



Halfway Creek

LUTHERAN CHURCH

CURRENTS

OCTOBER, 2017

OCTOBER WORSHIP

| | |
|------------|--|
| October 1 | 8:00 a.m. Worship |
| | 9:15 a.m. Sunday School |
| | 10:30 a.m. Worship |
| October 8 | 8:00 a.m. Worship |
| | 9:15 a.m. Sunday School |
| | 10:30 a.m. Worship |
| October 15 | 8:00 a.m. Worship |
| | 9:15 a.m. Sunday School |
| | 10:30 a.m. Worship & Blessing of the Bibles |
| | |
| October 22 | 8:00 a.m. Worship |
| | 9:15 a.m. Sunday School |
| | 10:30 a.m. Worship |
| October 29 | 8:00 a.m. Worship |
| | 9:15 a.m. Sunday School |
| | 10:30 a.m. Worship-Sunday School |
| | will be singing |
| | 11:30 a.m. Trunk or Treat |



HALFWAY CREEK LUTHERAN CHURCH

W6016 County Road W

Holmen, WI 54636

Phone 608-526-3701

Sunday Worship at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m..

www.halfwaycreek.org

Return Service Requested

OFFICE HOURS

The office will be open Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday and Fridays from 8:00 a.m to 1:00
pm. If you need to reach Rose Wegner, 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
Permit No. 13

VISION BOARD MEETING MINUTES—

Vision Board Meeting August 21, 2017

Members present include Joe Noth, Bob Bandoli, Rich Berger, Jen Strangstalien, Alex Pedretti, John Daily, Pastor Janet Wollam and Joanne Nichols. Guests present include Amy Noel and Carolyn Bjerke. Rick Johnson is absent.

President Joe Noth called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm. Pastor started the meeting with prayer.

Bob B. presented financial reports as of July 31. Net revenue is \$1,770.02. Amy questioned if the payments for Mission Support have been made monthly. Bob said it is paid a month behind. John D. motioned to accept the treasurers financial report as presented with the expectation that the income amounts will be reconciled to the financial secretary's giving report. Rich B. seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Carolyn B. said she is still by title the bookkeeper. Amy N. questions this because the Board hired and approved a financial assistant to do the bookkeeping.

Current bank signers on the general fund bank account are Bob B., Carolyn B, Rhonda Britton and Josh Johnson. Carolyn said Treasurer and President can sign contracts. They should not also be allowed to sign the checks because they would have complete control. John said he's okay with a second signer, that's not the issue it's the transparency. John motioned for Bob B and Rich B to be the only signers on the bank accounts except for the youth account. Alex P. seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Pastor contacted Ken Morrison, CPA of Morrison & Associates regarding an audit of the financials. He has offered to do an audit of the books for \$100 per hour. This is a \$60 per hour discount. Bob B. will contact the audit firm to set up the audit for this fall.

Carolyn B. reported Festival Foods is going to be issuing gift cards thru the Great Lakes Program instead of directly from their stores.

John D. motioned to approve the minutes for the July 27 meeting. Jen S. seconded the motion. Motion passed.



Holmen's Hope started a Friday backpack program and needs our congregations' help. As we know many children in our community are on free and reduced lunches in our local schools. We believe some of these children may go hungry on the weekends when meals are unavailable.

On Fridays, Holmen's Hope fills backpacks with non-perishable or microwaveable meals/snacks children can take home and delivers them to schools. The children return the backpacks on Monday and Holmen's Hope refills them weekly. The school principals and guidance counsellors have been the ones selecting the students/families they feel have the most need.

Here is the list of items Holmen's Hope is asking our congregations to donate for backpacks. Items can be brought to the Beer & Hymn Sing or dropped off at any Halfway Creek Lutheran Church or Coulee Life Church during the week.

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| FRUIT CUPS | APPLESAUCE CUPS |
| PUDDING CUPS | GRANOLA BARS |
| POP TARTS | CRACKERS/CHEESE |
| CRACKERS/PEANUT BUTTER | MICROWAVABLE MAC & CHEESE |
| MICROWAVABLE RAVIOLI | MICROWAVABLE BEEF STEW |
| MICROWAVABLE SOUPS (NO CAN OPENER REQUIRED CANS PLEASE) | BREAKFAST BARS |
| INSTANT OATMEAL PACKETS | HOT COCOA PACKETS |
| MICROWAVE POPCORN | MICROWAVABLE CUP OF NOODLES |
| FRUIT SNACKS | CHICKEN/TUNA SALAD WITH CRACKERS |
| PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS | |



VISION BOARD MEETING MINUTES CONTINUE

Amy N. reported this Sunday, will be an organizational meeting of the Stewardship Team. There will be various communications to the congregation leading up to the Celebration Luncheon. The tentative date for the Celebration Luncheon is November 12. Fifty percent of the people who pledged are meeting or exceeding their pledges!

