

60th Anniversary – 2009

Here is a Brief History of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church.

1949 The first divine service was conducted on March 13 in the old Episcopal Church building which stood at the present site on South and Kimball.

1950 The congregation's first resident pastor, The Rev. Lee Butz, arrived in September 1950.

1953 The old Episcopal church building and lot and lot adjoining to the south was purchased in 1953 for the sum of \$6,850.00. The parsonage at 400 Morrison Ave was also purchased.

1955 Groundbreaking services for the present building were held on May 19, 1955 and the Dedication was held on December 4, 1955.

1970 Chimes were purchased. Sunday services aired on Jackson's TV Channel 6.

1979 Extensive remodeling including brick over-lay and addition of entry, office space, and bathrooms was completed.

1982 Ken Bakalyr completed his studies at Concordia, St. Paul for Director of Christian Education. He will be serving in this position at Booneville MO.

1985 Our church constitution was rewritten giving women the right to vote.

1986 Stained glass windows were installed on the east and west walls of the worship area.

1990 The parking lot was sealed and pew cushions were installed along with air conditioning.

1993 Paul Crolius, member of Our Redeemer, was ordained into the ministry in June 1993.

1994 Tile was installed around the church and the back stairway carpet was replaced.

1997 The lift between main floor and the basement was installed in 1997 and in 1998 the north bathroom in the basement was made handicap accessible. A new Allen organ was purchased also.

1999 A new high tech sound system, new carpet in the Narthex was installed and new computers were purchased in 1999.

2000 Darcia Wenzel, a member, completed her studies for teaching at Concordia College, Seward. She started her career at Seward's St. John's Lutheran School teaching grades 5-8.

2001 Our Redeemer donated their Sept. 16, 2001 regular offering to St. Matthew's Lutheran in New York City as disaster relief after the 9-11-01 tragedy. A special fund was begun for the stain glass window at the east entry.

2002 The stain glass window at the east entry was installed and the parsonage roof was replaced.

2003 New communion ware was purchased. A special fund was started for the new Lutheran Service Books which were introduced and dedicated in 2006.

2005 The county changed the church address from 100 Kimball Ave to 101 Kimball Ave even though our physical address did not change. The church was re-shingled in 2005 and in 2006 the parsonage was completely redecorated.

2007 A Clavinova piano was purchased in 2007.

2008 New carpeting and cove was installed in the basement, new stoves purchased for the kitchen and handicap accessible electric door openers were installed at west entrance in 2008.

2009 The south bathrooms of the basement received new vanities, faucets and stools, a larger sink was put in the kitchen, replacing the double sink on the west side and a new lighted outdoor sign has been installed on the northeast corner of the church in 2009.

60th Anniversary celebrated. Membership is 474. Communicants are 396.

Pastors serving here at Our Redeemer:

1950- 1957	Lee Butz
1958- 1960	Robert Novotney
1960- 1963	Kyle Kiefer
1963 -1969	Roger Klemz
1969-1978	David Preuss
1979-1981	Allen Mack
1982- 1985	James Fandrey
1983- 1984	Ted Fosdick (Assistant Pastor)
1986- 2006	Roger Hett
2006- present	John Schuetz

OH, GIVE THANKS UNTO THE LORD FOR HIS MERCY ENDURES FOREVER.

Special thanks to...

Nina Walter for making the beautiful banners.

Lutheran Women's Missionary League for the altar flowers.

Our Choir, Garret Geesman, and Pam Hesel for our special music today.

The Public Relations Committee for organizing this event.

Pastor Crolius for being our guest speaker today.