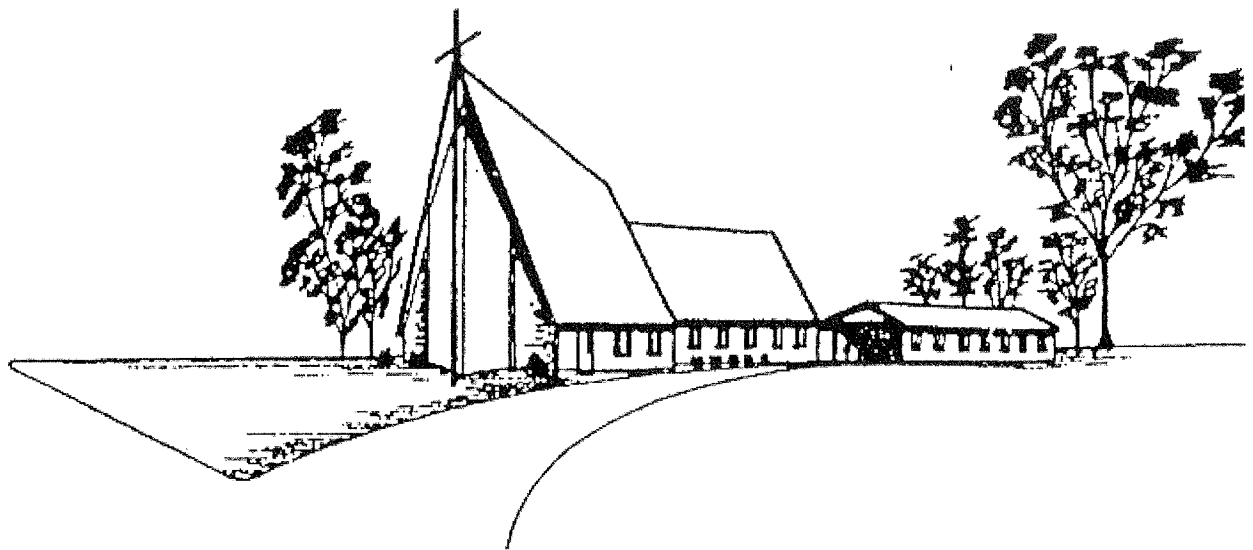


ANNUAL REPORT

2017



REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
1300 E Nora
Thief River Falls, MN 56701

**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA
SUNDAY JANUARY 28, 2018 10:30AM**

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Devotions**
- III. Secretary's Reports**
- IV. Elections**
 - a. Report of the Nominating Committee
 - b. Nominations from the floor
 - c. Appointment of tellers
 - d. Distribution of ballots/voting
- V. Review of reports**
 - a. Committee Reports
 - b. Organization Reports
 - c. Treasurer's Report
 - d. Audit Report
- VI. Unfinished Business**
 - a.
 - b.
- VII. New Business**
 - a. 2018 Budget: Review & Proposal
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
- VIII. Report of Election**
- IX. Adjournment**
- X. Lord's Prayer**

Unapproved REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 29, 2017

I. Call to Order:

Eric Tjelle called the meeting to order at 10:30 am in the sanctuary of Redeemer Lutheran Church. Church Council members who were present introduced themselves.

II. Devotions:

Pastor John Wollenzien gave Devotions.

III. Secretary's Report:

The minutes of the January 31, 2016 minutes were reviewed.

Judy Reger moved to accept the minutes as submitted, second by Jan Dillon. Motion carried.

IV. Elections:

- a. Report of Nominating Committee was reviewed.
- b. There were no nominations from the floor.
- c. Appointments of tellers not completed related to motion.
- d. Distribution of ballots/voting not completed related to motion.

Pat Kruta moved to approve the ballot as written, second by Mike Parker. Motion carried.

Election results:

Council: Three year terms: Shelley Steva, Stacy Davidson, Brenda Poe, Brooks Vigen. One year term: Diedre Nordin.

Financial Oversight Committee: no nominees

Donald Erickson Foundation Board: no nominees

Nominating Committee: One year term: Julie K. Olson

Delegates to the Synod Assembly: Eric Tjelle

V. Review of Reports:

- a. Committee Reports printed in the Annual Report
- b. Organization Reports printed in the Annual Report
- c. Treasurer's Reports printed in the Annual Report
- d. Pastor's Report none to report
- e. Audit Report printed in Annual Report

Reid Froiland remarked that the attendance average was actually higher then was printed in the Annual Report under Church Statistics.

Jan Nordin made a motion to approve the reports as written, with the acknowledgement of the attendance discrepancy, second by Dale Dillon. Motion carried.

VI. Unfinished Business:

Reviewed Special Savings Policy proposal: There was a clarification by Lavonne Forsberg that the stained glass windows fund was to include interior and exterior lighting with timers to highlight the windows and name plaques to recognize donors.

Myron Peterson made a motion to approve the Special Savings Policy as submitted, second by Chris Cuppett. Motion carried.

VII. New Business:

- a. 2017 Budget Review & Proposal: Discussed the items that have affected the budget from last year and this year, such as not having a full time pastor and the secretary hour changes with the eventual new secretary position. One correction needs to be noted in the submitted budget. Worship Committee Expense should be \$750 not \$400. Discussed how new full time interim pastor, Pastor Darrel Cory will be starting March 1, 2017. He has been trained as an intentional interim pastor to assist churches in defining themselves to be able to call the pastor that best meets their needs. He is contracted to us for one year. The Contract is renewable as we need. If we find a new pastor before one year we need to give Pastor Cory a 30 day notice. Should he decide that the interim position does not work for him, Pastor Cory needs to give us a 60 day notice. Call Committee activities will be on hold for the first three months of the interim pastor's term.

Dick Reger made a motion to accept the budget with the correction as noted for Worship Committee Expense, second by Jan Milender. Motion carried.

- b. Special Savings Policy Proposal: Discussion to add a line to Special Savings Policy to say "Should a financial need arise, a short term loan may be derived from the Capital Improvement Category only for a term of less than two years." Discussed that if there is any financial need it would make more sense to pull from Capital Improvement vs. getting a bank loan. If the church is heading into financial issues, this will be communicated in the bulletin and the monthly newsletter to keep the congregation informed of the impending need to utilize Capital Improvement short term loan option.

