

## Prince of Peace Presbyterian Church Life in the Church – May 31, 2020

### TODAY is Pentecost!



On this Day of Pentecost, we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit descending in a mighty rush of wind and flame to inspire the church's proclamation of Christ's rising and to empower its mission and ministry to the world! Without the gift of the Spirit, Christ's church dries up and withers away; however, with the gift of the Spirit, all things are possible! The Day of Pentecost is considered to be the birth of the Church! Thank you to those wearing **red** today in your homes to celebrate! And although we are not able to gather together afterwards for our usual potluck picnic, Pentecost reminds us that the Holy Spirit, who draws us together, is present with us even while we remain apart. **...POP would also like to thank all of our volunteers today!** The spiritual nurture of our congregants and visitors is enhanced by all of those who provide their musical talent, host coffee fellowship, purchase sanctuary flowers, tend to POP's garden, care for our youngest congregants, teach classes, operate our laptop, usher, and so much more.

### Stewardship in a Time of Crisis!

We may not know the timing, but we do know that when it is possible to gather safely together again, we, and the community, will need the church more than ever. It is critical that Prince of Peace Church stays strong. Please keep up with your pledged stewardship.

A rectangular button with a green heart icon on the left and the text "GIVE NOW" in green capital letters on the right.

**There are many ways to give at POP, including online giving!**

Visit <http://popchurch.org/give/> and click on the "Give Now" button to access POP's online giving portal. Once there, you may give towards the POP General Fund. The POP Special Giving Fund is for our *One Great Hour of Giving* and *Christmas Joy* collections. You may also choose to give an additional 2% to help offset our processing fees, and this optional amount is calculated automatically. For smartphone users, download the **GivePlus** Mobile App for even easier giving! (*The app is available from the Apple App Store and on Google Play.*)



**We appreciate any way you give!** Continue to give via automated payments through your bank or mailed checks. (*Our mailbox is locked and checked regularly for your security.*) **Please give regularly and generously so that we can continue to witness to the love of God in Jesus Christ during this time.** The time will come with God's grace when we will need to love our neighbor by resuming the public life of the church. Thank you for ensuring that we will be ready!

### Spiritual Nurture and Formation Opportunities

## SCRIPTURES



**Faith 5 Scripture Study!** POP's *Faith 5* Scripture study group meets virtually on Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:15 a.m. To join, go to Zoom a few minutes before 9:30 a.m. Click on "Join a Meeting" and type in **Meeting ID: 556 753 635** and **Password: 4aa8Rk** (same ID and password every Sunday). **All are welcome!**

**TONIGHT – God Squad Game Night!** Our God Squad youth group will meet virtually tonight at 6:30 p.m. for Game Night! It turns out you don't have to be physically together to have fun playing games together, and our leaders are working out games that are quite doable in an online format. There might also be a guest speaker! Participants should contact Elder **Beth Ross** for the Zoom details. **All are welcome!**

## GOD SQUAD

**Weekly Children's Messages!** Parents, check out Pastor Elizabeth's weekly children's messages, available on POP's Facebook page under "Videos" and on website under "Resources – Children's Messages," prior to Sunday worship. And please let **Pastor Elizabeth** know how POP can help support and strengthen **you** during this crisis!



**Virtual Choir Rehearsals!** Gather together and join the POP family virtually every Thursday night at 7:00 p.m. for choir rehearsals! POP's virtual choir rehearsals are not rehearsals in the traditional sense; however, they are a time to learn and sing hymns in your home while being able to interact with others from a safe distance. Rehearsals will be conducted. Please contact the church office for the **updated Zoom** Meeting ID and Password. Current choir members are asked to pick up their copy of the *Glory to God* red hymnal from the church prior to rehearsals if possible. **All are welcome!**

**June Book Group!** POP's book group will meet this Wednesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. via **Zoom**. (Contact the church office for the Meeting ID and Password.) The group discuss *Evvie Drake Starts Over* by Linda Holmes. **All are welcome!**

**Summer Adult Education!** Pastor Elizabeth is exploring the idea of offering an adult education class this summer (*instead of waiting for the fall*), since so many people will still be homebound. If you would enjoy participating in either a Zoom-based class to allow for conversation, or watching a live-streamed lecture, please let **Pastor Elizabeth** know. Feel free to also suggest topics that would interest you. **All are welcome!**



## Mission and Outreach

**Light House Lunches!** In lieu of packing bag lunches this morning, POP will send a \$150 donation to the Light House Shelter for them to use for their most urgent needs. We encourage you to visit their [website](#) to donate directly and to see a list of their current needs.



**Two-Cents-A-Meal!** While our collection will not be taken in the usual way again this month, please help support the groups that benefit from this collection. You may hold onto your coins until we are able to meet in person again, or mail a check to the church noting "Two-Cents-A-Meal" on the memo line. However, in order to get your contributions to the groups more quickly, we encourage you to consider donating directly to the groups:  
 † Internationally: **CARE** † Regionally: **SOME** † Locally: **CCCC**

**CCCC Food Pantry Needs!** The Crofton Christian Caring Council (CCCC) Food Pantry needs your help. The Food Pantry is hoping to reopen sometime in June with new safety procedures. Currently, there is enough food for 150 bags; however, it will not take long before they run out of certain food staples—**pasta, tomato sauce in plastic jars, macaroni and cheese, and cereal**. In addition, the Food Pantry can no longer order in bulk from the local supermarkets and must abide by current number limits while shopping. **When you are shopping and able to pick up some extras of the above items, please do so and hold onto them until we notify you that the food can be safely dropped off at the Food Pantry.** If you have questions, contact **Beth Ross**.

