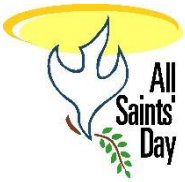
Glad Tidings

Vol. 45 Iss. 9 Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg, MD November 2026



All Saints' Sunday

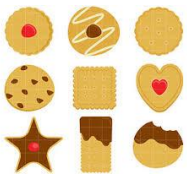


On All Saints' Sunday, November 1, we will celebrate one of the oldest festivals of the Church. During worship there will be a time to remember family and friends who have gone before us.

Cookies, Cards, And Community

Please stay after the Saturday service on November 14th for an evening of fellowship and service. Everyone (adults, teens, and younger kids) is welcome. We'll have several service projects, including decorating cookies for the families receiving Thanksgiving dinners (sampling required), assembling bagged breakfasts for residents of a local homeless shelter, and more. In addition, there will be pizza (including a gluten-free option), snacks, and beverages to enjoy.

Mark **Saturday, November 14th at 6 pm** on your calendar and watch for updates in the bulletin. Students can earn SSL hours. For more information, contact Jennifer Maloney at Maloney.jenn@gmail.com.





NOTE: Additional information about seasonal events for November and December can be found on pages 4 and 5.



Prince of Peace Farmers & Artisans Market continues each Thursday at 3:30 pm in the front of the building. Come each Thursday through November 19, 3:30 – 6:30 pm. Come browse and shop and say hello to the local growers, bakers, makers, and your neighbors while supporting our church community.

Now you can take dinner home with you. Examples include:

- Butter chicken
- Thik and Juicy
- LeLe's Crepes

For more information, email farmersmarket@poplutheran.org.

Sign up to volunteer at our Farmers and Artisans Market. Prince of Peace Lutheran Church: volunteer at farmers market

LWR Quilt Raffle Is Back



Our faithful quilters meet here at PoP Tuesday mornings to create beautiful, one-of-a-kind quilts. The quilts are sent around the world to provide warmth and shelter to families and individuals, recently families displaced by violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and others that lost homes in the earthquake in Turkiye.

The quilters are raffling off one quilt – the quilt of your choice. Funds will be donated to Lutheran World Relief (LWR) for the cost of transporting, processing, storing, and delivering the quilts far and near – approximately $4 per item.

Raffle tickets ($5 per ticket, 5 for $20) will be on sale Sundays November 1st and November 8th. The winner will be announced Sunday, November 15th. Contact Jennifer Maloney or Lisa Conary for more information.



From Pastor Steve…

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

This month, as Thanksgiving Day draws near, we hear all kinds of messages in our society about the importance of "being thankful", and reminders of "all that we have to be thankful for." That's not a bad message in a society in which many people spend a good bit of time grousing about all that we don't have, or wish we had, or even think we ought to have.

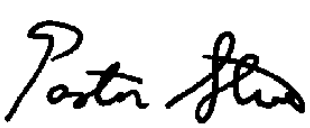
Yet simply, "being thankful" is not the same as "giving thanks." And that's not a problem unique to us or to our time and place. For example, when Jesus cleanses the 10 lepers in Luke 17, all of the 10 seemed "thankful" and happy about their healing. But only one "praises God" and comes back to give thanks to Jesus. And therein lies the difference between giving thanks and just being thankful.

For Christians, "Thanksgiving" shouldn't just be about "being thankful" but about giving thanks, because we know the God from who comes all of the things for which we're thankful.

And giving thanks isn't just about a day. Instead, it's a lifestyle in which we "give thanks" by the way we use our gifts to help and strengthen the community around us. We "give thanks" by attitudes which show that our blessings are gifts to be used and shared instead of scarce resources to be hidden and hoarded. And we "give thanks" not just by saying "thank you" but by remembering each day the One to whom we're thankful.

And so, as we celebrate Thanksgiving this month, enjoy the food and the celebration with friends and family! But also remember to give thanks to the One who makes it all possible, and to use this moment as an opportunity to practice a lifestyle of giving thanks.

