



GLAD TIDINGS



Vol. 30, Iss. 6

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg, MD

July / August 2011

New Directory Coming!

We are in the process of producing a new directory. Please check your information on the draft pages posted on the windows by the back door and in the hallway. Make any necessary changes and if all of the information is correct, please initial your name.

Interfaith Workshop/Expo: Greening Our Sanctuaries

Our congregation is a member of the Greater Washington Interfaith Power & Light (GW IPL). They are sponsoring an event in July that should be interesting:

When: Sunday, July 17th, 1:30-5 pm

Where: Adat Shalom Reconstructionist Congregation, 7727 Persimmon Tree Lane, Bethesda

Summary: Discover the latest, most effective methods, techniques and approaches for operating our sacred spaces in ways that fully reflect our values

Schedule:

1:30 pm - Tours of Adat Shalom's Vegetable Garden & 44-Kilowatt Rooftop Solar System

2 pm - Workshops on Going Green in Our Congregations (Learn how to: Start a Green Team, Save Energy, Go Solar, Shift to Greener Groundskeeping, Commit to Greener Procurement)

4 pm - Connect with vendors and organizations

A suggested donation of \$10 to GW IPL will benefit their work with congregations. Contact Gordon Gipe if you are interested in attending and a reservation will be made for you. We will carpool to the event from church at 1 pm.

Welcome, Summer!



"Okay, email, let's see your flowers."

July / August Highlights

Every Sunday

8:30 am Contemporary Worship

10:00 am Traditional Worship

Baby-sitter available during Services

Every Tuesday

10:00 am Quilters

Every Wednesday

5:30 pm High School Youth Group

Every Thursday

7:30 pm Grace Notes

Every Saturday

7:45 am Men's Group

5:00 pm Saturday Evening Worship

From Pastor

Steve...

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



Lately, I've been using summer as a time of focus. Even though summer is still a busy time for me, it's a little less busy than the fall and the spring. The days are a little longer. And because everybody is on vacation through these next couple of months, things just don't feel as urgent as at other times of the year. And so I've often found that summer is a time that I can devote just a bit more focused thought, energy, and action to things that really matter.

At home, I'm using some of my summer vacation time to focus on some home remodeling and repair projects that have been languishing for several months now. I'm able to spend some time catching up with family and friends whose schedules, like mine, have been too busy for us to get together. And I even find that I have some time to just sit and reflect on what's most important in my life right now.

And I'm hoping that as a church community, we can use the summer as a time of focus as well. Our summer schedule, while still busy, is a bit less busy than usual. And we have some different things going on that can perhaps help us to focus on the things that really matter as a church community. For example, our [Summer of Scripture blog](#) and our Digging Deeper discussions after the 10 am service provide special opportunities to focus on what God is saying through scripture, prayer and conversation. In July and August, we'll have some special opportunities to focus our service in Jesus' name through Workcamp and Habitat for Humanity. And in these months, our Building Committee and Council are going to be leading us in thinking about the core values and ministries that are important for us as a community, so that those values are reflected in our planning for the future.

Like all summers, I suspect that this one will be busy for all of us. But I hope that it's less busy enough for each of us to find time for a bit of

focus. May this summer be a time for each of you to focus on what God is saying to you, a time to focus some energy and effort in what God is calling you to do to share God's love, and a time for you to find a few moments to reflect on the things that really matter.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Steve".

Recent Events

Yard Sale

June 4





Stewardship

Creation Care

Creation Care Mission Statement

As we are called by God to be stewards of creation, the Creation Care Team shall promote appreciation, conservation, and sustainable use of natural resources in all aspects of congregational life and in the outside community through:

- a. Contemplation, prayer, and worship;
- b. Designing and implementing environmental education programs and activities;
- c. Regularly assessing and promoting practices that reduce the environmental footprint of our church;
- d. Advocating for environmental stewardship in the wider community.

The Creation Care Team meets the first Saturday of each month from 9 - 10:30 am. Please feel free

to join us if you are interested in helping out at the Creation Care Carnival or just want to see what is going on. Contact Pastor Sarah for more information.

Education

Susan Junghans (KSjunghans@verizon.net)

Registration is now OPEN!

On **Saturday, September 17**, PoP will host a Walk Thru the **NEW** Testament seminar. This seminar is a highly interactive, energy charged, and fun way to learn more about the New Testament.



For more than 30 years the Walk Thru the Bible organization has been offering incredible seminars to help people learn more about God's Word without tedious note-taking or long, boring lectures! Instead, they will guide us through a highly creative and interactive learning adventure. Here's how they describe this seminar:

You'll begin with the 400 years of silence, which are anything but silent because they're marked with the turbulent transition between the Old and New Testaments. During those years, world powers rose and fell, religious institutions were birthed, the arts flourished, and Rome came to dominate the world. God orchestrated these events so that in the fullness of time, He could send forth His Son.

