

# *The Cent-I-Gram*

Centennial Evangelical Lutheran Church, Kimberton, PA 19442

March, 2024

Vol. 27 No. 3



## *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.*

## *March 28, 2024 Maundy Thursday*

*7:00 PM*

*Centennial Lutheran Church, Kimberton*

## *March 29, 2024 Good Friday Worship*

*7:00 PM*

*St. Peter's Lutheran, Chester Springs*

**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](mailto:Info@CentennialLutheran.Org) webpage at: <http://www.centenniallutheran.org>**



# Centennial Lutheran

Phone: 610-933-1528 - [www.centenniallutheran.org](http://www.centenniallutheran.org)

March 2024

*Sun*

*Mon*

*Tue*

*Wed*

*Thu*

*Fri*

*Sat*

<b>3</b> 9:30 AM Worship Lenten movie 3:30 PM AT ZION	<b>4</b> 6:45 PM - Boy Scout Troop 158 7 PM-AA	<b>5</b> 9:30 AM-Exercise 7 PM - AA	<b>6</b> 7 PM-Cub Scouts	<b>7</b> 9:30AM Exercise	<b>1</b> 7:30 PM - AA <hr/> <b>8</b>	<b>2</b> <hr/> <b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 9:30 AM Worship Lenten movie 3:30 PM	<b>11</b> <b>Office            Closed</b> 6:45 PM - Boy Scout Troop 158 7 PM-AA	<b>12</b> 9:30 AM-Exercise 7 PM - AA	<b>13</b> 7 PM-Cub Scouts	<b>14</b> 9:30AM Exercise	<b>15</b> 7:30 PM - AA	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 9:30 AM Worship Lenten movie 3:30 PM	<b>18</b> 6:45 PM - Boy Scout Troop 158 7 PM-AA	<b>19</b> 9:30 AM-Exercise 7 PM - AA	<b>20</b> 630-830 PM- Cub Scouts Pack mtg	<b>21</b> 9:30 AM-Exercise 7PM Next Steps Mtg.	<b>22</b> 7:30 PM - AA	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 9:30 AM Worship Lenten movie 3:30 PM	<b>25</b> 6:45 PM - Boy Scout Troop 158 7 PM-AA	<b>26</b> 9:30 AM-Exercise 7 PM - AA 7 PM Church Counsel mtg.	<b>27</b> 7 PM-Cub Scouts	<b>28</b> 9:30 AM-Exercise 7:00p PM Maundy Thursday worship	<b>29</b> 7:30 PM - AA 7:00 PM Good Friday Worship AT ST. PETER'S	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> <b>EASTER            SUNDAY</b> 9:30 AM Worship						



Dear Christian Friends:

Greetings!

Holy Week is on the horizon, and this year we are hosting the Maundy Thursday Service (March 28) at 7:00 PM at Centennial with Pastor Kris Peterson preaching at the service. Then March 29th at 7:00 St Peter's in Chester Springs will be hosting Good Friday with me preaching at that service. On Easter Saturday, March 30th St John's in Phoenixville will be hosting the Easter Vigil at 7:30 PM. Each congregation of our newly formed Muhlenberg Parish will celebrate Resurrection Sunday. Our Easter Service will be held at the normal 9:30 hour.

I am so very pleased with our Sunday Lenten Movie Ministry. People are enjoying the movies and there is some very good discussion and folks are seeing God at work in the movie. I truly believe our modern day movie is very much like the parables Jesus told to help people see God's Kingdom at work. I am hoping as we get comfortable with noticing God moments in a Hollywood film that it will be pretty easy for us to open our eyes and see similar God moments in our day to day activities. I am hoping that you will be able to tell a friend that when I went to the Giant the other day – such and such happened – and that is when I noticed the comforting presence of God.

As we move into Holy Week at the end of the month, we are confronted by questions of law, grace, and mercy. We will be asked to consider what it is like to have God's law written on our hearts? I am hoping that by the time of Holy week that you will all be excellent "God detectors" and that you will be able to identify God as close and as steady as your heartbeat? The prophet Jeremiah promises an experience of being in tune with God and that our hearts will beat in synch with God's.

Jeremiah and the Psalmist speak of a transformed and purified heart. A new heart is a gift of grace. God initiates this new covenant. But is God the only actor here? Is God's action entirely unilateral, or do we have a role in our alignment with God's vision? Surely, God can do a new thing in accordance with God's choice, and God can choose to be more active in some places than others. God can address us in lively and energetic ways. May our Lenten prayer be that God will open the eyes of our heart to see Him at work.

