



Issue X Volume XIII

## October 2017 Connections Redeemer Lutheran Church

*For "my" article this month, I would like to share the following article from Thom Rainer of Lifeway Christian Resources. Pastor Kevin*

### **Seven Deadly Statements of Church Members** by Thom Rainer

There are some sentences that can prove harmful, even deadly, to a congregation. Words have meaning. And if church members start articulating words consistently, those words begin to reflect the priorities and passions of the church.

I wrote a little book (*I Will*) on statements church members make that can move a church toward Great Commission and Great Commandment greatness. But there are some sentences that can prove harmful, even deadly, to a congregation. Here are seven of the most deadly statements:

**"I like our church just the way it is."** When you begin to hear this statement expressed among church members, you can be certain there is no Great Commission heartbeat. We should never want our church to stay just like it is; we should be constantly seeking to reach new people with the gospel.

**"My pastor doesn't visit me enough."** There are so many things wrong with this statement. First, it reflects a ministry where there is expectation that the pastor is to do most of the ministry, instead of equipping others to do the work of ministry. Second, it reflects a dependence and self-centered ministry on the part of church members.

**"I always vote 'no' just to keep the leadership in check."** This person is the disrupter -- He or she really wants the focus on self. Attention seeking and self-focus are characteristics of this person. They are toxic to churches.

**"I just can't worship with our style of music."** The worship wars aren't over. These church members could never be missionaries because their indigenous people group probably wouldn't be singing hymns from the hymnals. There is no sense of worship with these church members; they are all about their own preferences and desires.

**"People know where our church is if they want to come."** This statement reflects deadly ecclesiology and deadly missiology. It assumes that the church is a place; and it assumes that the Great Commission is, "Y'all come."

**"I love you pastor, but . . ."** This statement reflects a church member who is both deceitful and deadly. He or she tells leaders they love them, but puts a metaphorical knife in their backs at the first opportunity. These members tear churches apart.

**"I pay my tithes here, so I deserve . . ."** This church member sees his or her offerings as conditional. So, in a real sense, they aren't offerings as much as they are country club dues. They will continue to pay their way as long as they get their way.

To be clear, most church members do not make these statements nor do they reflect these attitudes. But healthier church members should and must speak up when they hear other members making such destructive statements. Otherwise, the naysayers, cartels, critics, and bullies will have their way in the church. And the church will soon cease being the church.



**The next  
Church Council  
Meeting is October 19, 2017**



**Communion is held on  
1st, 3rd & 4th Sunday**

### **Evening Bible Study**

Meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursday  
Of the month.



### **Attendance Record**

August 27--41

Sept 3--40

Sept 9--40

Sept 17--70



**SAVE THE DATE**

**November 5,  
2017**



*Great is thy Faithfulness*

**1957**

**2017**

Schedule November 5<sup>th</sup>

9 AM-Service

- Dr. Dean Nadasdy, Minnesota South District/The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod President, preaching.
- Because He Lives Bible Study Group singing: Amazing Grace, Because He Lives, and Great is Thy Faithfulness.

10:15-Hot Dish and Jell-O Cook-off-Fundraiser for the Hurricane Disaster Relief

11:30-Luncheon 50s style

**Will need help for the Day of Anniversary/consider this a growth service activity: contact Sandy Bauer @**

**454-1175 H or 507 450 8668 cell. Let me know if you have some items from the 50's that we could use for decorations.**

# THE REDEEMER PRESCHOOL PRESS

October 2017



The new school year is off to an awesome start! The students have been doing well with learning the routines and the rules. Our days have been filled with fun and laughter as we pray, sing, and play each day. We have a total of 35 children currently enrolled, between the morning and the afternoon sessions.

As for staff, Joanne Dobberstein is the part-time lead teacher this year, and Jessie Erdmann has returned as her co-teacher. Jenifer Clemons has returned as a morning session paraprofessional on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and Natalie Robison is the morning session paraprofessional on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Jessie Erdmann teaches the nature-based afternoon session. Lynnea Pfohl is acting as the nature-based curriculum coordinator and as an afternoon paraprofessional. Hanna Wunrow has also recently been hired as an afternoon paraprofessional. Rinli Fruechte has been and continues to work as the overall preschool coordinator since Heidi's retirement.

