

**Church of the Redeemer**  
**Council of Elders Meeting**  
**August 23, 2010**

**Elders Present:** Linda Thoel, Thomas McKenzie, Scooter Lee, John Van Hooydonk, Mary Brown, David Uskavitch, Mark Deering, Pat Shepard

**Others Present:** Kyle Williams, Linda Shepherd, Susan Kimbro, Danny Bryant

**I. Opening Prayer**

**II. Approval of Minutes**

- a. A motion was made and approved to approve July Minutes without correction.

**III. Staff Reports**

**a. Susan Kimbro**

- i. Sunday school started two weeks ago with 15 volunteers teaching, including many first timers.
- ii. Susan and Danny co-hosted a Sunday kick-off cook-out that had close to one hundred attendees.
- iii. Heartwork started up last week
  - 1. Planning their second annual retreat for Sept. 11

**b. Danny Bryant**

- i. Sunday school started last week.
  - 1. 12 students attended last week.
  - 2. 17 students attended this week.
- ii. Recently sent emails to parents asking them to write a letter about their kids.
- iii. Attempting to get lunch with students' parents.
- iv. Student trip to Cincinnati went well.

**c. Jenna Martin**

- i. Jenna had a great lunch with three new musicians.
- ii. Jenna, Thomas, and Bob are preparing a Benedictine retreat. Jenna is planning it as a part of her Master's Degree program.

**IV. Pastor's Update**

- a. Cell group incubator is this Wednesday.
- b. Received a good response regarding super clubs.
- c. Benedictine spirituality will be the topic of Wednesday night discussions for about a month, ending with a Benedictine retreat at the Hiding Place.
- d. Ernest goes home next week and Thomas enjoyed visiting with him.
- e. Sunday school classes for adults have begun:
  - i. Jonathan Warren is teaching a class about the church in America
  - ii. Tom Russell is teaching the other class

- f. Thomas accepted an invitation to be the ordination coordinator for the AMIA Mid-South Network.
- g. Led a newcomer's class last Wednesday with 20 new people joining the church.
- h. Won't be here on Sept 12. He will be in Chicago for his 15<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Danny Bryant will be preaching and Kenny Bengé will be celebrating.

**V. Treasurer's Report**

	<u>July 2010</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Tithe	28,850.50	274,442.28
Over/(Under) Budget	(20,599.50)	(71,707.72)
Ordinary Expenses	43,385.02	328,170.39
Over/(Under) Budget	(4,910.78)	(9,900.21)
Net Ordinary Income	(14,534.52)	(53,728.11)

**Bank Account Balances as of End of July 2010**

Cedarstone Bank- General Operations	\$2,908.97
Cedarstone Bank- Reserve Account	\$74,917.64
Schwab- First Fruits	\$54,894.56
<u>Pastor's Discretionary</u>	<u>\$ 2,680.17</u>
<b>Total in all accounts</b>	<b>\$135,401.34</b>

- a. August is off to a good start
- b. Were able to keep expenses down in July
- c. Projected to hit around budget for income in August.
- d. Line item 2221 is negative because of the Rwanda plane fares going through.
- e. The St. John's gift is not represented in July's Report.
- f. Thomas made a note to talk with Naomi and Kenny to find out how Kenny had previously communicated the forthcoming transfer of funds before it was sent to Rwanda.
- g. Line item 6940 for facility upkeep is up because of repairs made to the air conditioning.
- h. Attendance has been up by around a hundred people per weekend in July.
- i. A motion was made and approved to approve the Treasurer's Report.

**VI. Old Business**

- a. The Finance Committee, Scooter, and Pat are going to meet to determine and define what a 'reserve' is (in regards to COTR's budget) and outline what circumstances would qualify for COTR to dip into the account.
- b. The Facility Use amendment was passed last week.
- c. No progress has been made related to the issue of the property that someone wanted to donate.

## **VII. New Business**

- a. David Uskavitch asked when it might be necessary for an elder to make an appeal to the congregation about the budgetary strain.
  - i. David volunteered to make a gentle appeal to the congregation for the first service of August 29<sup>th</sup> and Pat volunteered for the second service.
- b. Missions and Outreach Update
  - i. The committee has gotten together several times this year, with the most recent meeting on August 12.
  - ii. Sue Mast is organizing another trip to Guatemala, to leave January 15 and be there for a week. There are many opportunities/areas in which to serve there. Several people who went last time have expressed interest in going again, and the invitation is now being extended to the congregation. Linda Shepherd is interested in helping to incorporate information and relationships with the people in Guatemala into Redeemer's children's ministry and other areas of the church.
  - iii. The Family Affair Food Pantry launch date for Church of the Redeemer is September 12. Shopping bags with printed lists of needed items will be hanging by the back door of the lobby, so people can take them on their way out. A team of people have volunteered to organize, transport the food to FAM, etc.
  - iv. Compassion Sunday was a success. Joyce did a great job organizing it, Steve and Debbie were wonderful speakers, and 33 children from Rwanda were sponsored by people in our congregation.
  - v. Ernest Mahoro, a priest from Rwanda currently studying at Trinity in Pennsylvania, wanted to network and learn about community development and ministry projects during his visit here, so Mark Nicholas took him to visit African Leadership, New Hope Academy, Magdalene/Thistle Farms, and Blood:Water Mission. (FAM was on vacation this week, and Dair & Glenda were working on flood repairs at their house, so he wasn't able to visit them.) Ernest had several social gatherings with members of our church, and even tried his hand at bowling and canoeing! Ernest will be in Nashville until Tuesday morning, then he goes to St. Louis for a week, before heading back to seminary in Ambridge, Pennsylvania.
- c. Jane Griffin asked Linda Thoel to approach the elders on her coordinating a bulletin board that would let congregation members support businesses and services from within the congregation.
  - i. After some discussion, the COE decided to postpone decision on the matter.
- d. A parishioner approached Mark Deering about having a fall picnic.
  - i. There is currently a fall picnic being planned.

- e. Mary Brown is planning a women's coffee group on an upcoming Saturday in September.

**VIII. Meeting Adjourned**

**IX. Next Meeting: Monday, September 20, 2010**