



GLAD TIDINGS



Vol. 29, Iss. 6 Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg, MD July / August 2010

PoP 50 – Summer of Scripture Has Begun!

This summer we, as a congregation, are being challenged to complete a Bible reading plan: The Bible’s Top 50! These 50 reading selections will take us through the main themes of the whole Bible. This overview will help us gain/regain an appreciation for Scripture as a whole and hopefully inspire us to dig deeper. The [Summer of Scripture blog](#) has begun daily updates. If you would like a daily reminder and link to the blog emailed to you please contact Pat in the office. Booklets are available in the narthex.

Vacation Bible School

Help us decorate! We are looking for nautical themed decorations for VBS (e.g. fishing nets, life preservers, wooden crates for our cargo, etc.). If you have any items we can borrow, bring them to church by July 18th. Please label them with your name so that we can return them after VBS.

Another way to help with VBS without being there is to donate items we need to make snack and also breakfast foods for the volunteers each morning. There are sign up sheets on the windows by the back door.

Find PoP on Facebook!

In May, Prince of Peace’s [Facebook page](#) was rebuilt, and we now have announcements and photos of recent events on our Facebook page. Even if you’re not a Facebook member, you can view photos and information on our page. If you are a member of Facebook, become a fan and get regular updates from us!

Bishop Graham’s Visit

Bishop Richard Graham, bishop of our Metropolitan Washington DC Synod, will be with us for both services on Sunday, August 22! Bishop Graham will preach and then lead a discussion group following the 10 am service.



Photograph courtesy of Larry Speicher

Summer Highlights

Every Sunday

8:30 am Contemporary Worship

10:00 am Traditional Worship

11:00 am Digging Deeper

Baby-sitter available during Services

Every Tuesday

10:00 am Quilters

Every Wednesday

12:00 pm Bible Study

5:30 pm High School Youth Group

7:30 pm College Youth

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

Although people still talk of summer as a slow and lazy season, for most of us, summer is a busy time. And yet,

even though it's busy, it's still refreshing for most of us. And that's because often, summer is a time that we're busy with other things. And we're often busy with things we enjoy. We're busy planning or going on vacations. We're busy tackling projects that we've long wanted to get to, but couldn't during the winter or spring. Or perhaps, we're just busy doing something different than we usually do!

And sometimes, what we need most is not to do nothing, but simply to get a change of pace. Over the last couple of months, I know for instance, that I haven't gotten the exercise I need. And sometimes, when I try to start exercising again, my biggest problem is that I've become bored with my workout routine. I know that the solution isn't to stop working out, but to find something different to do. And as spring and summer arrived, it was great to be able to get out on my bike again and get a different kind of exercise.

One of the things I'm excited about this summer at Prince of Peace is that we have a lot of things going on, but we've got some different things happening than happen during the rest of the year. Rather than simply "take a break" as a lot of congregations do, we've decided to simply change the routine a little bit. So, for example, we don't have Sunday School in the summer, but we've developed a [Summer of Scripture](#) program which challenges us to read and reflect on 50 important Bible stories. (And we can do this online, even if we're out of town on vacation!) Our choirs are on vacation for the summer, but both Claire and Danielle have been working with individuals and small groups of singers and instrumentalists to bring some inspiring and different music to our worship services. And of course, the summer gives us a great opportunity as it always does to do two of our most important

outreach and service projects - Workcamp and Vacation Bible School.

In August, we'll be having another great dancing in the parking lot fellowship event which will give us an opportunity to come together for fun and food, and to bring canned food for Gaithersburg HELP. We're also looking forward to another Habitat for Humanity project and to Bishop Graham's visit with us on August 22.

I hope that this summer is a time for you to do something a little different. And I hope that you'll find something different at PoP to participate in, so that God can use that different opportunity to help you grow and be refreshed!

Yours in Christ,



You Made a Difference in May at PoP

- Average Weekend Worship Attendance: 178
- Our Cookie Brigade "cooked" 2 first-time visitor households!

