

Redeemer Lutheran Church

Voter's Meeting Minutes

27 February 2011

Call to order

President Don Darsow called the February 27, 2011 Voter's Meeting of the Redeemer Lutheran Church LCMS to order at 12:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

Opening Prayer / Devotion

President Don Darsow opened with a reading from the 2nd chapter of Philippians and from the Portals of Prayer for Friday, February 25.

Attendance

Forty six voting members were in attendance. See the attached sign in sheets.

Order of Business

Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

The minutes of the November 21, 2010 Voter's Meeting were approved as written.

Treasurers Report

The Treasurer reviewed the budget. Expenses to date exceed giving by \$7,000. There is a projected shortfall of \$23,000 by fiscal year end. Expenses to date are typical but giving is down from normal levels.

Memorials money has been used to purchase a freezer, provide DVD's for those who can not make it to church and for a new Baptismal Font.

The balance in the Good Samaritan fund is only \$45 and needs to be enhanced.

Officer/Board/Standing Committee Reports

President: The next Voter's Meeting has been moved to May 1 due to a conflict with Easter.

Vice President: The nominating committee consists of Sash Eirich, John Strege, Denise Rogers and Pastor Todd. Vacancies that need to be filled include the office of Vice President, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Offering Secretary, Business Trustee, Facilities Trustee, four chairpersons and three Elders

Pastor: The newsletter will be distributed following the Voter's Meeting.

There will be a Circuit Seminar at Redeemer on April 10. Reverend Tom Baker will preach at both services, conduct the Adult Bible Study and conduct a workshop. The will be held in conjunction with a potluck at 4:00.

Redeemer will be receiving between 6 and 8 new members on April 10.

Pastor will be on vacation March 25 through April 5. A Pastor who will cover for emergencies will be announced in the bulletin. Redeemer's Elders are also available.

Pastor would like to conduct some focus meetings for church members on a regional basis for feedback. The meeting will alst approximately 1 hour and will provide an opportunity to air any concerns or suggestions. More information will be forthcoming.



Pastor reviewed the new prayer policy that has been implemented. Prayers are restricted to use of the first name with only the last name initial, even if permission is obtained. Prayers received on the request card during a worship service will be treated generically if from a nonmember. The new policy is the result of a lawsuit against a congregation in the Portland area regarding privacy issues and the HIPPA law. Initially this law excluded churches but was revised during mid 2010 to include them. Pastor will include the policy statement from the Northwest District in the Rays newsletter. Consent must be obtained before the prayer chain can pray for a third party.

Pastor expressed his thanks to all board chairs and to our President for all the hard work.

Elders: Vice Elder Mark Rogers reported for the Board of Elders.

The Board of Elders has accepted the resignation of Guy McCoy. The new head elder is Dan Neibuhr and the Vice Elder is Mark Rogers. There is a need for three Elders. Deacon Don Peterson will be filling in during the interim and covering Geise through Kessie.

Budget Committee: Expenses are normal for this time of year but we are behind typical levels of giving.

Trustees: The Arrowhead property is temporarily off the market. The tenant's children are home alone after school which places restrictions on when the property can be shown. They will be moving to San Antonio, Texas in late March or early April. The property will be placed on the market again in late March.

Use of funds obtained from the sale of this property will be discussed under Unfinished business.

The question was asked if there are recommended improvements which would enhance the value of the property. The Trustees will follow up with the realtor.

Education: The Board of Education chair is finishing up three terms and asked members of the congregation to consider serving.

Evangelism: An Evangelism workshop was held on February 26. Forty attended, 18 of whom were from Redeemer.

Stewardship: The Stewardship Board is working with other committees / boards within the church. Lifestyle Stewardship has been implemented for the last several years.

Youth: The youth will be conducting an auction.

There will not be a yard sale this year. The intent is to hold a yard sale every other year.

Congregational Care: There is medical equipment in the closet.

Five individuals are being transported to church in a taxi.

It is difficult to know what individual needs are. Contact the Congregational Care Board or an Elder when needs are known.

DVDs of services are being distributed on a weekly basis.



Community Service: No Report.

Fellowship: The “Tables of 8” are in progress. Pastor is not participating because of prior bad experiences with expressed feelings of favoritism when this was done in another congregation. Pastor Todd and Gina are open to invitations to individual Tables of 8 meetings.

Plans for the progressive dinner have been canceled.

There will be a potluck with the “Law and Gospel” workshop on April 10.

There will be a concert in May from a visiting college choir. A meal will be associated with this event. Housing is needed for choir members.

Old Business:

Arrowhead Property: Options for use of the proceeds from the sale of the Arrowhead property include use of the funds to pay the entire LCEF loan and to split the proceeds between paying down the loan and splitting between paying down the loan and giving to the seminaries.

Wally Ruff who helped facilitate transfer of the property at the time stated that Roberta Kellenberger was adamant that the property should be used for a vicar and for ministry training programs. She did not want the property to be used for general expenses.

An option to use the money to pay off the loan and then pay the seminaries \$23,000/year (the amount required to service Redeemer’s loan) for an equivalent period that would be required to pay off the loan was discussed.

A motion was made and seconded to use the proceeds from the sale to apply toward the loan with the provision that an equal amount be committed over a set period of years, at \$23,000/year to the vicar ministerial training program.

A discussion ensued which included the fact that the church is currently projecting a \$23,000 deficit, that the church committed to paying \$12,000/year extra on the loan but has been unable to meet that commitment from member giving.

Should the church choose to send money to the seminaries, the money could be divided between the individual seminaries or given to the Joint Seminary Fund.

An amendment was proposed to the original motion that would require the payments of \$23,000/year over a five year period to go to the joint seminary fund. The amendment failed by a vote of 17 for and 18 against.

A motion was made and seconded to table the original motion until the May Voter’s Meeting and the Budget Committee had time to review and develop a recommendation. The motion to table the original motion passed by a vote of 27 to 9.

There was no additional Old Business.



New Business:

A separate motion to task the Budget Committee to review the budget and develop proposals for possible approaches that will meet both the mortgage commitment and the wishes of the donor passed.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and passed. The meeting was adjourned with the Lords Prayer at 2:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wallace Kelly
Secretary

DRAFT