Yours in Christ,



November Highlights

Every Sunday
10:00 am Worship live and streamed on our Facebook Page
11:00 am Sunday School*
No Sunday School November 29

Every Monday
7:00 pm Grace Notes Rehearsal (pg 9)

Every Tuesday
10:00 am Quilters (pg 9)
12:30 pm Women's Bible Study (pg 9)

Every Thursday
3:30 pm Farmers & Artisans Market* (pg 1)
Last day November 19

Every Saturday
7:30 am UCMA Distributions

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., November 14.** This service will have the same sermon and readings as the Sunday service but will not be livestreamed.

COMING UP…

November

1 All Saints Sunday (pg 1)
1 Daylight Saving Time Ends (pg 1)
1 Quilt Raffle Drawing (pg 1)
3 Election Day
8 Blessing of the Quilts
8 Quilt Raffle Drawing (pg 1)
10 Church Council Meeting
11 Veterans Day
12 Men's Book Club (pg 10)
12 Women's Book Group (pg 10)
14 Saturday Worship Service (pg 2)
14 Cookies, Cards, and Community (pg 1)
20 - 22 Middle & High School Retreat (pg 8)
26 Thanksgiving Day
27 Black Friday

December

2 Advent Holden Prayer
8 Church Council Meeting
9 Advent Holden Evening Prayer
10 Women's Book Group (pg 10)
12 Saturday Worship Service
13 Christmas Pageant
16 Advent Holden Evening Prayer

24 Christmas Eve
24 Christmas Eve Children's Service
24 Christmas Eve Carols & Holy Communion
25 Christmas Day
25 Christmas Day Carols & Holy Communion
31 New Year's Eve

For a current calendar, see:
https://poplutheran.org/church-calendars/

Holiday Sunday School Schedule

Sunday School will not meet on 11/29, 12/27, or 1/3. Enjoy these special days with your family!

COUNCIL CORNER

October 2026 Meeting

Updates from the PoP Church Council

Property

Drywall patching around the church is now complete, (now pending final paint touch-ups.) The light pole in the parking lot is now fully repaired, and a new door is planned for installation in the nursery. Thank you, Property Committee, for your extended work in and around the church!

Finances

We have had fairly steady stability with our church budget and expenses this year. Many thanks to families who have "accepted the challenge" by increasing their monthly giving by $25 or more!

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 October 13. You can read notes from that meeting (including the Pastor's and Treasurer's report) by clicking here.

WhatsApp

Council decided to start a WhatsApp group to text PoP-related information and announcements to members. Please join at https://chat.whatsapp.com/G1MsYhPEAbgJ5nw5nlCo1b?s=cl&p=i&ilr=1. Contact Laura Dillon (410-562-6942) with any questions.

Prince of Peace Lutheran
WhatsApp group

SPECIAL PRAYERS



. . .My need was met because someone came and communicated . . . in words I could not express. . . . Pastor John B. McGarvey

PoP Members

Elizabeth Langum Chung, Elizabeth Cockerham, Brittany (DeGeorge) Daniel, Clara Ely, Sherry Fischer, Laura Hampe Garofalo, Helen Griffith, Roxana Homayoun, Carmen Hooks-Hill, Mike & Remi Langum, Dick Moore, JoAnn Pearcy, Heather Robinson, David & Martha Rogers, Sherry Schiebel, Nancy Swanson, John Zobel

Sympathy

Family of Luis Cervantes (friend of Bill Harral)
Family of Larry Mahurin (father of Anne Witten)
Family of Phil Schiebel (cousin of Sherry Schiebel)

Thanksgiving

Confirmands: Elizabeth Carolyn Bardill, Samuel Lyle Gibson, Garrett Reed Hillman, Athena Lew Huen, Adrian Kwaku Mensah, Raymond Del Spivak, Aubrey Helene Taylor, Garrett Delbert Webb

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

As the season of gratitude and giving approaches, Prince of Peace is once again honored to participate in the City of Gaithersburg's Holiday Giving Program.



Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas are greetings we'll soon be sharing with one another. Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, seven families in our community will also be sharing a very Happy Thanksgiving.

Prince of Peace will support seven families this year by providing all the traditional fixings for a festive Thanksgiving meal, along with grocery store gift cards so they can purchase additional items of their choosing.

The City of Gaithersburg coordinates this effort in partnership with Montgomery County to ensure families in need enjoy a wonderful Thanksgiving. Because of the scale of the program, we typically receive our assigned families during the first week of November.

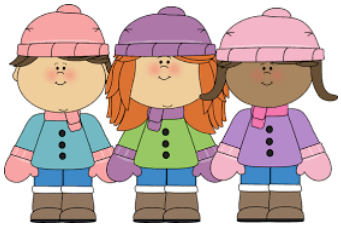
There will be many meaningful ways to contribute. Our first opportunity—and most immediate need—is for volunteers to serve as **family contacts**, reaching out to learn about any special dietary needs or requests. Serving as a family contact involves two phone calls: an initial call and a follow-up to confirm the delivery time of the food. We will also need Spanish-speaking volunteers to connect with some of our families. If you would like to serve as a point of contact or find out how to, To help, please sign up on the SignupGenius or email Cherie.

The City of Gaithersburg also hosts a Christmas/Holiday Party for families within the city limits, complete with goodies, music, and of course Santa. Each child's parent receives a $25 gift card to help with the purchase of presents. Any additional funds collected for Thanksgiving will be directed toward the Christmas/Holiday efforts.

We have had several meetings with City of Gaithersburg representatives this year, and they expressed their deep gratitude for the support Prince of Peace provides to families during the holiday season.

Jacket Drive

Prince of Peace will be collecting gently used or new jackets, mittens, and gloves to give to students at Brown Station Elementary School (sizes 10-14 and, a few smaller sizes needed, 4T-8). This year, we will also donate to the City of Gaithersburg Community Services (babies to adult sized jackets/coats). **There will be a donation box in the Narthex starting on November 8th and will remain there for a couple of months.**



Contact Kathy Mellott with questions at ufda_gal@yahoo.com or Jennifer Maloney at maloney.jenn@gmail.com.

Giving Tree



Prince of Peace is, once again, participating in the Giving Tree program with Brown Station Elementary School in Gaithersburg providing selected students and their siblings with holiday gifts. The school identifies a few families that need some help for the holidays and then sends us the wish list from the kids. Then we shop! There will be a Sign-Up Genius available in mid-November.

A box for the gifts will be in the Narthex starting on Sunday, November 29th. The deadline for bringing gifts to church is Sunday, December 13, 11:00 am. Please be on the lookout for details in the weekly email, Sunday bulletins, and in Glad Tidings.

Contact Kathy Mellott with questions at ufda_gal@yahoo.com or 240-899-8029.

It's Almost Poinsettia Time!

If you would like to donate flowers for the altar this Christmas, please have your order and payment in **by Sunday, December 13**. Poinsettias are available for $15 each in Red and White. Flowers can be donated in honor or memory of a friend or loved one.



Order forms will be available in the narthex by mid-November or email the office

Christmas Pageant

Watch for information about the Christmas Pageant in the bulletin and Weekly Email.

OTHER EVENTS

Honduras Mission 2027!

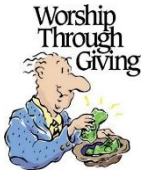
We are already gearing up to form another Honduras Mission team for 2027! We are excited to continue extending our services and resources to these communities in need. Tentative trip dates are June 18-28, 2027. An interest meeting/Q&A will take place on **Saturday, November 21st at 8:00am** at the headquarters of Haven Universe, our mission partners. Please contact Ric or Sherry Kienzle for the location of the meeting, or if you are unable to attend but would like more information.