Financial Snapshot

Giving & Spending Update:

May 2010:		Year to Date:	
Actual		Actual	
Income	\$ 36,163.76	Income	\$ 166,948.91
Actual		Actual	
Expenses	\$ 41,219.46	Expenses	\$ 183,215.16
Budgeted		Budgeted	
Expenses	\$ 37,499.25	Expenses	\$ 187,496.25
Actual		Actual	
Difference	\$ (5,055.70)	Difference	\$ (16,266.25)

(Note: This reflects actual income and expenses towards our approved budget. It does not include income and expenses for special funds, such as Workcamp and Building Fund.)

In May, our giving and attendance were both up over May of last year. Our budget expenses were a little higher than average, mostly due to semi-annual insurance payments and some needed maintenance. During the summer months, it will help if everyone can keep up with their regular giving and participate in our \$20.10 in 2010 Campaign.

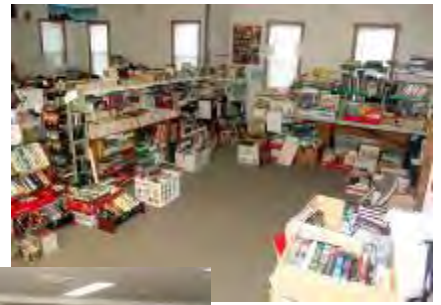
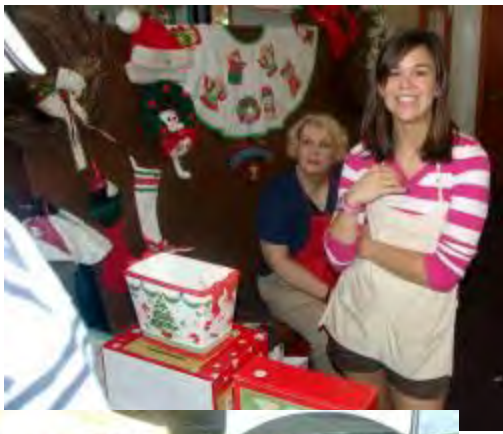
Online Giving at Prince of Peace

Through a secure [online link](#) everyone can now make one time or recurring donations using your bank account, credit or debit cards, for current or special funds, or set up or manage a recurring donation through Simply Giving without having to go through the church office. We hope that this will make it easier and more convenient for folks to make donations to Prince of Peace, and that this will further reduce the stress of having to remember checkbooks when you come to worship. The link to the secure online giving page can be found on the right columns of our homepage, our Stewardship page and our Care and Serve main page.

Recent Events

Yard Sale 2010





Stewardship

Creation Care

Mission Statement

Our mission statement is, "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 - 10:30am. Please feel free to join us if you are interested in helping out or even just want to see what is going on. Contact Pastor Sarah for more information at pastorsarah@poplutheran.org.



Fellowship

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

Fore!

Prince of Peace's first annual Golf Tournament was held on Saturday, May 22! A great time was had by almost 30 members of PoP, and even the weather (mostly!) cooperated. Special thanks to Peter Carr for organizing us!



Interested in Fellowship?

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

Education

Susan Junghans (KSjunghans@verizon.net)

Please Save the Date!

Walk Thru the Bible is coming to PoP! On Saturday, September 18 PoP will host a Walk Thru

the Old Testament seminar, which is a highly interactive, energy charged, and fun way to learn more about the Old 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:

Have you ever said or heard someone else say that the Old Testament is confusing? Although many know the general chronology of Genesis, it's hard for most to put all of the people and events of the entire Old Testament together. Many believe it would take years to understand. After all, there are:

- 39 books
- 929 chapters
- and 23,214 verses in the Old Testament

What if we told you that you and everybody in your church could memorize the key characters, places, events, and themes of the Old Testament in five action-packed hours? Wouldn't that be something that could benefit the whole church for years to come?

More than 1.5 million people have taken this walk before you, making the *Walk Thru the Old Testament* seminar one of the most attended seminars of all time. It's successful because it doesn't bog down with tedious note taking and rote memorization. Instead, participants will be delightfully caught up in a highly creative, interactive learning adventure that's as fun as it is effective.

During this time, attendees will meet Bible characters in an up-close and personal way and enjoy every minute of it. It's as easy and pleasant as taking a walk. Thousands of years of history and scores of



famous names and places will be their companions, and a wealth of new insights and understanding their destination.

