

Good News!

December 2010

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church



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Christmas Services



*Christmas Eve Services are
Friday, December 24th at 8:00pm*

*We will have a special lessons and carols service
on Sunday December 26th at 10:00am*



Joint Ministry Process

Thank you to one and all who have been gathering at our joint ministry activities these past several weeks! Please mark your calendars with these dates as well ...

December 5th following worship will be our next informational session about the Joint Ministry Covenant between Asbury and Our Redeemer.

December 12th at 4pm there will be a joint Holden Evening Prayer Service at 4:00pm at Our Redeemer.

December 19th there will be a congregational meeting following worship to vote on whether or not Our Redeemer will enter into the Joint Ministry Covenant.

We hope to see you at these special opportunities!

A Word From Our Pastor

Pastor Andy

Grace and Peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Redeemer!

On Sunday November 28th we had our first session to explore and understand the proposed covenant between Our Redeemer and Asbury ... and while that work is of immense importance, this was also going on ...



This is a picture of the Advent project the Sunday School children created while the meeting was happening on the 28th. I, while trying to give some space to allow the discussions in the sanctuary to go on, kind of floated between the fellowship hall and the sanctuary to keep track of how both were proceeding. And while the discussions between the adults in the sanctuary were happening, the excited planning about candle placement, bows and berries was occurring in the fellowship hall.

In the faces of the kids I **saw** excitement, energy and enthusiasm about a project that would lead them to experience God more fully. I **heard** excited voices talking about candles symbolizing God's love, peace and Jesus' birth. I felt the spirit of the Advent season, a **longing** for the love of God to come again into the world, come alive. And as I traveled back and forth between the two rooms, the room in which we gather for fellowship and the room in which we gather for worship, the children and their activity were acting out an important piece of this whole process that should always be at the heart of everything we do as a church.

If we're going to embrace this opportunity with Asbury then we need to be able to **see** this as an opportunity to experience God more fully. If we're going to embrace this opportunity to re-center our ministry, then we need to be able to **hear** it as an opportunity to voice God's love, peace and Jesus' birth. If we're going to embrace this opportunity, then we need to **long** for God's love to again come alive in our midst.

Following God in these ways is something that I need. It is something that, hopefully, you need. But more importantly it is something that our world, and our community needs, and something God longs for as well.

So let's do our due diligence. Let us be present, be honest, share our thoughts, and make sure the covenant says what it needs to and what we want it to say. Let's follow the process set out for us and make sure all of our **i's** are dotted and **t's** are crossed. And then let us, faithfully and with passion, celebrate the new opportunities within our reach to **see, hear and long** for God's love to be realized whether it be through candles, bows, berries or with Methodists!

In Peace,
Pastor Andy



ORLC Council Meeting Minutes

November 9, 2010

Members Present: Dottie Gilbertson, Rick Denis, Linnea Denis, Rose Miller, Randy Church and Kathy Terry. Also present were Pastor Andy Wendle and congregation member Debby Chenoweth.
Members absent: Cheri Anderson and Frank Moore.

The meeting was called to order by President Dottie Gilbertson.
Devotions were lead by Kathy Terry.

Minutes: The minutes of the October 12th Council meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Linnea and seconded by Rose to approve the minutes as written. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report dated November 9th was reviewed.

- * Concerning some income from Thrivent, a motion was made by Rose Miller to set up a *Thrivent Choice* designated fund; seconded by Rick. Motion passed.
- * A correction was made that the Asbury/FISH grant should be under the general fund list, rather than a designated fund.
- * The term *Quid Pro Quo* will be dropped for Good News.

A motion was made by Rick and seconded by Rose to approve the treasurer's report as corrected. Motion passed.

Care and Concern: Randy Church, Donna Martinson, Sharon Pantely, Dean Kleinsmith, Marlene & Fred Lahti and others are in our prayers.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Andy has been visiting with various congregational members, sometimes out of town due to hospitalization. He has also spent a lot of time working on the proposed Asbury/Our Redeemer partnership.

Committee Reports:

- * Pastoral Evaluation: Forms will be sent to congregation members in the next 1 – 2 days. We will ask that forms be returned by November 21st.
- * Budget Committee: Will meet this week. Some concerns for future church maintenance will be discussed: parking lot resurfacing, roof, hot water heater, and exterior painting. Also, there may be some computer and organ maintenance. Hearing appliances to amplify sound during worship services was also mentioned.

Minutes Continued on Page 5

Old Business:

- * Outreach House: Three residents will be moving out this month and two will be moving in.
- * Council nominations: A few people are considering going on the Council.
- * Methodist partnership
 Council members took turns expressing their thoughts about the partnership. Concerns were voiced about financial survival with the *status quo*, overworking the pastor, and a desire to maintain autonomy (Lutheran & Methodist). There was general agreement and enthusiasm to go forward with the partnership.
 Pastor gave a presentation regarding how our church has arrived at the point of considering a partnership to sustain our ministry. We can partner with Asbury or ORLC can go alone and develop a renewed sense of mission.
 We reviewed the proposed Joint Ministry Covenant. Debby Chenoweth, (Joint Task Force member from ORLC, along with Rick Denis, Jim Anderson and Dottie Gilbertson), stated that 49% of ELCA churches in the US in 2009 had expenses exceeding income. This relates to one of the goals in exploring a partnership: *Each congregation needs to save money.*
 A motion was made by Rose Miller to call a congregational meeting to vote on the proposed Joint Ministry Covenant between Asbury UMC and Our Redeemer ELCA. Seconded by Linnea. Motion passed.
 Important dates: Informational sessions regarding the partnership will be held Sunday, November 28th and Sunday, December 5th following the service. On Sunday, December 19th following the service, there will be a congregational meeting to vote on the Joint Ministry Covenant. On December 12th at 4pm a joint service will be held using the Holden Evening Prayer service.
- * FISH: Bette Lou Yenne and Larry Denis recently attended a meeting with FISH representatives. They will represent ORLC as we continue to support and further our relationship with FISH

New Business:

- * Thrivent: Following discussion of a letter from Thrivent a motion was made by Rick Denis to have a special offering on Sunday, November 28th to support the Thrivent Food Bank event. Seconded by Rose. Motion passed.
- * Next Door: Pastor asked us to consider in our annual budget a contribution to the Next Door Capital Campaign. A motion was made by Rick to ask the budget committee to consider a line item of \$500 -\$1000 toward the Next Door Inc. Capital Campaign. Seconded by Rose. Motion passed.