John D. presented a calendar of Fall Worship plans for 2017. The Worship & Liturgy team is thinking of a few events for the fall including a Beer & Hymn sing (not at the church), blessing of the Bibles, Martin Luther video or skit and a polka service.

Pastor Janet has made arrangements with another Pastor(s) to care for the 2 weddings already scheduled for this fall.

Amy N. successfully applied for a grant from the Mayo Foundation for the AED. They will be donating \$500.

Jen S. reported for the Sunday School Team. They estimate expenses of \$600 for curriculum and \$160 for bibles. They would like to put up a bulletin board in the Narthex.

There are potentially 19 6th graders to join confirmation class this year. We will need 4 adults to assist with confirmation in addition to the Pastor.

Jen S. made a motion to receive Adam & Kelly Steffen and their children, Gavin, Bria and Emma as members. Rich B. seconded the motion. Motion passed.

HCLC is to serve the Holmen's Hope meal the last Tuesday of September. The Board needs to find leaders for this dinner. Joanne N. and Mary Hammond lead it last spring.

Jazzercise has been using the church for free for twice weekly classes for over a year now. Pastor suggested we consider requesting a donation to cover some of the janitorial and utility costs.

A motion was made by John D. and seconded by Jen S. to adjourn. Motion passed.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Faithfully submitted, Joanne Nichols

Looking to be a part of Halfway Creek Lutheran Church moving ahead....

Currently the Vision Board has two chairs to fill until the end of year. If you have an interest in finance, there will be two positions on the board starting February, 2018. This will be Treasurer and Financial Secretary. Contact Joe Noth at (608) 498-8480 for more details.

Vision Board Serving Halfway Creek Lutheran Church

The Vision Board is here for you. If you would like to contact anyone, for any reason, please feel free to do so. They would be happy to help you.

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Bob Bandoli | 608-387-0826 | Joanne Nichols | 608-780-4748 |
| Rich Berger | 715-323-9938 | Joe Noth | 608-498-8480 |
| John Daily | 608-781-1811 | Jen Strangstalien | 608-386-4993 |

Thank You to all the Volunteers at Holmen’s Hope

Thank you for all the wonderful volunteers that helped make Tuesday, September 26th a huge success. Many compliments were heard about the great cooks at Halfway Creek. Thanks to all of you for providing those delicious desserts.

This is such a worthy cause and vital part of the Holmen Community.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

| | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| 2 | 11 | 18 | 29 |
| Steven Johnson | Ben Fiers | Mary Crocker | Nicole Stumlin |
| 3 | Jimmie Ann Gates | Brianna Howe | 30 |
| Leanne Erdman | Keith Krause | 19 | Anne Fiers |
| 4 | Lucas Oines | Max Hammond | Jamie Lohrentz |
| Ronald Johnson | Aiztdon Stumlin | 20 | Mark Witte |
| 5 | 12 | Julie Hemp | |
| Christopher Baxter | Kate Pederson | Mike Yeiter | |
| Jackson Conn | 13 | 21 | |
| 6 | Shelly Vander Linden | Adam Pederson | |
| Jason Pralle | 14 | 23 | |
| 7 | Susan Kolbo | Mark Craig | |
| Richard Berger | 15 | Karen Hanson | |
| 8 | Bridget Gander | 24 | |
| Archie Achterkirch | 16 | Aubrey Henthorn | |
| Susan Daily | Paul Theisen | Rubianne Kinsman | |
| Shawn Wegner | Sunny Wilson | 25 | |
| 9 | 17 | Kyle Dohlby | |
| William Achterkirch | Joshua Johnson | Jennifer Strangstalien | |
| Kendra Bringe | Brooke Nelson | 26 | |
| 10 | Mitchell Noel | David Betsinger | |
| Daniel Ulrich | | Isabella Medd-Beville | |



Volunteers are Needed for our Sunday Worship

What a great way to get involved and build relationships with others in the congregation. We would appreciate you viewing your calendars to see what schedule works for you. Give us a call at 608-526-3701 or use Sign Up Genius, www.signupgenius.com. Search for Halfway Creek Lutheran Church, Click on the Labor Day to December, 2017 files to select days to serve.



