

**MINUTES OF
Redeemer Lutheran Church
Annual Voters' Meeting
May 22, 2007**

There were 51 voting members present at today's meeting.

I. Opening Devotions

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Ruth Weispfenning at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, May 22, 2007. It opened with a devotion by Pastor Jim.

II. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as printed.

III. Reports

Staff Members:

Administrative Pastor: Pastor Jim Heining

We have been blessed during the first months of 2007 with average attendance rising to 557, up from 516 last year. He is expecting great things from the Planning Committee, and looking forward to celebrating our church's 75th Anniversary in 2008. A new theme and goal for next year will be determined soon. He has attended several meetings of the District Board of Directors and will be representing our circuit at the Synodical Conference in July in Houston, Texas. The Nominating Committee has been working hard and has completed their task of getting a full slate, which will be voted on today.

Assistant Pastor: Pastor Rance Settle has lots of things going on. He recently participated in a HIPAA presentation, which is concerned with privacy issues in regard to health care, etc. He attended a Stephen Leader training in Orlando, attended PALS meetings with other first-year pastors and their families, taught Bible studies, assisted with confirmation events, sang with the Spring Choir, and helped facilitate the new Welcome Center in the narthex. He is looking forward to getting more involved with several of our groups to see where he can help their missions for the future.

Director of Christian Education: Michael Harvey said his report is in the bulletin regarding the summer period and church year. Senior high youth are very busy this time of year, and he is using MySpace and Facebook to keep in touch with them. He reported that he has applied to KINDLE, which is a program to help Michael to better equip others to serve. He still needs to be officially accepted. Ladies of the church have offered to help with his expenses.

Director of Parish Music: April Beckman has had a great year with beautiful singers participating. She is very thankful to be at Redeemer. The highlight of her year is the adoption of the new Lutheran Service Book by our congregation. She continues to take organ lessons at Concordia and is working on a recital program. April is also looking at possibly adding a youth choir for next year, and keeps busy planning music for the upcoming seasons.

Youth Coordinator: Lynora Miller reported that they have been working hard to keep the senior youth involved with activities. Some upcoming events are paint balling, a sleep in after which they did some service work including some lawns and the Bethesda resale shop. There are plans to go to Valley Fair, and the annual trip to Bethesda, plus the Youth Conference in Florida.

Parish Nurse: Jan Dicke attended a networking meeting with Parish Nurses in Mankato. The recruitment director at the Mayo Clinic reported that 78 Redeemer members had given blood, and as a thank you, they can get free tickets to a Honkers baseball game. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Two cholesterol screenings have been held, three nurse members have expressed an interest in working with the health program at Redeemer, and working on scheduling flu shots for this Fall.

At this point, Ruth Weispfenning thanked our staff for our good fortune in having them as part of our congregation.

The **Treasurer's Report** was printed with the information packet. A question was raised as to the RCLS figure included in the budget. Is this a proper stewardship of our funds? And questions were raised as to the amount spent on children attending RCLS as opposed to those who don't go, but attend our Sunday School. When everything is taken into consideration, the amounts are pretty even. A motion was made, seconded and passed that we accept the Treasurer's Report as printed.

Board Reports:

Board of Elders: Joel Pralle, reported the Elders continue to assist the Pastors, Michael and April with our yearly theme. They continue to contact the inactive members in their assigned zones, and have invited the newly-elected Elders to attend the June meeting in order to help them get integrated faster. The new terms actually begin on August 1.

Board of Trustees: Ed Feeder, Chairman, has enjoyed working with the people of Redeemer. Some of the recent projects completed are re-installation of visitor signs in the parking lot, purchase of a larger tractor which has proven to be great in last winter's snow, have scheduled a clean-up day for twice each year, working on upcoming maintenance change – both in schedule and personnel, and working to fine tune our security.

Board of Education: George Poch, Chairman, reported that there are lots of people involved in education at Redeemer. They are looking at Sunday School curriculum for next year, and said there was a lot of time spent on reformatting the RCLS Tuition Policy. Ardith Fister was remembered at the Teachers' Recognition Day at the Sunday School.