Now the journey brings your people to the place they're destined to go. By experiencing Walk Thru the New Testament, each participant will walk where Jesus walked, relive the birth and growth of the early church, and journey with the apostle Paul to the ends of the earth. Each also will come to see how God used ordinary people - people like you and me - to do extraordinary things.



This adventure will be so enjoyable that it will hardly seem like people are being taught. At the end of this five-hour seminar, participants will

learn more about the New Testament than they ever imagined while having fun and being positively challenged along the way. By the time they reach the journey's end, they'll be able to:

- Arrange 77 key people, places, and events in the New Testament in chronological order.
- Arrange the well-known events of the life of Christ in sequence.
- Discover how the four gospels complement each other, making one complete biography of Christ.
- Tie together the structure of the New Testament into a complete whole.

The 27 books of the New Testament, penned by at least nine authors over a period of 50 years, will come together like brick and mortar to build a solid foundation of biblical understanding. Your congregation will understand things in a new way and passages - which used to puzzle them - will suddenly become clear. As a result, your people's devotional lives will be more meaningful; and you'll find them eager to get into God's Word every day. You'll also notice new power in their prayer lives.



Attendees will have an understanding of the overall purpose and plan of God, which will serve them well for the rest of their lives. When they read the Bible, they'll understand it better and be able to place people, places, and events into their proper order. When the journey is completed, they'll be ready to begin a new journey on higher ground.

***Registration form can be found at the end of this issue of *Glad Tidings*.

Summer of Scripture

What's Their Story? 55 Biblical characters whose stories will amaze you!

Our Bible reading is well underway, but it's not too late to participate! This year there are fifty-five readings focusing on Bible characters. Each weekday our Summer of Scripture blog (www.summerofscripture2011.blogspot.com) will feature a story about a different biblical character, including both the Bible reading and a reflection written by one of the pastors or a

member of the congregation. If you would like a daily reminder and link to the blog emailed to you please contact the office. Or, if you'd prefer a hard copy, booklets containing all 55 passages will be available in the narthex. Everyone who appeared in the Bible had a part in God's plan, so let's get to know more of those people.

Youth Ministry

Please refer to the website calendar or the Youth Ministry bulletin board for details about events throughout the year. Also, don't forget that the High School youth meet weekly on Wednesdays from 5:30-7:30 pm. If you have any ideas or would like to volunteer, please contact Kim Drissel at (301)349-2848; Drissels@comcast.net.

Workcamp 2011!

Twenty-three youth and adults from Prince of Peace will be repairing houses during [Workcamp in Keansburg, New Jersey](#) from July 10-16. Keansburg is in northern New Jersey, and it has been hit by economic difficulties. Nearly 25% of children in Keansburg live below the poverty line.

This year's theme, "Connect," is based on John 15:5, "I am the vine and you are the branches. Those who remain in me and I in them will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing."

Besides working on projects as varied as wheelchair ramps, roofing and painting, we will connect with the residents of Keansburg, connect with our new friends from youth groups across the country, and most importantly, connect with God.

Thank you to all who have supported this ministry through prayer, money and good will. As we serve, we pray that through our connections we will produce much fruit.

Fellowship

Lesa Sullivan (lesasullivan@comcast.net; 301-330-3686)

Interested in Fellowship?

Everyone is welcome to attend the monthly Fellowship meetings which are held at the church the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30. For more information, call Lesa Sullivan at 301-330-3686.

Social Ministries

Jennifer Maloney (maloney.jenn@gmail.com; 301-602-6358)

Prince of Peace will be partnering with **Thrivent Builds & Habitat for Humanity** on **July 23 and August 6** for a home renovation in Silver Spring! We need volunteers (adults and youth age 16 and up). This is a renovation project, so there will be demolition, drywall painting and framing, misc repairs, ceilings, etc. Skilled labor is not required. For more information, please sign up in the Narthex, or contact Steve Sullivan (301-330-3686; stevesullivan@comcast.net)



National Lutheran Home Auxiliary Membership Drive

Many thanks to everyone who joined the Auxiliary of the National Lutheran Home; you are making a difference! We raised over \$900 for the Auxiliary projects. If you didn't get a chance to sign up, it's not too late; memberships are accepted throughout the year. The Auxiliary flier is available in the foyer and can be mailed to the Home or left in the Social Ministry box. Please make checks to "The Auxiliary, NLH."

