

MESSIAH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

# MESSENGER

WWW.MESSIAHLUTHERANMQT.ORG

## Worship Services

Saturday 5:00 PM

Sunday 8:45 AM  
(with Nursery)

This service is broadcast  
on Sunny 101.9 FM

Sunday 10:30 AM  
(with Nursery)

305 West Magnetic Marquette, MI 49855 Tel:(906) 225-1119 Fax: (906) 225-5025

[www.messiahlutheranmqt.org](http://www.messiahlutheranmqt.org) E-mail: [MarquetteLutherans@gmail.com](mailto:MarquetteLutherans@gmail.com)

Member of the Northern Great Lakes Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



# Messiah Calendar

## Monday, December 3

*Pr. Don's day off*

- 10:00 am OWLs Walk
- 5:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous
- 7:00 pm ACIM
- 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous
- 7:00 pm Bell Choir

## Tuesday, December 4

- 9:00 am Piano Tuning
- 12:00 pm QiGong
- 1:00 pm Knotty Knitters
- 1:30 pm Staff Meeting
- 5:30 pm Reading Group
- 6:00 pm Cub Scouts
- 6:30 pm Grief Support
- 7:00 pm Chirstmas Tapestry Reh.

## Wednesday, December 5

- 2:30 pm Norlite Worship
- 4:00 pm Swedish Class
- 5:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal
- 5:30 pm Community Meal
- 6:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous
- 6:00 pm Music for all Kids
- 6:30 pm Advent Worship
- 6:30 pm North Fourth
- 7:00 pm Boy Scouts
- 7:30 pm Celebration Choir

## Thursday, December 6

- 8:00 am Organ Assessment
- 9:00 am Quilting
- 11:00 am Women's Cursillo
- 12:00 pm Social Workers
- 7:00 pm Christmas Tapestry Reh.

## Friday, December 7

- 8:00 am Men's Ministry
- 7:30 pm Christmas Tapestry Program

## Saturday, December 8

- 5:00 pm Worship
- 7:30 pm Christmas Tapestry Program

## Sunday, December 9

- 8:00 am Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 8:15 am Senior Choir Rehearsal
- 8:45 am Worship
- 9:55 am Prayer Partners
- 10:30 am Worship
- 11:30 am Journey
- 3:00 pm Blue Christmas

## On Call

Pr. Don Ludemann: Dec 1-2, 6-9, 13-16, 20-23, 27-30

Pr. Allan Johnson: Dec 3-5, 10-12, 17-19, 24-26, 31

## Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for articles to be included in the January Messenger is Monday, December 31, 2018.

## Newsletter Editor

Pr. Don Ludemann

Messiah's Newsletter

December 2, 2018  
Volume 100, Issue 12

Submissions for Weekly Announcements are due by 6:00 pm the Wednesday prior to publication

**December 2, 2018**

## **The First Sunday in Advent**

**Flowers**    **To the Glory of God & In Loving Memory of...**  
    ✿ Rev. Rudy Kemppainen from his family

**Radio**      **To the Glory of God**  
    🎵 from Barb Bergstrom

## **The Gift of Waiting**

I know "The Gift of Waiting" sounds like an oxymoron! After all, when you're stuck in a line at the grocery store, or on hold with "Customer Service," or impatiently listening for the bell to ring on the last day of class before winter break, waiting is a chore, an annoyance, a real pain!

So, when is waiting a gift? For me, it's when I have a hunch that the "wait will be worth it." Like when I wait to open the gift I think I'll like most. Or when I pause before opening the door to the party that was supposed to be a surprise to me. Or when I resist all the cultural cues to start celebrating Christmas on the day after Halloween, and instead observe Advent.

That's what we at Messiah try to do; value Advent as a season of preparation and waiting for a gift that is definitely "worth it," that is, the arrival of God in the flesh! Jesus, born in Bethlehem, truly divine and truly human, showing us time and again, in His life and death, how much God loves all of humanity. A gift so precious that it indeed requires time to prepare to receive it!

Our preparation consists of worship, filled with confession of our sin, prayer, Holy Communion as food to sustain our hope, and hymns that express longing for the gift of God's presence as well as confident faith that it will come to us. We add additional worship opportunities on Wednesday evenings during Advent to help our preparation. The Holden Evening Prayer we use is both contemplative and hope-filled; perfect for the season.

Inevitably, of course, there are a few times when the "curtain of Advent" and the "cone of Christmas silence" are pulled aside. (Using images from the "Wizard of Oz" and the TV series "Get Smart" respectively!) Glimmers of the glory of Christmas shine through into Advent, such as at the Christmas Tapestry performances on December 7 and 8, and the Sunday School Christmas program on the 16th. But that's okay; after all, Christmas is such a big gift that it's hard to keep it a complete secret!!

