

The Cent-I-Gram

Centennial Evangelical Lutheran Church, Kimberton, PA 19442

April, 2024

Vol. 27 No. 4



Sunday Morning

Worship

9:30 AM

Worship services are live-streamed and recorded for those who are not comfortable or able to attend in-person worship.

Book Club

Sunday Morning

In the Narthex

April 14, 21, and 28

*We will review 2 chapters a week of
"The Amen Effect" by Sharon Brous*

**The Cent-I-Gram is published by Centennial: *A Church for the Entire Community*
We are chosen, blessed and sent to share the Gospel of Christ,
*for the healing of our world.***

1330 Hares Hill Road, PO Box 840, Kimberton PA 19442

Sunday Worship 9:30 A.M. 610-933-1528

The Rev. Dr. Dolores Littleton, Bridge Pastor

e-mail: Info@CentennialLutheran.Org webpage at: <http://www.centenniallutheran.org>



Centennial Lutheran

Phone: 610-933-1528 - www.centenniallutheran.org

April 2024

*Sun**Mon**Tue**Wed**Thu**Fri**Sat*

	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Office Closed Holiday 6:45 PM - Boy Scout Troop 158 7 PM-AA	9:30 AM-Exercise 1:30 Bible Study 7 PM - AA	7 PM-Cub Scouts	9:30AM Exercise	7:30 PM - AA	
7 9:30 AM Worship	8 6:45 PM - Boy Scout Troop 158 7 PM-AA	9 9:30 AM-Exercise 1:30 Bible Study 7 PM - AA	10 7 PM-Cub Scouts	11 9:30AM Exercise	12 7:30 PM - AA	13
14 9:30 AM Worship Book Club 10:50-11:50	15 6:45 PM - Boy Scout Troop 158 7 PM-AA	16 9:30 AM-Exercise 1:30 Bible Study 7 PM - AA	17 630-830 PM- Cub Scouts Pack mtg	18 9:30 AM-Exercise 7PM Next Steps Mtg.	19 7:30 PM - AA	20
21 9:30 AM Worship Book Club 10:50-11:50	22 6:45 PM - Boy Scout Troop 158 7 PM-AA	23 9:30 AM-Exercise 1:30 Bible Study 7 PM Council mtg 7 PM - AA	24 7 PM-Cub Scouts	25 9:30 AM-Exercise	26 7:30 PM - AA	27
28 9:30 AM Worship Book Club 10:50-11:50	29 6:45 PM - Boy Scout Troop 158 7 PM-AA	30 9:30 AM-Exercise 1:30 Bible Study 7 PM - AA				

Dear Centennial



Alleluia, Christ is Risen! - We had a slow start on Sunday with folks responding to my Resurrection Greeting, "Yes, happy Easter" or "Yes, he did" or some variation of these. But by the end of the service We all knew the correct response: He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!

"I have come that you may have life and have it more abundantly" John 10:10

Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! What a joyous worship experience we had on Easter Sunday, for the celebration of The Resurrection of our Lord. The sanctuary was filled with hymns and anthems of praise, while the sounds of trumpet and organ filled the sanctuary. White lilies, symbol of the Easter season, adorned the chancel, with tulips trumpeting their praise as well. Extended family joined and there was a youth group – 30 year reunion of sorts. What a glorious day! The Easter season within the church has begun. It will last seven weeks (50 days, not including Sundays). After the 50 days we will celebrate Pentecost (May 19th), the Day of the Spirit, the third great festival of the Church. Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Spring has also sprung. New life is budding and blooming all around us. It is a glory to behold. The church gardens are beautiful – flowers and daffodils, along with chirping birds and rambunctious squirrels and rabbits, tell us in their own way that God is alive and well and living in the world. They tell us that **new life** is possible and all around us. This is true for Centennial Lutheran, Kimberton as well. New Life is possible and renewal is in the air. We had a wonderful, enriching Lenten experience – sharing with our newly formed Muhlenberg Parish. The movie ministry was enjoyed by all. The Mid Week services were rich – with the three churches joined together for Ash Wednesday, Holy Thursday and Good Friday.

