

Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Answering God's call to love

Messiah ENewsletter for September 25, 2019

Messiah Events & News

On the web...

go to messiahlutheranmqt.org for more information about our congregation and “like” us on Facebook to receive updates and information there.

Messiah Lutheran Church seeks to be a welcoming community for all people. This includes people of every race, ability, sexual orientation and gender identity, ethnic background, economic grouping, religious affiliation, and political persuasion.

We do this simply because God created all people in God's own image and Christ Jesus came so all people might have abundant and eternal life.

We may not always be as welcoming as we should be, but this is our intention—all are welcome!



Colombia Visitors Arriving Tomorrow!

Our friends from Luz y Vida congregation in Bogotá, Colombia, will be arriving in Marquette Thursday September 26. They include Pastor Jairo Suarez, Ana Mendivelso, and Johana Castellanos.

Here are a few of the activities we have planned:

Saturday September 28--4 pm coffee hour/Colombian Fair Trade Market and 5 pm worship
Sunday September 29--8:45 worship, 9:45 coffee hour/Colombia Fair Trade Market and 10:30
worship

Thursday October 3—7 pm program on Colombia and the work of the Colombian Lutheran
church in working for peace

Saturday October 5--4 pm coffee hour and 5 pm worship, with Pastor Jairo Suárez preaching
Sunday October 6--8:45 worship, 9:45 coffee hour and 10:30 worship, with Pastor Jairo Suárez
preaching, 2 pm CROP walk at Marquette Hope Connection Center
Tuesday October 8—Guests return to Colombia

Colombia Fair Trade Market This Weekend

Join us this weekend before and after each service for a small fair trade market in the atrium. There will be a variety of handmade items made by members of our companion congregation, Luz y Vida, in Caricoli, Colombia. All proceeds will go back toward buying more goods to further support the artisans and their families. Please let Rachel (Rachel.skaw@gmail.com) or Beth (wendricks@chartermi.net) know if you have any questions.

Colombia Presentation at Messiah

Please join us for a special program on Luz y Vida, our companion congregation in Bogota, Colombia, on Thursday, October 3 at 7:00 pm in the atrium. Pastor Jairo Suarez and Ana Mendivelso both work for the national office of the Lutheran Church in Colombia as well as directly with Luz y Vida. Johana Castellanos is a member of Luz y Vida and one of the artisans whose work is for sale at our fair trade market this weekend. All three will share stories about their work and lives in Colombia. A time of fellowship with coffee and dessert will follow the presentation.

Prayer Partners Starting Soon

The prayer partners program will start on Sunday, Oct. 13th. There is a sheet to pick up & fill out for the adult partners and the Sunday School children partners on the welcome table in the narthex. Adults, we need you to make this successful. Parents, please sign up your child/children (ages 4 years old through 5th graders) for this meaningful class. The child/children are given activities and learn about prayer.

The dates of the meetings will be October 13, November 10, January 12, February 16, March 15, April 19, and May 3. You do not need to attend every meeting.

--Sherry Johnson, Prayer Partner Coordinator

CROP Walk

Please join other Marquette County walkers for the 2019 CROP Walk on Sunday, October 6th. They will start the walk from Marquette Hope Connection Center at 927 W. Fair Ave.

Registration will begin at 1:30 pm and the CROP Walk will begin at 2:00 pm. This year is the 50th year of the CROP Walk!

There are informational handouts in the narthex as well as collection envelopes for those who choose to walk on October 6th. If you can't or aren't able to walk for the CROP Walk, please consider supporting someone who is. All checks will need to be made payable to CWS/CROP. Walkers can collect funds now through October 6th. Thank you for supporting hunger in our world. Ruth Robb has agreed to be our CROP Walk liaison again this year. Please see Ruth if you have any questions or contact the church office. Thank you!

Ways to Help Migrants

As a part of our AMMPARO commitment and general concern for migrants on our southern border, Messiah is working with Border Servant Corps (BSC), a ministry of Peace Lutheran Church in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Border Servant Corp was established in 1997 to promote community, social justice, and spirituality in the U.S./Mexico border region. Currently, BSC is collecting items to provide to a network of shelters in Ciudad Juarez, where most asylum-seeking families are returned to await their asylum hearings. It is estimated that the city's detention centers currently house more than 13,000 men, women, and children.

Since these items are being brought across an international border, by law they must be **NEW** and in **ORIGINAL packaging**. The items requested change week-to-week, but currently there is a need for:

- underwear (all children's sizes through Adult S)
- reusable water bottles
- reusable shopping bags
- Spanish-language books

Items brought to the Messiah office will be boxed up and shipped periodically. Also needed are canned fruits and vegetables, but due to the expense of shipping, it is preferred that a check be made out to Messiah designating that the money be sent on to BSC.

