



Halfway Creek

LUTHERAN CHURCH

CURRENTS

JUNE 2022

Reach Out , Share Christ with All

FROM PASTOR CHRIS

Confirmation has finished for the year, schools will be getting out, and so much summer fun is about to be had! You might be traveling to cabins or planning vacations during the weekends this summer. And as well you should!

There are many ways to stay connected to your church and church family, even when you're traveling around and enjoying all that the summer months have to offer.

First of all, we will continue to offer online worship. Stay in touch and know that we are held together by Christ, even at his table, as you stay connected to the worship life of your congregation from wherever you are!

Second, stay tuned in to our communications because there will be fun events cropping up, events for fellowship and food, fun and possibly music, that will take place on other days and times than Sunday Morning.

In addition, we are going to have a few Wednesday evening events complete with fire, s'mores/hotdogs, yard games, and worship with communion. Look for a postcard with those dates to come – and find that schedule on our website.

Finally, don't forget your giving. I know, I hate asking for money, too. But I also know, as Christians, our giving helps us feel connected and invested in our life together. For me, that means signing up for automatic giving – I get the peace of mind that I won't forget it (and it's the same every month in my budget). It could be, for you, creating a habit of mailing a check to church, or stopping by during the week to drop it off. Consistent giving is good for us individually - and, of course, necessary for our church life together (especially in the summers when giving is usually lower because of various factors).

Thank you for your support of the mission we share here at HCLC. And thanks for staying connected!

-Pastor Chris

COMMUNION AT WORSHIP

We will need at least Two (2) Communion Servers on Sundays! Please volunteer today. If you would like to be on a rotation and help once a month or every other month let Shari in the office know. Thank you!

GARDENING GROUP



After a cool, wet spring, the gardening group at HCLC is ready to start meeting. We'll meet every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. beginning June 1. If you love the outdoors and don't mind digging in the dirt, come one out and join us! Each year we donate the harvest from our garden to the Salvation Army.

VISION BOARD UPDATES

A family will be moving into the parsonage Memorial Day Weekend.

We have been blessed to have Mike Martin volunteer his time to mow the lawn on the church property over the past couple of years. This year he asked for help paying for gas. Thank you to everyone who responded to that request!! He is set for a couple months. If the need arises later this summer we will let you know. Thanks, Mike, for all the time you give to make HCLC look great!



OFFERING PROJECT

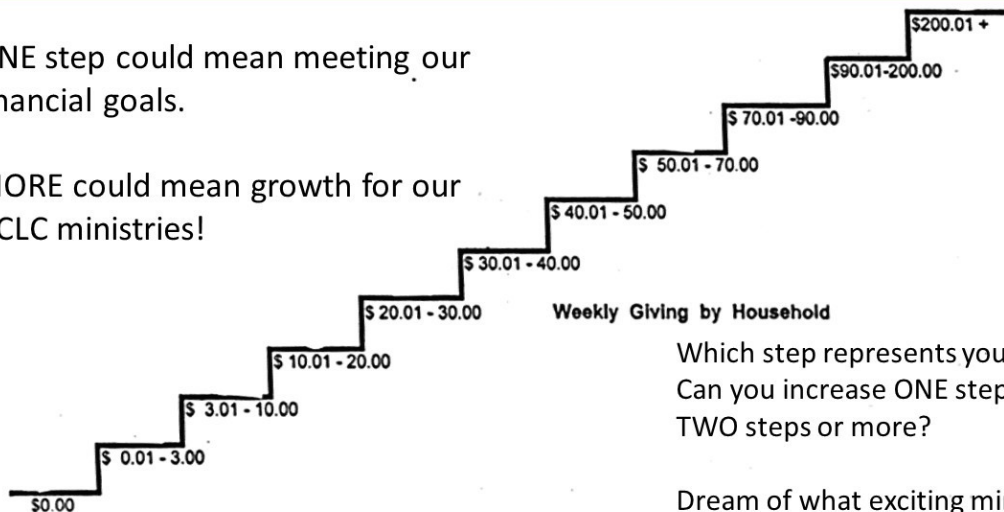
We have great ministry that happens here at HCLC. That takes commitment of many sorts from showing up to volunteering to offering and other generous gifts. The great news is that we are so close to doing a very good job of funding our ministry as we head toward summer. The bad news is that we have been \$600-800 short each month. That has started to leave our checkbook inadequate at times.