"I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" (Isaiah 43:19) God **is** doing a new thing at Centennial. Bible Study grows – and there is excitement for studying the Psalms. Our book group reading Rabbi Brouse book, the Amen Effect will enrich our understanding of the Judeo-Christian heritage – and you will grow in wonder and faith as you read the book. **We** are the ones who must perceive it. We are to be **open** to it. We are now working to get our MSP in – so we can possible consider candidates for a Pastor. **Prayer is essential in this transition process.** I ask you to believe that **God is** in charge and **has** a plan for Centennial. New life **is** possible. If you find yourself getting anxious, **Breathe!** This will allow the Holy Spirit to enter in and calm your fears and anxieties. Let go and let God! Remember, God is good, all the time! All the time, God is good! Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Alleluia Christ is Risen,

Pastor Littleton

Book Club.

The Amen Effect: Ancient Wisdom to Mend Our Broken Hearts and World.

By Rabbi Sharon Brous

A National bestseller

From one of our country's most prominent rabbis, an inspiring book about the power of community based on one of her most impactful sermons.

In a time of loneliness and isolation, social rupture and alienation, what will it take to mend our broken hearts and rebuild our society?

Sharon Brous—a leading American rabbi—makes the case that the spiritual work of our time, as instinctual as it is counter-cultural, is to find our way to one other in celebration, in sorrow, and in solidarity. To show up for each other in moments of joy and pain, vulnerability and possibility, to invest in relationships of shared purpose and build communities of care.

Brous contends that it is through honoring our most basic human instinct-- the yearning for real connection-- that we reawaken our shared humanity and begin to heal. This kind of sacred presence is captured by the word amen, a powerful ancient idea that we affirm the fullness of one another's experience by demonstrating, in body and word: "I see you. You are not alone."

An acclaimed preacher and story-teller, Brous pairs heart-driven anecdotes from her experience building and pastoring to a leading-edge faith community over the past two decades with ancient Jewish wisdom and contemporary science. The result is a clarion call: the sense of belonging engendered by our genuine presence is not only a social and biological need, but a moral and spiritual necessity.

With original insights and practical tools, *The Amen Effect* translates foundational ideas into simple practices that connect us to our better angels, offering a blueprint for a more meaningful life and a more connected and caring world.

**We will discuss 2 chapters each week on April 14, 21, 28
from 10:50 – 11:50 in Narthex**

The book can be purchased at your favorite book store or at Amazon – for \$34.49 or on kindle at \$14.29. Contact Kathy in the office if you would like her to order from Amazon for you.

BIBLE STUDY

The Bible Study Group has enjoyed studying 1 and 2 Corinthians this past fall and winter.

On April 2nd at 1:30 we will begin a Bible Study of selected Psalms. Psalms is the Jewish prayer book and hymnal. In fact when Jesus sang a hymn in his worship, he would have sung one of the 150 choices from the psalter. There are 150 Psalms – many of the psalms are attributed to King David.

The book of Psalms was written over a period of one thousand years.

Psalm 90, a psalm of Moses, was probably the earliest psalm, written around 1500 BC. It is difficult to know when the last psalm was composed, but Psalm 126, which begins, “When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream,” probably refers to Israel’s return from exile in 537 BC.

Approximately 40 percent of the psalms are laments.

Out of the 150 psalms, fifty-nine are laments, songs composed in a spiritual and theological minor key. There are psalms of unqualified joy and delight, such as Psalm 47. But why so many laments? The life of faith, personal and corporate, is lived in a fallen world and opposed by the flesh, the world, and the devil. Jesus told His disciples, “In the world you will have tribulation” (John 16:33). The Psalms give heart expression to the struggles, sorrows, weariness, perplexities, and failures that are the daily experience of every believer.