Psalm 51 is a prayer for God's mercy. Lost in sin, the Psalmist asks God to take the initiative in forgiveness and transformation. The Psalmist experiences God as "wholly other," as the moral law which judges humankind and the Psalmist in particular. The Psalmist has crossed a line. He needs God's mercy and the forgiveness of his sin. In this divine-human encounter, the Psalmist feels remorseful and he repents of his sin. In fact, he feels empty and alone. He goes so far as to say that he was created in sin and that his only hope is to throw himself on God's mercy.

In his brokenness, the Psalmist asks God to create in him a new heart and give him a new spirit. He prays for a restoration of wholeness. And God restores – because God is love!

May God bless all of us as we live into this Holy remembrance of God's Holy love and Forgiveness of our sins.

In Christ,  
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

**BIBLE STUDY**

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

**On April 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.





**Deadline to order is**  
**Tuesday March 12, 2024**  
**Take the flowers home after**  
**the worship service on**  
**Easter Sunday, March 31.**

**\$15 each—Leave cash or checks in the flower box in the office or attach payment to order form and place in offering collection plate.**  
**Make checks payable to Centennial Lutheran Church.**

**Please print clearly:**

I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ pots of lilies at \$15 each

in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Your name as you wish it to appear in the bulletin on Easter.)

Telephone number \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_





*Henry Melchior Muhlenberg*

## **Muhlenberg Parish**

(A Collaborative Ministry of 4 sister Lutheran Congregations)

### **LENTEN Program**

**The Lutheran Congregations of the  
Greater Phoenixville Area**

**Centennial ~ Kimberton, St John's ~ Phoenixville  
St Peter's ~ Chestnut Springs & Zion ~ Spring City**

### **2024 Lenten Program**

**Ash Wednesday Service:** Feb 14, 2024 @ Zion 7:00 PM  
Pastor Paul Townsend Preaching

**Holy Thursday Service:** March 28<sup>th</sup> @ Centennial 7:00 PM  
Pastor Kristine Peterson Preaching

**Good Friday Service:** March 29<sup>th</sup> @ St Peter's 7:00 PM.  
Pastor Dolores Littleton Preaching

**Easter Vigil Service:** March 30<sup>th</sup> @ St John's 7:30 PM  
Pastor Russ Crouthamel

### **God Sighting in Movies**

**Jesus told parables – a movie is a parable of sorts – this movie ministry is an opportunity to watch secular movies and have a faith discussion after the movie. We will always seek to notice God at work. After the movie, we will share a Soup and Salad meal together. Each family is invited to bring, soup, or salad. Host Church will provide beverages.**

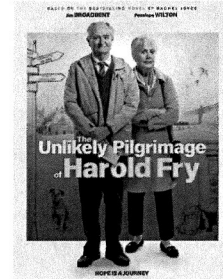
**Sunday Feb 18 2024 @ Centennial at 3:30 PM. Cas and Dylan** a Canadian comedy-drama film stars Richard Dreyfuss, Tatiana Maslany, Jayne Eastwood, Aaron Poole, About a dying Doctor, who plans to check out on his own terms, takes a reluctant detour when he inadvertently winds up on the lam with an 'anything-but-normal' 22-year-old girl.



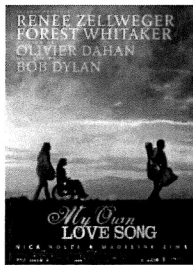


**Sunday Feb 25, 2024 @ Centennial at 3:30 PM The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold**

**Fry** *Drama* A seemingly unremarkable man in his sixties named Harold one day learns that his old friend Queenie is dying. He goes to mail a letter, only to keep walking for over 700km until he reaches Queenie's hospice, much to the despair of his wife Maureen.



**Sunday, March 3, 2024 @ Zion at 3:30 PM. My Own Love Song - drama** Jane (Renée



Zellweger) is a woman who is hiding from life after an accident leaves her wheelchair-bound. Joey (Forest Whitaker) is her friend who speaks to ghosts and angels no one else can see or hear. When he reads in the newspaper that his favorite author will be speaking in New Orleans, Louisiana, he convinces Jane to go with him. Along the way, they meet up with Billie (Madeline Zima), a young woman in search of her missing husband. The travelers have many obstacles in their path. They meet many different "angels" and "devils" along the way.

**Sunday, March 10, 2024 @ Centennial at 3:30. Are you there God? It is me,**

**Margaret** *Comedy, drama family*, When eleven-year-old Margaret Simon is informed by her parents Barbara and Herb that the family of three is moving from New York City to a New Jersey suburb, as Herb has received a promotion. Margaret is upset about moving away from her friends and her paternal grandmother, Sylvia, and begins to communicate with God about her concerns, anxieties, and hopes.