Cecil Anderson moved to add the statement proposed into the Special Savings Policy, second by Darlene Kelly. Motion carried.

- c. Constitution Update: Due to the dissolution of Redeemer Luther Church and Black River Lutheran Church as a parish, the *Constitution of Redeemer Lutheran Church* needs to be updated. On the cover, the date needs to be changed to 2017. On page 11, item C13.05. Proposed change reads as follows: "When a pastoral vacancy occurs, a **Call Committee** of an odd number of seven (7) or more voting members shall be elected by the Congregational Council. Term of office will terminate upon installation of the newly called pastor."

Myron Peterson moved to accept the Constitution amendment as proposed, second by Bev Thompson. Motion carried.

Copies of the updated *Constitution of Redeemer Lutheran Church* will be placed in the March newsletter for all congregation members.

Eric Tjelle took this opportunity to thank all those who have stepped up and supported the church work flow and congregation support during the absence of a full time pastor and until an interim pastor could start.

VIII. Report of Election:

As stated in item IV.

IX. Adjournment:

Bev Thompson moved to adjourn the Annual meeting, second by Dick Reger. Motion carried.

X. Meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer and Table Grace.

Respectfully submitted:

Brenda E. Russ

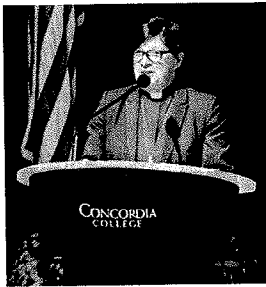
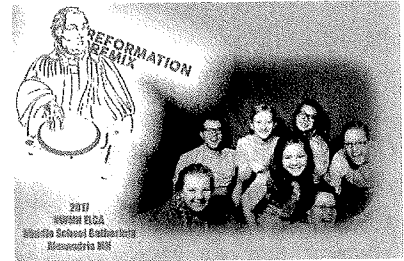


2017 Bishop's Report to the Northwestern Minnesota Synod, ELCA

For Annual Meetings of the Congregations

From Bishop Lawrence R. Wohlrabe *pictured here preaching at the 2017 NW MN Synod Middle School Youth Gathering in Alexandria.*

WE ENGAGED THE NEXT GENERATION at synod youth gatherings in March, April and November that reached hundreds of middle and high-schoolers. Their theme, *Reformation Remix*, invited youth and adult leaders into deep conversations about contemporary issues in light of God's unconditional promise and love in Christ. Hundreds of NW MN Synod young people are registered to attend the ELCA Youth Gathering, *This Changes Everything*, next summer in Houston, TX.



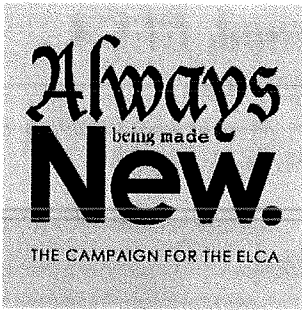
WE COMMEMORATED REFORMATION500 in a host of ways. *Lutherans Making a World of Difference* was the title for my bishop's monthly studies (<http://www.nwmnsynod.org/2017study>) Catholic and Lutheran ministers gathered at Trinity, Moorhead for a Joint Theological Day (April 20th) on the topic, *On the Way: Encountering Christ Together* with former ELCA presiding bishop Mark Hanson and Father John Crossin serving as keynoters. Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton (*see picture*) keynoted the Concordia College Symposium in September on the theme *Reformation: Transforming the World One Door At A Time*. An ecumenical Reformation worship service involving representatives of ELCA, Catholic, United Methodist, Moravian, United Church of Christ, Presbyterian and Episcopalian churches marked the conclusion of the symposium. On November 5th I joined Bishop Donald Kettler of the Diocese of St. Cloud for a stirring joint Catholic-Lutheran worship service at Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church in Fergus Falls.

WE WELCOMED NEW MINISTERS. During 2017, 25 congregations of the synod *welcomed new pastors and deacons*. Three of these pastors were ordained in 2017 to serve their first calls in the NW MN Synod: Pr. Kent Krumwiede, Peace and Grue of Ashby; Pr. Anne Meredith, Zion of Blackduck and Our Savior's of Kelliher; Pr. Elise Pokel, associate, Trinity of Crookston and First Presbyterian of Crookston. Deacon Jon Leiseth was consecrated as a Minister of Word and Service, serving in campus ministry at Concordia College. In addition, 19 lay persons with theological training are serving as Synodically Authorized Ministers in 27 congregations of the synod. Currently there are also 15 persons from our synod preparing for rostered ministries in the ELCA.



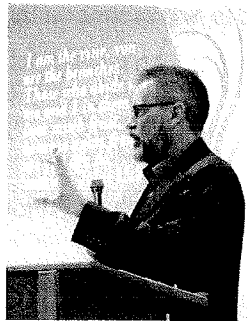
Pr. Anne Meredith (center) was ordained to serve the North Beltrami Parish, Blackduck and Kelliher.

WE CARED FOR THOSE WHO CARE FOR US: Starting in October the synod's pastoral staff began a series of *Together in Ministry* (TiM) visits: hour-long, one-on-one conversations with all pastors, deacons, and SAMs currently serving under Letters of Call or contracts in our synod. The purposes for TiM visits are to listen to one another and become better acquainted; to celebrate opportunities and identify challenges in ministry; to share support and encouragement; and to pray together. Thus far the synod pastoral staff have done TiM visits in four of the synod's eight conferences; the remaining four conferences will be visited in February 2018.



WE GAVE GENEROUSLY, running slightly ahead of last year’s giving toward ELCA/synod mission support (as of 11/30/2017). Congregations and individuals continued to support *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*. As of September 30, our synod had raised \$2,137,980 toward its \$4.75 million goal. Just one year after it was established, the *NWMN Synod Fund for Leaders Endowment* has received over \$175,000 in gifts for seminary student scholarships—including over \$33,000 from 125-member Little Norway Lutheran Church of Fertile.

