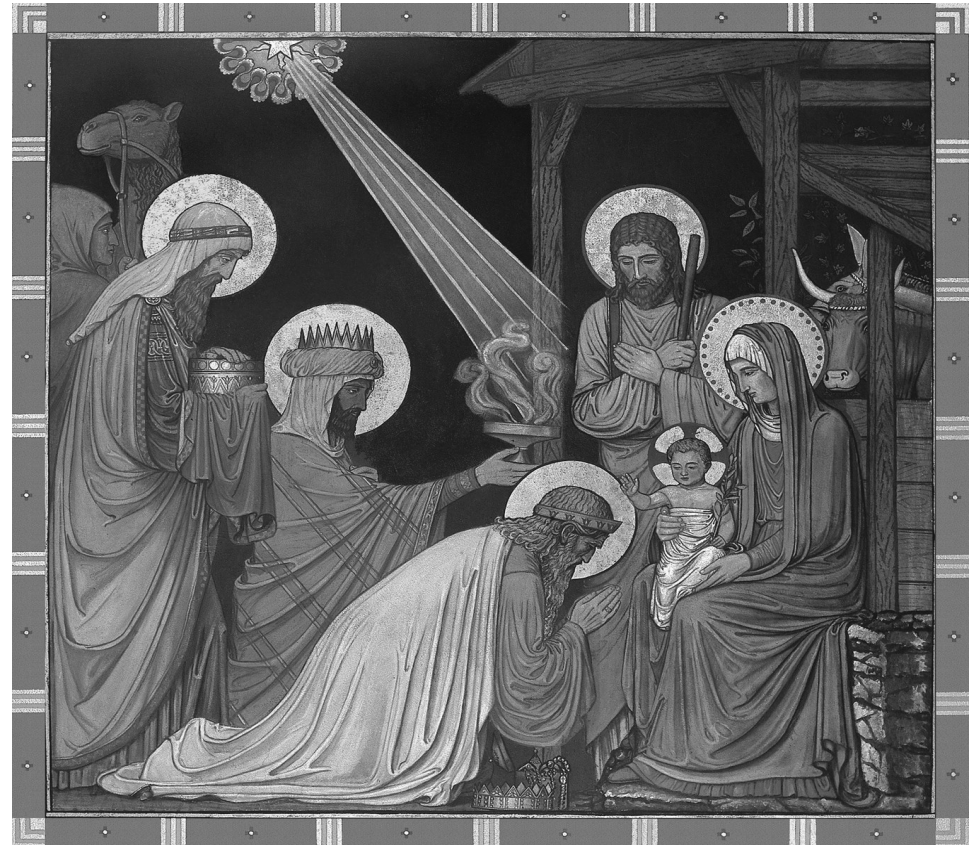


# CENTER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



**Sunday Worship Service 9:00 am**

**Sunday School 10:15 am**

**Fellowship Time (last Sunday of the month)**

**[centerlutheran.weebly.com](http://centerlutheran.weebly.com)**

**TO KNOW CHRIST AND TO MAKE CHRIST KNOWN TO THE WORLD!**

# VICAR'S PAGE

2017 is a special year in the Lutheran church. It's the 500th anniversary of the Reformation! It's a time to remember to the past and be grateful to God for the reforms brought to the church by individuals like Martin Luther. Luther brought us a gospel message of grace through faith, not through works. This message is just as relevant today as it was 500 years ago and we, as a church are called to proclaim and live out the gospel message.

We do this as a church through the three "expressions" of the church. First, here at Center. Our local congregation is in a community. We are called to be light in the darkness. Through our service to our neighbors, events that we run throughout the year, and the outreach that we do, we are proclaiming the message of Jesus to those around us – our neighbors.

Second, the synod. Synod means walking together. And that's what we do through the synod. We walk together with other ELCA congregations in proclaiming God's love to south central PA. The synod is a valuable resource and makes sharing the Gospel message more effective in the larger area. The synod makes it possible for me to be serving at Center, works with hunger agencies to feed many in our region, and does faith formation through the Lutheran Camping Corporation, among so many other things.