UPCOMING EVENT

February 7, 2027 - 2027 Annual Congregational meeting

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) and click the green Donate Online button. Giving online can help all of us easily provide consistent support for the church. Signup today! Online giving is a win for the church and for the congregation. Please contact Chris Michel (michel_christian@yahoo.com) or Kwame Mensah (mensahkn@gmail.com) with any questions.

Electronic Giving

To donate right now or become an E-Giver, go to poplutheran.org or scan this QR code with your smart phone or tablet. Thanks for supporting the ministries of Prince of Peace!

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
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
Bring snacks (cookies, etc.) for coffee hour held after Sunday service, (approx. 50-count.)

Sound Board Jon Conary
Sunday Service 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
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
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

YOUTH MINISTRY

Holiday Sunday School Schedule

Sunday School will not meet on 11/29, 12/27, or 1/3. Enjoy these special days with your family!

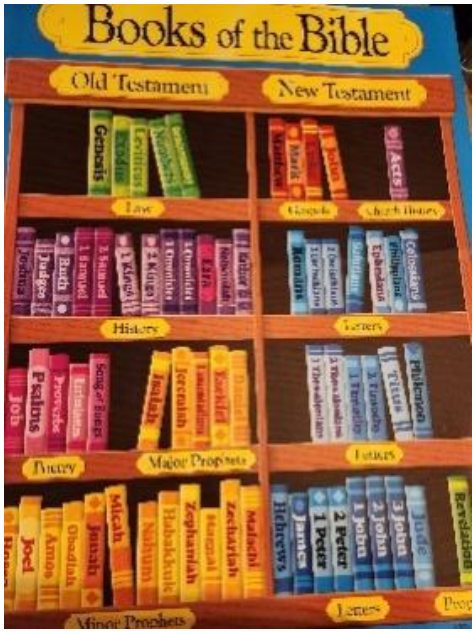
Sunday School

Lower Elementary Sunday School
Elementary Sunday School has kicked off for the fall, and our learners are enjoying making music together before the start of each lesson.





We incorporate the Bible's structure into our lessons. We decide whether the day's story is from the Old or New Testament based on whether it took place before or after Jesus was born. Our Books of the Bible poster helps us see what category our story is from. So far, we have covered stories from Daniel (Major Prophets) and Esther (History), and now we are doing a set of lessons from Genesis (Law).



We read the story of Daniel and the Lions' Den together, and used pictures of lions, mad faces, and happy faces to interact with each part of the story.

We all participated in a lively reading of Esther. Not only did we boo every time Haman's name was uttered, but we also had actions for all the characters in our reading.

For the Creation Story, we began by thinking about our favorite things in our bedrooms and where they came from. We talked about how Earth had been empty, then God filled it with wonderful things. We created art to represent each day of the Creation Story.





The learners heard about each day of the creation story and made a craft describing each day.







During the Sunday School hour for the Ukraine 102 event, our learners heard the Ukrainian folk tale of The Enormous Turnip about how everyone needed to work together to achieve big things! They did a sequencing worksheet based on the story and also made potato prints!



























Elementary Learners Celebrate Sacred Grounds

To celebrate the expansion of the Sacred Grounds Garden, our class focused on flowers. First, we read *My Pollinator Garden* by Jordan Zwetchkenbaum and learned about the vital relationship between pollinators and native plants. Then the learners decorated flower pots and planted a sun-loving native flower. They also planted wildflower seed mix for bees. Finally, they painted flower suncatchers. "The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it" (Psalm 24:1a)







Middle & High School Students

Calling all Middle and High School Students!



Registration is now open for the Middle School/High School Event at Skycroft Retreat Center in Middletown, MD **on November 20-22, 2026**. The theme of this year's retreat is "Lost and Found." Please register at https://secure.qgiv.com/for/mshsevent2026/event/mshsevent/ (our Synod is DC-Metro and Primary Adult Leader is Laura Dillon). Cost is $200 and **registration closes November 6**. Please contact Laura Dillon (laldillon@yahoo.com or 410-562-6942) with any questions and let her know if you register so we can arrange carpools from church.

