessons that the children will be learning in their VBS activities while the children will begin their VBS activities.



All adults are welcome (whether you have kids or not!).

**Reserve your spot now!**

We would like to get an idea of the number of adults and children who might be interested so that we can begin to prepare materials.

[Please click here for the pre-registration/registration form.](#)

Hope to see you!

Please let [Judy Bruening](#) know if you have any questions.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Honduras Mission Trip 2023

We are excited to announce that Prince of Peace will be sending six missionaries in June to Honduras with non-profit, Haven Universe: Chet & Nancy Wolejsza, Crawford & Helen Griffith, and Ric & Sydney Kienzle. We are asking the congregation for prayers for a safe and successful mission trip as they help fulfill various local needs through construction projects, medical brigades, food deliveries, and simply being God's hands and feet in these communities.

Any questions about the mission trip or how to support these projects can be directed to [Ric Kienzle](#). We thank you for your prayers and support!

## Interfaith 5K Registration is Open!



The Interfaith 5k walk/run sign up is open! [Register Here!](#) PoP continues to be a sponsor and supporter of this event and we are hoping to have our largest turnout yet

this year. Can we have the largest team?! Please sign up! When you do, please select to join the Prince of Peace team. More information is available at <https://mocointerfaith5k.org/>.

Any questions please reach out to [Ric Kienzle](#). Thank you!"

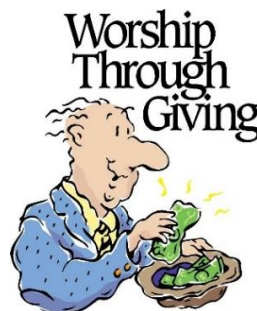
## STEWARDSHIP

### 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!





# YOUTH MINISTRY

## Sunday School

Thanks to our dedicated Sunday School leaders for their loving commitment to our children!

Preschool and Elementary Leaders - Lisa Conary, Janet Levine, Jamie Pflasterer, and Anne Witten

Elementary Shepherd - Trish Taylor

Opening Music Leader - Danielle Drobny

Middle School Leader - Samuel Bornhorst

High School Leader - Jon Conary

Sunday School Superintendent - Janet Levine

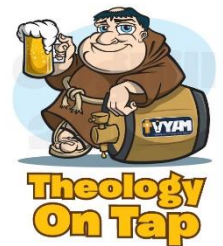
The leaders thank our kind and engaged learners for their participation. We look forward to seeing you at PoP this summer and back in class in September.

May 21 was the last day of the 2022-2023 school year for PoP Sunday School. The last 6 weeks of that time, the elementary classes made use of a VBS kit that was acquired during covid and never used. Five excellent stories from the Bible along with games and fun snacks were explored. On May 21, we finished for the year with a Sundae Sunday for the whole Sunday school! Here are some pictures:

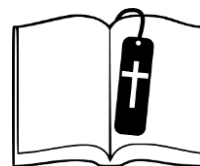


## ADULT EDUCATION

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 join us! NOTE: In July this is being replaced with Adult VBS. See page 4 for more information.



## PoP Women's Bible Study



The Women's Bible Study meets every Tuesday from 12:30-2pm in person and on Zoom. We are currently discussing Exodus.

Questions? Contact [Pastor Wendy Deeben](#).

## 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

Think Diapers! There is always a somewhat overwhelming demand for diapers size 5 and 6. And food as always. And volunteering as always, especially daytime drivers and several leadership positions, both daytime and evening. So many possibilities for helping our neighbors!!



Thanks for your ongoing support.

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

### 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](#).

### Lions Club Eyeglass Donations

While going through all your treasures to donate to the Yard Sale, please remember we are still collecting glasses and hearing aids for the Lions Club International. Collection box is in the Narthex. This is an ongoing project so if you forget to bring them in prior to Yard Sale please bring your donations at any time.

### Social Justice Ministry News

Mar-Lu-Ridge will host a free, delicious meal for the community on June 11 from 4-7 pm in Agape Hall, prepared by Chef Tim and hosted by the summer staff. All are welcome to experience the joy of ministry and a wonderful evening on the mountain. For more information on the meal or camp spaces go to [Mar-Lu-Ridge Summer Camp & Retreat Center](#). To help out and donate to Mar-Lu-Ridge camp supply needs go to [Amazon.com](#).

**Free Summer Concert Hosted by WGTS!** WGTS 91.9 and Adventist HealthCare White Oak Medical Center invite you and your family to a FREE Summer Concert featuring the award-winning band, CAIN! **This outdoor event will take place on Friday, June 23rd beginning at 3:00pm with a LIVE broadcast from WGTS's own Johnny & Stacey Stone, free ice cream, games, and prizes! PLUS, free health screenings from Adventist HealthCare, and a blood drive from INOVA.** Then stick around for the concert with CAIN from 6:30-8:00 pm on the lawn by the lake next to the medical building. Location at: 11890 Healing Way, Silver Spring. More information can be found [by clicking here](#). For questions, contact [Sherry Kienzle](#). Hope to see you there!



