



WWW.HALFWAYCREEK.ORG

Currents

SEPTEMBER 2014

“HALFWAY HODGEPODGE”—YOU’RE INVITED!

What: Halfway Hodgepodge is a progressive meal where you can learn about and volunteer for our ministries here at the church. Tables will be set up and each will feature a different ministry. Also at that table will be the next part of your meal. It is a fun way to see all that we do here!

When: Sunday, September 14th, following our 9:00 am service.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION—SEPTEMBER 14

September 14 we will have one worship service at 9:00 a.m. This will be followed by Sunday School Registration and Halfway Hodgepodge.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS - SEPTEMBER 14

All students, teachers and support staff of our schools are invited to bring their backpacks and/or brief-cases to worship on Sunday, September 14 for a “Blessing of the Backpacks.”



FALL WORSHIP SCHEDULE STARTS SEPT 21

Please note the change in our worship schedule. Sunday worship will be at 8:00 a.m. followed by Sunday School at 9:15 a.m. and worship again at 10:30 a.m. **starting September 21** as determined by the Vision Board at the August meeting.

BLESSING OF THE BIBLES —SEPTEMBER 21

ALL Sunday School children are invited to participate in the Blessing of the Bibles on Sunday, September 21. Two year olds and 3rd graders will receive a new Spark Bible this year.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

WORSHIP LEADERS	3
SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS	4
TEAM REPORTS	6-15
LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF KITS	16
TREASURER’S REPORT	19



HALFWAY CREEK LUTHERAN CHURCH
 W6016 County Road W
 Holmen, WI 54636
 Phone 608-526-3701
 Pastor Jean Pagliaro
 Worship at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. on Sundays
 www.halfwaycreek.org

Return Service Requested

OFFICE HOURS

The office will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday, Thursday, Friday and Tuesday from noon-5:00 p.m. If you need to reach Kathleen Jensen, you may leave a message on the answering machine or e-mail her at assistant@halfwaycreek.org.

Nonprofit Org.
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Holmen, WI 54636



NEWS AT HALFWAY CREEK

This was our float at the Holmen Kornfest parade. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to build the float and walk in the parade!



100TH ANNIVERSARY OF PRESENT CHURCH BUILDING

On September 6, 1914, the present Halfway Creek Lutheran Church building was dedicated. The previous church building, which was located within the Halfway Creek Cemetery, was struck by lightning and burned to the ground on Easter morning in 1912. According to church records: "At a meeting of the Trustees

it was decided to select a new site for a church. The site selected was a hill on the corner of Abner Smith's farm in Sweden Coulee about a half mile south-east of the old church site. Abner Smith offered to sell this land for \$100 an acre and on February 26, 1913 the Trustees decided to purchase an acre and the deal

was made for \$100. Here a fine gray brick veneer church with high steeple was built in 1913 and completed in 1914 at a cost of \$10,000." 100 years later, the church and high steeple continues to serve as a beacon to the surrounding community.

HOLMEN'S HOPE—WE SERVE SEPTEMBER 30

Once again we will reach out to our community at the Holmen's Hope meal.

We will prepare and serve the meal on September 30th. Milk and desserts are needed for this meal. Please watch for sign up sheets to be passed around during church.

This is a big event for HCLC as we serve 160-200 of our neighbors. We visit old friends, make new friends and have great laughs in both the kitchen and dining area. A huge shout out to our garden team for providing green beans and squash. Thank-You!

If you have not helped with our

Holmen's Hope meal, please consider joining us. Kids/youth receive community service hours for helping out. We always need milk and cookie servers.

Dawn Bandoli 498-0774
squeeze1@hotmail.com

TREASURER'S REPORT

Year to date budget as of August 28, 2014

General Fund Income:	\$ 85,482.52
General Fund Expenses:	\$ 84,174.71
General Fund Net Income:	\$ 1,307.81



NEWS AT HALFWAY CREEK—CONT.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Fellowship Hour has been a huge success this past year and we will continue this ministry. There will be sign up sheets being passed around church.

