

MARKING TIME AT REDEEMER: THE SECOND DECADE (1900-1909)

Last month I summarized Redeemer's first decade – 1890-1899 and placed it within the context of what else was happening in Minnesota and the world. This month we continue with the second decade – 1900-1909.

1900:

- The Boxer Rebellion in China moved from the countryside to Peking and the Empress Dowager ordered all foreigners to be killed. Max Planck formulated quantum theory and Sigmund Freud published *The Interpretation of Dreams*.
- L. Frank Baum's *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* was published and the Eastman Kodak Co. introduced the \$1 Brownie camera. Nearly 1 in 3 Minnesotans was an immigrant and two-thirds of immigrants came from Germany, Sweden, and Norway.
- Redeemer's first pastor, J. Adam Detzer, left Redeemer for a parish in Detroit. Rev. Henry Haserodt of Alameda, California became Redeemer's new pastor, serving until April 1903.

1903:

- Joseph Stalin joined the Bolsheviks and Cuba leased Guantánamo Bay to the U.S. "in perpetuity."
- The Ford Model A was produced; the first silent movie, *The Great Train Robbery*, was produced; and the Wright Brothers made the first flight at Kitty Hawk. In Minnesota, the first recorded game of hockey in Eveleth was played between Eveleth and Two Harbors.
- Rev. Oscar C. Kreinheder was installed as Redeemer's third pastor.

1905:

- Einstein proposed his theory of relativity and the equation $E=mc^2$. The Union of Sweden and Norway ended.
- The Industrial Workers of the World, Rotary International, the U.S. Forest Service, and Las Vegas, Nevada were all formed. Theodore Roosevelt was inaugurated as 26th President of the United States.
- Publication of the *Redeemer Record* began in January 1905 "to serve our church, bringing such articles and items as will be of special interest and benefit to our people." Sunday School enrollment was 180 children and the use of offering envelopes has become the norm.

1907:

- The first Montessori school and daycare for children in working class families opened in Rome. The passenger liner *RMS Lusitania* made its maiden voyage from Liverpool, England to New York City.
- The Mesabi Range Strike was the first organized and widespread strike on Minnesota's Iron Range. The Science Museum of Minnesota was founded.
- On April 7th, Redeemer held a worship service in a hall at Nicollet Avenue near Lake Street in Minneapolis. This was to become Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, Redeemer's first daughter congregation.

1909:

- Admiral Robert E. Peary claimed to have reached the North Pole, Colombia recognized Panama's independence, and plastic was invented.
- William Howard Taft was inaugurated as 27th President of the United States, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was founded, and the first U.S. university school of nursing was established at the University of Minnesota.

- Faced with expansion of the railroad and business district into its residential neighborhood, Redeemer followed the lead of other churches in leaving the downtown area. In February 1909, Redeemer purchased two lots at Carroll Avenue and Dale Street for \$3,300. This site, at the top of a hill, benefited from streetcar lines on Rondo Avenue, Selby Avenue, and along Dale Street. In October it was resolved to build a new church and a full-page architect's drawing was published in the December *Record*.
- At about the same time, the Minneapolis mission (Mt. Olive Lutheran Church) that began in 1907 was organized with 15 voting members.

In the span of 20 years, Redeemer had grown from having only 5 founding members to starting a new mission congregation in Minneapolis and purchasing prime real estate west of downtown. It was poised historically and geographically for rapid growth in the coming decades.



The altar in the church at Lafayette & Woodward, ca. 1891