Pastor will take suggestions to study your favorite Psalm.

Bible Study is open to all in the community. Bring a friend – share your faith and the Word with others.





JOIN US!
Thursday,
April 18th, 2024
5 - 8 PM

Technical College High School - Pickering Campus
1580 Charlestown Rd, Phoenixville, PA 19460

**ONLINE TICKETS SALES ENDING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16TH AT 11:59PM!****

EVENT TICKETS

***Dine-In and Drive-Thru Options Available.
Drive-Thru tickets available **ONLINE ONLY***

*After 4/16, dine-in tickets will be available for purchase
via **cash, check or QR code** at the door at the start of the event.*

PHOENIXVILLE AREA COMMUNITY SERVICES
Nurturing Food Security Since 1972

www.pacsphx.org

More Ways to Win!

We are now offering everyone the option to
PURCHASE RAFFLE TICKETS ONLINE!*

This is especially convenient for those who are unable to attend the
event in person (i.e. our drive-thru attendees).

**Winners need not be in attendance to win. They will be contacted after the event.*



ELECTRONIC WASTE RECYCLING



Computers /
Laptops



Cell Phones



Printers / Scanners



Flat Screen TVs



Video Game
Consoles



Small Appliances

Don't forget, our Electronic Recycling Events are coming up! Bring old cell phones, printers, computers, laptops, VCRs, flatscreen TVs, miscellaneous wire, and anything with a plug.

This event in Caln and Phoenixville is in partnership with the Junkluggers!

SAVE THE DATE:

Phoenixville ReStore: Wednesday, April 24th

10 AM - 12 PM

Caln ReStore: Thursday, April 25th

10 AM - 12 PM

RESTORE EVENTS

Genesis House Update / Scholarship Fund

Friends of Genesis,

As you may remember, our first mom moved into Genesis House earlier this year. She has been busy working, learning to drive, and most importantly, caring for her baby. We are excited to announce that she was just accepted into a Medical Assistant Certification course! Completing this training will open up her opportunities to find a meaningful job that pays well.

Our goal is to help her along her journey towards independence, so she will be able to provide for herself and her child. We are creating a scholarship fund to help cover the cost of her training and to show her that we believe in her & the plans God has to prosper her. We are hoping to present her with a check this May on her first Mother's Day.

If you would like to contribute \$10 to our Genesis House Scholarship Fund, please visit our website to donate. Under the "General Giving" designation, please write in that your donation is intended for the Genesis House Scholarship.

With Sincere Thankfulness,
Wendy Burpee

www.gpenpcc.org
610-970-8089





Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
9:30-2:30

Office will be closed
Monday 4/1/2024



APRIL

- 4 Alton Thompson
- 6 Harry Gladfelter
- 8 Brycen Miller
- 18 Charlotte Lessig
- 28 Scott Kuplast

Psalm 20:4

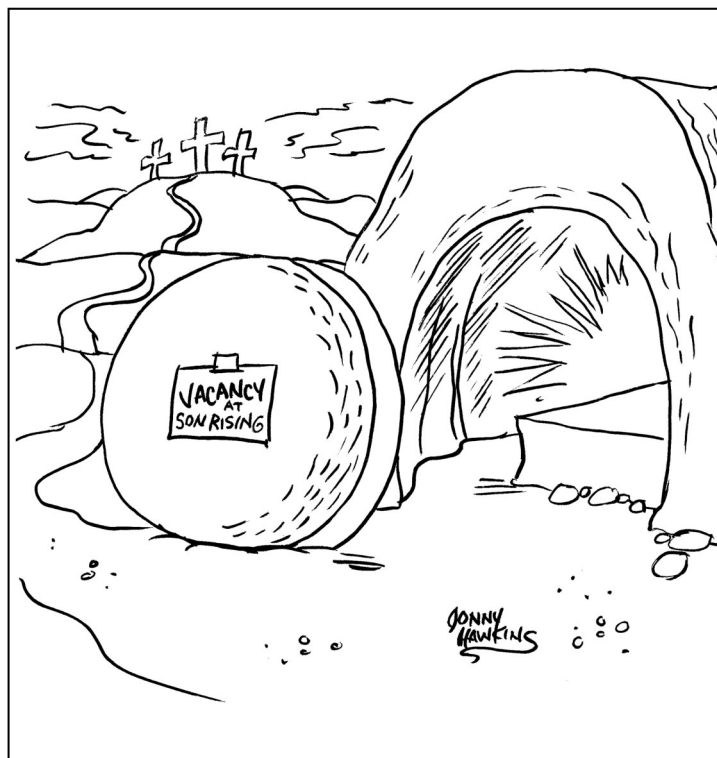
⁴May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed.