For those who are grieving, the holidays can be difficult, leaving one feeling empty and alone. We at Messiah recognize that. Our Tuesday Night Grief Group will meet on December 4th. And everyone who is feeling even a little "blue" is invited to a Blue Christmas worship at 3:00 pm on Sunday, December 9th.

Even on the 4th Sunday of Advent, which is December 23rd this year, we'll try to restrain the joy and anticipation which by then will be nearly impossible! And then, the very next day, we celebrate Christmas Eve with 3 worship services at 4:00, 7:30 and 10:00 pm. Glorious music and hymns featuring choirs and solos, brass, organ, and piano fill the worship, as well as special prelude music lasting 30 minutes which precedes the second and third worship times. For those unable to attend, and as a ministry to our community, the second two worship services are broadcast on the radio.

Is Christmas a gift worth waiting for?? I'd say so. Please join us in worship during Advent & Christmas!  
-- Pr. Don Ludemann

## **AmazonSmile Program!**

Each of us is now able to choose Messiah as the charity we support every time we shop on Amazon! Amazon will donate 0.5% of all our purchases to Messiah through the AmazonSmile program; so far, charities have received \$105 million in this effort, at no cost to the purchaser or the charity.

Now, to do your part, you need to be sure you choose Messiah as your charity, and then always log into [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com).

To choose Messiah:

- 1) go to your "Your Lists" and find "AmazonSmile Charity List".
- 2) search for "messiah lutheran church marquette" or "messiah marquette" or anything similar; oddly, if you include the word "michigan" or "MI" the search fails!
- 3) select Messiah as your charity, and you're ready to begin shopping!

## **The Call Process**

The council has reviewed six candidates and interviewed three of them. One of those we interviewed appears to be an excellent candidate, but we have one more interview to conduct. Many of you have asked why we simply do not hire Pastor Don. We are blessed to have him here and for his ministry, but he occupies a special niche as an interim pastor, and our contract with him precludes us from calling him. Our Bishop has reinforced this and told us we may not "lobby" him, nor he lobby us. We hope to have a candidate to put forward soon and will keep you posted.

-- Messiah's Church Council

## **Blue Christmas - December 9**

Once again Messiah will provide a quiet service acknowledging the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ. The Christmas season with all its glitter and flurry is painful for some among us. This is a time to recognize those feelings. Thoughts of loss and worry may be expressed or contemplated. The Blue Christmas service is an opportunity to focus on Christ, the true reason for the season.

I think of the first Christmas after Jim, my husband, died and how I made plans that were different from our usual celebrations. This service may fit those who have experienced loss or change of circumstances.

Or it may be a comfort to those whose holidays were painful.

My sister-in-law could not relax or enjoy family gatherings during Christmas. Although she would come to one of the five big events my family held, she and her family only stayed for a short time. I have learned that for her Christmas only came if someone came by with a box of food. Her dad would sign up for baskets which included gifts for the children but no gifts were left when some small amount of food appeared. I didn't know why she couldn't let her children enjoy gifts until she said that gifts like toys were easily converted to cash. Her memories of Christmas were filled with expectations that were usually dashed to bits.

So the Blue Christmas service is a time to remember, pray, consider but still recognize that our Savior has come. Please come.... and bring a companion or a friend, 3:00 pm - December 9.

-- *Judy Quirk*

## **Thank you!**

From the Heart.... Thank you for the bus tickets. This is a HUGE help for me. I am having a very hard time. -- *Pam*

## **Medication Help Available**

If you have questions &/or concerns regarding your medications, you can contact pharmacist Barb Salmela at [salmela432@yahoo.com](mailto:salmela432@yahoo.com) or by calling 906.250.1016.

All inquiries are confidential. She can help find discounts for medication, ways to possibly obtain them for free, or suggest less expensive alternatives. Also, if you need assistance signing up for Medicare, please call Barb for an appointment. She would be happy to help you through this process.

## **Community Meal - December 5**

Please join us for dinner on December 5! The community meal will start at 5:30 pm and will include pulled pork on a bun, baked potato, corn, salad, ice cream and cookies/brownies. We look forward to seeing you!

## Noisy Offering - Dec 8 & 9

Two milestones were reached with our Noisy Offering in November:

First, our kids raised well over \$700, exceeding previous months!

Second, the national ELCA reported that the kids had met their \$500,000 challenge and that money will be matched in a \$1 million contribution to the ELCA's Global Barnyard Project!

So, since that goal was met, we faced a question: Should we have a Noisy Offering in December?? The kids and adults present in worship agreed that we should, so we will -- on December 8 and 9! Simply bring your loose change to worship and our congregation's kids will collect your coins and "make a joyful noise to the Lord" as they proceed around the sanctuary.

The kids had a vote in Sunday School about where they want December's offering to go; will it be for goats, chickens, or fish, maybe fruit trees or honey bees?? Come and find out and keep collecting those coins. Every penny literally makes a difference!

