



# Halfway Creek

LUTHERAN CHURCH

## CURRENTS

MARCH 2023

***Reach Out , Share Christ with All***

**FROM PASTOR CHRIS**

As we embark on this season of Lent, we are readying ourselves to ponder the immensity that is holy week. We are readying our hearts and minds to experience the joy and mystery of the Easter story. We are preparing ourselves to take up again and anew the call that comes with being Jesus' people - people who follow him to the cross and come victorious, and changed, through that cross to new life.

For us at HCLC this year that means we are spending each week pondering the final words of Jesus from the cross. Those words, even for as few as they are, are like a final sermon that points back to his whole life and all his teaching. These words become one more final way Jesus teaches his followers, all who are watching, and us today reading this amazing story, what it is he is doing in bringing God's kingdom to the world.

At our worship on Wednesdays we will spend time in fellowship and conversation around a meal, and see a video resource from Adam Hamilton that goes along with his book, [Final Words from the Cross](#) (Abingdon Press, 2011). We also will be using coloring pages for prayer and meditation from *IllustratedMinistry*, which also comes with a devotion to spark more conversation.

During our worship on Sunday, the coloring pages will also be available for your use as a prayer or meditation tool during worship - or feel free to bring them home and use

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throughout the week. And, while we follow the same lessons and themes, the message on Sundays will be regular sermons not necessarily on the book.

Please join us Wednesdays, in addition to Sundays, this season as we get prepare ourselves and get ready to hear the Easter Story fresh this year. Jesus' kingdom culminated in the cross – one which he told his listeners, “if any want to be my followers, let them deny themselves, take up their cross, and follow me.” From that cross we hear from Jesus what his kingdom is all about. At the cross we find the path he trod to teach and to offer us new life in God's love. And through the cross, to the empty tomb, we find the promise and the call, that we are part of that great story, and that amazing kingdom, of God's love for the world.

-Pastor Chris

## **NOISY OFFERING**

The Noisy Offering in February supported the La Crosse Warming Shelter—Catholic Charities! The total collected was \$138.96! Thank you for your support!

During March, we'll be supporting the Holmen Lutheran Church Food Cupboard.

In addition to money collected, we will be collecting food items on Wednesday and Sunday. Here is a list of the **ITEMS NEEDED IN FOOD PANTRY:**

EGG NOODLES, BAKED BEANS, CAKE/COOKIE MIXES, COFFEE, JAM/JELLY, MANWICH, PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS (SHAMPOO, DEODORANT, ETC)

Please no pumpkin, black beans, pasta, peas, green beans, corn, and macaroni and cheese due to ample supplies of these items.

Thank you for supporting this very important ministry in our community!

## 2023 VISION BOARD

Gaye Johnson, President—gayemj3@gmail.com

Kari Washburn Vice President—kari.washburn@yahoo.com

TBD, Secretary

Mike Martin, Treasurer—michaelmartin49@charter.net

Andrea Baxter—baxtera42@gmail.com

Diane Jostad—608-526-3597

Amy Noel—noelprairie@icloud.com

Patti Happel—patiszoo@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.*

## ENVELOPE SURVEY

You will be mailed a survey early this month from the HCLC Vision Board and Jodi Anderson, bookkeeper, about offering envelopes. This survey results will help ensure that you are provided with the envelopes that work with your pattern of giving while also reducing cost and saving paper. What we need from our members is to know what category of envelopes you would want **OR** if you do not need them (because you give on-line, etc.) **AND** if any other confirmed members in your household would like envelopes. Please complete the form in the letter you receive **OR** take this survey.

[2023 ENVELOPE SURVEY](#)

We would like a response from **each confirmed member** of your household by **March 12, 2023**. Thank you!

2023 Envelope Survey



HALFWAY CREEK LUTHERAN CHURCH  
VISION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**January 12, 2023 - 6pm**

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

Call to Order **@6:01pm**

Devotion : ***reflection of our last year***

Approval of Agenda : ***Jess C. made a motion to approve the agenda with Amy's addition to add the annual mtg agenda, Andrea B. 2nd, motion passed.***

Approval of December Minutes: ***Andrea B. made a motion to approve the Dec. minutes, Kari W. 2nd, motion passed***

Action by VB since December meeting : ***None***

**Pastor's Report, see attachment**

Fundraising Idea : ***Making pizzas with Journey Lutheran***

Annual Report/Meeting : ***Review***

***Added: Review Annual meeting agenda : Add section VII-C Highlighting some of the reports, property team and education.***

Vision Board Nominations : ***There are 3 people interested or recommended, Gaye and Pastor Chris will reach out to them.***

**Finance Team**

Treasurer's Report – Mike : ***Jess C. makes a motion to move \$6000.00 from Thrivent Income Account A to pay \$4178.88 and the rest be moved to dedicated funds - emergency fund (account to be created), Mike M 2nd, motion passed.***

***Amy N. made a motion to approve Treasurer's report, Andrea B. 2nd, motion passed***

Noisy Offering for February & March : ***February = Catholic charities and March T.B.D. next month***