April	7	Fred Stoudt
	14	Reggie Ryberg
	21	Harry Gladfelter
	28	Dave Winning



SCHEDULE

If there is a conflict with your date, please ask someone to switch with you and inform Kathy of the change made. If you still have a problem call John Miller 610-933-8523





Submitted by Paul Breitegam



Lutheran Night May 31



Spring Training is almost here. It is a good time to plan to join Lutheran Night at the Phillies. Lutheran Night at the Phillies will be held on Friday, May 31 when the Phillies host the Cardinals at 6:40 p.m.! Proceeds benefit SEPA youth programs.

Start gathering your group now! We're aiming for 500 or more tickets across the synod so that the bishop will be able to throw out the first ball. To count, tickets must be purchased through the link below.

ORGANIZER

<https://www.mlb.com/phillies/tickets/specials/lutheran>

Principally Harps!

Mindy Cutcher & Janet Witman

Principal Harpist with the Pennsylvania Ballet & Principal Harpist with the Kennett Symphony

Sunday, April 7, 2024

4:00 PM

Concert harp-duo transcriptions including: *Polovtsian Dances* by Borodin; Debussy's *En Bateau*; Disney classic, *Under the Sea*; jazz version of *Pure Imagination*; the beloved hymn, *Fairest Lord Jesus*, and Latin dance music- *Tango and Rumba*.



Freewill Offering

St. John's Lutheran Church

355 St. John's Circle
Phoenixville, PA
610-933-3947

thrivent

Our Annual FREE Shred Event



Whether it's giving back to the community or supporting the causes you care about, we connect you with ways to make your efforts mean even more. Come join us.

Your local Thrivent Community and The Pickering Group are hosting The Annual FREE Shred Event, a great opportunity for exploring new ideas and meeting new people.

It is that time of year to get rid of documents securely. Please bring your papers in bags or boxes, staples, paper clips & credit cards are acceptable. **Please bring a donation for the West Chester Food Cupboard.**

Double your support and bring a guest.

DRIVE THRU Only, please stay in your vehicle.

The Annual FREE Shred Event

Saturday, May 18, 2024

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Thrivent Exton Office Parking Lot

300 N Pottstown Pike

Exton, PA

Thrivent Community -

Pickering Group

484-875-0202

The Pickering Group is not affiliated with or endorsed by Thrivent. No products will be sold at this event. For additional important information, visit [Thrivent.com/disclosures](https://www.thrivent.com/disclosures).

28388F R9-23

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**Centennial will once again provide the meals for
St. Mary's Shelter
the week of
Oct. 21-25.**

Start planning your menu!

Fall Blood Drive Oct. 14, 2024



John 14:26-27

²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.