## Sharing the Dream in Guatemala Upcoming Trip

There is an upcoming trip with Sharing the Dream in Guatemala, which is one of the non-profit organizations where we get our goods for the fall fair trade market. It is planned for February 4-13th, 2019, and will be a learning trip with Director Diane Nusselhuf. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Diane at [diane@sharingthedream.org](mailto:diane@sharingthedream.org). Thank you!

## Being Mortal

On Tuesday, December 4 from 5:30-6:30 pm, we will meet again in Messiah's atrium to discuss the book, [Being Mortal](#) by *Atul Gawande*. A small snack will be provided. If you would like to bring along a bag meal please do so. Copies of the book are available from Peter White Library.

## Holiday Postcards at Messiah

We have once again printed ELCA Holiday cards to share -- "Let Us Be Your Home for the Holidays." On the back, you'll find dates and times for our Advent and Christmas services. Pick one up for yourself or several to share with family, friends, or acquaintances. This is the season to spread the Good News and welcome guests. You'll find the cards on the welcome table outside the office.

## Thank You!

Messiah Lutheran & Mary Lou, You're the best! Thank you so very much for the financial help. Sincerely, Clara and son Barrett

## Gratitude & Generosity

A year ago we wrote about GRATITUDE AND GENEROSITY. Here it is again. Former Pastor, Nancy Amacher, urged us to answer “grateful” when asked how we are. When we are grateful, we are more likely to want to share our blessings with others. We are blessed to be a part of a congregation of members who give generously of their time, talent and money to support our ministries.

As a stewardship team, we are thanking you for being “grateful givers” who are grateful for the life, death and resurrection of our Savior who gave His all for us. You have demonstrated your gratitude by living generously. Notice how many cars are in our parking lot on just about any day and you will have some idea of how many of us are giving our time and talent to God’s work. Yes, we are God’s hands doing His work and we are happy doing it.

Respectfully submitted for the Stewardship Team, Dave Blomquist

## Thank You from RATI

Dear Members of Messiah Lutheran Church, And so we have begun year 11 of Room At The Inn. The summer shelter housed 15-20 people each night, and since we began this 11th season of RATI, we have found that the shelter has been full many, if not most, of those nights. While The Warming Center saw a 30-40% increase in the number of meals served over the summer, there is no room for expansion on the floors of our churches, so it has become clear that as we look to the future, something more will need to be done.

Thank you so much for your generous, repeated contribution to Room At The Inn. We received your check for \$280.00, number 15773, on October 13, 2018. You can be assured we will use your gift as you designated, for support for meals for local hunger and Room At The Inn. Homelessness along with food insecurity is a fact in our community, and it is an issue not easily solved. We so appreciate all the help we get from individuals, churches and organizations. It really does take all of us together. Sincerely, *Lorna Addison for Room At The Inn*

## 2019 Giving

A friendly reminder from the Stewardship Team and Finance Committee:

As we start to assemble Messiah’s 2019 budget, it would be most helpful to have all our giving pledges & Time and Talent forms completed and returned. If you have misplaced yours, never received them, or have any questions about them, please do not hesitate to contact the church office or Pastor Don.

As we strive to be the best stewards of God’s gifts, we thank you for your help!

# Lectionary Readings - December 2018

## December 2 -- First Sunday of Advent

First Reading.....*Jeremiah 33:14-16*  
Psalm.....*Psalm 25:1-10*  
Second Reading.....*1 Thessalonians 3:9-13*  
Gospel Reading.....*Luke 21:25-36*

## December 9 -- Second Sunday of Advent

First Reading.....*Malachi 3:1-4*  
Psalm.....*Luke 1:68-79*  
Second Reading.....*Philippians 1:3-11*  
Gospel Reading.....*Luke 3:1-6*

## December 16 -- Third Sunday of Advent

First Reading.....*Zephaniah 3:14-20*  
Psalm.....*Isaiah 12:2-6*  
Second Reading.....*Philippians 4:4-7*  
Gospel Reading.....*Luke 3:7-18*

## December 23 -- Fourth Sunday of Advent

First Reading.....*Micah 5:2-5a*  
Psalm.....*Luke 1:46b-55*  
Second Reading.....*Hebrews 10:5-10*  
Gospel Reading.....*Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]*

## December 30 -- First Sunday of Christmas

First Reading.....*1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26*  
Psalm.....*Psalm 148*  
Second Reading.....*Colossians 3:12-17*  
Gospel Reading.....*Luke 2:41-52*



## Council Highlights - November 2018

1. Set the date for the Annual Meeting, February 3, 2019.
2. Rescinded the prior decision to conduct an external financial audit.
3. Confirmed a lease renewal for Adult Day Services at \$375.00 monthly.
4. Heard that the date for bids to repair the organ was extended to February 15, 2019.
5. Received a 7th senior pastor candidate's paperwork from the Bishop's office.
6. Approved expenditures for Room At The Inn, Bread for the World, RIC dues and a missionary in Tanzania.

