

# Central Scene

Central Presbyterian Church



## Church Mission Statement

To celebrate God's love, nurture growth, share our faith, and serve the needs of others

## Church Membership

Membership in Central Presbyterian Church is open to all who profess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. New members will be received upon baptism and profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith, or by letter of transfer.

## Luther the Translator



Luther, Melancthon, and Pomeranus translating the Bible, engraved in 1846. Islandora ID: 8583.

In October 2017, Presbyterians celebrated the 500th anniversary of a pre-digital tweet storm: Martin Luther's 95 Theses. The theses, which criticized the sale of indulgences by church officials, are considered the opening salvo in the Protestant Reformation, a movement that emphasized individual relationships with God and salvation through faith alone.

Luther was an early adapter of the printing press—the social media of the sixteenth century—and the most widely shared writer of his time. After the 95 Theses, which legend has it he nailed to the doors of Wittenberg's All Saints Church in 1517, Luther's translation of the Bible into German is his most consequential work. He began the translation in 1521, encouraged by Philipp Melancthon, a professor of Greek and theology at the University of Wittenberg where Luther also taught.

A vernacular Bible translation was central to Luther's radically democratic theology, which emphasized the primacy of Scripture and called for its availability in common languages.

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## Upcoming Events

### Sunday November 5<sup>th</sup>

Central will celebrate our 20th Anniversary at 6300 Trinity Drive TODAY! There will be a Turkey and Dressing Luncheon. Please come!

### Monday November 13<sup>th</sup>

PW Evening Circle 6:30pm

### Saturday November 18<sup>th</sup>

Central's Annual Bake Sale & Rummage Sale will be held Saturday November 18<sup>th</sup> from 8 am to 11:30 am. We are in need of cakes, pies, candies & casseroles. Please let Laura Cosner know if you are available to provide any of these goodies.

We also will be collecting items for our rummage sale. Some popular selling items in the past have been books, cookbooks & fashion jewelry. Please bring to the fellowship hall if you have items to donate.

### Sunday November 19<sup>th</sup>

Fellowship Potluck  
Session Meeting

### Choir Practice Wednesdays at 6:30pm

### Noon Bible Study Thursdays

### Evening Bible Study Thursdays at 6:30pm

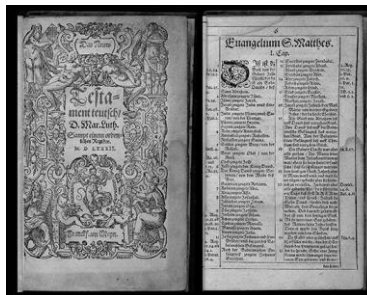
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Luther was an early adapter of the printing press—the social media of the sixteenth century—and the most widely shared writer of his time. After the 95 Theses, which legend has it he nailed to the doors of Wittenberg's All Saints Church in 1517, Luther's translation of the Bible into German is his most consequential work. He began the translation in 1521, encouraged by Philipp Melanchthon, a professor of Greek and theology at the University of Wittenberg where Luther also taught. A vernacular Bible translation was central to Luther's radically democratic theology, which emphasized the primacy of Scripture and called for its availability in common languages.

German translations of the New Testament existed prior to Luther's version, but those referenced the Latin Vulgate—the official Bible of the Catholic Church which Luther criticized in his Theses. Desiderius Erasmus had published a 1516 New Testament in Greek and Latin, a work Luther used to translate his New Testament into German. First printed in September 1522, the "September Testament" does not include Luther's name on the title page, an elision meant to limit church reprisals. A year earlier, after being condemned by Holy Roman Emperor Charles V and excommunicated by Pope Leo X, Luther had taken refuge in Germany's Wartburg Castle.

Translating the Old Testament from Hebrew proved far more difficult than Luther's work with the New Testament. Wars, illness, and a lack of expertise in Hebrew slowed his progress to a virtual crawl, as did his insistence that the translation be relatable to all Germans. In his 1530 "Letter on Translating," Luther contended that the German translator "must not be led by the Hebrew words; he should make sure that he really understands the sense and ask himself: 'What would the German say in such-and-such an instance?'"

Luther was an experiential researcher, visiting local marketplaces in disguise to learn how ordinary Germans spoke. The application of his editorial philosophy led to some inventive interpolations. In the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Bible, he replaced the word "chameleon," which would have been unknown to sixteenth century Germans, with "weasel." It took Luther and a team of fellow scholars—including Melanchthon and Matthäus Aurogallus, a professor of Hebrew—twelve years to translate and publish the entire Old Testament. An abiding struggle was making the Old Testament prophets sound German. As Luther wrote, "We have often spent a fortnight, or even three or four weeks, over a single word....Now that it is finished anybody can read it easily and smoothly....Little does [the reader] realize how we sweated and strained to remove those obstacles." The Pentateuch appeared in September 1523, and publication of the prophet books soon followed. Luther lectured at the University of Wittenberg based on his translations. German printers published many of his lectures.