WE GATHERED IN ASSEMBLY, with nearly 500 folks at Concordia College, Moorhead, for the *2017 NW MN Synod Assembly, June 9-10*, on the theme *Risky Business: Always Reforming*. Dr. Mark Tranvik of Augsburg College was the keynote speaker, and Ms. Molly Beck Dean of the ELCA Youth Gathering was our ELCA churchwide representative. The Assembly passed resolutions amending the synod constitution and bylaws; urging changes to ELCA churchwide governing documents to make more flexible the criteria for non-stipendiary calls and Synodically Authorized Ministers; and seeking reconciliation with and closer ties to our Native American neighbors. Two new synod officers were elected: Pr. Karla Mickelson as Synod Secretary and Ms. Catherine Dickey as Synod Treasurer.



Pr. Brad Skogen, Battle Lake, led one of our *Boundaries in Ministry* workshops.

WE HELPED SERVANT-LEADERS GROW at School for Lay Ministry classes on topics like *Creating Worship Vitality in Any Setting* (with Jay Beech) and *Bereavement: Reaching Out With Care and Healing* (with Pr. Gayle Bintliff). Two *Equipping Congregations Days* were held in Thief River Falls and Perham last February—with a keynote message on *We’ve Never Done It That Way Before* and a host of breakout groups on timely topics. The synod also co-sponsored learning events such as *Re-Rooting In God’s Mission* (last April), *Mission Interpreter Trainings* (in August and September), *Embracing Stewardship* (in October) and *Navigating Change in Changing Times* (in November). Pastors, deacons and synodically authorized ministers attended two *Boundaries in Ministry* workshops (in May) and our annual *Theology for Ministry Conference* at Fair Hills, with Dr. Winston Persaud from Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa (in September).

WE STARTED TO PONDER OUR SYNOD’S NEXT CHAPTER, following my announcement at June’s synod assembly that I will not be available for a third term as bishop. So, as we prepare to elect a new bishop in 2019, our synod council formed a 2019 Bishop Transition Commission, chaired by Pr. Matt Peterson of Trinity, Moorhead. The “bish commish” as they call themselves has engaged the services of Michelle Snyder with Crow’s Foot Consulting. Early in 2018 leaders in our congregations and synod will be invited to make their views known by way of a wide-ranging survey, called *The Landscape*. Findings from the Landscape will shape the drafting of a Ministry Site Profile (MSP)—similar to the MSPs that congregational call committees prepare—to lift up the hopes, dreams and gifts that we’ll seek in our next synod bishop. Please participate in this crucial process of spiritual discernment as we trust the Holy Spirit to guide us!

Thanks—as always!--for your congregation’s constant prayers, faithful partnership and generous financial giving as we continue to serve God’s mission in the world!

A Letter to God's People of the Northwestern Minnesota Synod, ELCA

Posted on January 1, 2018

January 1, 2018

Festival of the Name of Jesus

Dear Servants of Christ,

Greetings as we begin this New Year of God's grace. May 2018 bring you abundant joy, renewed hope in Christ, and rich opportunities to serve God's mission in the world!

Today I am pleased to announce some wonderful news. A generous donor who belongs to one of our synod's congregations has stepped forward to offer an exciting **matching gift challenge** to all of us during 2018.

In gratitude for God's many blessings in his life, the donor wishes to offer a dollar for dollar match for all gifts given by congregations, organizations or individuals to

- the **Northwestern Minnesota Synod Fund for Leaders Endowment** (to provide scholarships for ELCA seminary students from our synod), and/or
- the **Northwestern Minnesota Synod Next Generation Fund** (to provide grants for educational debt relief to pastors and deacons serving their first calls in our synod).

This matching gift challenge will apply to all contributions to these two funds that are mailed to the synod office between January 1, 2018 and December 31, 2018.

In addition to helping us address our need for more "homegrown" pastors and deacons in northwestern Minnesota, all gifts to the synod's Fund for Leaders Endowment also count toward our synod's \$4.75 million goal for the **Campaign for the ELCA**. (*Gifts to the Next Generation Fund do not count toward the ELCA Campaign.*)

Our friendly donor hopes that his **dollar for dollar matching gifts** will inspire and motivate us all to "shoot the moon" in contributing to these two funds, so that the cost of theological education for ministry will not hamper anyone from answering God's call to serve.

Please share this letter with your congregational council and fellow church members, and be on the lookout for additional information and promotional materials to help you and others response to this challenge during 2018. *God bless your faithful generosity!*

In Christ,

Lawrence R. Wohlrabe

Bishop, Northwestern Minnesota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



Church Statistics 2017

New Members

Arlene Huot	05/14/2017
Wyatt and Sara Johnson	05/14/2017
Dolores Ault	05/14/2017
Patrick and Elizabeth Jahn	05/14/2017
Pat and Heather Thibert	10/08/2017
Jason and Mandy Schuster	10/08/2017

Baptisms

Emilie Grace Martin	2/12/2017
Kyesser Lee Klaven	3/25/2017
Brooklyn Ann Carlson	5/20/2017
Camden Mitchell Kertz	5/28/2017
Jeremiah Calvin Michaels	7/09/2017
Sawyer William Cota	10/08/2017
Jacob Andrew Swenson	10/21/2017
Calvin Bennett Mass	11/12/2017
Taylor Jean Ellefson	12/17/2017
Ansel Jeremy Paulson	12/17/2017

Transfer Out

Jeremy Johnson	2/27/2017
Cheryl Kuznia	3/01/2017
Joel and Justin Olson	3/03/2017
Ron and Pat Bjercknes	3/21/2017
Brian Halsbach	4/12/2017
Elody and Craig Olson	4/17/2017
Luke and Tiffany Goethe	10/11/2017
Hayden Goethe	10/11/2017
Robert Stenson	10/11/2017
Richard and Judy Reger	10/15/2017
Aric and Crista	10/18/2017
Josh and Kara Balmer	11/29/2017