## OWLS Christmas Party - December 12

OWLS (Older Wiser Lutherans) Annual Christmas Party is at noon in Messiah's atrium on Wednesday, December 12, 2018. There is a sign up sheet on the welcome table. Our gatherings in the past have been delightful, and we'd love to have you join us. The OWLS group is usually folks age 55 or older; however, all are always welcome. We try hard to keep things simple, so please bring a sandwich or two cut into halves or fourths to share. Also, we do have a gift exchange. Bring one wrapped gift. This can be something used, regifts, new (\$15 or less), something funny or unusual, something you just aren't needing anymore. Anything goes! New this year, we're going to try a cookie gift exchange. Bring 0, 1, 2, or 3 dozen cookies to exchange. If you bring one dozen, you'll take one dozen home, etc. There will be singing, too, so bring your voices, your friends, your holiday spirit. If you have any questions, please e-mail, text, or call either Louise (louweesy@hotmail.com or 250-3990) or Linda (360-6168).

## OWLS December Events

In addition to the Christmas Party on December 12 (be sure to sign up on the Welcome Table outside the church office) the following two additional outings are planned.

**Thursday, December 13**-Holiday Concert with the Front Street Brass at 7:00pm in the Community Room of the Peter White Library. Messiah's own Tom Bronken is one of the musicians! Come early to get a good seat!

**December 20 at 4:00 pm**-the Thomas Theatre will be showing the Polar Express. We'll meet in the theater lobby at 3:45. Tickets are only \$5.

The OWLS group is usually for folks 55 or older; however all are always welcome!

## Thank You from the Women's Center

Thank you so much for your very kind donation! - - *Harbor House*

# Messiah's Birthdays

## December 2018

- Saturday 1 Easton Peacock
- Sunday 2 Amy Smith
- Monday 3 Cary Bjork, Jane Brow, Ruth Garn, Mark McGovern
- Tuesday 4 Anne Jackson
- Wednesday 5 No birthdays
- Thursday 6 Eric Hammerstrom, Gertrude Leaf, Wayne Rodriguez
- Friday 7 Brad Crimmins
- Saturday 8 Barb Avery, Sarah Bleckiner, Travis Christensen, Mike Davis, Carol Fosco, Bill Ryan, Molly Smith, Rose Young
- Sunday 9 Tom Froiland, Grant Soltwisch
- Monday 10 No birthdays
- Tuesday 11 No birthdays
- Wednesday 12 Jeremy Beerman, Tristan Luoma, Linda Wainio
- Thursday 13 Charlotte Beauchaine, Joslyn Hewitt
- Friday 14 Chloe Jackson
- Saturday 15 Ceil Aikala, Marie Moisio
- Sunday 16 Jenny Broadway, Judy Donckers, Bill Summersett
- Monday 17 Caroline Reynolds, Anne Weaver
- Tuesday 18 Bob Apple, Peggy Beerman, Evan Busick, Lisa Coombs-Gerou, Sharon Flurette, David Johnson, Kristen Zorza
- Wednesday 19 No birthdays
- Thursday 20 Jamie Beauchamp
- Friday 21 Graham Tollefson
- Saturday 22 No birthdays
- Sunday 23 Winifred Anderson, Jeremy Bower
- Monday 24 Ben Hendrick, Carol Steinhaus

Tuesday 25	Nicole Grim, Angela Gunville, Carol Stevens
Wednesday 26	Knut Fjeldheim, Betty Hartman
Thursday 27	No birthdays
Friday 28	Michael Broadway, Nicole Brownell, Liam Hewitt, Larry Pagel
Saturday 29	Aliina Maki-Warne, Joe Oleksy
Sunday 30	Carol O'Neill
Monday 31	Lynn Apple, Gerry Cory, Tom Cory

## Passages

### In Sympathy to:

\* *Beth Krznarich and family upon the death of her sister, Margo Yatchak, who passed away at home on Sunday, October 28th. You can view her obituary on the Canale funeral home website.*

\* *Family and friends of Walter Norris, who passed away on Sunday, November 25th at the Jacobetti facility.*

## In The Hospital

Please inform the church office when you are hospitalized. Pr. Don and Pr. Allan want to visit you when you are there. If you can't notify Messiah, please ask a family member to do so.

## Thanks from Fortune Lake

Dear Members of Messiah Lutheran Church, Thank you for your gift to support the mission of Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp of \$743.33.

Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp is a partner and an extension of your congregation's mission and ministry. Your expression of this partnership through this gift strengthens our mutual ministry and our partnership.