In just a few hours, attendees will memorize more than they ever dreamed possible by using hand motions, catch phrases, and group review. By the end of the day, they'll be able to:

- Trace major geographical movements on a giant map made from the people attending the seminar
- Learn to Walk Thru 77 major events in less than three minutes
- Understand the themes and purpose of the Old Testament.

Preview: The following picture depicts the name of one of the books in the Old Testament as well as its major theme. Can you figure out which one?



PoP 50 - Summer of Scripture

This summer we, as a congregation, are being challenged to complete a Bible reading plan: The Bible's Top 50! These 50 reading selections are taking us through the main themes of the whole Bible. This overview will help us gain/regain an appreciation for Scripture as a whole and hopefully inspire us to dig deeper. The Summer of Scripture blog (summerofscripture.blogspot.com) has daily updates. If you would like a daily reminder and link to the blog emailed to you please contact Pat in the office. Or, if you'd prefer a hard copy, booklets containing all 50 passages are available in the narthex.

Digging Deeper

Join us for an informal adult discussion led by one of the pastors every Sunday from 11:00-12:00, June - August. You know the conversations you have in the car on the way home or over the dinner table on Sunday night: How did the pastor

choose that particular theme out of the readings for the sermon? Why did your mind grasp onto that one phrase in the hymn? What in the world did that second reading mean? Together, we'll dig deeper into the scriptures and the overall worship services and ask these types of questions together. Pastors will be there to lead the conversation. Everyone is welcome and childcare is available. Come when you can!

High School Youth Ministry July 10-17: Workcamp!

SPARE CHANGE FOR CANNED FOOD DONATIONS

Due to the success of last year's effort, Group Workcamps will again hold one of the largest canned food drives ever! They hope to top the 156,000 items collected last year. This is one more tangible way for the Workcampers to reveal God's love to the people they serve! All food will be donated to a local food pantry at the end of camp week. At PoP, we're again asking the congregation to help us in this food drive by leaving your spare change in the can in the Narthex each week until we leave for camp on July 10. We will use the money to purchase canned food once we get to Mifflinburg.



Social Ministries

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

School Supply Drive

Prince of Peace will be participating in Interfaith Clothing Center's school supply collection again this year. Last year, Interfaith distributed over 3,100 backpacks filled with supplies. This year they expect the need to increase and hope to serve 3,500 children. Please leave donations in the box in the narthex. We'll collect the following new supplies July 3 through August 8:

- Backpacks (grades K - 12)
- 3-ring binders (3-inch)
- Filler paper
- Pencils, pens, and crayons
- Highlighters
- Pencil pouches and boxes
- Notebooks
- Pocket folders
- Notebook dividers
- Large pink erasers

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. Thanks for your help!

Gaithersburg HELP

Your food donations are critical, especially during the summer. Please also consider volunteering - opportunities exist for a few hours per month or more. For more information about Gaithersburg HELP, please visit their website at www.gaithersburghelp.org.

The NLH Needs You!

Discussion Group

Facilitators

Are you a ministry leader or book club facilitator and looking to donate your time and talent to seniors?



Well, look no further! We're looking for a few individuals interested in engaging our seniors in stimulating and thought provoking discussion. We are flexible - you can select your day and time!

Senior Fitness Instructors

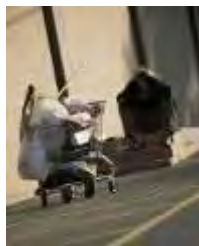
Exercise is the key to longevity! If you have a passion for fitness and exercise - particularly for seniors - join our team of diverse volunteers.



Interested in volunteering? Please contact Felicia Brown, Volunteer Coordinator, at 301-424-9560 x221.

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.



Join the Team!

Want to become a part of the Social Ministries Team? Our next meeting is Tuesday, July 6.

Contact Jennifer Maloney at 301-602-6358; Maloney.jenn@gmail.com with questions or for more information.