Lastly, church wide. The last expression of the church is the national church. This doesn't mean that it is the most important. Rather, it serves to proclaim the gospel by working with synods and congregations on a national and international level. Through the church wide structure the church is able to support disaster relief efforts like Lutheran World Relief, continue ecumenical dialogue for understanding with our brothers and sisters in Christ in other denominations, and work with seminaries and candidacy committees as they prepare future leaders within the church.

As you can see 2017 isn't just an opportunity to look back, but it is also an opportunity to look forward and be a part of Christ's mission to the world. Let us go forward into that challenge with faith, hope, and love.

Vicar Matthew

**John would prepare the way of the Lord, according to which prophet? (Matthew 3:3)**

**Where did John preach? (Mark 1:4)**

**What was John's main message? (Mark 1:4)**

**What was John's clothing made of? (Matthew 3:4)**

**What was John's diet? (Matthew 3:4)**

**What did John call the Pharisees and Sadducees who came to watch him baptize people? (Matthew 3:7)**

**What did John say about the man who would come after him? (Mark 1:7)**

**Who did the people think John was? (Luke 3:15)**

**What is one of the primary purposes of baptism? (Luke 3:3)**

**John said he baptized with water, and that Jesus Christ would baptize with: (Luke 3:16)**

**Why was John confused when Jesus came to him to be baptized? (Matthew 3:14)**

**Why did Jesus need to be baptized? (Matthew 3:15)**

**By what method was Jesus baptized? (Mark 1:10)**

**What form did the Spirit momentarily take following Jesus' baptism? (Luke 3:22)**

**Whose voice could be heard from heaven following Jesus' baptism? (Matthew 3:17)**

**What did the voice from heaven say after Jesus was baptized, according to the record of the apostle Matthew?**

## 2017 Council Members

Sally Kramer , President

Peggy Bloser, Vice President

Melody Zary, Secretary

Susan Zimmerman, Treasurer

Michael Zimmerman

Donna Gutshall

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT ...

Name: Peggy Bloser

Birthdate: November 30th

### What is your favorite Bible passage?

Psalms 115:15

### What is your favorite song?

*How Great Thou Art*

### Where have you seen God?

I have seen and see God everyday. With the beautiful snowfall of Winter. The Spring thaw when nature comes alive, leaves popping out on trees, flowers blooming and birds singing. Then comes fall and beautiful colors of trees. Look around! God gives us great family, friends and love in our hearts! What a great like, what a great country. What a great God! He is everywhere!

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

Sundays at 10:15 am

All ages are invited!

Adults of all ages .... studying Hosea, Joel and Amos

Kids of all ages .... studying All in One

If you have anything for the newsletter please send to Amy's email [singer25537@gmail.com](mailto:singer25537@gmail.com) or phone (717)977-7088

**before Friday, February 17th.**

# CONGREGATION NEWS

**Congregational Meeting— January 22nd—10:15 am**

**Please bring your questions, highlights of the year, and ideas for 2017.**

**Congregational Council Meeting—January 29th—11:00 am**

**All council members should be present.**

## Peanut Butter Egg-travaganza

**Every Saturday**

**January 14, 21, 28**

**February 11, 18, 25**

**8:00 am—11:00 am**

**This shift will make the eggs.**

**1:00 pm—3:00 pm**

**This shift will coat and bag the eggs.**

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

**\*Order forms are attached ... start ordering now!!**

**Orders available starting January 14, 2017**



CHILDREN, YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

Kids KLUB

Gathers the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays

6:00 pm—7:30 pm

January 3 and 17

February 7 and 21



Happy  
Birthday!

January

Doug Reisinger , Sr. 1/9

Odessa Kraly 1/14

Aurora Starr 1/17

Erin Gipe 1/17

Michael Zimmerman 1/17

Colton Zinn 1/22

February

Justin Lowery 2/5

Ashlyn Zary 2/7



Cards and/or letters would be appreciated by all!

If we forgot your birthday or anniversary, please let us know!