There will continue to be two separate coffee hours, one at 9:00 am (upstairs) and one at 11:30 am (downstairs). We do need families to volunteer to help with this and you can help in two ways: prepare

and serve the coffee and treats or make the treats. You can certainly do both as well! We will have sign ups at church and during Halfway Hodgepodge on September 14th.

WELCA NEWS

W-ELCA FALL RENEWAL WORKSHOP

Sat, Oct. 18, St. Paul Lutheran La Crosse.
8:30AM - Registration/Coffee
9AM - Devotions/Speakers/Workshops

Members and unit leaders, especially, should plan to attend to gear up for ministries in your church. Info will be shared on LWR projects, an update from the triennial convention, a preview of the Gather Bible study, conference

meetings, fellowship and lunch. The workshop will conclude in early afternoon.
Synod Liaison, JoAnn Salava



COMMUNITY EVENTS

FALLS PREVENTION WEEK SEMINARS—FREE!

You may already know that thousands of seniors are hospitalized each year due to falls and Wisconsin is near the top. Our local Falls Prevention Coalition is sponsoring a wonderful series of falls

prevention workshops in September during the "Falls Prevention Week," which will start on Monday, September 22nd to Wednesday, September 24th. If you want more information there

are brochures hanging on the bulletin board at the back of the church.

La Crosse County Aging Unit
Phone: 608-785-6438

SERVING OTHERS IN OUR CONGREGATION

	ACOLYTE	SEXTON	ALTAR GUILD	OFFERING COUNTERS	LECTOR	COMMUNION ASSIST.	USHERS
S E P T 7 9 0 0	Jesse Fiers	Mike Martin	Diane Jostad Nancy Holley	Rhonda Britton Sonja Nelson	Susie Johnson	Thelma Severson	Troy & Annie Fiers
S E P T 14 9 0 0	Savannah Horstman	Stan Schwier	Barb Hale Bette Pedretti	Bette Pedretti Susan Jostad	Amy Noel	Rose Simon	Travis & Mandi Horstman
S E P T 21 8 0 0		Archie Achterkirch	Diane Jostad	Joe Noth Stephanie Lubinsky	Pat Martin	Mike Martin	Volunteer needed
21 1 0 3 0	Ben Mally	Josh Johnson			Lee Anderson	Lee Anderson	Steve & Kristi Mally
S E P T 28 8 0 0		Russ Bringe	Carrie Payne Nicole Stumlin	Volunteer needed		Amy Noel	Volunteer needed
28 1 0 3 0		Dave Bringe			Kristi Johnson	Jessie Booth	Volunteer needed

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

<p>1 Rachael Temp</p> <p>5 Greg Britton</p> <p>6 Teagan Peterson</p> <p>8 Angela Kinsman</p> <p>9 Casey Clark</p> <p>10 Rayna Hendrickson Hannah Scholze</p>	<p>13 Susie Johnson Emersen Strangstalien</p> <p>14 Matt Pagliaro Beulah Sanders Rodney Sutherland</p> <p>15 Jesse Fiers Kaden Casberg Delores Evenson</p> <p>18 Diane Jostad Emily Jostad Kimberly Noel</p>	<p>20 Dawn Rink Alexander Rudy Ashton Rudy</p> <p>21 Arlene Prichett</p> <p>22 Hadley Given Connie Lau Sarah Swackhamer Hannah Wegner</p> <p>23 James Hansen David Johnson Morgan Jostad Mark Sanders Stan Schwier Lila Sutherland</p>	<p>24 Lydia Pagliaro</p> <p>25 Dorothy Hoch Ruth Jostad Ben Mueller Pastor Jean Pagliaro Rich Pedretti</p> <p>26 Alex Pedretti Eric Theisen</p> <p>28 Aaron Balow Jason Ruhbusch</p> <p>29 Kim Booth</p>
--	--	--	---

If we've missed your birthday in the newsletter, it is because we don't have it in our computer system. Please call the church office (526-3701) to help us update our records so we can all celebrate with you on your special day.



