



# GLAD TIDINGS



Vol. 45 Iss. 5

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg, MD

June 2026

## VBS Takes the “Snowball Mountain Challenge”

VBS for Kids and Adults is back from Sunday, July 19 through Thursday July 23, 6:30 to 8:30pm. Dinner is provided before the classes start (6:00 to 6:30 pm). Pr. Steve will lead the adults in



a Bible study based on the same lessons the children are learning.

Kids, come and participate in various hands-on activities, laughter, and life lessons rooted in solid faith with a [Snowball Mountain Challenge](#).

Adults, come whether you have kids or not!

Everyone, come any night you are available: Sunday or Monday or Tuesday or Wednesday or Thursday. Remaining handouts, kits, etc. will be available at the end if you miss a night.

Keep your eyes open for information concerning registration which opens after Yard Sale.



Prince of Peace Farmers & Artisans Market continues each Thursday through November 19, 3:30 - 6:30 pm. Come to the back parking lot to browse, shop, and say hello to the local growers, bakers, makers, and your neighbors while supporting our church community. For more information, email [farmersmarket@poplutheran.org](mailto:farmersmarket@poplutheran.org).

## Honduras Mission Trip 2026!

Prince of Peace will partner with non-profit, Haven Universe on a mission trip to serve various communities in Honduras from June 18-28, 2026. We are excited to support the following PoP members in this mission: Luke Dillon; Ric, Sherry, and Sydney Kienzle. Please keep these missionaries in your prayers in the weeks leading up to the trip! The itinerary will include planned medical brigades and construction projects for those living in remote communities. Donations are being accepted to fund these projects, and we give thanks for all the generous contributions thus far! If you are interested in learning more about how to support this year’s trip, please contact Ric or Sherry Kienzle.



A new mutual aid distribution center organized by Up-County Mutual Aid (UCMA) working with the MoCo Immigrant Rights Collective (IRC) is very generously being hosted by the Prince of Peace Lutheran church on Saturday morning, June 6th and continuing every week thereafter to provide food and essential goods to local families. If you would like to donate groceries or other essential items, or sign up to sort and pack groceries on Saturday mornings, please register at <https://moco270mutualaid.org/>. After registering, please email Nancy Hadad (<mailto:hadad@dunlopweb.net>) and indicate which Interfaith group you are affiliated with so your registration can be approved quickly. Once approved, please visit the Member page on the website and select the 2nd set of Signups labeled UCMA Up-County Distribution (Prince of Peace Lutheran Church). Thank you all for your compassion, generosity, and willingness to support our neighbors in need!





## From Pastor Steve...

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

Although I'm always worried about getting rained out during outdoor summer activities, lately as I've been reading updates from the Capital Weather Gang, I'm also concerned about the lack of rain we've had. According to the National Weather Service, we're now considered to be in "severe" drought, and the Capital Weather Gang reports that we've had about half the rain we usually receive over the past 11 months. This is particularly concerning when I've just planted lots of vegetables and flowers around my house.

Water is one of those things you just assume will be there. It's sort of in the background of life. But it's vital for all life, and it needs to be there all the time. (That's why I expect I'll be doing daily hand-watering with the hose almost every day for a while!)

And as we enter the "green" season of the church year, it's also a time to remember the importance of water. Water, after all, is vital to growth (which is the idea behind the "green" of this season as we grow in faith.). And the water of faith is the water of baptism. Baptism isn't just a one-time event that happened perhaps long ago. Instead, it's the daily water that reminds us of the constant presence, love and forgiveness of the Holy Spirit in our lives. And that presence, love and forgiveness are something we need every day to grow in faith, hope and love. It's the refreshment we need to endure the blazing heat of the day. And it's the power of renewal when we feel scorched.

That's why the font always has water in it as we enter church. It's there so that we remember the power and promise of God's love in our lives, and it reminds us that even when we face times that feel like droughts, the water of baptism is still there to give us strength and hope to face the day.

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 (pg 6)

### Every Tuesday

10:00 am Quilters (pg 7)

12:30 pm Women's Bible Study (pg 6)

### Every Thursday

3:30 pm Farmers & Artisans Market (pg 1)

### Every Saturday

7:30 am UCMA Distributions (pg 1)

**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 13.** This service will have the same sermon and readings as the Sunday service but will not be livestreamed.