**Sunday, March 17, 2024. @ Centennial at 3:30. A Man called Otto. Comedy, drama**



Otto Anderson (Tom Hanks) is a grump who no longer sees purpose in his life following the loss of his wife. Otto is ready to end it all, but his plans are interrupted when a lively young family moves in next door, and he meets his match in quick-witted Marisol. She challenges him to see life differently, leading to an unlikely friendship that turns his world around. A heartwarming and funny story about love, loss, and life, A Man Called Otto shows that family can sometimes be found in the most unexpected places.



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

Office will be closed  
Monday 3/11/2024



### MARCH

10	Deanna Kalmbach
13	Chuck Cantwell
17	Jan Bird
22	John Lawrence Genter
30	Barbara Ray

### **James 1:17-18**

<sup>17</sup> Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. <sup>18</sup> He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

March	3	John Miller
	10	Dave Winning
	17	Rick Henricks
	24	Larry Shumaker, Palm Sunday
	28	Randy Ferree, Maundy Thursday
	31	Kathy Geiger, Easter



## 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



Happy St. Patrick's Day!





## Taking the Wheel: Joe's Story!

Think about the countless destinations you've reached in the past 15 years: your workplace, doctor's appointments, grocery runs, your children's schools. Now, imagine navigating those journeys without the **freedom of a driver's license**.

**After a decade and a half without a driver's license, Joe recently took the necessary steps and successfully got it reinstated!** He had postponed the process due to past struggles with drinking. Now sober, Joe was motivated to move forward with the reinstatement process with encouragement and guidance from Good Sam.

Joe, employed as a painter, has been working incredibly hard and also fulfilled the requirements of our [Matched Savings Program](#)! We're so happy about everything he's accomplished, **his journey starting at our winter shelter, progressing through the temporary housing steps of our program, to now living in our affordable housing.** Way to go Joe!



### 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>





## **Job Posting**

### **House Manager – Live-in**

St Mary's Franciscan Shelter for homeless families is seeking a **live-in house manager** to oversee the operation of the shelter Monday – Friday from 9:30PM – 9:00AM.

Job responsibilities include:

Closing shelter \* Setting up breakfast \* Overseeing needs of residents

Light housekeeping \* Answering phones

Compensation includes room, food, laundry facilities, and all utilities (including internet and cable) and a bi-weekly stipend of \$500.

The overnight house manager can sleep after closing/securing the shelter (11PM – 6AM). This shift is considered “on call” should there be an issue overnight. The House Manager is to be available by 6:30 to set up breakfast, oversee the needs of residents, perform light housekeeping, and answer phones until 9AM.

Holiday and additional hours might also be available.

If you want to serve families facing homelessness and are willing to engage in the life of the shelter, please contact Elsa Haile at 610-933-3097 or through Indeed. A complete job description is available upon request at [smfs@stmarysfs.org](mailto:smfs@stmarysfs.org).

**St. Mary's Franciscan Shelter**  
**209 Emmett Street**  
**Phoenixville, PA 19460**



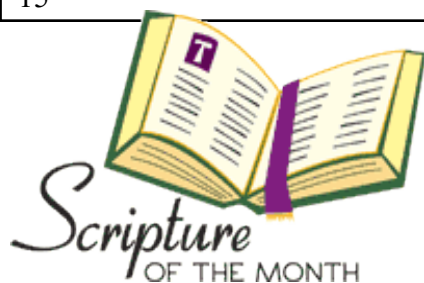
# MEALS ON WHEELS

Phoenixville Meals on Wheels program is in need of drivers and delivery persons.

If you would like to contribute your time, about 1 to 1.5 hours a week or month depending on your availability, please contact:

Linda Keenan  
[keenanjlj1@verizon.net](mailto:keenanjlj1@verizon.net)  
 (H) 610-933-3332  
 (C) 610-246-1546.





## 1 Peter 1:3-4

<sup>3</sup> Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you,



### *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](mailto: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](mailto: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  
Must be received by Friday  
March 29.

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](mailto:tapscots@verizon.net)):

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

Any questions, email  
Kim Tapscott at  
[tapscots@verizon.net](mailto:tapscots@verizon.net)

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

**Centennial will once again provide the meals for  
St. Mary's Shelter  
the week of  
March 25-29, 2024 and  
Oct. 21-25.**

**Start planning your menu!**



Centennial Lutheran Church and the American Red Cross are hosting an upcoming blood drive.