An additional opportunity to help, Books for Border Kids, was established by concerned individuals in Minneapolis and St. Paul. Working with two independent books stores in Minneapolis and one in Las Cruces, NM, bilingual, Spanish, and Portuguese books are sent by the bookstores free of charge until Oct 31, 2019. More information is available at www.booksforborderkids.org.

Koinonia Bible Study

Pastor Molly will be leading a Bible Study beginning on Thursday, October 3rd meeting in the Atrium each Thursday at 10:00 am until 11:15. In Greek, the word 'koinonia' means communing together and participation in shared work. It is a word that signifies our joint work together as the body of Christ and so we will journey together with delight at the contributions that each of us bring to read through the whole Bible from start to finish at our own pace. Each week we will read the text, delve deep, ask challenging questions, and hopefully learn something new about God's work in the world. All are welcome to this Bible study and conversation!

Lay School Schedule

Our Lay School programming has two more class on October 1st & 8th. They are as follows:

3:00 pm-5:00 pm - Other Voices: Old Testament Writings led by Pastor Warren Geier

6:00 pm-8:00 pm - Apocalyptic in the Bible and in Contemporary Society led by Pastor Doug Norquist

October 15th - November 19th there will be one class from 3:00 pm-5:00 pm titled Prophets II / Ezekiel and the Book of Twelve led by Pastor Andrew Plocher

If you are interested in one or all three classes, please sign up at the welcome table in the narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Warren Geier at 906-486-4351. Thank you!

LCM Work Bee

The Lutheran Campus Ministry house needs some TLC. Pr. Bre Kinnunen is hoping to recruit some help to accomplish this. The work bee will be on Saturday, October 5th from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. If you are interested and available to participate let Pastor Bre know or just show up on October 5th. It would be helpful if you could bring some of your cleaning supplies for interior cleaning and if you could bring along any gardening tools you have as well. This property is in need of sprucing up. Pr. Bre will provide donuts for everyone!

If you have a truck and are willing to haul different pieces of furniture to St. Vincents, that would be helpful. There is some furniture that will need to be removed from the house.

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration to help with this project. Many hands make for light work. If you have any questions, please contact Pr. Bre Kinnunen at upbre3@gmail.com

Truck Loading for Lutheran World Relief

We are looking for a few good men and women (high school and middle school students are welcome, too!) to help transport personal care kits, baby care kits, school kits & quilts from Messiah to west Ishpeming. We will meet at Messiah at 9:00 am on Saturday, October 12, load the items onto a truck, and transport them to Trinity Lutheran Church, 414 E. Ridge St, Ishpeming. (Note the change in location this year!) At Trinity our boxes will be loaded onto a large truck and shipped all over the world to people in need. There is a sign-up sheet on the welcome table outside the church office. Thank you for helping with this very important annual project!

Reflections from Tanzania Trip

On September 15 three members from Messiah shared their experiences visiting our companion congregation in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, last June. The following articles describe some of their time there:

Tabora, a Satellite Church of Azania Front

One of the most interesting places we visited while on our trip to Africa was Tabora. This congregation was in the bush several miles from Dar es Salaam. We traveled by Jeep by over roads that were underdeveloped through small groups of homes. The children ran out to wave at us - few cars but more motorcycles passed by. We drove through a herd of cattle with huge horns, saw scarred river beds where the sand had been removed and the large lorries carrying the sand away.

At last we were greeted by about 25 people. Many of the children weren't too sure about the strange color of our skin. The church was a block floor surrounded by a short block wall. The walls were lace on three sides. The wind lifted the altar cloth to the side. We took part in a worship service where we gave thanks for the work being done there, for visitors, and for other Christians who were willing to help provide assistance. Then we took a nature walk to see just what was being done.

We saw the foundation for a larger church. Completing this building is on hold for a time. Then we examined the beginnings of industry for the community. The cashew trees which grow wild were being trimmed and trained. The trees had hive boxes hanging in them - 4 to 7 - in each. A honey house with cement floor and pipe tables would receive the hives once the bees established a colony in the boxes. The walls of the honey house were wire and a cleared area around the building had a short block wall. The construction was intended to keep away animals which would raid the hives. The church members were being trained to handle the bees and harvest the cashew nuts. The aim was to have jobs and income to assure food and education for all.

On the return walk we passed by the rice field that the group had cultivated. They needed to watch that the nomadic herds didn't destroy the crop.

Services are conducted each Sunday and pastors from Azania Front like Pastor Prudence travel there once a month for communion services and as needed for weddings and baptisms. However the spark keeping Tabora in the minds of Azania Front is one woman. Theudas, a neighbor of our host, has taken this place and its success as her mission. It will be several years before this satellite church will be an independent congregation.

We concluded our visit with more prayers and singing "God Be With You 'Til We Meet Again" We in English, they in Swahili.

We couldn't leave without receiving gifts. In this case oranges from the trees that grew wild all around the church.

Blessings from Africa as we learn of our companions.