But more good news!! We came up with a visual representation of what a fully funded budget looks like, and what that means is something very small - and now it leads to a fun party!

Offering project

ONE step could mean meeting our financial goals.

MORE could mean growth for our HCLC ministries!



Which step represents your giving?
Can you increase ONE step?
TWO steps or more?

Dream of what exciting ministries we can do together!

With just an increase between of \$10-20 per week from each of you already giving, we would make that shortfall go away (yay!). So, we are collecting anonymous commitments to increase $\frac{1}{4}$ step (\$2.50 – \$5, depending on your current level), $\frac{1}{2}$ step (\$5-10), 1 step (\$10-20) or more! When we “collect” 45 steps worth of increase...we are throwing a party!

So next time you're in church, grab one of these “stairway to giving” cards and tell us (again, anonymously) that you are committing to giving even just \$2.50 (or \$5 or \$10!) more each week by writing how many portions of “stairs” you are increasing.

Let's celebrate a fully funded budget, and the generosity God has shown us to fulfil the mission God has for us here!

SUMMER WORSHIP

Our summer worship schedule is shaping up nicely! We hope you will join us and bring your family and friends to join with us in prayer, thanksgiving and fellowship

June

Sundays

5—9:00 a.m. Worship Outdoors—
Whispering Pines

12—10:00 a.m. Riverside Park, La
Crosse—Synod Assembly Worship—join us
there!

19—9:00 a.m. Worship Together with
Journey here at HCLC! Pastor Dione Ste-
panek, assistant to the Bishop will lead
worship!

26—9:00 a.m. Worship Indoors—HCLC

Wednesdays at Whispering Pines

June 1, 8, and 22

Come anytime 5:30-7:00 p.m.

A fun worship time with communion
begins at 6:00 p.m.

Bring yard games, enjoy a campfire treat,
and let the kids run around!

Let's all gather and enjoy our beautiful
worship space this summer!

(inclement weather will bring us indoors!)

July

Sundays

3—9:00 a.m. Worship Indoors—HCLC

10—9:00 a.m. Worship Together AT Journey
Lutheran in celebration of Pastor Chris' and
Pastor Luci's 5th Anniversary of ordained
ministry. Bishop Malpica will lead worship!

17—9:00 a.m. Worship Indoors—HCLC

24—9:00 a.m. Worship Outdoors—
Whispering Pines

Wednesdays at Whispering Pines

July 13 and 20

Come anytime 5:30-7:00 p.m.

A fun worship time with communion
begins at 6:00 p.m.

Bring yard games, enjoy a campfire treat,
and let the kids run around!

(inclement weather will bring us indoors!)

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

If your birthday is missing, please notify the office.



| | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1 | 10 | 17 | 20 |
| Adelynn Balow | Brian Johnson | Mary Gordon | Patti Happel |
| 3 | 12 | Dylan Hale | Glenn Schmidt |
| Bryce Hale | Jillian Eide | Samanatha Pralle | 21 |
| 4 | Hallie Halverson | Abbey Stasiak | Benjamin Olson |
| Blake Anderson | 13 | 18 | 23 |
| Jordan Anderson | Joseph Anderson | Henry Barbour | Nadine Strauss |
| Karla Anderson | 14 | Jessica Harper | 24 |
| 6 | Susan Swackhamer | Gretchen Sesvold | Jack Bringe |
| Liam Oines | 15 | Soren Sesvold | 26 |
| Aleasha Payne | Jackson McCoy | 19 | Jameson Happel |
| 9 | Tyler Rosenow | Rowdy Beneke | 27 |
| Alice Miller | 16 | Anna Holley | Sami Adam |
| | June Gordon | Andrew Wilson | 29 |
| | | | Gunnar Gates |



We pray for ... Lu Pertzsch, Katie Wier, Phoebe Kitzke, Ayla Humphrey, Ted Latham, Gayle Kuespert, Mark Sanders, Beulah Sanders, Cary Heyer, Eric Erdman, Dawson Reed, Jenny Lee, Mary Dokkebaken, Karla Johnson, Alice Fonfara, Mildred Schwanebeck, Kathy Johnson, Zach Mossman, Marie Jezova, Coats family

VISION BOARD MEETING MINUTES FROM APRIL 7, 2022**HALFWAY CREEK LUTHERAN CHURCH
VISION BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

April 7, 2022

6:00 PM

MEMBERS: Gaye Johnson, Amy Noel, Jessica Cook, Mike Martin, Andrea Baxter, Diane Jostad, Pastor Chris