Prayer List

To request prayer, first ***request permission from the individual in need of prayer*** (as requested by our Synod). Then you may send an email to prayers@centenniallutheran.org or call Jerene Gladfelter at 610-933-3542 or the church office at 610-933-1528. Please list the individual's name and a BRIEF description of the situation (i.e. chemo, dementia, auto accident, comfort and peace, etc.) along with the name of the requester and association (brother, co-worker, friend, etc.). Please also advise us when a prayer request is no longer valid. Printed prayer lists are issued at the beginning of each month as a bulletin insert. Please update us by the 25th of each month to ensure that your request is listed.

In addition, there is an email list of individuals desiring to be on the Prayer Chain to receive immediate prayer requests other than those listed monthly. If you wish to be included on this email list, please contact Jerene (610-933-3542) or the church office (610-933-1528) with your email address or telephone number.

Live Stream Worship Services

We have been live streaming the worship service on Centennial's Face Book page. This is available for you if you are not feeling well, or the weather is inclement or if you are traveling. You are still able to worship with us – in real time. Feel free to set aside bread, crackers, wine or grape juice to join with us at the time of Holy Communion. The service can be found on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM on this link: <https://www.facebook.com/CentennialELCA>

Pastoral Care

If anyone wants to have pastoral conversation with Pastor Littleton you can do so by calling her at 610-213-9725 or by emailing her at DrDee3@gmail.com. Conversation may take place in-person, on the phone, or via zoom chat depending on what works best for you.



Women of the ELCA of
Chester Conference
& Lutheran Church of the
Good Shepherd
invite you to a conference/workshop
on

**Navigating Difficult
Conversations:
RACISM**

Presenting Speaker:
Anita Friday
of Open Hearts: A Path to
Racial Healing

Saturday, April 13 - 8:30 am to
12:15 pm
Continental Breakfast will be
served.

\$10.00 Registration Fee
**Deadline extended to Tuesday
April 9, 2024**

Any questions, email
Kim Tapscott at
tapscots@verizon.net

Make check to Kim Tapscott (in memo note church name & # of attendees). Also include on separate piece of paper church name and names of attendees. Mail to the following address (or email names to tapscots@verizon.net):

Kim Tapscott
c/o Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
107 So. 17th Ave,
Coatesville, PA 19320

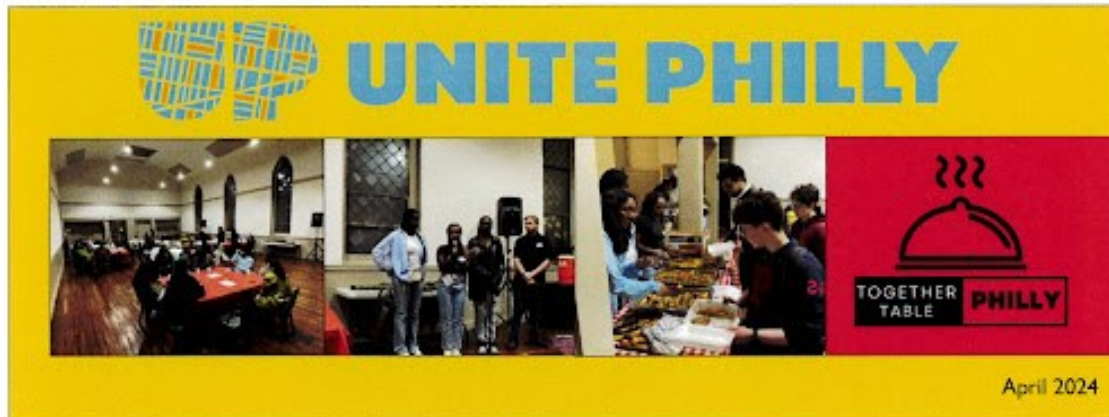


Table Together Philly

While at a conference last April where pastors shared their best practices for reaching and blessing their community, I (Dave) latched on to an idea from Spokane. This church opened up their commercial kitchen for refugees and immigrants to prepare large batches of their cuisine to sell to the community. Not only is caring for the foreigner in our midst a biblical demand, but I also saw how it could be a tool to make connections in our community.