SERVING OTHERS IN OUR CONGREGATION

| | | ACOLYTE | SEXTON | ALTAR GUILD | OFFERING COUNTERS | LECTOR | COMMUNION ASSIST. | USHERS |
|--------|------|---------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| OCT 1 | 800 | | Mike Martin | Carrie Payne | Rhonda Britton | John Daily | Cassie Tolvstad | Need Volunteer |
| | 1030 | | Morgan Jostad | Nicole Stumlin | Sonja Nelson | Jean Latham | Kari Fredrickson | Nicole Stumlin |
| | | | | | | | | |
| OCT 8 | 800 | | Stan Schwier | Karla Johnson | Bette Pedretti | Ruth Jostad | Amy Noel | Rich & Bette Pedretti |
| | 1030 | | David Chase | Hannah Scholze | Susan Jostad | Need Volunteer | Joanne & Erica Nichols | Need Volunteer |
| | | | | | | | | |
| OCT 15 | 800 | | Archie Achterkirch | Diane Jostad | Patti Happel | Pat Martin | Need Volunteer | Dave & Violet Chase |
| | 1030 | | Josh Johnson | Nancy Holley | Jodi Eide | David Gates | Kari Fredrickson | Joanne & Erica Nichols |
| | | | | | | | | |
| OCT 22 | 800 | | Dave Bringe | Barb Hale | Joe Noth | Need Volunteer | Need Volunteer | Need Volunteer |
| | 1030 | | Russ Bringe | Bette Pedretti | | Need Volunteer | Need Volunteer | Need Volunteer |
| | | | | | | | | |
| OCT 29 | 800 | | Archie Achterkirch | Diane Jostad | Mike Martin | Need Volunteer | Need Volunteer | Need Volunteer |
| | 1030 | | Morgan Jostad | | John Daily | Need Volunteer | Need Volunteer | Need Volunteer |

5th ANNUAL



Join us, Sunday, October 29, 11:30a.m.-2 pm for our 5th annual Trunk or Treat in the Halfway Creek Church parking lot! Children will Trunk (Trick) or Treat to each vehicle! For a small cost a hotdog lunch, cake walk, face painting, games, and more will be available. You are invited to decorate your trunk, car, tractor, wagon, camper, or a vehicle of choice. Wear a costume and have fun! Watch for signup sheets to volunteer or donate candy & other items. Any questions contact: Cassie Tolvstad at 608-738-4761.

Blessing to all Students!

At the September 17th Worship Service, Pastor Melinda Pupillo blessed the children’s backpacks for this school year.

May God shine on all students as they begin a the school year for 2017-2018.



Special Choir Opportunity to Celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation

We are planning special worship services to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation on Sunday, October 29th. All are welcome to join the Choir which will share special music at the 8 am service on October 29th. Rehearsals will be held at 9 am on the following Sundays: October 1, October 15, and October 22. Please email Lynn Wegner at lwegner2005@yahoo.com or call her at 526-3110 if you are going to be joining us so that we can have enough copies of the music available.

REFORMATION CELEBRATION EVENTS

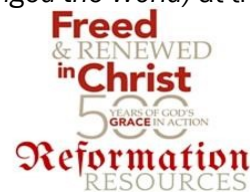
During the month of October, we will celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation with the following events:

- **Thursday, October 12 at 6:30-8:30 pm**—We will present the one hour documentary, Rick Steves' *Luther and the Reformation*, followed by discussion.
- **Wednesday, October 18 at 6:00-7:30 pm**—The confirmation students will be viewing a video about Martin Luther followed by discussion. All are welcome.
- **Saturday, October 21 noon to 3 pm**—Synod Reformation Celebration: Pep Fest at Tomah American Legion. See www.lacrosseareasynd.org for more info.
- **Sunday, October 22 at 6:00—7:30 pm**—Beer and Hymns at the Holmen American Legion. See the flyer in this newsletter for more information.
- **Sunday, October 29 8:00 am** —Traditional Reformation Worship
- **Sunday, October 29 10:30 am**—Reformation Worship with Sunday School singing
- **La Crosse Cinema** will show the documentary *A Return to Grace: Luther's Life* (a different edition of the PBS special *Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World*) at the following dates/times:

Monday, October 23 7:00 PM

Wednesday, October 25 7:00 PM

Monday, October 30 10:00 am & 7:00 PM



Welcome to the 2017-2018 Confirmation Class!