Deaths

Jean Wold	11/22/2016
Gladys Larson	12/25/2016
Douglas Booth	2/08/2017
Fred Dallman	3/17/2017
Doris Finstad	4/26/2017
Berton Amundson	8/09/2017
Irwin Johnson	9/08/2017
Michael Leach	10/18/2017
Marvin Johnson	10/26/2017

Weddings

Bakken/Martin	8/26/2017
Carter/Olson	11/18/2017
Bakken/Peterson	12/30/2017

Attendance Report 2017

Weekly average attendance	158
Average attendance on Saturday	38
Average attendance on Sunday	87
Average attendance on Wednesday	64

Confirmation

Madison Svir	10/29/2017
Morgan Hickerson	10/29/2017
Mariah Bugge	10/29/2017
Jerzie Finstad	10/29/2017
Molly Halsa	10/29/2017
Jordan Naslund	10/29/2017
Zachary Praska	10/29/2017
Isabella Nelson	10/29/2017
Miah Nelson	10/29/2017
Ian Knutson	10/29/2017
Cole Johnson	10/29/2017
Will Johnson	10/29/2017
Tyler Richards	10/29/2017
Casey Hiemstra	10/29/2017
Noah Rupprecht	10/29/2017
Katie Nelson	10/29/2017
Khloe Lund	10/29/2017
Ava Sturgeon	10/29/2017

Rev. Darrel Cory, Interim Minister's Report for 2017

Redeemer Lutheran Church, Thief River Falls MN

Annual Meeting

January 28, 2018

Since joining you on Ash Wednesday of 2017, I have been working toward three goals. These are goals that are alongside the regular pastoral functions of preparing worship, (preaching and administering the sacraments and ordinances of the church), being a resource for committees and Council, making hospital visits, presiding at weddings and funerals, etc.. The first two goals I developed after being here for about a month. The third is one that I joined and affirmed after hearing the council was working on it. It happened on the first day of work. We'll begin there.

"Who does that?" That's the third goal and it was already being addressed when I arrived, but I readily saw the need of answering the question and developing some process so the congregation would not need to ask the question. My first day on the job was Ash Wednesday. I asked (I do not remember who.) where the ashes were the response I received was, "The pastor takes care of that." My response was "Really? Having determined that there were no ashes at 25 minutes to the beginning of the service Mr. Froiland and I were outside on a very cold, windy March 1 burning old Palm branches in order to have ashes for the service. I knew then this was an important goal answer the question, "Who does that?"

The second goal was to assist the congregation in beginning to reach out beyond its own walls to be of service and witness to the community. That has occurred primarily through the work of the committees, but there is more to be done and this will remain a goal of mine for 2018.

The third goal was to help the congregation embrace change. I know, I hear it all the time, "I don't like change." Problem is the only thing that we can say is a sure in life is change. It really is okay to think new ideas and to try them on. We have a tendency to approach faith as a static reality when scripture is pretty clear in saying that neither faith nor God is static, but always moving inviting us into deeper and deeper awareness of what it means to follow the carpenter from Nazareth who

taught, "Love, one another, as I have loved you." So I am going to hold on to this goal as well. And in 2018, I am going to keep saying to you, "Don't be afraid, remember none of this is about you. It is about God and how we say thank you and how we love others." And yes there will be some changes, but never random and never without thought and always coming through a regular process of discussion, recommendation and approval by the Congregation's Council.

Thank you for being the loving, caring people that you are. I look forward to our coming months together.

Rev. Dr. Darrel Cory, interim pastor

January 22, 2018

President's Report 2017

Redeemer Congregation,

Wow! What a year 2017 has been. I hope everyone can see the changes that have been made at Redeemer this year. As we all know our church has gone through some difficult times the last few years, but we have come through those times and are looking towards a positive and bright future.

The first of the year brought us a new face in the office our new secretary, Vanessa. Vanessa stepped into the secretarial position with both feet running. I am very excited to have her here and feel she is doing a great job. Hopefully, everyone has had a chance to stop in and introduce themselves to Vanessa.

Starting March 1st our second addition came to Redeemer. We welcomed Pastor Darrel Cory from East Grand Forks. Previously Pastor Darrel was serving the Crookston community. I am very thrilled and excited to have Pastor Darrel with us. Hopefully everyone has enjoyed his calming presence and engaging sermons. If you have not done so already, make sure you stop by his office and introduce yourself to Darrel.

Financially, our church is doing much better than in 2015. Over the past two years giving has been better and in return we have seen our savings and checking accounts improve. This financial improvement has been a blessing and would like to thank all of you for your offerings. With that said, we still need giving and offering to improve to help achieve any future goals we might entertain. One such goal, would be to hire a full-time youth director to continue moving our youth programs in the right direction.

2017 was a year of change for Redeemer with new faces and financial improvement. As we go into 2018, I would request that we all try to increase our volunteering and giving. I would like to end this report by slightly changing a famous saying by President JFK, " **Don't ask what your church can do for you, but what you can do for your Church**".

God Bless



Eric Tjelle

Council President

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH - ALTAR GUILD
ANNUAL REPORT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

2017

INCOME:

MEMORIALS

30.00

ALTAR FLOWERS

854.00

TOTAL INCOME

884.00

EXPENSES:

ALTAR FLOWER PURCHASES

\$ 936.55

ALTARWARE AND SUPPLIES

\$ 20.97

CHURCH EXPENSES

\$ 50.00

SPECIAL PURCHASES OF MEMORIALS

\$ 17.05

OTHER:

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$ 1,024.52

REVENUE OVER(UNDER) EXPENSES

\$ -140.52

YEAR-END CASH BALANCE

\$ 1,169.86

Patsy E. Lindquist
Altar Guild Treasurer

Faith Formation Committee 2017 Annual Report

Committee members include: Pastor Darrel Cory, Kate Anderson, Shelley Steva, Denice Nelson, Megan Eickman (and we thank Shannon Nelson and Dena Halsa for their years of service, as they recently resigned their positions on this committee).

The Faith Formation Committee (formerly Christian Education) operates under the following mission statement: **Implement, evaluate, and improve the youth education programs of Redeemer Lutheran Church in order to enrich the faith formation of our youth members/attendees.**

This committee continues to show their support and guidance with the confirmation program beginning in the 7th grade and now concluding in the fall of the 10th grade year. The confirmation program still includes mentors, but instruction time is now held as one large group (7-9th grade) together.