Women's Book Group

Meeting Dates and Reading Selections:

Thursday, July 8: *Shanghai Girls: A Novel* by Lisa See, hosted by June Herron at Prince of Peace



Thursday, August 12: *Where the Girls Are: Growing Up Female with the Mass Media* by Susan J. Douglas, hosted by Susan Victor

Thursday, September 9: *The Shadow Divers: The True Adventure of Two Americans Who Risked Everything to Solve One of the Last Mysteries of World War II* by Robert Kurson, host TBA

Thursday, October 14: *The Good Man Jesus and the Scoundrel Christ* by Philip Pullman, host TBA

Thursday, November 11: *A Thread of Grace* by Mary Doria Russell, host TBA

Thursday, December 9: *The Noticer: Sometimes, all a person needs is a little perspective* by Andy Andrews, host TBA

Books are selected by the group and all women of PoP and friends are welcome to attend the gatherings. To be added to the book group list, please contact Jennifer Maloney at Maloney.jenn@gmail.com or 301-602-6358.

Women's Luncheon

The PoP women's luncheon, which is held the first Monday of each month is **cancelled** for July 5. It will always be cancelled if it is part of a holiday weekend.



We will meet for lunch, fun, and fellowship on Monday, August 2 (but not Monday, September 6 since that is Labor Day). The location of the luncheon has been changed from Cosi to the home of Karen Kimmel-Miltzer. Please call her for more details at 240-477-4137. Look for information in the weekly bulletin also.

PoP Men's Group

On June 12 we visited Bill Prueter and celebrated Dick Moore's birthday.



After much consideration, we have decided to expand our membership.

Upcoming Events

July 19-23: VBS

We need adults and college, high school, and middle school students to help out with Vacation Bible School. Sign-up sheets are on the back windows of the narthex. This is a great opportunity to earn SSL hours!

August 7: Line Dancing

Watch the weekly newsletter and the bulletin for details or contact Lesa Sullivan and Clara Koenig for more information.

Special Dates

- Independence Day, July 4



A Little Extra Something

- A vacation is what you take when you can no longer take what you've been taking.

—Earl Wilson

- Summer set lip to earth's bosom bare, and left the flushed print in a poppy there.

—Francis Thompson

- Life is not complex. We are complex. Life is simple, and the simple thing is the right thing.

—Oscar Wilde

- Prayer does not change God but changes one who prays.

—Søren Kierkegaard

Geh (hin) in Frieden

We will miss you and your three men
Olli, Bert, and Len
You should know, there's a place here
When you come back again

Go in peace, go in love, go in harmony
Tell the people of the love

That you've found in me

(ein weiteres Mal)

Geh in Frieden, und in Liebe, und in Harmonie,
Erzähl den Leuten von meiner Liebe

Die niemals enden wirt, nie!

(The above piece commemorates the time at PoP of the Jungheim family, Michaela, Bert, Olli and Len, who have returned to Solingen, Germany. Lyrics by Wendy Vickers and Neil Howard with help from Regina Koenig.)

A Creed To Live By

Don't undermine your worth by comparing yourself with others, for it is because we are different that each of us is special.

Don't set your goals by what other people deem important for only you know what is best for you.

Don't take for granted the things closest to your heart. Cling to them as you would your life, for without them life is meaningless.

Don't let your life slip through your fingers by living in the past or for the future because by living your life one day at a time, you live all the days of your life.

Don't give up when you still have something to give for nothing is really over until the moment you stop trying.

Don't be afraid to admit that you are less than perfect. It is this fragile thread that binds us to each other.

Don't be afraid to encounter risks, for it's by taking chances that we learn how to be brave.

Don't shut love out of your life by saying it's impossible to find. The quickest way to receive love is to give love; the fastest way to lose love is to hold it too tightly; and the best way to keep love is to give it wings.

Don't dismiss your dreams. To be without dreams is to be without hope; to be without hope is to be without purpose.

Don't run through life so fast that you forget not only where you've been, but also where you're going. Life is not a race, but a journey to be savored each step of the way.

—Nancye Sims

Plant Your Garden Today

First, plant 3 rows of peas:
Patience, promptness, prayer.
Next, plant 3 rows of squash:
Squash gossip, squash indifference, squash criticism.
Then, plant 3 rows of lettuce:
Let us be loyal, let us be true to our obligations, let us be unselfish.
Finish, with 4 rows of turnip:
Turn up when needed, turn up with a smile, turn up with a vision, turn up with determination.
Water and weed with care.
Harvest regularly.



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 15, 2010**. 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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