ADULT EDUCATION

Coffee and Conversation



Join us weekly after services for the Coffee and Conversation hour at 11am in the sanctuary. Throughout the year, we will include service activities at the church, welcome speakers from outside organizations, and host group Bible study and conversation. To view schedule updates, or to sign up to lead a Bible study session this fall, please visit https://tinyurl.com/PoPAdultEd26to27. We look forward to having you!

Descriptions of the current upcoming "lessons" follow.

November

1 – Adult Bible Study, Sherry Kienzle

8 – Nancy Hadad, UCMA

Meet UCMA (Up-County Mutual Aid) on November 8 after the service -Curious about UCMA and the MoCo Immigrant Rights Collective? Wanting to find out more about opportunities to help neighboring families with food and other essential goods? Then this event is for you! Nancy Hadad, one of the organizers of the Saturday morning food sorting and distribution efforts at Prince of Peace will join us for the coffee and conversation hour to talk about UCMA's work and the growing need for services in the county. Hope you can join us!

15 – TBD

22 –TBD

29 – No Sunday School: Thanksgiving

December

6 - TBD

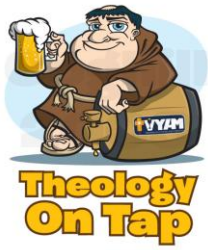
13 - TBD

20 - TBD

27 No Sunday School

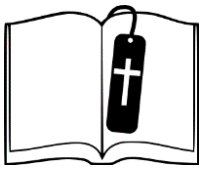


Theology on Tap



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 Galatians. Pastor Wendy is using N.T. Wright's book on Galatians (Bible for everyone).
If you have questions or need to join by Zoom, please contact Pastor Wendy Deeben.

MUSIC

Grace Notes



Interested in joining the band full time or on an ad hoc basis (one or two months a year)? Grace Notes is looking for more musicians and singers. We rehearse on Monday nights, from 7:00 to 8:00 pm and usually play once a month during our worship service.
Contact Jon Conary for more information.

SOCIAL MINISTRIES

Gaithersburg HELP



It's a typical Fall for Gaithersburg HELP. Requests for food have increased as seasonal work drops off, but numbers are still lower than in previous years. Providing food to UMCA for delivery to refugee families continues. In September HELP served about 20 families a night, and UCMA was up to 25 a week. So, what can you help with? You know about the tuna, PB&J and cereal which are always needed. Other great things are canned or dried beans, fruit and rice. Please keep them coming!

It's also that time of year when more individual donations are counted on to help to balance the budget. This year the usual year-end deficit is lower, but it is there. The cost of purchased food has increased significantly, somewhat offset by the lower number of families. Hopefully people needing food will soon feel more confident in going to pick it up.

For questions or to volunteer, please contact your POP Delegate, Hope Walker, 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 for lots of great information, including the volunteer application form.

Quilters



Can you tie a knot or tear/cut a piece of cloth? Or do you love to sew? Then join the Quilter's group, Tuesday mornings from 10:00 am until noon at the church or work from home. 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

Yard Sale Donations – Your Hard Work Continues to Make a Difference

Each year half of the yard sale proceeds are donated to social justice organizations. This year that total is $4025.

Half ($2,012.50) of the Social Justice Ministry proceeds will go to Haven Universe (https://www.facebook.com/www.havenuniverse.org/) to support their mission work in Honduras and serving special needs individuals, families and friends here in the US. Talk with Ric and Sherry

Kienzle or visit the website for opportunities to volunteer.

The other half of the Social Justice Ministry proceeds will go to Stepping Stones Shelter, which since 1982 has provided emergency shelter to over 1,000 Montgomery families experiencing homelessness. POP supports the shelter in many ways – financial gifts, dinners for the residents, and collection of essential items with the Lenten sharing bags. Watch the bulletin and Glad Tidings for the next opportunity. Learn more at https://steppingstonesshelter.org/.