We thank God for each of our campers, retreat participants, and for the families, churches, and supporters who make it all possible. Sustaining gifts enable us to bridge the gap between registration fees and actual costs, to keep our buildings and grounds safe, to continue to share the life-giving hope of Jesus, and to provide scholarships to those who would otherwise not be able to come to camp.

We would welcome the opportunity to work with you in an identified area of ministry, either here at camp, your own retreat weekend, or VBS at your church. Let us know how we might enhance our partnership of ministry with your congregation and serve your groups. Thank you again for remembering Fortune Lake with your gifts. It is your support of Camp which allows us to continue our ministry to Drive Faith Forward, day by day, for all ages and in all seasons. Together in Christ, *Ruth Warmanen, Board Member*

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updated daily, please go to  
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## Your Record of Giving to Messiah

In recent years, we've sent out a record of your giving in early December; it gave you an early glance for any needed "catch up" to your pledge. This year, since pledges are coming in on-target, we won't send an early statement, just a final one after all donations are recorded through our last Sunday of the year. If your semi-annual statement showed giving numbers in brackets ( ) on the far right of the "Account - (Pledged Dates)" section, you were under your pledge at that time. If you are uncertain of your current status and need verification, please call the office or email Nancy Hoover, Financial Secretary, at: [Messiah.NancyH@gmail.com](mailto: Messiah.NancyH@gmail.com) Thank you for your continued faithful support of Messiah!

**Please note, the last day of giving, to be credited for 2018, is Sunday, December 30, 2018.**

## Journey

As we near the end of the year and I look back on the entire year of Journey, I am grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the students' journey of faith! Congratulations to Maddie and Devin on being confirmed!

We have had a remarkable start to this school year. On average we have had 10 students for classes, 2-5 students for social activities, and 5-10 students for service projects.

During classes this past month, we learned about times in the 'wilderness.' We learned about the Israelites' journey out of Egypt. We also talked about how Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness while being tempted. What we took away from our lessons is that God is always with us (even when we feel alone).

For our social activity, we went bowling. We had lots of fun together.

We will be caroling and delivering cookies on December 16. Please let me know if you have a family member or friend who would benefit from a visit. Last year we paid a visit to some shut-ins as well as a visit to Jacobetti. Our students were fabulous and the people we visited were extremely appreciative.

Thank you for supporting our youth, Jen Elsenbroek

## High School Youth

The high school youth group will be meeting in the youth room after the 10:30 service on Sunday, December 9. We will be baking cookies. We will then be delivering our cookies and caroling with the middle school youth on Sunday, December 16. Please consider joining us for fun, fellowship, and cookies!

## Colombian Visitors - Fall of 2019

Messiah's Global Mission team is starting to make plans to host people from our Colombian companion congregation Luz y Vida in the fall of 2019. Messiah has sent a delegation to Colombia almost every year since 2009, and in 2015 we had the honor of hosting a delegation from Colombia to visit us in Marquette.

The people who hope to visit us next year are:

**Rocío Gómez**-Rocío lives with her husband Oscar, their two children, Laura and Santiago, and Rocío's father, Jose Gomez. The family lives in the Potosí neighborhood, not far from Caracolí. Rocío works as a domestic employee and she also serves as a Sunday School teacher at Luz y Vida.

**Johana Castellanos**-Johana has two daughters Erika, age 20, and Nilli, age 15. Johana has a micro clothing manufacturing company in Bogotá.

**Johana Diaz**-Johana lives with her husband Luis and two daughters, Tania and Heidi. Johana & Luis own a small store and internet service in the Caracolí neighborhood.

**Jesús Pinzón**-Jesús has been part of Luz y Vida since its beginning. Jesús lives with his wife Nervice and two daughters, Dania and Samanta. He is business man and owns a small grocery store near Luz y Vida. His daughter Samanta is one of the volunteers leading the Projecting My Future program for girls at the church.

These four will be accompanied to Marquette by Pastor Jairo Suarez.

Rocío, Johana Castellanos, Johana Diaz, and Jesús all need to apply for visas in order to come to the U.S. The Global Mission team plans to do everything they can in order to make sure their applications are successful! Our council president, Paul Marin, has written a letter of invitation, and we are asking for letters of support from Michigan's US senators that these four applicants can present at the US embassy in Bogotá when they go for their interviews. Please keep all four of these people in your prayers in the months ahead!

## Kits & Quilts

The box-car left the Upper Peninsula in October. On that box car, Messiah provided the following items to Lutheran World Relief:

**461 Quilts**

**56 School Kits**

**54 Baby Kits**

**69 Health/Personal Care Kits**

This is all possible due to your generosity. All the items you purchased for these kits and all the hours spent on making the quilts, sewing, tying, etc There is a lot of money and volunteer time that goes into this project. *Thank you again, for helping to make this all possible!*

## **Prayer Partners**

The prayer partners have had two meetings. The children and adults are enjoying the activities and getting to know each other. Our activities have been coloring praying hands and a prayer rock. We are in need of an Adult prayer partner for a 5th grader. If interested in being an adult prayer partner please call the office or come to our next gathering on Dec. 9 at 9:55 am.