## COMING UP...

### June

6 Start of UCMA Distributions (pg 1)

9 Church Council Meeting

11 Women's Book Group (pg 8)

13 Saturday Worship Service (pg 2)

14 Flag Day

18 - 28 Honduras Mission Trip (pg 1)

19 Juneteenth

19 Juneteenth Celebration (pg3)

20 Pleasant View Reopening (pg 3)

21 Father's Day

25 Men's Book Club (pg 8)



### July

4 Independence Day

9 Women's Book Group (pg 8)

11 Saturday Worship Service

14 Church Council Meeting

19 - 23 VBS for Kids & Adults (pg 1)

For a current calendar, see:

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

# COUNCIL CORNER

## May 2026 Meeting

Updates from the PoP Church Council

### Finances

Once again, many THANKS to the congregation for your increased giving! We had a few extra church expenses this month, but the additional giving is really helping to balance out the Capital Repair and General Operating funds.

### Property

Besecker is shaping up this year! New steps have been installed in the back and all accordion walls removed inside. The Property Committee is also working to coordinate a painting party in there soon.

In addition, new carpet will be forthcoming in the sanctuary after Yard Sale.

### Volunteers

We encourage all members to become part of a serving team!

Many hands make light work. See the Hot Jobs section for urgent opportunities or contact the [Church Office](#) to inquire of positions on other serving teams of interest.

Thank you for the continued support from our members - we welcome your input!

**Council met on May 12.** 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 Baur, Elizabeth Langum Chung, Elizabeth Cockerham, Brittany (DeGeorge) Daniel, Clara Ely, Sherry Fischer, Laura Hampe Garofalo, Helen Griffith, Carmen Hooks-Hill, Mike & Remi Langum, Anne Lomperis, Dick Moore, Heather Robinson, David & Martha Rogers, Sherry Schiebel, Nancy Swanson, Sharon Wahl, Donna Von Wald, Emma Yanevskyy, John Zobel

### Sympathy

Family of Roy Johnson  
Family of Roberta Stover (aunt of Tracy Solomon)

### Ongoing

The people of Ukraine and all those who are suffering due to hatred, war, and acts of violence  
For racial justice and equality  
All those struggling with Covid-19 and their Caregivers  
All those impacted by nature

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

## An Easy way to support the PoP Prayer Ministry

Pray regularly for those on the PoP Prayer List! Download a copy of the Prayer List from the Thursday Weekly Email or pick up a printed copy from the bulletin board in the narthex. All of us praying makes a difference!

## SPOTLIGHT



### Juneteenth Celebration "It's Our Story" - Please join Prince of

Peace and the other congregations of the

[Rt 28 Quince Orchard Interfaith Team](#) on Friday, 6/19 at 7pm at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints - Kentlands

Ward, located at 16 Kent Gardens Circle, directly across from Rachel Carson, ES. This year's celebration, *It's Our Story: 250 Years is Only the Beginning*, will focus on Montgomery County's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the changes seen up and down Route 28 over that time, through gospel songs, historical reflections, and more. Light refreshments will be served after the program. Hope that you can join us!



### Pleasant View Restoration and

### Reopening Celebration -

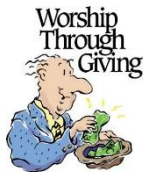
All are Invited! Located right next door to Prince of Peace at 11810 Darnestown Road, come and celebrate the restoration of Pleasant View's historic church and school on **Saturday, June 20 from 10am-2pm**. There will be site tours, book signings, food



trucks, and fun activities for all. Former County Executive Isiah "Ike" Leggett will be the keynote speaker (program begins at 12pm). RSVP at <https://bit.ly/pleasantviewsite> For more information about Pleasant View's history, visit <https://www.pleasantviewsite.org/>

# STEWARDSHIP

## Church Giving Envelopes



Envelopes for 2026 are available to all who would like them. They are located on the donation table in the Narthex. Please contact [Helen Griffith](#) if you have any questions.

## 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!



## Time and Talent

As we recognize all the blessings we have been given, we have the privilege of being a blessing to our church and others in our community!

We are grateful for our church members who have given their talents to duties during Sunday services, social justice efforts, administrative and building tasks, service projects, Sunday school.....the list goes on! We are encouraging ALL members of Prince of Peace to share that talent you have to contribute in some way to our church community. ***It takes every member to make a church!*** 🇺🇸 Take a look below for various ways you can help.