Our BLAST (Bible Learning and Serving Together) program continues this year with a few tweaks. This is held every Wednesday beginning with supper at 5:30 followed by our family education hour from 6-7pm. This year we changed our curriculum which includes a book for each child, and we now include the whole family in our instruction time. We are glad to be able to offer this opportunity for parents to fulfill some of the promises they made at their child's baptism, to walk this faith journey with them.

We continue to look for ways to improve and keep kids and families involved.

This year we held our Christmas program on December 17th during our Sunday worship time. The kids sang during two parts of the service including a number with the senior choir and one number with Sing & Ring. Following the service, we enjoyed goodies and cider. It was a great day!

This past summer, Zion again provided VBS during the first week of August. Pathways was hired to do the week of VBS. Zion took care of the planning and cost of Pathways. Redeemer kids were able to attend as non-members for a higher cost. Redeemer had approx. 20 kids attend.

As a committee, we continue to evaluate programs, take suggestions, and make adjustments to fit the educational needs of the members of our congregation. We appreciate any feedback from the congregation.

Blessings,
Kate Anderson
Faith Formation Committee Chair
BLAST Coordinator

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

The mission of the fund is to enhance the mission outreach of the Church apart from the general operation of the congregation. The fund may use the income from its investments for: Community and synod outreach; missions of the Church at large; capital improvements at Redeemer; and new programs, projects and outreach at Redeemer.

The Fund performed well in 2017. The US stock market was up again in 2017. The Fund holds 74% of its net assets in mutual funds. In 2017, the investments **rose 9.2%**.

The Fund had net assets, restricted and unrestricted, of \$320,596 as of December 31, 2017. This is a net increase of \$13,914 over last year. It earned \$13,009 of interest and dividends and paid \$150.00 of investment fees. The fund had a net market value increase of \$17,679 for the year. **Grants of \$15,520 were made Vacation Bible School, ELCA Hurricane Relief, TRF Food Shelf, ELCA World Hunger, Disaster Response and New Congregations.**

Applications for grants are received and reviewed by the Committee quarterly. If you are interested in receiving a grant from the Fund, please contact a Committee member or the Church office for an application form.

The Fund is governed by a five-member committee as follows:

Dale Dillon	Chair
Sandy Sunsdahl	Secretary
Mike Parker	
Mike Barry	
Tom Kays	Treasurer

Investments made by the committee have been made according to its investment policy. That policy calls for safety and preservation of capital, income and growth to the fund, and social consciousness. At December 31, 2015, the Fund held investments, appropriately allocated, in the following:

- CD at a local bank
- ELCA Mission Investment Fund
- Money market account at Merrill Lynch
- High quality corporate bonds
- American Funds - (Three different mutual funds)

Again, please consider your Church and the Fund in your estate and gifting plans. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas P. Kays
Treasurer

BECAUSE OF GOD'S GREAT MERCY

Redeemer's Ministry in Action

The Stewardship Committee purpose statement says: Stewardship is the belief that followers of Jesus are responsible for the earth and should take care of it. Stewardship applies to our whole life, recognizing that ALL we have is a gift from God, ALL we have belongs to God, and ALL we have is to be used to serve God and enjoy God's blessings. ***Stewardship is everything we do after we say, "I Believe."***

The Stewardship committee meets monthly before regular council meetings. This year the Redeemer Volunteer Coordinator was invited to join this committee. All Redeemer members are called to be stewards of God's love. Serving the church through volunteering time and talent is one way to demonstrate stewardship. The Stewardship Committee supports, builds up, and promotes activities done by all other committees and organizations in the church.

A Moment for Mission was created to educate and promote Stewardship events happening within the church walls, local community, and through out the world. Moments for Mission are brief announcements made at the beginning of regular worship services by people involved in the events. A few of the Moment for Mission highlights: BLAST's new format and curriculum, 1st Annual Committee Expo, Hospice Dinner/fundraiser, Meals on Wheels, Women's Thank Offering Service, Alternative Christmas, and Fall Estimate of Giving Campaign.

The Stewardship committee participated in the Fall Council Expo, developed revised Time and Talent Sheets and Estimate of Giving cards.

42 Time and Talents sheets were returned.

52 Estimate of Giving Cards were returned pledging \$117,382.00 for God's work at Redeemer Lutheran Church.

Thank you to all members who so graciously support the mission of Redeemer Lutheran Church through time and talent and volunteering for the weekly tasks that must be done. Thank You for your consistent giving...it is essential to keep out Ministry in action.

Respectfully submitted by,

Stewardship Committee: Larry Amundson, Bob & Jan Anderson (chair), Cecil Anderson, Jan Huebsch, Kevin & Beth Iliff, and Sandy Parker

Redeemer Mission Statement

Being chosen by God and strengthened by the Holy Spirit, Redeemer Lutheran Church gathers together to worship, serve and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all people, for the purpose of providing meaning and purpose for daily living.

Redeemer Lutheran Church Worship and Music Committee

2017 Annual Report



The Redeemer Lutheran Church Worship and Music committee meets monthly (or bi-monthly, as needed) on the first Tuesday at 6:30 pm in the Emmaus Room.

We are again very blessed, and very lucky, to have outstanding musicians to lead and inspire our worship. Thank you to each one of them:

**Reid Froiland
Vanessa Martell
Greg Dally and Paula Adamson
Dean Dalen
Jane Aandal and Gene Lunsetter
Chris Cuppett**

**Principle Organist
Senior Choir Director
Saturday Worship
Saturday Worship
Spirit Alive
Sunday Song Leader and Cantor**

The 2017 agenda included worship liturgy, worship attendance, the music budget, 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, Sunday Communion, Blast, Joint Thanksgiving service, Stained Glass window project, bulletin design and usability, Santa Lucia service, music and liturgy licensing issues, the sound system, and other topics.