The program has been going really well and we are really thankful for all the families for participating! Thank you all for sharing your love of God with our youth and adults! The 2019 Prayer Partners event dates are as follows: January 9, February 10, March 17, April 14 and May 5.

*--- Sherry Johnson, Faith Formation*

## **“A Christmas Tapestry 2018 Music of the Season” - December 7 & 8**

This program will be presented on December 7 & 8, at 7:30 pm at Messiah. This 25th annual concert will include performances by The Marquette County Chamber Chorale, The Marquette Male Chorus, under the direction of Wayne Hanmer, and accompanist Dawn Betts. Performers also include Tintinniere: Richard Beyers, handbells, Anna Martin, piano.

After being an annual Christmas tradition for 25 years, this year’s Christmas Tapestry will be the last. Started in 1994 by Louise Basal, Richard Beyers, Wayne Hanmer and Ruth Matthews as a gift to the Marquette community, the Tapestry grew from the original four performers to include the Marquette County Chamber Chorale and the Marquette Male Chorus.

This year’s concert will include “Appalachian Carols” by Gwyneth Walker and “A Musicological Journey through the Twelve Days of Christmas.” The concert will also feature favorite sing along Christmas carols. The concert will end with “Silent Night.”

Please join us to celebrate 25 years of inspiring Christmas music. Freewill donations will be accepted. For more information call 249-9867.

## **Global Fair Trade Market**

The 2018 Fair Trade Market and bake sale were a huge success! All the monies from the Market will be sent back to the artisans around the world who made the beautiful goods. The generous proceeds from the bake sale will help with the costs of advertising and shipping next year. Many thanks to all the people involved in making it happen, especially to the volunteer assistants and those who contributed to the bake sale.

With gratitude, Rachel Skaw and Beth Wendricks



## Collection for Great Lakes Recovery

The Rachel Circle is collecting gifts for the children at Great Lakes Recovery for the month of December. Here is the list of the number of children with their age, gender and size, for whom the gifts are needed. If you would like to make a donation, it would be greatly appreciated. Donations will be accepted up to Wednesday December 19th. There will be a collection box in the Narthex.

1-12 yr old F, junior M, shoes 8W	1-15 yr old F, junior 13, shrt L, shoe 9
1-14 yr old M, mens XL, shoes 8	1-6 yr old F, girls 6x, shoes 12
1-9 yr old M, boys M, shoes boys 4	1-3 yr old M, 4T, shoes 9
1-7 yr old F, junior 8, shoes kids 3	1-12 yr old F, size-unsure
1-11 yr old F, sz 14	1-9 yr old F, size-unsure
1-9 yr old M, sz 10/12	2-11 yr old F, medium
1-6 yr old M, sz 8	1-13 yr old M, medium
1-7 yr old F, girls 7/8, shoes kids 1	1-10 yr old F, medium
1-10 mo. old M, 18 month size	1-8 yr old F, medium
1-15 yr old F, juniors 16, shoes 9	1-11 yr old M, large
1-9 yr old M, boys 12/14 , shoes mens 7	1-6 mo. old F, size-unsure
2-8 yr old M, kids 10, shoes 3/4	1-12 yr old F, size-unsure
1-7 yr old M, boys 8, shoes 2	1-10 yr old M, size-unsure
1-2 yr old F, 3T	1-11 yr old M, size-unsure

They will also accept toy donations for kids 6 months old - 15 years old. We thank you in advance for your generosity this holiday season.

*--- The Rachel Circle*

## Room At The Inn

To all who helped in any way with our first week of Room at the Inn, volunteering for intake or one of the night shifts, providing a meal, doing set up, clean up or laundry, or keeping the homeless in your prayers, thank you. The week went very well, and the guests were very appreciative for a hot meal, a warm and safe place to sleep, and fellowship.

Please consider how you might be able to help out with RATI when Messiah's week comes up again beginning January 20th, 2019 and again on March 24th. Messiah is also responsible for one day during Christmas week, December 27th which is a "shared week" and will be housed at St. Michael's church that week. Most in need for that day will be for someone to provide a meal which can be as simple or elaborate as you would like.

Let us at Messiah continue to serve in our community's mission to help our homeless neighbors in the same generous way as we have for so many years.

*--- Ron Tervo and Darlene Dreisbach*

## **In Our Prayers**

Please remember the following people in your prayers at this time: Sherry Johnson, Laura Goodney, Ruth Robb, Liz Beyne, Nancy Peterson, Alison, Judy Ingison, Diane, Don Dreisbach, Ted, Gary, Sierra, Mary Leslie, Rosanne Taylor, Ted Querin, Charlene Avery, Cathy Church, Nai, Cam & his family, Mike Orhanen, Betty Hartman, Liz Kro, Katelin Bingner.