Many neighbors around the ministry center we are activating at Woodland are connected to Penn, though not necessarily to each other. There are American undergrads, international scholars, young families, and older university staff. Being at different stages of life leads to misunderstandings, isolation, and sometimes divisions. As Woodland is the only place with a large hall and kitchen open to the community, it allows us to be the gathering point for the neighborhood.

Returning back from the conference last April, I was excited to get this project off the ground but hesitant knowing how much work it would entail. Then UPenn's Office of Social, Equity and Community asked me if I had a

project idea that their undergrad fellows could work on this school year! I shared my vision and they ran with it! The 4 students pictured above created the organization, found an Algerian immigrant to be the first chef, spread the word through the university community, and did all the day of work to make it a success. I brought in people from our church and the neighborhood. Together, 87 tickets were sold!

To prompt discussions around each table, questions we placed encouraging people to share about their religious background. At my table, it was great to see people from our church engage with a staff person from Penn as they learned about her story.

At the end of the evening, several folks asked me when the next dinner would be. Also, as a young family left, the mom encouraged/warned me that this event will quickly sell out whenever it happens again. I think she is right.

Dave and Katie Brindley dave.brindley@cru.org
 5005 Chestnut Street katie.brindley@cru.org
 Philadelphia, PA 19139 215-407-7182
 To give online to our account: give.cru.org/0521081
 Please make checks payable to Cru
 UnitePhilly.org



Mysterious
Movements at Zion
Rollerama



Centennial Evangelical Lutheran Church
Church Council Meeting
February 27, 2024 Rev 3
Revisions in Italics Page 1 of 2

In Person: Rich Henricks, Harry Gladfelter, Patt Shumaker, John Miller, Randy Ferree, Karen Winning,
Fred Stoudt, *Makinzie Ackroyd, Christine Holmes*
Via Zoom: Pastor Littleton
Excused: Dennis Ray

Harry called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Harry welcomed Makinzie Ackroyd to council. Pastor opened the meeting with a presentation by SEPA Synod Representative Tracy Beasley and prayer.

The minutes for the council meeting of January 23, 2024 Revision 2 were approved.

Pastor's Report: Lenton movies are going well and with good attendance, discussion and food.

Centennial has Maundy Thursday with Pastor Kris Peterson. Good Friday will be at St. Peters with Pastor Littleton. *St. John's has an Easter Vigil 730PM* on Saturday evening. Bridge Pastor for Zion has withdrawn due to health concerns.

Synod Assembly: Rick Henricks and Patt Shumaker will attend Synod Assembly, May 3 & 4.

CURRENT BUSINESS:

Upgrading our audio-visual capabilities: A sound bar set with a woofer has been purchased. Discussion on placement of the TVs. They need to be mounted higher for viewing. Suggested to mount the TVs beneath the speakers on the front wall of the sanctuary. In the basement, mount it on a wall as high as possible but in a cabinet with doors that can protect the TV when not in use and also locked. A meeting with Gary Giebler at Presbyterian Church in Phoenixville is set for March 12 at 7PM to see their A/V setup prior to making additional A/V equipment purchases or implement changes.

Elections: The current slate of officers were nominated and they accepted the nominations. Harry Gladfelter, President; Christine Holmes, Vice President; Fred Stoudt, Corporate Secretary; Randy Ferree, Secretary.

MSP: Dave Winning is working on the MSP. It is a priority to complete the MSP. Dave has the financials from Rick. Missions need reviewed. Here is the information to log into the MSP to review and comment to Dave:

☞ Web Site MSP Login (elca.org)

☞ Username/email: davew@centenniallutheran.org

☞ Password: Centennial!

Council minutes continued:

Joint Next Steps Team: A meeting was held on Thursday, February 15 at CELC. Written report was not available. The following joint activities are scheduled.