We are looking forward to a year of joyful learning, exploring, and growing together in God's love. During this time of transition, Joanne Nichols and Jen Strangstalien will serve as confirmation leaders. We continue to look for more adult volunteers to share their time on Wednesday evenings.

We invite the parents to gather for a **parent meeting** on **Wednesday, October 4th at 6:30** at the Church. We will discuss the schedule and what we have planned for classes. We will also answer any questions. We ask that you please complete the enclosed forms and bring them with to the meeting.

Our first confirmation class with the **students** will occur on the following **Wednesday, October 11th** from 6-7:30 pm. The schedule for the year will remain the same with classes meeting on Wednesdays (6-7:30pm).

If your child will not be attending confirmation this year, please let us know as soon as possible. You can call or text Jen Strangstalien at 608-386-4993 or email jenstrangstalien@gmail.com.

Call Committee Update

As the Call Committee continues the process, they would like to thank all of you for your prayers and ask for them to continue while they wait for the synod to present candidates.

Pastoral Care Contact Information

If the need arises for Pastoral Care, please contact Pastor Kris Fahey at Lewis Valley/Mindoro Lutheran Church at one of the following numbers:

Cell: 608-799-8750

Home: 608-784-2957

Church: 608-857-3474



In Our Prayers:

Roy Ackerman, Talon Lichtie, Aiden Noth, Katie Wier, Diane McKee, Wally Bucholtz, Finn Swenson, Penny Pomeroy, Phoebe Kitzke, Sophia Zematis, Kathy Johnson, Ayla Humphrey, La Vonne Anderson, Jean Latham, Donna Dummer.



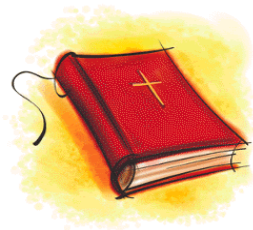
Welcome New Staff

You may have heard a new voice on the phone, received an email or heard the name **Rose Wegner**. I am the new Administrative Assistant. After spending 14 years in the Chetek area, my husband, myself and daughter have moved back to this area to be closer to family. I am really excited to be a part of Halfway Creek Lutheran Church and looking forward to seeing where God will take it. Stop in the office to say hi!

My name is **Jodi Anderson**. My husband, Dustin, & I own and operate a dairy farm in Mindoro. We have three children ages 20, 17, & 13. I am excited to take on the position as bookkeeper for Halfway Creek Lutheran Church. I have been the treasurer for Mindoro & Lewis Valley Lutheran Churches since 1996. I enjoy church accounting work! In my spare time, I enjoy attending sporting and musical events that my kids participate in. In addition, I enjoy spending time scrapbooking. I am looking forward to meeting the members of Halfway Creek.

SUNDAY SCHOOL IS UNDERWAY!

Sunday School is up and running for the 2017-2018 school year! Classes start at 9:15 a.m. If families have not registered yet they can turn in their registration forms the first day that they come. Our Sunday School teachers will also have forms available in the classrooms. We are using Hands On Bible Curriculum this year. As a friendly reminder, the little ones who have not yet started 4K will be in the 2 and 3 year old classroom.



SUNDAY SCHOOL BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

Bibles will be handed out during the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, **October 15th**. Children new to Sunday School and in third grade will be receiving bibles.

SEPTEMBER 17TH HODGEPODGE RECAP

Reaching out to Share Christ with All

We had a great turnout for Hodgepodge Sunday worship and the activities following worship. We even ran out of bulletins for the worship service! Many teams reported improved success with more conversation and people signing up.

Congratulations to the following people who won the Hodgepodge door prizes: Karla Johnson, Braxton Pralle, Kennedy Strangstalien, Susan Chase, Eli Clark, Brennan Schreiber, Nicole Stumlin, and Max Hammond.

Look forward to where the Lord will take us this year!!

Consecration Sunday Is Coming!!

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Our congregation's Stewardship Team has selected the *New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program* as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

New Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. *New Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During morning worship on Consecration Sunday, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world. Please note that we will have only **ONE SERVICE at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 12th**.

Every attendee and member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, culminating in members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday team and Vision board members. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events.

Joe Noth