We've been learning about God's creation and Adam and Eve, as well as celebrating the special and unique creations we each are, during Praise Time each day. We are also learning letters of the alphabet by studying weekly themes that begin with each. During September, we learned about fall (and the letter F), apples (and the letter A), and scarecrows (and the letter s). During October, we plan to study nursery rhymes (and the letter N), jobs (and the letter J), harvest (and the letter H), and pumpkins (and the letter P). Since October is National Fire Prevention Month, we will also learn a bit about fire safety. We are anxiously awaiting our first field trip of the school year, a trip to Ferguson's Orchard to learn about apples and pumpkins, on Friday, October 13. We are also looking forward to a classroom visit from a firefighter on Wednesday, October 18.

The preschool parents have been purchasing some classroom supplies for us. We go through *a lot* of supplies. If you would like to help us out as well, please take a slip of paper out of the Fish Bowl and purchase the item listed. Please also continue to save Kwik Trip Milk Moola caps and tops for us. We've got a small collection container down at the preschool end.

Several times throughout the school year, we will have the opportunity to order reasonably priced children's books through Scholastic Books. The preschool earns free books according to sales. If you would like to receive Scholastic flyers and have the option of placing an order through the preschool, please talk to Mandy Flesch.

God's Blessings on your October!

# ***Fall Salad Luncheon***

The fifth annual Fall Salad Luncheon will be held on Saturday, October 7, serving from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. A variety of salads, muffins, bars, desserts and beverage will be served at a cost of \$8.00.

All profits from the luncheon will be designated for the lighted cross on top of the church. The cross will be repaired or replaced and lighting added.

This activity is sponsored by the Thrivent advocates and the hope to receive two Action Team Event grants to off set the expenses. The congregation is encouraged to support this project by selling tickets, bringing salads and bars and helping in setting up and serving. Sign-up sheets are in the narthex.

For any questions, contact Arlene Tullius, Jean Neeck, Joyce Beard or Shirley Ballard.





# Preschool History

## 1977-2017

Founder of the Redeemer Preschool Sharon Flesch



was an experienced elementary school teacher and certified in early childhood education. She developed the preschool with Gerald Timm, experienced educator and Dr. Jean Billman, early childhood education professor at Winona State University. .

Funds received from grants purchased equipment. Loyal Tullius, a member of Redeemer Church and a cabinetmaker, built several hinged cabinets for books, puzzles and manipulative toys that could be closed and rolled out of the way when the lower level of the church was used by other groups, i.e. Cub Scout meetings, Sunday School.

Alice Stehr an experienced teacher and Sharon team taught in the lower level of Redeemer Church on West Broadway for ten year using a philosophy of learning through play.



A scholarship fund is an integral part of the mission so every child is able to attend In fact, due to the grant from ELIM initially a percentage of the student body needed to from the immediate neighborhood, the Thurley Homes. This diversity of ethnicity, spirituality, and socio-economics made a rich learning environment in the Preschool.

The Preschool, though an integral ministry of Redeemer Lutheran Church, had its own Preschool Board of Directors for governance. This Board, in addition to the two teachers, consisted of parents whose children attended the Preschool. Members of the first Board included Nancy Hauschildt, Karen Kruger, Florence Dambach and Sally Orr.



The 1984 – 85 school year the Preschool, together with the congregation, moved to the Tau Center on the campus of the College of St. Teresa for a period of a year as construction was underway for new facilities. The Franciscans extended great hospitality to everyone at the Tau Center. The Sisters often referred to the children as “the babies.” What the children enjoyed was the novelty of riding an elevator up to the second floor .

The Preschool not only served the educational needs of children, but it was a training classroom for early childhood student teachers from both Winona State University (WSU) and St. Mary's University. At some point Winona State could not assign student teachers to Redeemer Preschool because of the need to observe separation of church and state. However, Redeemer Preschool continued to provide training for WSU practicum students in early childhood education. Redeemer Preschool teachers worked closely with the Education Departments of both Universities.

