

“As Christians based on the solid foundation of God’s Word, empowered by the Holy Spirit we strive to live out, lift up, and share our faith in Jesus Christ – welcoming all into our family of believers.”

**Redeemer Lutheran Church**  
**Annual Meeting**  
**January 20, 2013**

**Call to Order:** 12:30 p.m. - Joel Pralle

**Present:** 106 total (youth and voting members)

**Opening Devotion** – Pastor Koglin

**Approval of Previous Voters’ Assembly Minutes-** May 20, 2012

**Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried.**

**2012 Treasurer’s Report** – Sue Walch

Mortgage balance \$232,595 from \$440,004 at the end of 2012. Many large bequests were made to the mortgage, increasing income and payments. Available cash balance of \$88,845. Sue praised God for our increased mission giving over budget from \$91,000 to \$111,512.

**Motion made and seconded to approve the 2011 Treasurer’s Report. Motion carried.**

**Staff Reports**

**Pastor Heining (p.8):** Pastor welcomed the many confirmands attending the meeting. Average worship attendance for 2012 was the highest it has been in almost a decade, at 529, for which he is thankful.

**Pastor Koglin (p.8):** 2012 has been a whirlwind year, with many “firsts”. His goal continues to be getting to know Redeemer’s families, names and stories. He invited all to give him feedback, as he is here to serve.

**DCE:**

Michael reminded the assembly of last year’s proposal to invite a DCE Intern to train at Redeemer, and funds were set aside for this. Due to the number of youth activities planned this summer, it was decided that moving this forward, with congregational approval, would better serve an intern and Redeemer. The Lord is blessing us through active youth leadership. Michelle Braehm stepped down as Nursery Coordinator after 10 years of service, and Anna Koglin is the new Coordinator, working on safe nursery policies. Michael recently returned from the NADCE conference, which focused on “Sticky Faith”. The topic addressed how we can ensure our youth grow up seeing and hearing the faith of all generations

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so that when they leave their church home, their faith sticks and comes off on others like burrs! We need to practice this together and continually.

**DPM:**

April recalls that last year she was anticipating travelling to St. Louis to interview Pastoral candidates at this time. She thanks all who stepped up while she was on maternity leave, and thanks the Staff for supporting her as she transitions back. She is looking forward to what is ahead.

**Youth Coordinator:**

Lynora Miller referred to the written report on p. 9. February will be busy with Pizza Ranch, subs and the Valentine’s Dinner. The youth are running the programs, with adults as guides. Bethesda changes will not make participation possible this year, after almost 20 years of participation. Hopefully, it may be possible again in the future.

**Parish Nurse/Health Cabinet:**

Jan Dicke stated the mission of the Health Cabinet and Parish Nurse as providing information and support to help keep members well enough to stay away from expensive healthcare. This area has been updated on the church website. Cholesterol screenings will be provided in February and May. Health Forums during the Sunday School hour will begin on February 17; 4 of the 6 speakers will be Redeemer members.

**Officer, Board and Ministry Team Reports**

**President’s Report:**

Joel Pralle (Vice President) presented on behalf of Larry Stoen. Work on identifying a new goal for Redeemer has been the recent focus. The Nominating Committee is beginning to gather names, and he asks that if you are approached you might prayerfully consider such a request.

**Board of Church Growth:**

Note a name change to Growth Through Outreach, “GTO”.

**Board of Education:**

Dean Jensen filled in to teach 8th Grade confirmation last year and is grateful to have Pastor Koglin in place this year. He and others are working to fill the Education Ministry Teams that need help as they move forward.

**Mission Update:**

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Pastor Heining noted that Ginger Lagergren will return at the beginning of March, and will give an update during the Sunday School hour at the beginning of April.

## **New Business**

### **New Redeemer Goal:**

The previous goal, that all members would be active participants in Redeemer’s mission, ended in January 2012. Joel presented a new goal for 2013, on behalf of the Council, to the congregation for approval “**We will challenge each individual and each group in the congregation to grow in living out, lifting up and sharing our faith in Jesus Christ**”. Discussion followed on how this will look in action, with such applications as Lenten sermons, lifting up those who live out the mission by serving and service opportunities. Youth and adults shared ways in which this is happening daily.

**Motion made and seconded to approve the 2013 Congregational Goal as stated. Motion carried.**

### **Update on POBLO missionary A. G. Paul:**

Pastor Paul Haugen informed the congregation of a recent change in the status of A.G. Paul. On Friday, due to personal issues, he returned with Pastor Khan, the director of POBLO, to Detroit, with a possible return to Pakistan. He expressed sadness, but supported the decision. Mesgana Morris, also a POBLO missionary, will remain in Rochester and is in the process of setting up his office space at 5<sup>th</sup> Ave/3<sup>rd</sup> Street, in an apartment building owned by Trinity. He is from Milwaukee, WI, and his father was from Gambia, a convert from Islam to Christianity. Moving forward, Pastor Khan’s wife, Cynthia, is a certified ESL trainer, and will be looking for volunteers willing to be trained to work with immigrants learning English. Other local immigrants are coming forward with offers to help Pastor Mesgana. Pastor Haugen marveled at what God is doing with this ministry. Pastor Mesgana spoke about POBLO’s mission to serve local immigrants in order to earn the right to be heard and teach about Christ. It is an ethnic mission, reaching out to all. He extended an open invitation to meet with him, and he can be reached at 414-241-9434.

### **Recommendations for Mission Projects for 2013:**

Patti Tackman presented options for Together in Mission. Ginger’s assignment will end in February. Stewardship Team members made choices from names provided by the St. Louis Together in Missions office. These were reviewed and the congregation voted by a show of hands. Coral Rose, serving South Africa, was chosen. Her work enables missionaries to concentrate on evangelism and human care ministries. Pastor Thwala, a native missionary currently working with Ginger, is also in need of funding, as his support will be ending. Pastor Heining has been working on this, and it has been recommended that the Lutheran Church in S. Africa submit a grant pro-

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posal to LCMS Missions so that proper procedure can be followed. This may be ready for consideration at the May Voters’ Meeting. Special missions, outlined on pp.15-16 were recommended for approval.

**Motion made and seconded to approve Mission Offerings for 2103. Motion carried.**

**Proposed Ministry Budget for 2013:**

**Motion made and seconded, with noted change of date as 2013, top of p. 17, to approve 2013 Budget as written. Motion carried.**

**Meeting adjourned: 1:50 p.m.**

**Closing Prayer – Pastor Heining**