*Use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.*

1 Peter 4:10

Prince of Peace is also grateful for the additional monetary contributions to replenish our General Operating fund. Council is encouraging each household to increase their giving by \$20/mo to

fund our operating budget. We are prayerful that we will look back and see that members rallied together and the church ended the year with a surplus!

*Give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*  
2 Corinthians 9:7

Thank you for your thoughtful commitment of ***time and talent*** this year!

## We Need You!

Please consider contributing your talent - many hands make light work! Contact these coordinators with interest or for more information.

**Facebook Greeter (backup)** Martha Rogers  
Sunday Service [office@poplutheran.org](mailto:office@poplutheran.org)  
Be a presence/host online during Sunday morning service. Greet the online participant group and be on standby for any audio/visual streaming issues.

**Snow Removal Coordinator** (Coordinator Needed)  
Coordinates with third-party vendor on removal of snow from church parking lot and walking areas (as needed/seasonal)

**Snacks** Pamela Cook  
Sunday Service [cook1082@verizon.net](mailto:cook1082@verizon.net)  
Bring snacks (cookies, etc.) for coffee hour held after Sunday service, (approx. 50-count.)

**Sound Board** Jon Conary  
Sunday Service [drjon2018@gmail.com](mailto:drjon2018@gmail.com)  
Manage the church sound/audio board during Sunday service, ensuring audio is functioning successfully and camera is focused on appropriate sections of the sanctuary.

**Team Lead** Pastor Steve  
Sunday Service [pastor@poplutheran.org](mailto:pastor@poplutheran.org)  
Ensure each member of the Sunday serving team (or their substitute) is present for their role. Usher attendees to the altar at communion time.

**Greeters** Pastor Steve  
Sunday Service [pastor@poplutheran.org](mailto:pastor@poplutheran.org)  
Greet incoming members/visitors at the door for Sunday service. Suggest a name tag for visitors and/or have them sign the visitor book.

**Other** Sherry Kienzle  
[skienzle1@yahoo.com](mailto:skienzle1@yahoo.com)

# YOUTH MINISTRY

## Sunday School

We thank our dedicated Sunday School leaders for sharing God's love with our learners:

Leaders for PreK-K and Elementary Classes - Lisa Conary, Janet Levine, Jamie Pflasterer, and Anne Witten

PreK-K Music - Sonvy Waidler

PreK-K Shepherds - Debbie Chan, Cherie DeGeorge, Roxana Homayoun

Middle School Leaders - Lauren Gibson and Emma Yanevskyy

High School Leader - Jon Conary

Sunday School Superintendent - Janet Levine

Our leaders are thankful for our kind learners' thoughtful discussion and participation. We look forward to seeing you at PoP this summer and back in class in September!

There's lots more fun for youth during summer break at PoP!

- Regular monthly SSL opportunities are provided for youth - check the bulletin and Glad Tidings for details. (Rising 6th graders can start earning SSL hours in the summer!)
- Vacation Bible School will be held this year in the evening from Sunday - Thursday, July 19 - 23, from 6:30-8:30 pm. Through five Bible stories, skits, music, crafts, and science, we'll explore the Bible Point, "I can do all things through him who strengthens me" (Ephesians 4:13). PreK through rising 5th graders can attend as VBS campers. If you are a rising 6th grader on up, attend as a crew leader or station assistant (crafts, theater, opening/closing). SSL hours will be available.

## PreK-K Sunday School

God is always with us! That was our last Bible point before the summer break. Ms. Lisa started our unit with the story of Jonah and the whale. Like Jonah, whether we are doing the wrong thing or a scary right thing, God never leaves us.

First, we played a Jonah song using handbells. Then a parachute became the rough sea that Jonah's boat bounced around on until he told the sailors to throw him overboard. The next thing we knew, the parachute had become the belly of the whale, which temporarily held all of our learners.



God was also with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, helping them stand strong against King Nebuchadnezzar's demand that when music played, they bow to a giant statue. Our learners surely didn't bow down. When the music played, they danced to this year's VBS song "C-O-U-R-A-G-E." God protected the men in the fiery furnace, and we can trust in his protection, too. Our learners played a game of hot potato. When the music stopped, the holder of the potato jumped up and said, "God is always with us," and the rest replied, "Awesome God!"