**Property Team.**

Ramp Railing & lawnmower

Narthex TV – trying to die??!! : ***keep this in mind***

Update on elevator : ***done with Schindler and will move on to a local company***

**Worship & Liturgy** – Word of God

Sunday Morning Sunday School/Worship Schedule 2023

Lenten/Worship Schedule : ***soup & worship possible idea, (5 meals) March 1st VB will take 1st meal, VB members will reach out to church ministries to host Lent***

***meals. Pastor will be using Adam Hamilton for Lent.***

**Education** - Sunday School. Confirmation. Adult Ed, Bible Journaling, Bible Study

***Pancakes and Pj's were a hit!***

**Evangelism** – Go & Tell

**Discipleship** – Learn & Follow

**NEW BUSINESS**

Trust Foundation & Dedicated Funds :***tabled until Feb.***

***Added- Annual Meeting Agenda: Motion for Annual Meeting: A motion is proposed by the Vision Board to construct and install a center railing on the staircase at the main entrance to our building for the purpose of improving safety. This project will not move forward until all necessary funds are appropriated by private donations.***

**VISIONING**

Youth : ***Possible youth director, pray for future***

Sanctuary

**Closing Prayer**

**ADJOURN : *Andrea made a motion to adjourn @ 8:09pm. motion passed***

Next meeting February 9, 2023 at 6:00 pm.

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

<b><i>January</i></b>	<b><i>Actual</i></b>	<b><i>Budget</i></b>	<b><i>Y-T-D Actual</i></b>	<b><i>Y-T-D Budget</i></b>
General Fund	14,612.85	19,186.70	207,804.48	14,612.85
Expense	18,457.58	19,186.70	217,696.53	18,457.58
Debt Reduction	270.00		270.00	



## MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

### REVELATION STUDY

Pastor Chris will continue our Revelation Study after worship on **March** 5th, 12th and 26th. Join us for this intriguing study of a book often misunderstood.

### BIBLE JOURNALING

Our next Bible Journaling gathering is scheduled for March 19 following worship. Bring your Bible and/or sketch-book along with markers and color pencils. All are welcome!

### #MAILITMONDAY MINISTRY

Stop by and pick up a card or two to mail to a friend, family member, someone from church you haven't seen in a while! What better way to share Christ's love with all than by reaching out and letting someone know you care? We'll be making cards to refill the basket on **Thursday, March 9 at 1:30 p.m.**—join the fun, no experience needed!

### BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study meets the third Thursday of the month at 9:30 a.m. We'll be starting **Unafraid** by Adam Hamilton. All are welcome!

### CONFIRMATION DIRECTORY HELP NEEDED

Have you ever seen the extensive and comprehensive directories at other churches? We have pictures of confirmands dating back to the 1920s. How fascinating would it be to have those displayed at HCLC? Would you be interested in helping put this together? Contact Gaye at 608-780-5179.

### QUILTERS

Quilters will meet on Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. in the Heritage Hall. Come join us!

Thank you Pastor Ben Morris, LuMin La Crosse Campus Ministry, for worshipping with us last month! Pastor Ben's sermon was engaging and insightful. If you haven't watched it yet, check it out on our YouTube channel or click [Transfiguration Sermon](#) for our online readers. To support LuMin La Crosse Campus Ministry go to their giving section at [laxcg.org](http://laxcg.org).

**LENT**

Join us at worship on Wednesdays during Lent as we follow Adam Hamilton's book and video series: [Final Words from the Cross](#).

**When:** Wednesdays during Lent - March 1 –March 29, 2023

**Time:** 5:45 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

New to Wednesday Lenten Services: Dinner! That's right we will be gathering at 5:45 p.m. on Wednesdays for Worship and dinner provided by a different HCLC ministry group each week! Worship and dinner happen together, so come right away and stay for this "Dinner Church" experience!

## *Holy Week—April 6-9, 2023*

### **Maundy Thursday**

**6:00 p.m.** Agape Feast followed by  
Communion at Journey Lutheran

### **Good Friday**

**Noon** Crosswalk: we'll meet at  
Halfway Creek bandshell

**1:00 p.m.** Community Worship at  
Holmen Lutheran

**7:00 p.m.** Worship at HCLC



## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

*If your birthday is missing, please notify the office.*

2	13	23	30
Graham Kinsman	Gaye Johnson	Kathy Christensen	John Daily
3	Michael Martin	Jeremy Cook	Stella Pederson
John Fredrickson	Garrett Pederson	Connor Lee	31
Kynzie Severson	Tricia Syverson	24	Daniel Brudahl
Lynn Wegner	15	Linda Pralle	Reid Stumlin
4	Braxton Lohrentz	26	
Wendy McCoy	17	Katrina Bringe	
5	Lyza Yahnke	27	
Michael Nedoba	18	Ivy Severson	
6	James Dokkebaken	29	
Timothy Severson	Collin Noel	Nollan Gander	
11	20	Nic Hill	
Robert Nelson	Jesse Oines	Ruth Scholze	
Sydney Page	22		
	Marc Jandt		