Luther's New Testament in German.  
Above issue printed in Frankfurt, 1582.

The first complete Luther Bible was printed in 1534, including the Old and New Testaments and the Apocrypha. Luther did not think the Bible's books equally important—those that emphasized Jesus Christ he deemed authentic scripture; others (such as Revelation) he subordinated. While some criticized Luther for his textual relocations, others attacked him for editing passages to fit his preferred theology. Despite such criticisms, many German readers regarded his Bible as a work of literary genius, the way English readers would come to revere the King James Bible in the seventeenth century. Luther's Testaments had a lasting impact on German letters, popularizing the Saxon dialect as a standard regional vernacular.

As with the 95 Theses, the printing press helped to make Luther's Bible a popular success; a single Wittenberg publisher created 100,000 copies between 1534 and 1574. Luther's work went on to inspire other Biblical translations across Europe, including those in English by William Tyndale ("The Great Bible") and Myles Coverdale ("The Geneva Bible"), the latter of which the Puritans would bring to America.

PHS holds editions of [Reformation Bibles](#). Find images about the [Protestant Reformation](#) using our online archives: [www.history.pcusa.org/pearl](http://www.history.pcusa.org/pearl). Download the church bulletin insert "Luther's Bible" from our [Reformation Sunday page](#).

# November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Choir Practice 6:30 pm	9 Noon Bible Study Evening Bible Study at 6:30	10	11 Women Cook Day
12	13 PW Circle Meeting 6:30 pm	14	15 Choir Practice 6:30 pm	16 Noon Bible Study Evening Bible Study at 6:30	17	18 Central's Annual Bake Sale & Rummage Sale
19 Fellowship Luncheon Session Meeting	20	21	22 Choir Practice 6:30 pm	23 Thanksgiving	24	25
26 Christ the King Sunday	27	28	29 Choir Practice 6:30 pm	30 Noon Bible Study Evening Bible Study at 6:30		

## Events

**Central's Annual  
Bake Sale & Rummage  
Sale**

**Noon Bible Study**  
Thursdays

**Choir Practice**  
Wednesdays at 6:30pm

**Evening Bible Study**  
Thursdays at 6:30pm

**Central's Annual  
Bake Sale & Rummage Sale** will  
be held Saturday November 18<sup>th</sup> from 8 am  
to 11:30 am. We are in need of cakes, pies,  
candies & casseroles. Please let Laura  
Cosner know if you are available to  
provide any of these goodies.

We also will be collecting items for our  
rummage sale. Some popular selling items  
in the past have been books, cookbooks &  
fashion jewelry. Please bring to the  
fellowship hall if you have items to donate.

**The church Women are having "cook day"  
to prepare for our annual Bake sale.  
Please plan to help!**

**PW Evening Circle  
Monday November 15<sup>th</sup>  
6:30pm**

**Sunday November 19<sup>th</sup>  
Fellowship Potluck  
Session Meeting**

### **Central Presbyterian Church**

6300 Trinity Drive  
P.O. Box 1105  
Pine Bluff, AR 71613  
...a congregation of the  
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
through Synod of the Sun and  
the Presbytery of Arkansas.

#### **Directory**

Office Number (870) 879-9074  
Email: office@centralprespb.com  
Website: www.centralprespb.com

#### **Pastor:**

Reverend Jai D. Kwak  
pastor@centralprespb.com

#### **Secretary:**

Justine Anton

#### **Nursery Attendants:**

Laura & Zac Cosner

**Treasurer &  
Clerk of the Session:**  
Betty Coles

**Presbyterian Women Moderator:**  
Kay Cromwell

#### **SESSION**

##### **Class of 2017**

Denise Mosley  
Laura Cosner  
Betty Coles (Clerk)  
Weston Mosley

##### **Class of 2018**

Kay Cromwell  
Mike Kelley  
Lynda Vick  
Bill VonTungeln

#### **Standing Committee Moderators:**

Betty Coles	Budget & Finance
Laura Cosner	Fellowship & Nurture
Kay Cromwell	Missions & Outreach
Mike Kelley	Building & Grounds
Denise Mosley	Education
Lynda Vick	Worship & Music

#### **Newsletter Deadline**

The deadline for the December issue  
of Central Scene is Friday November  
17. Please let us know if you would like  
to continue your subscription by  
emailing us at