### **Puppy Gets Rescued – An Update from Gisela of the Hilos de Plata Mission!**

In addition to providing food for families in need in the Panajachel area, Gisela has been able to help a puppy in need with the support of our Noah's Ark Ministry. While out on a walk, Gisela found a puppy on the side of the road who appeared to have been run over and was unable to walk. Gisela took her home and was able to get the puppy to the vet the very next day. The vet determined that the puppy's front leg needed to be amputated. Even when in pain on the vet's table, the puppy wagged her tail and showed her cheerful spirit. In gratitude for POP's support, Gisela offered the church the opportunity to choose a name for the puppy; the God Squad discussed possibilities at their May 17<sup>th</sup> meeting and chose "Alma," which means "Soul" in Spanish. The family which will eventually adopt the puppy also chose a name for her, selecting "Dulce," or Spanish for "Sweet." So, this puppy will be known as "Alma Dulce," very fitting for her personality. When a flight is possible from Guatemala to the US, Alma Dulce will fly to the States and join her new family in Tennessee. **Isn't it amazing how God's blessing brought us together, and in this time of physical distancing we can still connect to share God's love?**



– Condensed and adapted from a post by Sharon Smart, Fundamaya

**Fall Book Sale Dates!** POP's Used Book and Media Sale has been rescheduled for **Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>** (5:00–9:00 p.m.) and **Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>** (8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.). Mark your calendars and stay tuned.



**PDA Update!** The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is currently hard-at-work to rush critical aid to those who are suffering as a result of COVID-19. Thanks to the longstanding generosity of the whole Church and from generous Presbyterians, PDA is providing vital provisions where needed—food and water, hygiene and sanitation supplies, training and more. If you are able, please support PDA through a [donation](#). Call 800-872-3283 and designate gifts to E052197 – Matthew 25.

## POP Updates

### Technology and Live Streaming Access!

POP is extremely thankful that we are able to worship virtually during this time; however, we realize that technology can also bring issues and frustrations for all! Your continual feedback is extremely important and appreciated. We hope that the following clarifications will help make your worship experience a little more user-friendly!



- † **Facebook members** accessing the live stream worship should first log into their Facebook account and then simply go to the Prince of Peace page to watch the live broadcast. ***Be sure to sign up for notifications from POP too!***
- † **Non-Facebook members** should first go to the Prince of Peace website, [www.popchurch.org](http://www.popchurch.org), and then simply click on the first picture regarding live streaming. Computer users may also click the  button in the upper right-hand corner (*at the bottom for mobile users*). You do not need to sign up for Facebook to watch, so please ignore and close the pop-up box which invites you to join.
- † Please realize that the live stream service might not be instantly available. ***Try clicking onto our “Videos” page on the left-hand side first instead of scrolling down to the live streaming post. And be sure to “refresh” the page occasionally if you don’t see the service.*** We will also start the live stream video earlier (around 10:20 a.m.) with organ music until 10:30 a.m.
- † For those without printers but still would like to be able to view the live stream service while looking at the bulletin, you unfortunately will need two devices—one for the live streaming and another for the bulletin. Computer users might try opening two different windows but no guarantees.

**Missed the live stream?** Our worship videos are available to view on our [website](#) and on our Facebook page afterwards. Feel free to also “share” the services on your own Facebook page for others to enjoy!



**Fall Confirmation!** Unfortunately, we will not be holding confirmation service today, the Day of Pentecost. We want to be able to celebrate our confirmands in person, with family and friends! Therefore, we have postponed our confirmation service until the fall sometime, when we can all meet again in person! In the meantime, POP’s confirmands will be completing mission projects this summer, and stay tuned for more information!

**Phishing Scam!** Please note that Pastor Elizabeth (*or staff*) will never send you an email or a text message asking you to do her a favor and purchase gift cards or send money on her behalf. Scammers are using her name and a fake email. Be vigilant, and if you receive such a request, please report it to the church office.



**Pastoral Care Reminder!** **Pastor Elizabeth** and the **deacons** are available for pastoral care by phone. Please leave a message at the church office (410-721-2313) or email the pastor or your deacon with any needs.



**Community Support!** POP encourages all to call each other regularly and to support one another in prayer. ***If you are a Facebook member, please join the “Friends of POP” group.*** (Search “Friends of POP” in the Facebook search box to join!) This group allows members to post private messages for the congregation (prayer concerns, scheduling, etc.). The POP page is very public, but we can still converse as a congregation safely on “Friends of POP.” Pastor Elizabeth will check the page daily to “accept” new friends.

## Calendar for May 31, 2020

Today	9:15 a.m.	<i>Faith 5</i> Scripture Study – Held via Zoom
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service – Online via Facebook
	6:30 p.m.	God Squad Game Night – Held via Zoom
Monday	7:30 p.m.	Board of Deacons' meeting – Held via Zoom
Tuesday	11:00 a.m.	Worship Committee meeting – Held via Zoom
Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Book Group – Held via Zoom
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Virtual Choir rehearsal – Held via Zoom
Sunday	9:15 a.m.	<i>Faith 5</i> Scripture Study – Held via Zoom
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service – Online via Facebook

## Here and There with POP Groups

**Crofton Farmers Market!** The Crofton Farmers Market is open on Wednesdays from 3:00–7:00 p.m. Please note their new, temporary location of the Crofton Bowling Centre (2115 Priest Bridge Drive, Crofton, MD). In addition, remember to show respect for your neighbors and Crofton Farmers Market members by practicing safe social distancing while you shop.