## ADULT EDUCATION

### Coffee and Conversation



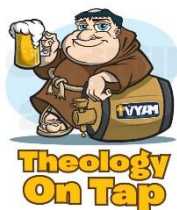
The Coffee and Conversation hour, normally held at 11am in the sanctuary, is taking a break for the summer. Please watch the future issues of Glad Tidings and the Weekly

Email to find out when we will start back in September.

For people who are unaware: Throughout the year, we include service activities at the church, welcome speakers from outside organizations, and host group Bible study and conversation. A link is provided before September to view schedule updates or to sign up to lead a Bible study session starting in the fall. We look forward to having you! Descriptions of upcoming “lessons” can be found by checking the link, Glad Tidings, and the bulletin board in the Narthex.

### 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 join us!



### PoP Women's Bible Study



The Women's Bible Study meets every Tuesday from 12:30-2pm. We are currently studying 1 Corinthians. Two resources (not required) that might be helpful are 1

*Corinthians (N. T. Wright for Everyone Bible Study Guides)* and *Paul for Everyone: 1 Corinthians (The New Testament for Everyone)*. They are both available through Amazon and Bookshop.org. Additional availability can be found through audible, Libby, and other sources at the library. If you have questions or need to join by Zoom, please 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 on Monday nights from 7:00 to 8:30 pm and are working toward the goal of playing once a month during our worship service.



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

## SOCIAL MINISTRIES

### Gaithersburg HELP



Attendance at the Gaithersburg HELP Pantry continues to be down by about 20% over the early months on this year. We are assuming this is largely due to fear of ICE.

Current volunteer needs:

- Evening Pantry - giving pre-packed food bags to scheduled clients once a month. This is the most requested volunteer job. Two teams of 2 to 3 people are needed. This is a fun job!
- Pantry bagger to join a Wednesday afternoon team to pack client grocery bags.
- Drivers during weekday working hours, mostly for elderly clients needing rides to area doctor appointments.
- Food Coordinators, English speakers. and also fluent Spanish speakers. This involves working a few morning hours a month from your home to return client calls, record necessary information in the online database, and schedule them for Pantry pickup hours.



For questions or information, please contact Hope Walker ([hope.walker@GaithersburgHELP.org](mailto:hope.walker@GaithersburgHELP.org)). If you would like a tour of the Pantry on Muddy Branch Road, that can easily be arranged. The website is [GaithersburgHelp.org](http://GaithersburgHelp.org) for lots of great information.

## Quilters



the world one quilt at a time!

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**

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

**Update on New Neighbor Interfaith Alliance (NNIA)** - NNIA supports recently arrived refugee families. Currently they are helping 105 families (mainly Afghans who worked alongside US troops) with 422 adults and children. There are lots of volunteer opportunities - for tutors and drivers to deliver food or take family members to appointments etc. and help adults find employment. If you would like to learn more, speak to Jennifer Maloney or contact Sherry Nason (NNIA Volunteer Coordinator) at [nnia.maryland@gmail.com](mailto:nnia.maryland@gmail.com). Also, the Set Them Up for Success Volleyball Tournament will be August 15 - it's not too soon to form a POP team!

## Coming in June and July - The ELCA World Hunger Appeal

Coins are becoming rarer and rarer but many of us still have a change jar or loose change in a bowl. POP will collect coins (or bills or checks) this summer to "purchase Good Gifts" from the ELCA World Hunger Appeal catalog. VBS participants will select the gifts. In the past, your change has provided families with piglets, honeybees,

vaccinations for children, hygiene kits, and more. You can pick up a coin box or barn at church, so start collecting your coins now. Contact Jennifer Maloney at [Maloney.jenn@gmail.com](mailto:Maloney.jenn@gmail.com) with any questions.

## Middle East Crisis

The news from the Middle East is unrelenting, marked by escalating conflict and devastating humanitarian consequences. Working with partners in the region, Lutheran Disaster Response will provide assistance, including emergency food, shelter, trauma-informed care and long-term recovery efforts. Donate to Lutheran Disaster Response at

<https://give.elca.org/page/86576/donate/1>.

## Proceeds of the Yard Sale

Each year half of the proceeds of the Yard Sale support social justice work. This year, Social Justice Ministry decided to split the proceeds between Haven Universe - Honduras Mission trip and Stepping Stones Shelter.