Join the Seventh Annual Rockville Pride celebration on Saturday, June 24 from 1-4 pm. Held at Rockville Town Square there will be live performances, information booths and dialogue, as well as children's arts and crafts activities. For more information go to, [www.rockvillemd.gov/pride](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/pride).

Though we may not see it on the news anymore, conditions on the ground after the earthquake in Turkey remain grave. In Antakya (Antioch from the Bible) at least 80% of buildings left standing must be razed to the ground. Even seven weeks after the earthquake almost two million people remain homeless. Lutheran World Relief continues to provide meaningful services and goods. You can help Turkish victims of this natural disaster by donating directly to [LWR](http://LWR).

Many thanks to Kathy Mellott for delivering our electronics recycling to the City of Gaithersburg Recycling event.

Coming this Summer- Look for notices about the annual School Supplies Drive. Supplies collected ensure that every child in Montgomery County starts the year off with the things they need for success.

Toward Fall, we will also have a collection of afterschool snacks for children at Stepping Stones Shelter.

## FELLOWSHIP

### Women's Book Group

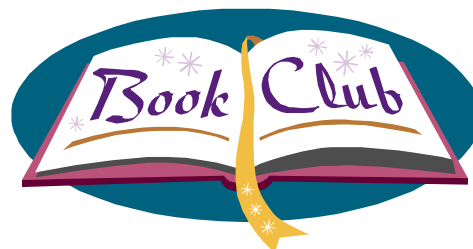
The Women's Book Group will be reading *Pieces of Her*, a thriller/mystery by Karin Slaughter, for their June gathering at the home of Susan Victor on June 8 at 7:30 pm. Please RSVP to [svictor@asha.org](mailto:svictor@asha.org) by June 5.



Our May Book Group was hosted by Alice Benson on her deck on a beautiful evening.

### Future Book Selections and Hosts

July 13 *The Diamond Eye*  
by Kate Quinn  
host Nancy Wolejsza  
August 10 *The Personal Librarian*  
by Marie Benedict & Victoria Christopher Murray  
host Becky Carr  
September 14 *The Kitchen Front*  
by Jennifer Ryan  
October 12 *The Four Winds*  
by Kristin Hannah  
November 9 *The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post*  
by Allison Pataki



## RECENT EVENTS

### Ladies Dinner Out

The PoP women enjoyed a celebratory "Ladies Dinner Out" at Il Porto in April. It was great to get together for food and fellowship (after the busy tax season!) We hope to have more in-person events in the future as we begin to reconvene as a church family. Be on the lookout in the church bulletin for details on the next event!



## Cinco de Mayo

A few pictures showing the fun and fellowship at our Cinco de Mayo gathering.



## THANK YOU!

### Lions Club Eyeglasses

Thank you for your contributions to the Lions Club's eyeglass program. We have delivered 75 pairs of prescription eyeglasses, sunglasses, readers and one set of hearing aids. The collection will continue, please look for box on the Collection Table in the Narthex.

### Lenten Book Drive

I'm profoundly grateful to everyone who participated in the book drive for the special education programs at Seneca Valley High School. We donated 527 books!

A heartfelt thank you to the Social Justice Committee for their responsiveness and hard work; to Martha and Victoria for their support; and to all who donated to this worthwhile cause. My heart is again made full by the kindness and generosity of our church family.

I've carried the idea of providing books to kids with me for a long time - ever since a few of us discussed adopting a classroom and providing books for students throughout the school year. One Sunday, on impulse, I mentioned the idea to

Jennifer. She was receptive/supportive, so I rushed home and called my daughter to see if there was indeed a need for books. The answer was a resounding "Yes!". The idea of a book drive was born.

The teachers and students were so thrilled and grateful for the books and for the love and care they represented. I wish you all could have seen the happiness on their faces and felt their excitement. It was a joy and a blessing to witness - all thanks to you!

On a personal note, I want to thank you for another beautiful gift you gave. My daughter, who would describe herself as agnostic, looked at the boxes and bags filled with books, cried, and said she felt the presence of God. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

With love,  
Remi



The 'Thank You' note from the teachers and students.

## 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.)



## Sunday Service Snacks

Snacks after Sunday Service are back! If you are interested in helping, there is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Thank you for all your help. If you have any questions, you can contact Pamela Cook at 301-806-8016 (call or text).



## Fresh Flower on Sundays!!



Please help us by ordering an arrangement. The cost will be \$40.00. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Pamela Cook at 301-806-8016 (call or text).

## 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

### Food for Thought:

Make time to seek God and know Him - He is waiting for you to reach out! (*Jeremiah 29:13*)

The Bible tells us to love our neighbors, and also to love our enemies; probably because generally they are the same people.

--G.K. Chesterton

My five-year-old son was proud that he had graduated from bow ties to a necktie just like Dad's. But one Sunday morning, with his dad clutching the tie tightly, I heard this panicked whisper: "Dad, why did the pastor say they're going to collect the ties and offering?"

--G. Brian Manning

The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.

--Martin Luther King, Jr.

Sometimes God calms the storm—and sometimes he lets the storm rage and calms his child.

--Unknown

*Glad Tidings* is published monthly (July/August and December/January issues combined) by:  
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Articles for the July/August issue of *Glad Tidings* are due **July 16**. 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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