Next Council meeting will be Tuesday, December 14th at 7 PM. Linnea Denis will lead the devotions.
Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Terry

Financial Report

	Income at end of October	\$10290.00
less	Expense at end of Oct	<u>-11309.65</u>
	Net	\$(1019.65)
	Income Year to Date	\$91869.48
less	Expense Year to Date	<u>90288.95</u>
	Net	\$ 1580.53

Submitted by Linnea Denis, Treasurer

Sunday School

Children will have Sunday School
December 5th and 19th.
School will start when church begins
and finish in time for children to share communion
with their families and the congregation.



FOOD BANK



Now you see them, Now you don't!

The **Shoe Box Christmas Project** was a
“towering” presence at Our Redeemer this past Novem-
ber. If you walked into church the final days of packing,
you entered a kind of maze of boxes ready to be sent to
Portland and then to children in various parts of the
world.

Thank you to all who prepared a box or helped
in the shipping process. Thank you to Karen Goebel
who oversee's this project at ORLC, and thanks to her
“helper” Ulrich!

FISH Food Bank

Our special offering for FISH
(through Thrivent) raised \$1205.
Thrivent will match these funds!
FISH is in much need of donated
food and/or dollars this season.

Thank You!

**Linden Wendle and Cheri Ander-
son** helped children make their
Advent centerpieces.
They're beautiful!
Vicki Wartalski has donated
a tree from her home
to decorate the Sanctuary.



Women's Retreat

Susan Kintner was our speaker and led our
group in comforting prayer and song.
Cheri's sister Susan played piano for us.
Kris White shared her card supplies for
bookmark projects.
Some words about retreat moments.....

Water pitchers, candles, and river rocks.
Making bookmarks.
Women's voices raised in song, prayer and
laughter.
Ocean waves and seagulls and RAIN.
The sheriff and his shotgun.
Delicious food and Mandarin beer.

Worship Assignments

If you find that you cannot serve on the date you are listed, please make arrangements for a substitute.

2010	Dec 5	Dec 12	Dec 19	Dec 26
Asst Minister		Jim Anderson	Dave Hindahl	Debby Chenoweth
Lector	Kathy Terry	Cheri Anderson	Debby Chenoweth	
Acolyte			Ethan Fowler	
Greeter/Usher	Craig & Kathy Terry	Rick Denis	Jennifer & Skip Fowler	
Coffee Hour	Craig & Kathy Terry	Bob & Kris White	The Andersons	
Flowers				
Altar Care	Betty	Lou	Yenne	

Nursery will be staffed weekly

Committees, Councils, and Meetings of ORLC

Church Council

2nd Tuesday of each month @ 7pm

2010 Members :

Dottie Gilbertson (President), Rick Denis (V.P.),
Kathy Terry (Sec.), Cheri Anderson, Randy Church,
Rose Miller, Frank Moore

Financial Officers:

Linnea Denis (Treasurer), Jennifer Fowler (Fin. Sec.)

WELCA

Kathy Rice & Kathy Terry (Co-Presidents),
Roberta Schweller (Treas.) Blanche Donahue (Sec.)

Worship Committee

Contact Audrey Bentz for meeting times

Evangelism Comm.

Contact Don Shalhope for meeting times

Faith in Action

Contact Sharon Pantely for times

Mutual Ministry

Contact Pastor Andrew Wendle for times

Women's (WELCA) Bible Study

4th Tuesday of each month
Check calendar for location

Down Manor Bible Study

Wednesdays at 10:00am

Quilting

1st and 3rd Wednesdays
At 9:00am, Fellowship Hall



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 FISH 3:30-5:30 10am Down Manor Bible Study	2	3 FISH 3:30-5 5pm Family Fun Night	4
5 10am Worship Sunday School 11 Covenant Info Session 1pm Card Making	6	7	8 10am Down Manor Bible Study	9	10	11
12 10am Worship 11 Fellowship 4pm Holden Prayer service with Asbury	13	14 7pm Council Meeting	15 10am Down Manor Bible Study	16	17	18
19 10am Worship Sunday School 11am Meeting to vote on covenant.	20	21 Winter Begins 	22 10am Down Manor Bible Study	23	24 8pm Christmas Eve Service	25 Christmas Day 
26 10am Worship 11 Fellowship	27	28 7pm Women's Evening Bible Study	29 10am Down Manor Bible Study	30	31 A HAPPY NEW YEAR	

- Women's Quilting is the 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 9am in the Fellowship Hall.
- Narcotics Anonymous, Sundays & Thursdays from 7:30-8:30 in the Fellowship Hall.
- Cleaning on first and third Saturdays.

In case of emergency of if you are in need of pastoral care, please contact
Pastor Andrew Wendle at 541-490-6703.

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: **January Newsletter submissions** :
: Due: December 21, 2010 Send to: :
: orlc@gorge.net :
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