☐ 5th Sunday Lay Lead Combined Service.

o June 30 – St. Peters Outside in their pavilion.

o September 29 – Centennial

o December 29 - Zion

☐ Rise Against Hunger – September 29th 5th Sunday in the afternoon.

[Home - Rise Against Hunger](#)

o Approved by St. Peters and Centennial

o The cost is about \$3,400 and you get to assemble 10,000 meals for some of the most food insecure people around the world. The cost is for the supplies.

o They set-up a website to advertise, take funding donations. Also provide everything needed including supervisors.

o You need about 6 people to help with set-up and then about 30 to assemble the meals.

o They come with a truck. Zion is suggested as the site as the fellowship hall is accessible for unloading and loading materials.

o Rick to check on submitting for Thrivent Action teams to help with the cost.

☐ Vitality Team Link – send link to Council to review

o Growing Congregational Vitality : Missional Planning Process Workbook by Dr. Joyce Thompsen

https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Growing_congregational_vitality.pdf?_ga=2.236831937.1186342711.1709768063-681577685.1688746531

Installation of Council: Council installation is scheduled for Sunday, March 10, 2024.

TEAM REPORTS:

☐ **Finance:** Rick reports finances are as expected. *Denise asked if she can order 50 offering envelope boxes for 2025 with discount offered thru this Friday the 29th. Approved.*

Property: Painting continues with volunteers, Rick and Fred.

Music and Worship: See Next Step Team for services.

Evangelism/Faith Development:

☐ Advertising for Easter Service cost is \$95. It runs March 17 and 24 in the Phoenix, Reporter and Item and online calendar. We should also advertise on Facebook and Website.

☐ April Book Review: Pastor will review the book The Amen Effect. Will review 2 chapters per week over 3 weeks. Study is scheduled for after church 10:50 to 11:50AM on April 14, 21, & 28.

☐ Pastor's next Tuesday afternoon Bible Study will be on selected Psalms. Those interested are

Council minutes continued:

Missions: No report.

Congregational Life/Hospitality:

Kimberton Fair Soda Stand: Christine reported Kimberton Fire Company has not made a decision.
Meeting adjourned at 8:20PM with Lord's Prayer.

The next Church Council meeting will be March 26, 2024 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Randy Ferree

MINISTRY LEADERS

Church Council Members

Harry Gladfelter (President)	hgladfelter@aol.com
Christine Holmes (Vice President)	holmc63@yahoo.com
Fred Stoudt (Corp. Secretary)	fstoudt@yahoo.com
Randy Ferree (Recording Secretary)	psurandy74@gmail.com
Rick Henricks	rickclu@icloud.com
Makinzie Ackroyd	Makinzieackroyd@gmail.com
John Miller	jr_nsmiller@verizon.net
Dennis Ray	drayhome@comcast.net
Patt Shumaker	610-296-8761
Karen Winning	kwinning11@aol.com

Team Leaders

Property Team Leader: Fred Stoudt	fstoudt@yahoo.com
Finance Team Leader: Rick Henricks	rickclu@icloud.com
Endowment Fund: Rick Henricks	rickclu@icloud.com
Bookkeeping (receipts and monthly statements):	
Denise Ackroyd	dyack@hotmail.com
Bookkeeping (expenditures and checkbook):	
Patt Shumaker	610-296-8761
Worship Team Leader: John Miller	jr_nsmiller@verizon.net

Director of Music Ministry:

Karen Hepler karenhepler@comcast.net

Altar Guild Leader: Nancy Miller jr_nsmiller@verizon.net

Social Ministry/Global Missions Leaders:

Beth Wise bswise1212@msn.com

Patt Shumaker 610-296-8761

Nancy Miller jr_nsmiller@verizon.net

Hospitality Team Leader:

Karen Winning kwinning11@aol.com

Prayer Chain Coordinator: prayers@centenniallutheran.org

Jerene Gladfelter

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Dolores E. Littleton Drdee3@gmail.com