*You may call the church office if you would like a person listed in the prayers. Please obtain permission from the person to list his/her name. In order to keep the list up to date and manageable in size, we will remove names from time to time. We also appreciate updates as to how people listed are progressing. Thank you!*

## **Christmas Program**

The Christmas Program is coming up on December 16th! There will be no Sunday School on that day, but please have your children come ready to join us at the front of the service wearing their pajamas! There will be a short birthday party for Jesus directly after the second service on that day. All are welcome!

## **Sunday School News**

There will be no Sunday School on the following Sundays in December 16, 23, & 30. Regular classes will resume on January 6th. We hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas and thank you for sharing your children with us.

Gina Fortin & Holly Muscoe

## **Colombia Reflections from Liz Beyne**

My first impression of Bogotá was that it looks like any U.S. metropolitan area. It appeared very modern and clean, including shopping centers and public transportation (double-articulated buses and bus lanes). But later we visited the poorer sections of the city including Caracolí, the neighborhood of our companion congregation, Luz y Vida.

The home visits and presentations really opened my eyes to how blessed we are and how much our shared ministry means to the Lutherans in Bogotá. We don't have to worry about our children being kidnapped for ransom by guerrilla rebels or leaving our homes to avoid persecution. We don't have to worry about losing our homes because we are squatters. We have more than one room to live in and have modern appliances. Most of us have the ability to buy corrective glasses if needed or change our homes if needed for medical reasons.

The life histories that were shared made me feel how much we need to be grateful for all we have. If possible, I urge you to experience our shared ministry with Luz y Vida—either through a trip there or by welcoming a delegation from Colombia to visit Messiah in 2019.

## **Special Events in December & January**

<b>December 2</b>	Journey
<b>December 2</b>	TV6 Car-A-Thon ends
<b>December 5</b>	Community meal at 5:30 pm with Advent worship to follow at 6:30 pm
<b>December 5</b>	Advent worship at 6:30 pm
<b>December 7/8</b>	Christmas Tapestry Concert at 7:30 pm both nights
<b>December 9</b>	Journey
<b>December 8/9</b>	Noisy offering
<b>December 9</b>	Blue Christmas service at 3:00 pm
<b>December 12</b>	Advent worship at 6:30 pm
<b>December 16</b>	Sunday School kids Christmas program at 10:30 am worship & liturgical dancers at 8:45 & 10:30 am worship
<b>December 16</b>	No Sunday School - because of Christmas program
<b>December 16</b>	Journey & High School Youth go caroling
<b>December 19</b>	Advent worship at 6:30 pm
<b>December 23</b>	No Sunday School
<b>December 24</b>	Christmas Eve worship at 4:00 pm, 7:30 pm and 10:00 pm. There will be a half hour of prelude music before the second two services
<b>December 25</b>	Christmas Day
<b>December 30</b>	No Sunday School
<b>December 31</b>	New Year's Eve

## **Mark Your Calendars - Advent Worship**

During the season of Advent, Messiah will have Advent Worship services on Wednesday, December 5th, 12th and 19th. They will be held at 6:30 pm in the sanctuary. We will be using the Holden Evening Prayer for the Advent worship. On the 5th, the Advent worship will follow our monthly Community Meal.

## **Faith Formation Membership Search**

The Faith Formation Team is looking for new members to join our cause! We have recently expanded our mission to providing additional programming such as the Christmas Program and Vacation Bible School, and we have lost some key members in the last few years. We have some really interesting projects we want to begin working on involving chronicling the stories of Messiah's groups and members and creating additional intergenerational faith sharing opportunities, but we need your help! If you are interested in joining the Faith Formation committee, please contact Mike at 906-370-8244 or come by the church office and ask for more information.