Board of Stewardship: There was no one present from this Board to report.

Board of Fund Development: John Sprenger – We presently have \$66,000 in C.D.'s at Concordia, and with various other designated funds, there is just a little over \$80,000 balance. He urged those members aged 70-1/2 who are required to take a Minimum Distribution from retirement funds to consider a direct roll-over to LCEF. There is no tax liability if handled appropriately.

Board of Church Growth: Pastor Rance – brought attention to the completion of the new Welcome Center which has been placed in the Narthex. We are presently working with the Woodcarvers to provide us with a sign to be placed on three sides of the Center. The new Church Directory was a huge success with 73% of our members having their pictures taken for the Directory. A national average runs about 26%. He thanked the Bonsi's for the great job they did in overseeing this project. Also, our New Member Welcome Sundays have taken on a new look for the remainder of 2007.

Board of Family Life: Shirley Fingerson, Co-Chair, reported on the following activities which took place at Redeemer since January, 2007: Valentine's Parents' Night Out; Adult Bunco Game Night; Roller Skating at Harmony, MN; Easter Egg Hunt; and Games and a poster at the Celebration Fair. They are working on more activities for the future.

Board of Human Concerns; No one was present from this Board to report.

Health Cabinet: Don Knick, Chairman, said that the AED would be introduced the following Sunday. He talked a bit about household preparedness for emergencies or disasters, and said this would be a topic that will be revisited during the coming year.

RLCW/LWML: Connie Bennett, had no report to give in the absence of the Chairwoman.

Redeemer Lutheran Church Planning Committee: Paul Rengsdorf, Facilitator,
Five themes were gleaned from the questionnaires turned in by the congregation:

1. Growing in Faith
2. Serving one another
3. Giving thanks to God
4. Welcoming all
5. Living out and lifting up the Gospel

So are the Committee has done Steps 1 and 2 and will concentrate on the others during the coming year.

III. Unfinished Business

There was none to bring forward at today's meeting.

IV. New Business

a. Election of Officers.

A motion was made to accept the ballot as presented. The motion was seconded and passed.

b. RCLS Tuition –

George Poch explained the new RCLS Tuition Subsidy Program. The question was raised as to whether or not we were paying more to RCLS for a few children than we were spending on our other students in the Congregation. Pastor Jim pointed out that when all the time of the staff, etc., is figures in, we will have spent between \$150,000 and \$200,000 compared to the \$29,000 we spend at RCLS.

Lonnie Strohschein explained the SCRIP Program. We get a payback which is split between our congregation and RCLS. SCRIP will be on sale between Sunday services. A motion was made, seconded and carried that we allow this Program to be implemented at Redeemer.

c. 75th Anniversary of Redeemer Church in 2008

We will be celebrating the 75th anniversary of the founding of Redeemer Lutheran Church in 2008. Volunteers are being sought to serve on a committee to plan activities for the year.

d. EPT – Emergency Preparedness Team

Don Knick reported he had attended a Conference on April 25 sponsored by several health institutions. A Preparedness Team would help to equip spiritual leaders to minister in the event of emergencies – both natural and man-made. We are looking for people with special talents to serve on this Team. A Motion was made, second and carried that we go ahead with appointing an Emergency Preparedness Team here at Redeemer.

There was no other new business.

Ruth Weispfenning, President, closed the meeting with comments and reflections of the past year in our congregation.

1. A tribute to Troy Reinke whose untimely death occurred, and took the President of our congregation.
2. Our impending Mortgage shortfall
3. Significant budget shortages
4. Pastor Rance and April Beckman have been good additions to our staff. She thanked all staff members and members of the Church Council for their services.

Upcoming – our Planning Committee to look at the past, the present, and where we want to go in the future.

The 75th Anniversary of our Congregation next year.

Our theme for this year – “Lord, teach us to pray.”

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M. and closed with prayer led by Pastor Rance.

Respectfully submitted,
Elaine Gittus, Secretary