*We pray for ... Joan Vaughn, Bridget Ferk,  
Pat Krause, Thelma Severson, Lisa Herrera Evans,  
Katie Wier, Phoebe Kitzke, Ayla Humphrey,  
Gayle Kuespert, Mark Sanders, Beulah Sanders,  
Cary Heyer, Eric Erdman, Dawson Reed, Jenny Lee,  
Mary Dokkebaken, Karla Johnson, Alice Fonfara,  
Zach Mossman, Marie Jezova, Coats family*



## SERVING AND WORSHIP

		SEXTON	ALTAR GUILD	OFFERING COUNTERS
<b>MAR 5</b>	9 0 0	Mike Martin	Carrie Payne Nicole Stumlin	Rhonda Britton Sonja Nelson
<b>MAR 12</b>	9 0 0	Stan Schwier	Diane Jostad	Bette Pedretti Susan Jostad
<b>MAR 19</b>	9 0 0	Archie Achterkirch	Nancy Holley Diane Jostad	Jodi Eide
<b>MAR 26</b>	9 0 0	David Bringe David Chase	Barb Hale Bette Pedretti	Diane Jostad Mike Martin

### Volunteer to help at Worship

Use [Sign-up Genius](#) button on the website or E-News; call the office or email [assistant@halfwaycreek.org](mailto:assistant@halfwaycreek.org).

**Gifting your time is important to help meet the needs of this congregation at each service.**

**Thank you so much for sharing your time and talents!**

### Volunteer Roles

Acolyte  
Greeter  
PowerPoint  
Usher  
Reader  
Communion Assistants

These volunteer roles are needed at each service. The duties for each of these roles may be found in the Gathering Space. If you have any question, please contact the office.



## SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

### March

5 - Milestone 4 Celebration during worship and afterwards

12 - Regular Sunday School

19 - Milestone 5 lesson - Communion - Parents and students meet in the Sanctuary

26 - Communion milestone at worship - reception to follow

## CONFIRMATION



As part of their service hours, confirmation students (parents, mentors, church members and pastors, too) helped make over 220 pizzas for the Superbowl Pizza Fund Raiser! The effort was coordinated by Journey Lutheran and HCLC and was a huge success. Thank you to those who donated ingredients, your time & talent, or purchased pizzas!

### **Fund Raiser Results:**

HCLC sold 142 pizzas! After supply costs were subtracted and donations added... we raised about \$1100!! What a successful fund raiser! Thanks everyone!!



# Halfway Creek Cemetery

*It's never too early to purchase your final resting place*

If you plan to be buried — or cremated and buried — in Halfway Creek Cemetery, it's to your benefit to choose your location and purchase your lot(s) well in advance of your demise.



- Halfway Creek Lutheran Church members pay just \$300 for a single casket-and-vault burial plot OR a cremation plot that will accommodate up to four cremation urns.
- Nonmembers who wish to be buried — or cremated and buried — at the cemetery pay \$600 for a single casket-and-vault burial plot OR a cremation plot that will accommodate up to four cremation urns.
- Cremation urns may be buried in an existing family member's plot (a parent, grandparent, great-grandparent, aunt or uncle, for example) for \$250 per urn.

For more details, or to reserve your resting place, call Raymond Lee at 608-769-6964 (cell) or 608-526-3900 (home).

*Your cemetery needs your support*

Remember Halfway Creek Cemetery when you're making your charitable contributions — and please consider a donation to the cemetery in your will, too. The cemetery does not receive funding from Halfway Creek Lutheran Church. It needs your help with donations to mow the lawn, trim trees and provide general maintenance. That expense is more than \$3,000 annually. For more information, call Raymond Lee at 608-769-6964 (cell) or 608-526-3900 (home).

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

### **WORSHIP**

9:00 a.m. **Sundays**

### **OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday**

9:00 a.m.—1:30 p.m.

**Friday**

9:00 a.m.—Noon

For Wednesday or after  
hours appointments please  
call the office or 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

Halfway Creek Lutheran Church  
W6016 County Road W  
Holmen, WI 54636



# EASTER FLOWERS

At Easter, we decorate the church in celebration of our risen Lord Jesus Christ. If you would like to present an Easter flower in honor, memory or celebration of a person or event, please fill out this form and place it, with payment, in the offering plate or mail to HCLC, W6016 County Hwy W, Holmen, WI 54636.

**ALL ORDERS & PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE BY  
SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2023.**

PLANT	HOW MANY?	PRICE/EACH	TOTAL COST
EASTER LILY		19	
EASTER LILY DOUBLE		35	
TULIPS		19	
DAFFODIL		19	

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please check and complete for acknowledgement in the worship bulletin.*

☐ IN MEMORY OF    ☐ IN HONOR OF    ☐ IN CELEBRATION OF:

\_\_\_\_\_

From \_\_\_\_\_