NEWS AT HALFWAY CREEK—CONT.

A NOTE FROM OUR PARISH NURSES

SIMPLE WAYS TO ALLERGY-PROOF YOUR HOUSE

Protecting yourself from household allergens can be a daunting task, but start simple and you might see quick results.



- Use two doormats at every house entry point – one inside and one outside.
- Take off your shoes when you enter the house.
- Vacuum carpets weekly using a vacuum with a small-particle filter.
- Damp-mop floors once a week.
- Wipe down surfaces with a damp cloth once a week.
- Hang machine-washable curtains instead of heavy draperies.
- Encase mattresses, box springs and pillows in dust-proof zippered covers.
- Wash bedding in hot water once a week.
- Repair cracked or broken caulk and tile in the bathroom.
- Always run the bathroom exhaust fan when you take a shower.
- Clean out under the kitchen sink and check for leaks.
- Monitor the humidity in the air (ideal is 30-50 percent).
- Change air filters once a month.

If you can only make a few changes, start with your bedroom – you spend about one-third of your time sleeping. And, if possible, go to an allergist and find out what you are allergic to. This will help you focus your efforts and make sure you are treating the right problem.

CONVERSATION AND CELEBRATION—OCTOBER 25

Please join us on Saturday, October 25 from 9:00-12:00 for Conversation and Celebration of who we are and what God is calling us to be as a congregation. Team members are strongly encouraged to attend so please mark this on your calendars now. Also, you do not need to be a part of a team to join us. All are welcome and we would love to have you as a part of the morning.

NEWS AT HALFWAY CREEK—CONT.

Lutheran World Relief Kits

School Kit:

- Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper approximately 8" X 10½"; no loose-leaf paper
- One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- One pencil sharpener
- One blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
- Five ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band
- One box of 16 or 24 crayons
- One 2½" eraser
- One sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag approximately 14" X 17" with shoulder straps (no standard backpacks)

Personal Care Kit:

- One light- to medium-weight, bath-size towel (approximately 52" X 27" or smaller), dark color recommended
- Two bath-size bars (4 to 5 oz.) of soap, any brand, in original wrapping
- One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging*
- One sturdy comb, remove packaging
- One metal nail clippers (with or without attached file), remove packaging

Baby Care Kit:

- Two lightweight cotton t-shirts
- Two long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet)
- Two receiving blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, up to 52" square
- Four cloth diapers, flat fold preferred
- One jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap
- Two pairs of socks
- One hand towel, dark color recommended
- Two bath-size bars (4 to 5 oz.) of gentle soap, in original wrapping
- Two diaper pins or large safety pins

Soap

- No one likes to look dirty. A brand new bar of soap lets someone present him- or herself with dignity, keep hands clean and stay healthy. Those simple things are some of the very building blocks to success. Send us soap and we will see it gets to people in need. LWR accepts new bars of any brand, in its original wrapping. Bath-size bars (4 to 5 oz.) are highly preferred.

*** Deadline for all items to be turned in will be September 8, 2014 ***

NEWS AT HALFWAY CREEK—CONT.

PASTORAL ACTS

- New members: John, Kim, Sami & Elli Adam; Jesse, Nicole, Trevor & Chesney Plomedahl; Samantha Jensen, Braxtyn Jensen-Pralle; Earl, Mary, Max & Samantha Hammond

TRUNK-OR-TREAT

We will be hosting our second annual Trunk-or-Treat in October. More info to come on this fun event in the weeks to come!!!



FESTIVAL FOODS AND KWIK TRIP

When you purchase these cards, a percentage of your purchase price stays at HCLC. The Festival Foods (3%) and Kwik Trip (10%) Scrip program are an ongoing source of income for our Building Project.

The cards are available each week after our worship services in "The Back Pew."

MILK JUG TOPS, CAMPBELLS SOUP LABELS, BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

These items can be placed in the plastic three drawer file inside the basement entry. They are distributed to the Holmen Schools. ***** Please Note ***** The Kwik Trip Milk Moola program is ending in October, so if you have these milk caps in a drawer, please turn them in soon, so we can get credit for them. Thank you.