ABSENT: Kari Washburn

ITEM:

Call to Order @ **6:00pm**

Devotion/Reflection/Prayer: *By Amy Noel*

Approval of Agenda: *Andrea Baxter made a motion to approve the agenda, Diane Jostad 2nd, motion passed*

Approval of March minutes: *Amy Noel made a motion to approve the minutes with the addendum to Feb. minutes, Andrea Baxter 2nd, motion passed*

Pastor's Report: *Please see attachment*

Financial Report: *Mike Martin made a motion to approve financial report, Andrea Baxter 2nd, motion passed*

OLD BUSINESS

Parsonage Usage: *New carpet in lower level, asking congregation to help clean the parsonage when the time comes. Gaye is the point of contact for questions.*

Property Team Update/Recommendations: *Lawn care is going to need to be addressed and looking at getting a new lawn mowing in the near future.*

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of 2022 Confirmation Class: *6 kids to get confirmed, Amy made a motion to approve the 2022 list of Confirmands, Andrea 2nd, Motion Approved*

Synod Assembly Representatives: *Tabled until May meeting*

Technology Recommendations: *Shari's computer is going to need to be updated in the near future. Amy Noel made a motion to use undesignated funds with some research for a computer for the Office Administrator. Mike Martin 2nd, motion passed.*

Summer Worship Schedule: *Possibly every other week for outside service, 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month is recommended.*

Next Steps on Team Liaison/Restructure Teams: *Tabled until May meeting*

Visioning Ideas: *Was not discussed*

Wedding Dates Approval: *There are 3 upcoming weddings, 7/2, 7/30 & 9/24, Jess Cook made a motion to approve these 3 dates, Andrea Baxter 2nd, motion passed.*

COMMUNICATION TO CONGREGATION

Parsonage Updates: *See old Business*

Property Recommendations: *Gutters are going to have to be cleaned out.*

Other:

Closing Prayer

Adjournment @ 7:46pm

Next meeting(s): Thursday May 12, 2022 6:00pm – Amy will Chair

2022 VISION BOARD

Gaye Johnson, President—gayemj3@gmail.com

Amy Noel, Vice President—noelpairie@icloud.com

Jessica Cook, Secretary—jcook5410@gmail.com

Mike Martin, Treasurer—michaelmartin49@charter.net

Andrea Baxter—baxtera42@gmail.com

Diane Jostad—608-526-3597

Kari Washburn—kari.washburn@yahoo.com

Please contact the vision board with any input you may have. Vision Board meetings are scheduled for the second Thursday of each month.

Your giving helps with our mission - *Reaching Out to Share Christ with All*

| April | Budget | Actual | Y-T-D Budget | Y-T-D Actual |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Expense | 18,889 | 16,903.79 | 75,561.00 | 71,596.12 |
| General Fund | 18,868 | 15,555.83 | 75,475.00 | 51,717.11 |
| Debt Reduction | | 390.00 | | 1,703.00 |

2022 SYNOD ASSEMBLY



**Friday - Sunday
June 10, 11 & 12**

Under the theme:
**Wild Lament ~
Whirling Dance**

**There will be opportunities for ALL Synod
Members to join in!**

Synod Assembly is for Everyone

All synod members (even non-voting members) are welcome and encouraged to participate in Saturday afternoon workshops and Sunday morning worship!

Friday evening worship - June 10

7 pm - Good Shepherd Lutheran, La Crosse will include a celebration of church anniversaries and pastors' ordination anniversaries & installation of Pr. Dione Stepanek as Dir. for Evangelical Mission / Asst. to the Bishop

Saturday Afternoon Workshop Sessions - June 11*

Cost: Non-voting members \$10 ea.

Contact the synod office to register. melanie@lacrosseareasynd.org

Sunday - Worship in the Park & Synod-Wide Picnic - June 12

10 am Worship @ Riverside Park, downtown La Crosse

(in case of rain, we'll meet at UW-La Crosse in the Student Union)

**Saturday afternoon workshops
at 2:15 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.*

Workshop Topics:

- Role of Summer Camp in Developing Leaders for the Church
- Let Us Play to the Lord - children and their experience of God being in worship
- Creating Cultures of Honor - on anti-racism
- Workshop with our ELCA Representative - description pending
- How to Do Advocacy - Lutheran Office of Public Policy-Wisconsin
- From the Boxing Ring to the Baptismal Font - discuss politics and act for justice with the gentle compassion and courageous boldness of Jesus
- Faith, Imagination & Proclamation - on preaching
- Rural Ministry / Shared Ministry Workshop with our assembly musician
- Doing Hybrid Ministry

Bishop Felix invites and encourages all synod members to take part in this year's Synod Assembly.