The Home is also in need of volunteers to spread joy to the residents. It is conveniently located near Darnestown and Glen Mill Roads. Consider volunteering:

The Pal Program, sponsored by the NLH Auxiliary, is a wonderful opportunity to share your time with a lonely person. This is a one-to-one visitation program where you are matched with an elderly resident. Visits are made at any mutually convenient time at least once a month. Bringing your children for a visit makes it even more special. Call 301-424-9560 x250 for more info. You will find that the happiness you give others brightens your day as well!

NLH Visitor Programs for those who can't make an ongoing commitment: The **Small Fry Visitor Program** is an opportunity to take your small children to the National Lutheran Home to brighten the days of the residents. The **Special Visitor Program** is for you if you can't make an ongoing commitment, but are willing to make visits at the National Lutheran Home. If you have a friendly, calm pet, consider participating in the

Pet Visitor Program. Contact Felicia Brown at 301-424-9560 x 221 for more details on these programs.

There are many other volunteer needs such as reading to residents and wheeling-around wheel-chair-bound residents. Pick up a pink brochure at PoP or contact the Volunteer Coordinator, Felicia Brown, at 301-424-9560 x221. There are also opportunities for students to earn SSL hours.

School Supply Drive

Prince of Peace will be participating in the Interfaith Clothing Center's school supply collection again this year. Last year, Interfaith distributed over 2,100 backpacks filled with supplies and hopes to meet the need again this year. Please leave donations in the box in the narthex. We will be collecting new supplies July 2 through August 7.



Top 5 needed items:

- Backpacks (grades K - 12)
- Boxes of colored pencils
- Packages of lined filler paper
- Pocket folders
- Tab dividers

Needed items:

- 1 subject notebooks
- 3 ring binders (3 inch)
- Crayons
- Composition books
- Erasers, large pink or white
- Glue bottles/Glue sticks
- Highlighters
- Package of big markers
- Pencil pouches and boxes
- Pencils, #2
- Pens, red & black
- Rulers
- Scissors

So...watch those early back-to-school sales. You don't need to buy everything on the list. Any questions, please call Sherry or Ken Prather at 301-294-6331.

Care Team Ministry

Individuals interested in participating in the new Care Team Ministry at Prince of Peace Lutheran

Church met on Saturday, June 11 with a trainer from Washington State for an afternoon of training and preparation for the development of this program within our community.



Through this team-oriented approach, meant to harness the love and concern within our community and to alleviate any onerous burden on just a few individuals, we will bring confidential support and consistent, compassionate service to the sick, families with new babies, the lonely, and those who might be overwhelmed, by helping with errands, transportation to appointments, relief for caretakers, support during bereavement, light housework, babysitting, meals, computer assistance, raking leaves, handy-person chores or in other ways to be determined. No task is too small or too big - if it appears too big, we can help identify necessary resources.

As an action-based Ministry, we are looking forward to working with the congregation. We need the involvement of all members of the PoP community - if not as a member of a team, then to help identify those requiring support, or if one is in need of assistance, to willingly accept the efforts of the Care Teams, and we need your prayers. For further information, please contact Sharon Wahl at smwahl@mail.nih.gov.

Refuge in Times of Trouble

If you know someone who is sick, in the hospital, or in need that is a member of the congregation, please let us know! The Social Ministries Committee can offer services such as food, cards, or other specific needs. We can't help if we don't know. Contact Pastor Sarah Scherschligt at 301-869-3666 or at pastorsarah@poplutheran.org if you need help or know of someone who does.



There is no meeting in July. Questions about social ministry? Contact Jennifer Maloney at Maloney.jenn@gmail.com; 301-602-6358 for details and/or to be added to the committee list.

Women's Book Group

Dive in! Yes, really - the PoP Women's Book Group is going swimming in the pool at the home of Susan Victor for our July meeting. The fun happens Thursday, July 14, starting at 7:30 pm. We will watch *Shadow Divers*, a film based on the nonfiction work of the same name that the group read and reviewed very favorably last year. RSVP to Susan at susan@victor1.net.

June Herron will host the group at Prince of Peace on Thursday, August 11, at 7:30 pm. We will discuss *Blue Shoes and Happiness* by Alexander McCall Smith, one of the books in his #1 *Ladies Detective Agency* series. RSVP to June at june.herron@verizon.net. In August, we also plan to select books for October through December; please bring your recommendations to the gathering.



Future Dates:

Thursday, September 8, *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford
Book group meets the second Thursday of the month; the members select the books. All PoP women are welcome to join the group for one evening or every month.