The fall of 1987 saw a change in teachers. Carla Burton replaced Alice and taught until 1992. Then in the fall of 1992, Bette Cichoski an experienced teacher joined Sharon for 5 years.



Rhonda Norton taught the next several years at the Preschool before adding the role of Director in the fall of 2006, when Sharon stepped aside from that position.

Sharon continued to team teach with Rhonda until 2007. In July 2007, after 28 years of teaching, Sharon resigned. Karin Wollan joined Rhonda in the fall of 2007 and the two team-taught for a year before Nicole Dahly joined them.



They both taught at Redeemer until 2010.

Heidi Braun accepted the teacher position in the fall of 2010. Heidi was no stranger to Redeemer, as both of her boys were Redeemer alumni. She had subbed for Sharon a few years earlier.



Heidi Braun took over the role of Director when Rhonda resigned in 2012. She implemented small group learning centers, a greater emphasis on literacy, and small group learning centers, added the STEM curriculum,

and achieved the Parent AWARE status for the preschool.

One thing that remains the same at Redeemer is the importance of play; children have a significant amount of time to play. Sharon Flesch shared the philosophy of other early childhood educators that “play is a child’s work.” The learning that occurs through play is fundamental to a child’s development. New studies are confirming what early childhood educators knew long ago, that quality early childhood education is vital in the development and success in the lives of children.

Redeemer Preschool will continue offering high quality early childhood education for all children.

2017 marks a pinnacle year for the preschool with a new lead teacher Joann Dobberstein, the expansion to full day preschool and implementation of a new nature-based Outdoor Play programming.



# Hot Dish and Jell-O Cook-off



Join the fun with this tasty event in conjunction with our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration Nov 5. We are looking for contestants in a hot dish category and a Jell-O category. After sampling, people celebrating our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary vote with their \$'s; the most \$'s is the Grand Prize winner in each category. Together these winners will receive a grand prize of a Dinner and a Boat Cruise on the "Home Equity" Bill Flesch's boat.

- ♦ \$5 entry fee
- ♦ Deadline for submitting entry form is October 22<sup>th</sup>.
- ♦ Money raised for cook-off will support Disaster Relief for Hurricane Irma.
- ♦ Cook-off begins after the service.  
Please keep in mind how to keep dish hot or cold for 1 to 1 1/2 hr. You are responsible for serving sample cups of item.
- ♦ \$5 charge for People sampling and voting. You are given 5 voting tickets for that charge but you are encouraged to buy more tickets to vote often.



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I am entering in the Hot Dish and Jell-O Cook-off.

Name:

Please check type of dish:

|                          |
|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> |

|          |
|----------|
| Hot Dish |
| Jell-O   |

|   |
|---|
| Turn in entry form to office. Do it early;<br>limited entries accepted. |
|---|



# Reformation 500

## Worship Service

Sunday, October 29, 2017

4:00pm

Gangelhoff Center  
Concordia University, St. Paul



**Join us for this once-in-500 years celebration!**



Minnesota North District  
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Missouri Synod



We invite your congregations to join us in celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

The worship service will include a sermon from LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, performances from mass youth and adult choirs, instrumental ensembles and more.



## Feed My Starving Children

Minnesota South District is excited to host our second Feed My Starving Children MobilePack on November 9-11, 2017. Our goal this year is to pack 750,000 meals. We need to raise \$165,000 to make this happen.

There are two ways this goal can be easily met:

1. Each person that volunteers to pack raises and / or donates \$50
2. Each congregation raises and./or donates \$600-\$700.

Please check the bulletin board in the narthex for more information.

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Redeemer Church ...

Welcomes you to come praise His Love for Us!

Sunday Worship at 9 am.

The 1st, 3rd & 4th Sundays are Communion  
Sundays.

Office hours are:

Mon-Thurs 9 am—1 pm

Fri 9 am— noon