"Lift Every Step" Shoe Donations

Youth from Wooton High School are collecting new and gently used shoes through an organization called, **Lift Every Step**. This is a student-led 501(c)(3) non-profit whose mission is to increase access to essential footwear by collecting and distributing new and gently used shoes to individuals and families in need throughout the DMV area. A donation box will be available in the narthex for these donations. This is a great opportunity to donate those shoes we never wear or the ones our children and grandchildren have quickly outgrown! Thanks to PoP in advance for your generous donations!

UPDATED – Lions Club Eyeglasses



Thank you to everyone who donated eyeglasses to the Lions Club. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to deliver 64 pairs to the collection center at the Villages of Rockville. Your kindness will help bring clearer vision and renewed opportunity to those in need. We'll continue collecting eyeglasses in the donation box located in the Narthex. Every pair makes a difference!

FELLOWSHIP

Men's Book Club

Men's Book Club will meet on November 12th at Dick Moore's house at 7 pm. The book this month is *The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles.

Women's Book Group

The Women's Book Group has chosen *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt for the November gathering. Becky Carr will host.

Future Book Selections and Hosts

December 10 Looking For Jane
by Heather Marshall
January 14 Too Precious To Lose
by Jason Green
February 11 Drive Your Plow Over the Bones of the Dead
by Olga Tokarczuk
March 11 The Women on Platform Two
by Laura Anthony
April 8 The Sideways Life of Denny Voss
by Holly Kennedy
May 13 The Salt Path
by Raynor Winn
June 10 The Mad Wife
by Meagan Church
July 8 Don't Cry For Me
by Daniel Black
August 12 The Confidante
by Christopher Gorham
September 9 The Frozen River
by Ariel Lawhon

RECENT EVENTS



Thank you to Pastor Cindy for leading us in worship while Pastor Steve was away, and reminding us to ask "Change My Heart, O God!"

Sacred Grounds Fall Planting 2026

Thank you to all the volunteers who braved the damp and dreary weather on Sunday, October 4th to help us plant an additional 100 new native plants in the Sacred Grounds garden! The National Wildlife Federation provided all the plants, as well as some additional plant giveaways to send home with members for their own gardens. We loved hearing the stories of how everyone's plants were faring from the first giveaway when the garden was new! Sunday school learners got in on the fun too with a story called "My Pollinator Garden". They

decorated plant pots, planted seeds in bags where they can watch the roots grow, and also made flower suncatchers! Be on the lookout for the new blooms from the Lobelia cardinalis (aka cardinal flower) and Penstemon digitalis (aka beardtongue) in the native garden in the spring!









Blessing of Animals

Many people attended the special Saturday service for our furry, feathered, and scaled family members. Some came in "person" while others sent their pictures for the blessing.














Way to Go PoP Yard Sale Volunteers - just over $8000 raised!

PoP volunteers - you did it! The final numbers from Yard Sale are in - and the net proceeds were just over $8000!!! Half of the proceeds will go towards Feast Fund projects, and the other half will be distributed to both Haven Universe to support their ongoing work in Honduras, helping communities with sanitation projects, medical brigades, and school support for children with special needs; as well as to the Stepping Stones family shelter in Rockville, which provides emergency food and shelter to county families experiencing homelessness.

THANK YOU

A great big thank you from Martha in the office to the person(s) who left the T-shirt on her chair! It is wonderful to be recognized for work done. However, the most important word was the first one – TEAM. It does take a team contributing their talents, no matter how small, to get things done.

Thank you to the shirt creator(s) and all the people who help make PoP the community it is.

Martha

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.



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

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

--Psalms 100:4

The Masai tribe in West Africa has an unusual way of saying thank-you. Translators tell us that when the Masai express thanks, they bow, put their foreheads on the ground, and say, "My head is in the dirt."

When members of another African tribe want to express gratitude, they sit for a long time in front of the hut of the person who did the favor and literally say, "I sit on the ground before you."

These Africans understand well what thanksgiving is and why it's difficult for us: At its core, thanksgiving is an act of humility.

--Joel Gregory

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