SNACK PACK

We understand that sometimes it is difficult to plan ahead. There is a Snack Pack container in the kitchen with cookies, cheerios and crackers. Please help yourself and your little (and not so little) ones to a treat when you are at Halfway Creek.

TEAM UPDATES

SECOND CENTURY COMMITTEE

MEMBERS: ARCHIE ACHTERKIRCH, RICH & DIANA BERGER, JOHN DAILY, DAVE GATES, CAROLYN BJERKE, MORGAN JOSTAD, TRAVIS HORSTMAN, JEAN LATHAM, TINA MUELLER AND LYNN WEGNER.

The Building Committee would like to thank the congregation for its patience and support. After working through zoning issues, construction of the new addition has finally started. It is exciting to see progress every week. Please remember that for safety reasons, we ask that everyone restrain from entering the construction area at this time.

Celebrate. We have topped \$500,000 in donations for the

project. Thank you for your faith in this project and continued financial support. Just a reminder that you can support this project by purchasing script cards at church for Kwik Trip, Festival and Kohls.

The committee continues to work on interior and exterior finishes. We are picking out brick, shingles, aluminum frame color, soffit and fascia color and window finishes for the exterior. We are still mak-

ing flooring selection and paint colors for the interior.

Substantial completion is expected around April 1. Updates for construction and financial support are posted in the ramp entryway.

Please feel free to contact any of the committee members if you have questions.

Again we gratefully thank you for your support and prayers.



TEAM UPDATES—CONT.

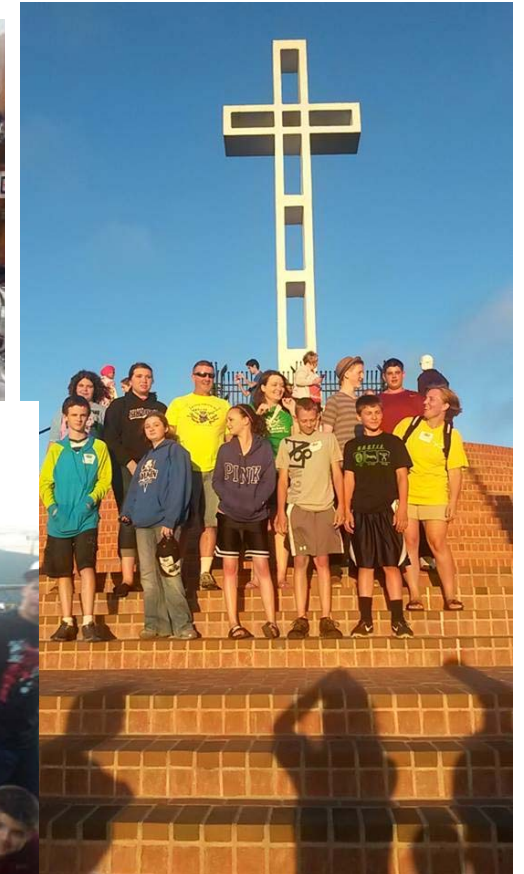
YOUTH TEAM

MEMBERS: RHONDA BRITTON, SUSAN CHASE, MARK CRAIG AND JOSH JOHNSON

This year we were blessed to have Sam Daily as our Youth Coordinator! She did a wonderful job leading our youth with activities as

well as helping coordinate our mission trip to San Diego. Sadly Sam has moved to Eau Claire and so our Youth Team will be discern-

ing and planning the process to hire a new Youth Coordinator. We so appreciate your support of our youth!



TEAM UPDATES—CONT.

WELCA— MEMBERS: ALL WOMEN OF THE CHURCH ARE PART OF THE WOMEN OF THE ELCA

WELCA - the women continue to be active with serving food, Befrienders, Prayer Chain, the monthly Bible Study will start again in September and organizing the

kits for the Lutheran World Relief Boxcar. With the construction process the salad luncheon and bazaar will be on hold until another time. We also served meals at

Living Hope in Ettrick, Our Saviors Lutheran in La Crosse and Holmen's Hope.