To be added to the book group list, send an email to Jennifer Maloney at Maloney.jenn@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events

July 18-22: It's time to register for VBS! VBS is for all children from age 3 (toilet trained, please!) to those finishing 4th grade. Pick up registration forms in the narthex or download them from our website (www.poplutheran.org) to join us at Pandamania July 18 - 22, from 9 to 12. Registration fee is \$45 per child (max. fee \$135/family) and includes 1 CD per family. Come join us and learn that God is Wild About You!



Help is needed! Join

us at Pandamania, July 18 - 22. VBS needs lots of volunteers. Be a crew leader if you are at least 11 years old. You will lead and assist a group of 5-6 children at different stations throughout the

morning. Be a station leader or asst. station leader, for either the elementary group or the pre-school group, if you are in high school or an adult. We need help with crafts, games, snacks, Chadder's video, Bible time, and Spotlight VBS. Have fun and earn SSL hours, if you need them. If you can't help every day, we also need people to do registration on the first morning and in the kitchen each day. Nursery care is provided for young children of volunteers. Sign up in the narthex; contact Judy Bruening if you have questions.

July 23: PoP partners with Thrivent Builds & Habitat for Humanity on July 23 and August 6 for a home renovation in Silver Spring! We need volunteers (adults and youth age 16 and up), and skilled labor is not required. For more information, please sign up in the Narthex, or contact Steve Sullivan (301-330-3686; stevesullivan@comcast.net).

Special Dates

- Independence Day, July 4



A Little Extra Something

- Life is God's novel. Let Him write it.

—Isaac Bashevis Singer

- There are three stages in the work of God: impossible, difficult, done.

—James Hudson Taylor

- What we are is God's gift to us. What we become is our gift to God.

—Eleanor Powell

- To one who has faith, no explanation is necessary. To one without faith, no explanation is possible.

—St. Thomas Aquinas

- The value of consistent prayer is not that He will hear us, but that we will hear Him.

—William McGill

A Cautious Man

There was a very cautious man
Who never risked, or tried.
He never hoped, he never failed;
He never laughed or cried.
And when he one day passed away,
His insurance was denied
For since he never really lived
They claim he never died!

—Unknown

Experience of Joy

When we give ourselves, not seeking gratitude,
we are often overwhelmed by the response in
some other person who at that moment gives him
or herself to us. It is in that moment that God is;
it is in that place that God is. That above all, is
what we receive and it is an experience of joy.
And that for me is one of the meanings of God,
that He is in that time and place where you and I
give of ourselves to each other.

What does giving oneself to God mean? Whatever
else it means, it certainly means giving oneself to
others.

—Alan Paton

Be Thankful

I am not what I ought to be,
what I want to be,
Not what I am going to be,
But thankful
That I am not what I used to be.

—Coach John Wooden



Contact the Pastors

Pastor Steve and Pastor Sarah are working
together to make sure that pastoral care needs
are met. To be certain that one of them is always
“on,” Pastor Steve takes Fridays off while Pastor
Sarah takes Mondays off. You can reach both of
them at the church office, or contact them by
cell phone or email: Pastor Steve: 301-980-0160;
pastor@poplutheran.org; Pastor Sarah: 202-870-
8363; pastorsarah@poplutheran.org.

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Articles for the September issue of *Glad Tidings* are
due **AUGUST 21, 2011**. Please e-mail articles to
kristen.sheely@gmail.com or deliver to the
newsletter mailbox outside the church office.

Photos and/or graphics are welcome!

Glad Tidings is online at www.poplutheran.org.

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Walk Thru The Bible

The New Testament

September 17, 2011 9 am - 4 pm
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
301-869-3666; www.poplutheran.org



Name: _____
Address: _____
Telephone number: _____
Email address: _____
Home church: _____
Names of Attendees: _____

Program	Fee	Number of People		Cost
Adults (6th grade and older) - includes book and lunch	\$25 *			\$
Kids in the Book (1st - 5th grade) - includes book and lunch	\$15 *			\$
Nursery Please let us know how many children in each age group will be in the nursery so we will have enough caregivers on hand. (bring lunch for kids in nursery)	N/A	Age	Number	\$
		0		
		1		
		2		
		3		
		4&5		
Additional Gift				
Total		\$60 maximum per family		\$

Please list any dietary restrictions: _____

- I would like to be considered for scholarship (please return by September 4th, 2011)
- I am giving more in order to help sponsor others attending Walk Thru The Bible

Make checks payable to: **“Prince of Peace Lutheran Church”** with memo: **“Walk Thru the Bible”**
Mail to: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
11900 Darnestown Rd, Gaithersburg, MD 20878
Attn: Walk Thru the Bible

After September 11th, 2011, and at the door, fees will increase by \$5 per person with no family maximum.

www.walkthru.org

