



INDEPENDENT PHOTO BY TRICIA CARZOLI

Classic cars from throughout the region were on display at Redeemer Lutheran Church Sept. 17 during its annual Car Show and Hot Dog Festival.

## Church's third annual car show draws crowd

By Tricia Carzoli  
THE INDEPENDENT

Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1320 Dean St., held its third annual Car Show and Hot Dog Festival the morning of Sept. 17.

Passersby on the way to the Woodstock Farmers Market and other visitors stopped in to look at the many antique cars on display in the church parking lot.

Redeemer Lutheran Church serves as a PADS site as well as a Woodstock Area Community Ministries daytime drop-in shelter. The proceeds from the car show will benefit the daytime and nighttime homeless shelters, the church's annual Thanksgiving dinner, its annual clothing drive and a mobile food pantry.

"The car show helps us keep our ministries going and it provides an opportunity to welcome the public to our church," said car show chairperson Anne Johnson.

Forty car exhibitors from Woodstock to Ingleside let the public view their original, modified or restored automobiles.

Brad Naser, a Woodstock resident who brought his 1970 El Camino with a distinct butternut yellow paint job to the show, said he enjoyed participating in the local and sometimes smaller shows.

"I like seeing the people I know," he said of the community show. "And it supports the church – the money goes to good causes," he continued.

Helping out the community was the perk, but those who brought their cars to the event were also happy to share the history of their cars with enthusiasts as well as casual passersby.

Naser said that his El Camino has a nearly original interior, but that he made some modifications. He built a wooden bed for the interior of the trunk so the paint would not be chipped. He installed front disc brakes and other upgrades.

"It is a great highway car," Naser said. "I'm looking forward to taking it on a longer trip soon."

Dennis Larsen, also of Woodstock, said he was happy to show at the Redeemer Lutheran event because, "I get to see a lot of people that I know – and a lot of people that I haven't seen in a while."

Larsen's '69 Dodge Super Bee has been fully restored. He also returned the car to its original color – a unique paint that looks blue under fluorescent lighting and blue-green in the sun – through a rotisserie paint process.

"Only about 17 cars were made in this color," he said. "I wanted it to be original."

Arthur Hahl of Ingleside brought his '57 Thunderbird – which he acquired in 1962 – to the show. He participates in 10 or 12 shows a year.

"Woodstock is nice. This is a nice car show. I know that it benefits the food pantry and the homeless shelter – it is good for the community," he said.