At its January, 2018 meeting the Committee reviewed and recommended to the Church Council a change in services on Saturday and Wednesday. To begin, Saturday services will be discontinued during Lent. The congregation is encouraged to attend the Lenten services on Wednesday evenings as well as weekly Sunday Worship during Lent.

After Easter, 2018, the Wednesday evening service will continue using the Saturday evening service format. Service time is 6:30 pm. Saturday evening services will cease for one-year. After one year, the Committee will evaluate the effectiveness of this change in service time. The Committee felt it was time to look some alternatives for our services to try to bolster attendance and congregational

involvement. Your input about this change is welcome. Please contact any member of the Committee or the Pastor.

The members of your Worship and Music Committee are:

Paula Adamson

Chris Cuppett

Suzanne Browning

Vanessa Martell

Sara Bakke

Tom Kays

Dean Dalen

Dee Wollenzien

Greg Dally

Gene Lunsetter

Reid Froiland

Mike Gilbertson

If you have any questions, concerns, ideas or comments for the Worship and Music Committee, please contact one of the above members.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Kays" with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tom Kays, Chair

2017 Redeemer personnel Committee Annual Report

The Redeemer personnel committee met quite often this past year. Work was done on revising job descriptions for all staff as well as conducting reviews. Our custodian resigned and the committee posted for a part-time custodian. The position was posted in the newsletter, bulletins and TRF Times/Watch. We interviewed five candidates on June 5, 2017 and reviewed a couple other resumes. We were very pleased to recommend to council, that Mike Lundgren of TRF, MN, be offered the position. With council approval, Mike began work on June 20, 2017. We feel Mike has been doing an excellent job, if you haven't done so already, please visit with him when you get the chance. Mike typically works Monday – Friday from 7:00 – 9:00 a.m. but is available when needed and/or special events.

We conducted staff reviews January 8 as the month of December was difficult to get the committee together. All but three were able to make it to their scheduled review. We were very happy with the overall feedback we received. Communication continues to be an area needing improvement. In 2018 we will be posting and filling the youth director and volunteer coordinator positions.

Committee membership remains the same with Kristi Lane as Chairperson and Jan Nordin, Marah Froiland, Brenda Russ and Myron Peterson as other committee members.

Kristi Lane
2017 Personnel Committee Chairperson

Redeemer Property Committee Annual Report 2017

Property Committee members: Jeff Kezar, Dick Kruta, Rocky Ammerman, Al Johnson, Cecil Anderson, Greg Hall, Lynn Teie, Jeff Davidson, Gary Tishart, Mike Lundgren

Ending with 2017 Redeemer has had some significant improvements. Starting out this Spring the main sewer line which was the original 4" line has collapsed and was replaced with a new 6" line.

Throughout the remainder of the year smaller projects were completed. The main office was in need of new floor covering and carpeting was installed, it looks very nice. The nursery room heating system lines had to be rerouted to get even heat control.

Finishing up the year light bulb replacement in the sanctuary has been hired along with side walk snow removal.

Spring and Fall cleanup is always a big job as well as a fun time. Help is always welcome, just let us know.

The property committee looks forward to another year of keeping our facility and grounds in good working order.

Submitted by Jeff Kezar

Evangelism – Social Ministry Committee Annual Report – 2017

Committee Members:

Maryel Anderson, Chris Cuppett, Darlene Kelly, Pauline Helgeland
Diedre Nordin (Council Rep) and Julie Olson (Council Rep)

The committee met once per month with the following projects initiated/sponsored:

Name Tag Weekends: Once per month, nametags were provided in the narthex for those in attendance to wear, encouraging each person to meet and greet others at worship that they may or may not know.

Back to School Blitz: Members were asked to donate school items or monetary gifts used to assemble school backpacks to be shared with anyone in the community needing one. 125 backpacks were assembled, and 40 were given out on “backpack” night (August 16th) and on Sundays in the narthex. Others were delivered to the local Violence Intervention Project, and there are approximately 25 remaining to be used next fall. A local teacher had intended to ship the extras to hurricane victims in Texas, but never picked them up and when contacted, had changed her mind due to the cost of shipping.

Wellness Baskets: The parish nurse had been taking care of this project, but has asked that the Evangelism-Social Ministry committee take it over as we have more people on the committee to collect and distribute the baskets to those needing support during a health crisis.

Hospice Dinner: The 27th Annual Hospice Dinner was held at Redeemer on Monday, October 2nd. Approximately \$1400 was raised from a free-will offering collected at the dinner, and presented to Hospice of the Red River Valley.

Alternative Christmas Project: The ELCA **Good Gifts** program was made available, and members and friends could purchase farm animals through the Good Gifts program in honor of someone, as a gift, in memory of someone, or as a donation. Barn-shaped coin banks and activity books were presented to the BLAST students and families to encourage them to participate in the project. Approximately \$450 were donated by those students and their families. Overall, approximately \$2,200 were raised and many animals, school tuition vouchers, water jugs, and entrepreneurships were purchased through this program.

Additional future initiatives include the following:

Caring Casseroles, Baby Welcome Baskets, Wellness Baskets, Sock Collection, Blessing of Bikes (Spring 2018), Blessing of Seeds (for gardens – Spring 2018)

Respectfully Submitted,
Diedre Nordin, Chair/Council Representative

Treasurer's Report

Thank you so much to all who contribute offerings of time, talent, and financial gifts to Redeemer.

In 2017, Redeemer's General Fund actual expenses of \$213,689 were \$34,832 less than the budgeted amount of \$248,521. Therefore, even though our 2017 General Fund Income of \$231,110 was \$18,590 less than the budgeted income amount of \$249,700, the General Fund cash assets grew to \$123,731, an increase of \$16,927

The proposed 2018 budget is \$47,619 larger than Redeemer's 2017 Budget. Most of this increase is in the Salaries and Benefits categories. The increase in proposed salaries and benefits is due to several factors:

- Council recommendation of a 3% increase for staff salaries

- Council recommendation of a \$5 increase per worship service for each Saturday musician

- Council recommendation of compensation for the Cantor (Song Leader budget line)

- Council recommends changing the Organist to a salaried position with the additional title of Liturgist

- The council recommends that Redeemer have a full-time Director of Youth Ministry.