The Second Satellite Church, Viwege Tanzania

We retraced the road from Tabora past another satellite church built so the worshipping congregation didn't have to walk four hours to attend services. We arrived at an area with a much greater population and more established streets. We passed a sign pointing the way to Viwege but were glad our driver knew where to drive. We could hear the church before we saw the church.

The women were having a day of fasting, song and dance. It was in thanksgiving for six months of health and food. They sang and danced from six am until they broke bread together at six pm. The music from the four member combo and the song leader's voice was broadcast on the speakers in their steeple so everybody in the area knew what was happening. Four hundred people worship most Sundays but the congregation is not yet ready to be independent. This activity helped advertise to the neighborhood and the world that Christians were there. The evangelist/pastor from Viwege rises at 4:00am to drive to Azania Front to lead the 6:00am Morning Glory service.

Viwege was a compound with church, Sunday School building, parsonage, toilets, garden, and play area. The land for the church was donated but now houses were being built on neighboring land. The congregation is erecting a fence to define borders and keep their children safe especially during services when they might wander outside from time to time.

Our lunch was waiting for us in thermos pots. After the meal we were introduced to the dancing women in the sanctuary and were treated to a concert. There were three women's choirs, one mixed choir and one men's choir. All had prepared songs in anticipation of our visit. We shared greetings and prayers and felt truly blessed. - - *Judy Quirk*

Special Events in September and October

- Sept 25 Enrique's Journey book study at 7:00 pm
Sept 26 Visitors from Colombia arrive
Oct 1 Lay School at 3:00 pm & 6:00 pm
Oct 5 Work Bee at Lutheran Campus Ministry house 9:00 am-12:00 pm – inside & outside
Oct 6 CROP Walk -Registration at 1:30 pm, walk starts at 2:00 pm
Oct 8 Lay School at 3:00 pm & 6:00 pm
Oct 12 LWR Truck Loading 9:00 am – 12:00 pm – Kits & Quilts
Oct 15 New Lay School class at 3:00 pm taught by Pastor Andrew Plocher
Oct 27 Confirmation
Oct 27 Molly Eversoll's Installation at 4:00 pm
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In Our Prayers

Thanh, Karen Johnson, Kristina Asta, Herb Grenke, Sheryl, Pat Frenn, Pat Lelvis, Karla Kunick, Marilyn Voce, Jim Elsenbroek, Nancy & family, Oscar, Vanessa, Laura, Fátima, Flor, Cruz, Alison Cory, Pam, Leah Rodda, Rose Collins, Kathy, Lois, John, Kendal, Sandy, Mike, Don Dreisbach, Gary, Sierra, Charlene Avery, Nai, Cam & his family, Liz Kro.

Note: You may call the church office or talk to one of the pastors, if you would like a person named in the congregation's prayers. Please obtain permission from the person to list his/her name in the bulletin. In order to keep the list up to date and manageable in size, we will list each person for a short time, after which the name will be removed. If at that point, you would like to continue listing the person, please call the church office or speak to one of the pastors.

Pastor on Call:

Pastor Andrew is on call September 25, 29-30, October 1-2

Pastor Molly is on call September 26-28

Messiah Newsletters

Messiah newsletters, weekly announcements and the weekly E-news are all available at www.messiahlutheranmgt.org. The online Messenger (monthly newsletter) includes all the stories and information but saves the paper!

Scripture Readings This Week – 16th Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading.....*Exodus 1:8-14: 3:1-15*

Gospel Reading.....*Mark 12:26-27a*

Volunteer & Service Opportunities

Worship Volunteers This Week

Saturday September 28 – 5:00 pm

Ushers: Diana Peterson, Barb Salmela

Reader: Carol Bell

Communion Set-Up: Peggy Letvenow

Sunday September 29 – 8:45 am

Acolyte: one needed

Ushers: Tom and Amy Froiland

Reader: Dave Blomquist

Communion Assistants: Mary Lou Blomquist, Beth Krznarich, Peggy Sager

Greeters: Pat Nebel, Ruth Koehler

Assisting Minister: Larry Pagel

Sound: Larry Pagel

Sunday September 29 – 10:30 am

Acolyte: Simon Claybaker

Ushers: Jearn Arntsen, one needed

Reader: Jill Luoma

Communion Assistants: Susan Shaver, Ruth Robb, Sandy Lindberg

Greeters: Jill Luoma, Ruth Robb

Assisting Minister: Dave Luoma

Sound: Brian Cherry

Video Technician: Myra Zyburt

Please contact Inga at inga@messiahlutheranmqt.org or call 225-1119 if you are unable to be here when scheduled or if you see an opening you can fill. Thanks!

Announcements and Classified Ads

Do you have an announcement?

Send announcements and ads to Inga Banitt (inga@messiahlutheranmqt.org). Send concert or performance information, yard sale announcements, party invitations, requests for babysitters, yard maintenance, rooms for rent and items for sale. We will run announcements for two weeks. E-newsletter deadline is 5:00 pm on Tuesdays.

Messiah Contact Information

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