Please join our lifesaving mission and schedule an appointment today!

**Drive Details:**

**Site:** Centennial Lutheran Church

**Address:** 1330 Hares Hill Road, Kimberton, PA, 19442

**Room Name:** Fellowship Hall

**Date:** Mon Mar 25, 2024

**Time:** 02:00 PM - 07:00 PM

**Blood Program Leader Name:** David Winning

**Blood Program Leader Phone Number:** 6109331528

For an appointment, please visit [redcrossblood.org](https://redcrossblood.org) or

call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Next Steps Meeting  
Minutes  
January 18, 2024

Present

St. Peter's – In Person - Pastor Paul Townsend and Doris Sterner

Zoom – Doug Beck

Zion - In Person – Shawn Rogers, Steve Moore, Jack Florio and Lori

Hoshaw

Zoom – Elaine Weinsteiger

Centennial - In Person – Dave Winning, Kathy Geiger, Harry Gladfelter and Christine Holmes

Zoom – Pastor Littleton and Randy Ferree

Synod - Pastor Franz

The meeting opened with prayer by Pastor Townsend

The minutes of the Dec. 14, 2023 meeting were reviewed and accepted as presented

Old Business

1. Joint Facebook page – Shawn reports that Erin has it ready, we just need a name for it. The group agreed on “Muhlenberg Parish of the greater Phoenixville Area”
  - A) We discussed the need for posting guidelines – churches will share their existing guidelines. There is a mutual agreement that the names of children will not be posted with picture.
  - B) Joint Web page was discussed – Dave Winning will check on availability of Domain names and platforms. Pastor Franz indicated that his secretary may be able to assist with set up – she uses Square Space
2. Joint Services Planning
  - A) Ash Wed. at Zion, Pastor Townsend will preside
  - B) Holy Thursday at Centennial, Pastor Franz secured a pastor
  - C) Good Friday at St. Peter's, Pastor Littleton will preside

The home church music and worship teams will plan the music for the services. Choir members from all churches will be invited to join together.

It was suggested that we plan – Joint services with fellowship meal/ activities after on 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays – please make this suggestion to your church council

June 30 at St. Peter's since they have the outdoor pavilion.  
Sept. 29 at Centennial – with possibly the Rise Against Hunger event

Joint Service Project –

Rise Against Hunger. Christine Holmes will look in to cost and available dates

Possible help for Soup Kitchen, shelter or other area agency

Joint Fellowship Event – We would like to plan a Spring Fellowship event such as a Reading Phillies game and picnic or Sight and Sound.

Please send suggestions and the cost of the event to Kathy Geiger at Centennial, [kgeiger@centenniallutheran.org](mailto:kgeiger@centenniallutheran.org).

New Business

Goals for 2024? What do we need to do next?

Yes we are working together – should be explore options

We will discuss this further at our next meeting.

Respectfully submitted.

Kathy Geiger

## **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	
John Miller	jr_nsmiller@verizon.net
Dennis Ray	drayhome@comcast.net
Patt Shumaker	610-296-8761
Karen Winning	kwinning11@aol.com

### **Team Leaders**

<b>Property Team Leader:</b> Fred Stoudt	fstoudt@yahoo.com
<b>Finance Team Leader:</b> Rick Henricks	rickclu@icloud.com
<b>Endowment Fund:</b> Rick Henricks	rickclu@icloud.com
<b>Bookkeeping (receipts and monthly statements):</b>	
Denise Ackroyd	dyack@hotmail.com
<b>Bookkeeping (expenditures and checkbook):</b>	
Patt Shumaker	610-296-8761
<b>Worship Team Leader:</b> John Miller	jr_nsmiller@verizon.net
<b>Music Ministry:</b> Donna Weinstein	weinstein804@gmail.com
<b>Director of Music Ministry:</b>	
Karen Hepler	karenhepler@comcast.net
<b>Altar Guild Leader:</b> Nancy Miller	jr_nsmiller@verizon.net
<b>Social Ministry/Global Missions Leaders:</b>	
Beth Wise	bswise1212@msn.com
Patt Shumaker	610-296-8761
Nancy Miller	jr_nsmiller@verizon.net
<b>Hospitality Team Leader:</b>	
Karen Winning	kwinning11@aol.com
<b>Prayer Chain Coordinator:</b>	prayers@centenniallutheran.org
Jerene Gladfelter	
<b>Pastor</b>	
Rev. Dr. Dolores E. Littleton	Drdee3@gmail.com