Respectfully submitted by
Suzanne Browning

January 22, 2018

To: Redeemer Lutheran Church Council

From: Financial Oversight Committee – Cecil Anderson and Lynn Grahn

RE: Review of 2017 financial records

On Monday, January 22, 2018 we met to perform a review of the financial records of Redeemer Lutheran Church. Marit Knutson, the church financial secretary was also in attendance.

The printed financial reports are user friendly and easy to understand.

Budget – The actual revenues over expenditures was \$ 1,179 more than the 2017 budget.

Cash receipts – Collections are safeguarded by using locking deposit bags and night bank depository until picked up and counted by 2 people at the church office. Deposit slips are attached to weekly summary. Verification of selected weekly deposits was performed by the Financial Oversight Committee. We would suggest trying to get a few more volunteers to count the weekly deposits as there have been times where the financial secretary has had to count the money by herself. There should be at least 2 people counting and it would be a good control to have a small group of volunteers to perform this task.

Cash disbursements – Payments are recorded and supported by appropriate documentation and filed in paid invoice files with check stubs stapled to the paid invoice. All checks require two signatures. There is no petty cash to account for. There is only one credit card now, which is kept in the church office. We reviewed the paid credit card invoices and there was good documentation for the charges on the credit card statement. The financial secretary said that for the most part, the charges are turned in with good documentation.

Journal – Most journal entries are for electronic payments. Payment confirmations are included with the journal entries for these payments.

Investments – Mission Endowment Fund is handled by a separate committee reporting to the church council.

Property & Equipment – Financial Oversight Committee recommends keeping record of physical assets by description, date and cost.

We are very satisfied with how the records are being kept and submitted.

Respectfully submitted,

Cecil Anderson Lynn Grahn

Redeemer Lutheran Church
Balance Sheet by Account
GENERAL FUND
Year Ending December 31, 2017

Account	December 31, 2017 Balances
General Fund	
 ASSETS	
Checking Acct Cash	\$ 79,882
MIF Demand Investment	43,849
Total Assets	\$ 123,731
 LIABILITIES	
Federal w/h	\$ 120
FICA w/h Employer	282
FICA w/h Employee	282
Medicare w/h Employer	66
Medicare w/h Employee	66
State w/h	201
Total Liabilities	\$ 1,017
 EQUITY	
Fund Balance	\$ 122,714
Total Equity	\$ 122,714
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$ 123,731

Redeemer Lutheran Church
Income and Expense Report by Account
Year Ending December 31, 2017

Account	Actual 2016	Budget 2017	Actual 2017	Budget 2018
General Fund				
INCOME				
Basket Offering	\$ 6,555	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,042	\$ 6,000
Current/Ben. Income	227,608	225,000	203,465	271,940 *
Lenten Offering	6,146	6,000	6,508	6,000
Seasonal Offering	5,756	7,000	7,129	6,000
Blast Offer.	4,495	2,500	4,028	3,000
Total offering income:	\$ 250,560	\$ 246,500	\$ 227,172	\$ 292,940
OTHER INCOME				
Black River Reimbursement	26,319	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	15,099	1,000	895	1,000
Rental Income	2,080	2,200	2,740	2,200
Interest Income	14	-	303	-
Transfers In	40,000	-	-	-
Total Income:	\$ 334,072	\$ 249,700	\$ 231,110	\$ 296,140

* - This is the amount of giving required to balance the budget...

Expense Accounts

ELCA EXPENSES

ELCA	\$ 10,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 16,000	\$ 15,000
Lutheran Social Services	-	500	500	500
Food Shelf	-	500	500	500
Violence Intervention	-	500	500	500
Pathways	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Total ELCA Expense:	\$ 13,000	\$ 19,500	\$ 20,500	\$ 19,500

EDUCATION & YOUTH

Blast Exp.	\$ 5,837	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,637	\$ 5,000
Youth Exp.	842	1,000	1,844	1,000
Confirmation Exp.	138	500	62	500
Adult Ed. Exp.	18	300	-	300
Chaperone Ex Youth Gather	900	900	900	900
Pathways Campership	505	4,500	3,650	3,650
Total Education & Youth:	\$ 8,240	\$ 12,200	\$ 11,093	\$ 11,350

Redeemer Lutheran Church
Income and Expense Report by Account
Year Ending December 31, 2017

Account	Actual 2016	Budget 2017	Actual 2017	Budget 2018
WORSHIP EXPENSE				
Altar Supplies	\$ 1,158	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,315	\$ 1,500
Music Exp.	454	750	726	750
Organist Music	-	100	-	100
Other Worship Exp.	533	750	913	750
Total Worship Expense:	\$ 2,145	\$ 3,100	\$ 2,954	\$ 3,100
COMMITTEE EXPENSE				
Social Ministry Exp.	\$ -	\$ 400	\$ -	\$ 400
Stewardship Comm.Exp	-	250	-	250
Youth, Family & Fellowship Comm	-	-	-	1000
Supply Pastors	3,935	1,000	4,382	1000
Parish Nurse	-	250	150	250
Total Committee Expense.:	\$ 3,935	\$ 1,900	\$ 4,532	\$ 2,900
MAINTENANCE/OPERATIONS				
Miscellaneous	\$ 1,366	\$ 1,000	\$ 979	\$ 1,000
Kitchen Exp.	61	750	217	750
Cell Phone Pastors	720	750	-	750
Utilities/Heat Exp.	4,919	7,000	5,374	7,000
Utilities/Electric	3,842	5,500	4,134	5,500
Telephone Exp	1,907	1,800	2,245	2,500
Church Maint./Supplies	4,847	4,000	5,367	4,500
Insurance Exp.	8,354	8,500	8,323	8,500
Assessments	530	600	520	600
Organ/Piano Maint.	636	1,000	770	1,000
Lawn Maint/Snow Rem.	2,810	3,500	3,390	3,500
Van Expense	367	1,000	213	1,000
Total Maint/Operations:	30,359	35,400	31,532	\$ 36,600
ADMINISTRATION				
Office Supply Exp	\$ 7,666	\$ 8,000	\$ 13,715	\$ 8,000
Postage Exp	2,383	1,700	1,483	1,700
Synod Convention Exp	615	750	382	750
Organist Workshop	300	300	300	300
Car Allow-Pastor 1	37	-	-	-
Car Allow-Youth Director	-	250	-	250
Car Allow-Pastor 2	2,116	2,500	-	2,500
Interest Expense	-	-	-	-
Sr Pastor Synod Expense	-	-	-	-
Pastor Community Outreach	-	-	-	-
Pastor 2 Synod/theologica	290	700	-	700
Total Administration:	\$ 13,407	\$ 14,200	\$ 15,880	\$ 14,200

