

VISIONPATH DEVELOPMENT TEAM

“A Retro Look into a Crystal Ball”

Back during 2007 the Long Range Planning Committee decided to produce a futures scenario as part of its planning document. Based on the information gathered by the way of an overnight leadership retreat and a follow-up all day Saturday workshop, the Committee took a look into a “Crystal Ball” in order to predict several future observations and events occurring within the Redeemer Community. And what they saw (LRPC, “Looking into the Crystal Ball”, 2007, p.3):

By 2017, Redeemer Lutheran Church and Child Care is a unified, community church which fully integrates year-round and seasonal members of all ages. Membership, which is very attractive to community residents, has increased steadily, with new member numbers exceeding losses. We have 600 active, full-time members, 300 associate members, and regularly-attending nonmembers.

The church is financially sound with excess funds going to the endowment fund for future growth and maintenance needs. The members are ‘mature Christian’ stewards who understand the value of Christian stewardship principles, and who lovingly give of time, talent and treasures. All boards are fully staffed; we have no problem getting workers. We have expanded and added to our ministries, offering more services to the community, including a K-8 Christian day school and a regional (Circuit) high school. We have an active youth ministry and a strong elder ministry, which includes a Redeemer adult day care center and a regional (Circuit) assisted living facility (ALF). As a result of our growth, we will have physically expanded the church building, adding more seats and building additions to support our worship activities (music, kitchen, sound system, audio visual equipment, etc.) The Fellowship Hall would be expanded or replaced, insuring adequate facilities for social activities, dinners, offices, lounge areas, showers, etc.

As we are about to embark upon 2014, the Vision Path Development Team has the task to bring to fruition several of the 2017 predictions and the present survey-based identified vision paths. How different are Redeemer’s visions then (2007) and now (2013)? The challenges that await us are great, but are attainable and manageable. However, in order for us to turn visions into reality, we must be anticipatory!!!