Food for Thought:

1 John 3:18 ". . . Let us love not in word or speech, but in truth and action."

Compassion – is more than a feeling; it is all we do for others in need in response to God's deep love and compassion for us – the golden rule!



TEAM UPDATES—CONT.

EVANGELISM AND DISCIPLESHIP TEAM

MEMBERS: NANCY HOLLEY, SUSAN JOSTAD AND JEAN LATHAM

The main focus of the team this summer has been the garden. It is the best one ever! One day Nancy had to drive down the hill to the garden to bring up a huge crop that was too much to carry on foot! If you haven't seen it yet, take a look down the hill and see what a lovely, lush garden it is.

Thanks to the "guys" who till and haul compost and do the other dirty jobs. Thanks to the "girls" who work with the plants: Nancy Holley, Susan Jostad, Alice Miller, Diane Jostad, and Shelley Vander Linden.

Nancy delivered fresh produce to

the food bank and Salvation Army: eight trips to the food bank and nine trips to the Salvation Army, so far. She says they are so thankful to get the fresh veggies. Crops include: radishes, cabbage, beets, onions, green beans, broccoli, bell peppers, cucumbers, and zucchini. Tomatoes, carrots, and squash are not quite ready yet (third week in August) but should be ready when it is time for HCLC to serve the September meal for Holmen's Hope.

The Holmen Area Food Pantry has asked us to bring food donations to them. Now that we know where it is and what their store hours are, we will! The food pantry is at

St. Elizabeth's Church on Main Street in Holmen, and its hours are 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays.

On the other hand, the grocery cart in the sanctuary has not had a good "crop" lately. There is always a need for non-perishable canned and dry foods such as canned fish, pasta and sauce, baked beans, tomato products and other vegetables, peanut butter, cereals, whatever you can imagine that hungry folks need. Please buy a few extra items for The Cart whenever you do your shopping. Thank you!



TEAM UPDATES—CONT.

FELLOWSHIP/OUTREACH TEAM

MEMBERS: DAWN BANDOLI AND KARI HENDRICKSON

Outreach/Fellowship

Since the 2013 September Hodgepodge Sunday, the Fellowship & Outreach team has been busy! This is what YOU have done and it's amazing!

October 26, 2013—you kicked off the morning with WELCA's soup luncheon/rummage sale; mission funds then continued the day with our first Trunk N Treat building fundraiser, there were 17 cars parked with trunks decorated. We had games & treats, volunteers stood in our gardens, you ran a cake walk, a bounce house, and inside our fellowship hall you served candy, face painted and we had a hotdog lunch and spooky tunes. To end October you rolled flat bread until your hand blistered for WELCA mission funds.

November—you donated donuts, opened HCLC, and welcomed our community out of the cold and rain.

December—you donated gently used items for our first Santa's Workshop; our Sunday school kids had a wonderful time shopping for everyone including their pets. Offerings from Nov. & Dec. events went to youth mission.

January 2014— during our 45 below cold crunch and school clos-

ings you offered Daycare to our community for donations,

February— you collected four Sundays of noisy offerings for our Holmen's Hope Meal then reached out to cook, setup, serve, bake and wash dishes for 160. Including, serving at Ettrick and La Crosse community meals throughout the year.

March— during our Lenten season you participated in our Lenten meals, worship, and book study.

April— you Grew in Faith and We're Diggin' it. You prayed to our Lord to help build us up! You celebrated Easter with our youth breakfast, an egg hunt, and groundbreaking ceremony. To end April your quilters donated a flannel duck quilt to the North American Squirrels Assoc. [N.A.S.A.] for the La Crosse Center banquet that raised funds for our community.

May— you supported WELCA Chicken Q and funds went towards Sugar Creek Bible Camp Scholarships; your loose pocket change pie contest raised funds for our Youth mission trip; Director Sam Daily played it safe while Pastor Jean took her first pie toss from her son Logan as a birthday gift to himself! Pies were sold for \$1 and went to The General Fund... Ah...Good times!