Redeemer Lutheran Church
Income and Expense Report by Account
Year Ending December 31, 2017

Account	Actual 2016	Budget 2017	Actual 2017	Budget 2018
SALARIES				
Pastor 1-Salary	\$ 3,420	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Pastor 1-Housing	-	-	-	-
Pastor 2-Salary	30,015	40,981	30,015	38,000
Pastor 2-Housing	12,719	12,295	12,719	16,000
Secretary	29,418	23,400	21,779	27,500
Youth Director	12,298	13,000	5,763	44,000
Financial Secretary	2,682	4,000	3,265	3,500
Janitor	4,345	5,000	4,706	5,500
Song Leader	60	150	60	2,640
Organist/Liturgist	3,681	4,500	4,392	8,000
Choir Director	2,065	2,000	2,065	2,100
Choir Accomp.	500	500	500	-
Worship 2	6,468	6,500	6,130	7,100
Supply Organist	911	600	371	600
Substitute secretary	-	-	77	-
Volunteer Coor	2,039	2,100	2,039	2,200
Nursery Coordinator	-	-	-	-
Blast Super	6,100	6,365	6,366	6,600
Total Salaries:	116,721	121,391	100,247	\$ 163,740
STAFF BENEFITS				
Pas.1-Pens/Health	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Pas.2-Pen/Health	19,231	23,000	17,532	20,000
Pastor 1-Social Sec	-	-	-	-
Pastor 2-Social Sec	3,269	4,080	-	4,000
Pastor 1-PACE	-	-	-	-
Pastor 2-PACE	54	1,500	-	1,500
Payroll Tax Expense	5,681	7,000	4,419	6,000
Youth Dir.-Cont. Ed	-	250	-	250
Secretary Benefits	9,169	-	-	-
Youth Director Benefits	-	-	-	10,000
Medical Deductions-Sr Pastor	-	-	-	-
Medical Deductions - Pastor 2	3,500	2,000	-	-
Total Staff Benefits:	40,904	37,830	21,951	\$ 41,750
OTHER EXPENSE				
Call Committee	\$ -	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ 3,000
Moving Expense	-	-	-	-
Operating Loan	-	-	-	-
Transfers Out	45,000	-	5,000	-
Total Other Expenses	45,000	3,000	5,000	\$ 3,000
Total Expenses:	\$ 273,711	\$ 248,521	\$ 213,689	\$ 296,140
Total Income less Expenses:	\$ 60,361	\$ 1,179	\$ 17,421	\$ -

Redeemer Lutheran Church
Youth & Wedding Fund Activity
Year Ending December 31, 2017

	Youth Fund	Wedding Fund
Cash & Savings Balance as of January 1, 2017	\$ 12,261	\$ 741
Income		
Donut Income	\$ 356	\$ -
Youth Activities Income	5,843	-
Pop Income	-	-
Youth Gathering Income	6,102	-
Miscellaneous Income	-	-
Interest Income	22	-
Wedding Income	-	825
Transfers In	2,983	-
Total Income	\$ 15,306	\$ 825
Expenses		
Donut Expense	\$ 240	\$ -
Pop Expense	-	-
Food Expense	213	-
Youth Gathering Expense	5,575	-
Miscellaneous Expense	-	-
Youth Activities Expense	4,113	-
Wedding Expense	-	450
Transfers Out	2,983	-
Total Expenses	\$ 13,124	\$ 450
Cash & Savings Balance as of December 31, 2017	\$ 14,443	\$ 1,116
Breakdown of Balance between Cash and Savings		
Cash	\$ 104	\$ 1,116
Savings Account	14,339	-
Cash & Savings Balance as of December 31, 2017	\$ 14,443	\$ 1,116

Redeemer Lutheran Church
Savings Account Balances
Year Ending December 31, 2017

Dec 31, 2017
Balances

SPECIAL SAVINGS ACCOUNT

Assets

Savings Account

Savings Account Cash Balance \$ 82,869

Total Assets \$ 82,869

Equity

Dedicated Accounts

Bible Fund	\$ 300
Campership	4,285
Capital Improvement	53,754
Flower Garden	1,814
Garage	10
Library	285
Logan Browning	723
Lutheran World Relief Coffee	259
Music/Choir	3,699
Nursery	997
Organ Fund	900
Parish Nurse	108
Stained Glass	2,756
Sunday School / Blast	2,286
Memorials	5,421
Youth Choir	355
Youth	1,096

Total Dedicated Accounts \$ 79,048

Non-Dedicated Accounts

Ray Johnson CD	\$ -
Undesignated	3,821

Total Non-Dedicated Accounts \$ 3,821

Total Equity \$ 82,869

Ballot 2018

(Report of the Nominating Committee)

Church Council (4 to be elected to 3 year terms)

* denotes incumbent

- ___ Darren Bakke
- ___ LeeAnn Lund
- ___ Linda Olson
- ___ Tony Olson
- ___ _____
- ___ _____
- ___ _____

Financial Oversight Committee (2 to be elected)

- ___ Ann Haugen (2 year term)
- ___ Carter Rogalla (3 year term)
- ___ _____

Nominating Committee (2 to be elected to a 1 year term)

- ___ _____
- ___ _____
- ___ _____

**Delegates to the Synod Assembly – June 8-19, 2018, Friday & Saturday,
Concordia College, Moorhead, MN** (4 to be elected)

- ___ _____
- ___ _____
- ___ _____
- ___ _____
- ___ _____

Submitted by:

Julie K. Olson