## Daily Scripture Readings September 2017

<b>22nd Sunday after Pentecost November 5, 2017</b>	<b>Josh. 3:7-17</b>	<b>Psalm 107:1- 7, 33-37</b>	<b>1 Thess. 2:9- 13</b>	<b>Matthew 23:1-12</b>
<b>23rd Sunday after Pentecost November 12, 2017</b>	<b>Josh. 24:1- 3a, 14-25</b>	<b>Psalm 78:1-7</b>	<b>1 Thess. 4:13-18</b>	<b>Matthew 25:1-13</b>
<b>24th Sunday after Pentecost November 19, 2017</b>	<b>Judges 4:1-7</b>	<b>Psalm 123</b>	<b>1 Thess. 5:1-11</b>	<b>Matthew 25:14-30</b>
<b>Christ the King Sunday November 26 2017</b>	<b>Ezek. 34:11- 16, 20-24</b>	<b>Psalm 100</b>	<b>Eph. 1:15-23</b>	<b>Matthew 25:31-46</b>

## History of Hymns:

by C. Michael Hawn

### "To God Be the Glory"

Fanny J. Crosby

How hymns travel throughout space and time is fascinating. "To God be the glory" was included in William Doane's *Songs of Devotion* in 1870, indicating that it was written at least five years earlier than the 1875 date that is usually cited.

Ira Sankey probably saw the hymn in Doane's collection and incorporated it into the first edition of his *Sacred Songs and Solos* (1875). Dwight Moody and Ira Sankey helped to establish the hymn's popularity during their revivals in Great Britain in the late 19th century. It also appeared in some British hymnals including the *Methodist Hymn Book* (1933).

However, it was not until the 1954 Billy Graham Crusade in Nashville that Cliff Barrows introduced this song to congregations in the United States. Mr. Graham and Mr. Barrows had learned the song during the 1952 revivals they had conducted in Great Britain.

### A hymn's journey

Hymnologist William J. Reynolds, writing in his hymnal companion *Hymns of Faith* (1964), documented the return of this hymn to the USA: "It is most extraordinary that this long-forgotten American gospel song should have been imported from England and become immensely popular during the last decade."

Frances Jane Crosby's hymns have historically been among the most popular songs sung by Methodists. Crosby (1820-1915), who became blind as an infant, was a lifelong Methodist.

She began composing hymns at age 6, became a student at the New York Institute of the Blind at 15 and joined the faculty of the Institute at 22, teaching rhetoric and history. Her hymn texts were staples for the music of the most prominent gospel songwriters of her day.

In this hymn, the primary focus of God's actions is on the redemption of humanity through Jesus Christ. The second line of the first stanza, "So loved he the world that he gave us his Son," echoes John 3:16.

The second stanza, though referring to "the promise of God," centers on Christ, the "perfect redemption, the purchase of blood." In the third stanza, the pronoun "he" is somewhat vague in its reference: Is "he" referring to God or to Jesus? The focus is again on Christ who is "our wonder [and] our transport," and the one that we long to see in glory.

### Blurred lines

Theologically, the author blurs the actions of the Father and the work of the Son. The concluding phrase of the refrain contributes to this: "O come to the Father through Jesus the Son, and give *him* the glory, great things he hath done."

Perhaps this may seem like a trivial point. But this is likely an indication of the supremacy of Christ in the theology of evangelicals in the late 19th and early 20th century—and indeed to this day.

Few gospel songs express gratitude to God as creator of the universe or to God's providence in our lives. For evangelicals, God's primary role is often found in the gift of Jesus Christ, the redeemer of the world and God's greatest gift to humanity—the thesis of John 3:16.

## To God Be the Glory

1 To God be the glory,  
great things he has done;  
so loved he the world  
that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life  
an atonement for sin,  
and opened the life-gate  
that all may go in.

### Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;  
let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;  
let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father  
through Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory;  
great things he has done.

2 O perfect redemption,  
the purchase of blood,  
to every believer the promise of God;  
the vilest offender who truly believes,  
that moment from  
Jesus a pardon receives.

### [Refrain]

3 Great things he has taught us,  
great things he has done,  
and great our rejoicing  
through Jesus the Son;  
but purer and higher  
and greater will be  
our wonder, our transport,  
when Jesus we see.

### [Refrain]



# HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

"And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be **THANKFUL**..." Colossians 3:15 ESV

I am **THANKFUL** for:

Help the turkey get to the acorn!



Color these!



Tic Tac Toe


Word Search

N	N	R	O	C	T	N	C	G	A
S	T	U	F	F	I	N	G	R	C
N	I	K	P	M	U	P	D	A	J
S	Q	U	A	S	H	H	J	V	L
H	T	U	R	K	E	Y	Y	Y	D

Corn

Gravy

Pumpkin

Squash

Stuffing

Turkey

You did it!!



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Central Presbyterian Church

P.O Box 1105

Pine Bluff, AR 71603



05     *Jayce Neal*  
06     *Rose VonTungeln*  
07     *Pat Drewett*  
08     *Jimmy Horn*  
11     *Jay Cromwell*

12     *Jane Judkins*  
14     *Marie Carmody Perdue*  
16     *Marie Bennett*  
21     *Scout Cromwell*  
25     *Allison Cromwell*

*If you or a family member has been omitted or would like to be added to the Birthday and Anniversary list, please contact the church office.*