## Interested in Learning More About the Work of the ELCA in Eastern Europe?

In November, you can join a [Donor Immersion Trip](#). Donors will meet with local partners and learn more about the ministries the ELCA supports in this region. Registration deadline is July 15. For more information, go [here](#)

## From Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area

Dear Prince of Peace congregation,  
I wanted to take a moment to thank you for your recent generous donation. At LSSNCA, we believe everyone deserves to feel secure and supported. Your support makes this work possible, and we are grateful for you. It was a joy to be with you during Lent.

LSSNCA continues to serve neighbors through current programming and through innovative models to ensure ongoing sustainability and responsiveness. LSSNCA provides workforce development, health navigation, and extended case management to refugees who we've welcomed in recent years, while expanding our foster care services, maternal health supports, homelessness prevention efforts, and immigration legal services. Other exciting things happening at LSSNCA include launching a series of Social Enterprise Services, designed to broaden impact and create sustainable revenue streams that

support our core mission. These include *Dignity Legal*, *Dignity Behavioral Health*, and *Dignity Thrift*. You can learn more about these [here](#).

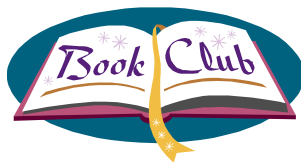
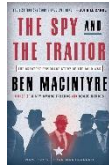
Again, thank you so much for your support and commitment to justice.

Bright blessings,  
Christine, Rev. Christine L. Dunn, Director,  
Development

## FELLOWSHIP

### Men's Book Club

On Thursday, June 25th, at 7pm, the Men's Book Club will be reading *The Spy and The Traitor* by Ben Macintyre. We will meet at Dick Moore's house.



### Women's Book Group

The Women's Book Group will be meeting on **June 11 at 7:30 pm** at a location to be announced at a later date. June's book will be *The Choice* by E. E. Egar. If anyone would like to be added to the email distribution, please contact [ufda\\_gal@yahoo.com](mailto:ufda_gal@yahoo.com).

### Future Book Selections and Hosts

July 9 *The Hazelbourne Ladies Motorcycle and Flying Club*

By H. Simonson  
host Judy Bruening

August 13 *Mother, Daughter, Traitor, Spy*

By S.E. MacNeil  
TBD

September 10 *Unfinished Love Story*

By D.K. Goodwin  
TBD

October 8 *The Benevolent Society Of Ill-Mannered Ladies*

By A. Goodman  
host Sharon Wahl

November 12 *Remarkably Bright Creatures*

By S. Van Pelt  
TBD

## RECENT EVENTS

### Besecker Back Stairs



Before the new stairs.

After the new stairs



## POP OFFICE

### Yard Sale Pre-sale Purchases

If you made a Yard Sale pre-sale purchase and have not paid for it yet, please pay soon. Remember to remove your index card to keep or to turn in with your payment. If you have paid but left your card in the box, please remove or mark "paid" on your card.



### 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.)

### Serving in Worship Schedule

The Serving in Worship schedule for May and June has been posted on our [website](#) and the bulletin board in the narthex. Please review it and make arrangements for any conflicts. Thanks!

## 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.



## Sunday Service Extras

Prince of Peace is in full bloom with fresh flower arrangements 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).



**Snack after Sunday Service is 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).



## 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

As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him...  
*Psalms 103:13*



Take some time to reflect on this sight of one of our banners made by Sherrie Telleen.

My husband admired our six-year-old daughter while she was dancing around the kitchen. Finally, he stopped her with a hug.

"You know," he said, looking Amy in the eyes, "you're cute---just like your father."

Amy was silent for a moment. "You mean my heavenly Father or you?"

--Jane Stanford

For two years, scientists sequestered themselves in an artificial environment called *Biosphere 2*. Inside their self-sustaining community the Biospherians created a number of mini-environments, including a desert, rain forest, even an ocean. Nearly every weather condition could be simulated except one, wind.

Over time, the effects of their windless environment became apparent. A number of acacia trees bent over and even snapped. Without the stress of wind to strengthen the wood, the trunks grew weak and could not hold up their own weight.

*Though our culture shuns hardship, we would do well to remember that God uses it "for our good, that we may share in his holiness" (Heb. 12:10).*

--Jay Akkerman

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Articles for the June issue of *Glad Tidings* are due **May 10**. 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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