June 8th— you gave up a Sunday afternoon for our second annual 'Serve Your Neighbor Day' & on June 21st you joined in a Homebrew fellowship which included lessons of Martin Luther and his home brewing wife Katie.

July— you collected 5 gallons of green beans from your community garden for September's Holmen's Hope meal. Thanks to Nancy Holley and the gardening team.

August— we participated in the Kornfest parade and created a 'Build Us Up Lord' themed float; Dave Gates donated & built an amazing cross, Caroline Hackett & Olympic Builders donated signs and fun materials, our confirmation/Youth Group spent two afternoons painting and decorating. Bill Achterkirch and Mary Ann Hadl donated their trailer, home and materials for set up while Archie, Pricilla Achterkirch & Pastor helped with construction.

We celebrate that so many of you have gotten involved this year to Reach out in our fellowship & outreach!!

TEAM UPDATES—CONT.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEAM

MEMBERS: CAROLYN HACKETT, ANGELA KINSMAN, JOANNE MIHM, JOANNE NICHOLS AND JEN STRANGSTALIEN.

The Sunday School Team has been busy over the past few months planning and getting ready for Vacation Bible School as well as the new Sunday School year! Vacation Bible school ran from August 10th to August 13th. This year was a little different as our Halfway Creek students joined with the Journey Lutheran students to enjoy this week learning about God and, not to mention, have a

little fun! Vacation Bible school was a great success and we as a team thank all those who helped out.

Now our team is busy preparing for the upcoming Sunday School year. We are really excited to continue the use of the Spark curriculum and have been working on preparing a schedule for the year. We will have registration for Sunday School on our Hodgepodge Sun-

day, September 14th and plan on starting Sunday School on September 21st. Some activities we have in mind for the year are a Halloween celebration, Pancakes and Pajama Sunday, and of course a fun end-of-the-year bash!

Below and on the following page are a couple pictures from Vacation Bible School!



TEAM UPDATES—CONT.

PROPERTY TEAM

MEMBERS: ARCHIE ACHTERKIRCH, BILL ACHTERKIRCH, JIM CONN, MARY ANN HADL, KERMIT JOSTAD AND RICH PEDRETTI



This spring we helped prepare the garden and moved some flowers from in front of the church to the outdoor worship area. We cleaned up the outdoor worship area and trimmed trees around the church. In the church we replaced some lights and did small repairs. We were having problems with some locks and we had American Lock and Key fix the glass door lock. Ziegler Heating serviced the air conditions at the church and the parsonage.

Submitted by Archie Achterkirch



TEAM UPDATES—CONT.

LITURGY & MUSIC TEAM

MEMBERS: JOHN DAILY, SAM DAILY, MARGE LEE, HANNAH SCHOLZE, JON STRANGSTALIEN AND LYNN WEGNER

During the summer of 2014, Halfway Creek tried two new things during worship. The first was a sermon series based on questions submitted by the congregation. The questions were thought-provoking and challenging ranging from "Why do we want children in worship?" to "What do I do when loved one doesn't believe in God?" These questions also allowed Pastor Jean to focus on topics that might not be covered by the lectionary readings and address faith questions from our own members. It was a great summer series.

The second new thing we tried was adding an additional Sunday service at 6 pm. The service was consistently attended and averaged between 15 to 20 people each week. We saw many familiar faces but were also blessed with regular visitors during this new service time.

The Music and Liturgy Team would also like to thank Amy Noel, Hannah Noel, and Brian Mueller for preaching on Sundays when Pastor Jean was gone this summer. We appreciate having members who are willing to share their faith stories and experienc-

es with the congregation.

Please be sure to stop by the Music and Liturgy table and Music Ministry table during our Hodgepodge Sunday on September 14th. We are especially looking for instrumentalists to enhance our services led by the worship team. Please contact Lynn Wegner at lwegner2005@yahoo.com or 526-3110 if you are interested.

Sincerely,

Lynn Wegner—Music Director