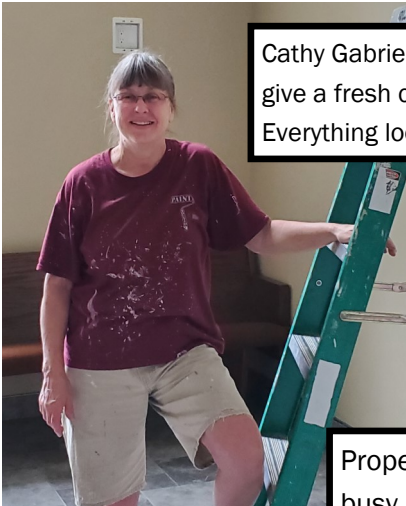
HCLC AT SYNOD ASSEMBLY WORSHIP

On June 12, we will not have worship at Halfway Creek Lutheran Church. Instead, we will be worshipping together at the Synod Assembly Service, 10:00 a.m. at Riverside park in La Crosse! Let's meet there wearing our HCLC apparel!

SYNOD ASSEMBLY SOCKS AND UNDERWARE PROJECT

We are participating in the Synod Assembly Service Project by collecting new packages of socks and underwear. Please bring to church June 5th (Undie Sunday—drop off your drawers!) or bring along to worship at Riverside Park on June 12! Thanks for making a difference!!

PROPERTY TEAM



Cathy Gabrielson was hired to paint the entire parsonage and give a fresh coat of paint the west facing walls of the church! Everything looks great! Thanks Cathy!!

Thank you to Carpets to Go and Bryce Hale for carpet and flooring, Dennis Priebe Plumbing and Steve Lupinski for bathroom refurbishing and coming when we needed you!

Property team members were very busy in May! The Parsonage was cleaned, painted, floored and made ready for our tenants starting this month! Gaye Johnson, Pat and Mike Martin, Kathy Severson, Rich Pedretti, and Amy Noel worked tirelessly on the project! Thanks for your dedication and for doing God's work at HCLC!



SERVING

| | | SEXTON | ALTAR GUILD | Communion Assistants | OFFERING COUNTERS |
|---------------|----------------------|---|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| JUN 5 | 9:00 out-doors | Mike Martin Morgan Jostad | Carrie Payne Nicole Stumlin | Volunteer Volunteer | Rhonda Britton Sonja Nelson |
| JUN 12 | | Synod Assembly Worship at Riverside Park—10:00 a.m. | | | |
| JUN 19 | 9:00 w/ Journey here | Archie Achterkirch Volunteer | Nancy Holley Diane Jostad | Volunteer Volunteer Volunteer | Jodi Eide |
| JUN 26 | 9:00 inside | David Bringe David Chase | Barb Hale Bette Pedretti | Volunteer Volunteer | Richard Granum Diane Jostad |

Volunteers at Worship

Use Sign-up Genius button on the website or E-News; call the office or email:

assistant@halfwaycreek.org .

New to the volunteer list: Communion Assistants! Please sign up today.

Gifting of your time is important to help meet the needs of this congregation at each service. Thank you to those that serve the church!

PayPal

Giving has been made easier! You may now donate to Halfway Creek Lutheran Church and it's ministries using PayPal! Read the QR code here, or find us on PayPal with the email address treasurer@halfwaycreek.org.

Thank you for your continued support and for making a difference!



Worship Team Rehearsals

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Halfway Creek Lutheran Church
608-526-3701
www.halfwaycreek.org

OFFICE HOURS

Normal Office Hours are Monday,
Tuesday, Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to
1:30 p.m. and Friday 8:30 a.m.—Noon.
The summer schedule may alter these
times slightly. Please watch for changes
on our website or E-News.
Email: assistant@halfwaycreek.org

PASTORAL CARE

If the need arises for Pastoral Care, please
contact Pastor Chris at 608-526-3701 or
608-397-1578 .

SOCIAL MEDIA

Find us on Facebook, Instagram,
YouTube and our website

@halfwaycreeklutheranchurchholmen
#halfwaycreeklutheranchurch
#reachoutsharechristwithall

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