# December 2018 Worship Volunteers

## Saturday December 1 - 5pm

Ushers- Harry Rajala, Chris Kotila

Reader- Carol Bell

Communion Assistants- Peggy Letvenow, Kathy Godec

Communion Set-Up- Peggy Letvenow

## Sunday December 2 - 8:45 am

Acolyte- one needed

Ushers- Sten and Jane Taube

Reader- Fred Maynard

Communion Assistants- Kathy Maynard, Dave and Mary Lou Blomquist

Greeters- Barb Avery, Pat Nebel

Assisting Minister- Kathy Maynard

## Sunday December 2 - 10:30 am

Acolyte- Hannah Ruuska

Ushers- Kerry McGinley, Dave Luoma

Reader- Michael Broadway

Communion Assistants- Michael and Jenny Broadway, Rachel Skaw

Greeters- Kurt Mensching, Grace Gronowski, Marcia Heron

Assisting Minister- Sarah Janda

Video Technician- Brent Skaw

## Saturday December 8 - 5pm

Ushers- two needed

Reader- Kathy Godec

Communion Assistant- Diana Peterson

Communion Set-Up- Billie Johnson

## Sunday December 9 - 8:45 am

Acolyte- one needed

Ushers- Frank Summersett, David Dill

Reader- Larry Pagel

Communion Assistants- Al and Gail Edgar, Beth Krznarich

Greeters- Penny Streeter, Helen Steinhoff

Assisting Minister- Dave Blomquist

**Sunday December 9 - 10:30 am**

Acolyte- Connor Carr

Ushers- Dave Luoma, Jean Arntsen

Reader- Jill Luoma

Communion Assistants- Sandy Lindberg, Mike Hill, Darryl Small

Greeters- Milt and Bodil Soderberg

Assisting Minister- Paul Marin

Video Technician- Joan Hill

**Saturday December 15 - 5 pm**

Ushers- Billie Johnson, Chris Kotila

Reader- Karen Kimar-Johnson

Communion Assistant- Julie Blemberg

Communion Set-Up- Carol Bell

**Sunday December 16 - 8:45 am**

Acolyte- one needed

Ushers- Ray Jarvis, Cathy Seblonka

Reader- Judy Quirk

Communion Assistants- Judy Quirk, Mike and Emily Coyne

Greeters- Jan Vickstrom, Joan Tasson

Assisting Minister- Jen Bleckiner

**Sunday December 16 - 10:30 am Sunday School Christmas Program**

Video Technician- Mark Petrie

**Saturday December 22 - 5 pm**

Ushers- Phyllis Aurich, one needed

Reader- Chris Kotila

Communion Assistant- one needed

Communion Set-Up- one needed

**Sunday December 23- 8:45 am**

Acolyte- one needed

Ushers- Anne Rydholm, Sam Elder

Reader- Lynne Hammerstrom

Communion Assistants- Carl Hammerstrom, Mike and Emily Coyne

Greeters- two needed

Assisting Minister- Larry Pagel

**Sunday December 23 - 10:30 am**

Acolyte- one needed

Ushers- Jean Arntsen, Liz Beyne

Reader- Jayme Bell

Communion Assistants- Sandy Lindberg, Kerry McGinley, Karen Burkman

Greeters- Gayle Van Osdol, one needed

Assisting Minister- Mike Hill

Video Technician- Liam Ulland-Joy, Michael Joy

**Saturday December 29- 5 pm**

Ushers- Chris Kotila, Phyllis Aurich

Reader- Kathy Godec

Communion Assistant- one needed

Communion Set-Up- one needed

**Sunday December 30 - 8:45 am**

Acolyte- one needed

Ushers- Cathy Seblonka, Bruce Robertson

Reader- Marilyn Andersen

Communion Assistants- Peggy Sager, Grant Soltwisch, one needed

Greeters- John VanDreel, Beth Krznarich

Assisting Minister- Grant Soltwisch

**Sunday December 30 - 10:30 am**

Acolyte- one needed

Ushers- Gayle Van Osdol, one needed

Reader- Susan Shaver

Communion Assistants- Paul Marin, Betsy Little, one needed

Greeters- Liz Beyne, one needed

Assisting Minister- Dave Luoma

Video Technician- Myra Zyburt

## **Farmer's Market Coffee Supports LWR**

We are currently selling the Farmer's Market coffee along with our Equal Exchange coffee that you have all grown to love. The Farmer's Market coffee has been supporting Lutheran World Relief (LWR) and the coffee farmers. Equal Exchange no longer has a relationship with LWR. The Farmer's Market ground coffee comes in a medium blend, a dark blend and a decaf coffee. We now carry the medium and dark blend in whole bean for all the coffee bean lovers! Try it today!

## **Altar Flowers & Radio Broadcasts**

There are openings for altar flowers and radio broadcast in December & January. If you are interested in honoring a loved one or remembering a loved one who has passed away, please contact the church office.

# Giving Tuesday

Thanks to everyone who contributed to St. Vincent de Paul and Messiah's Assistance Fund on Giving Tuesday, November 27th!! While the final numbers are still being tabulated, all indications are that the event was a success! A special thank you to Thrivent Financial for food, publicity, and other vital assistance!

Total receipts will be reported next week, but for now, we can announce the winners of our door prizes! Painted sled - Ron Tervo, Gas card - Boli Soderberg, Gas card - Jim Duehring, Tanzanian mini purse - Nancy Hamlin, Nativity set - Rebecca Ulland.

Congratulations to all! And again, thanks to everyone who contributed time, talent, and treasure; we are all blessed as givers and recipients of this "fearless generosity!"

# Thank You Messiah Family!

To all my friends at Messiah, The past year and a half has been very stressful on my health (at no control of myself). The choir, people who deliver flowers to shut-ins, the lady who writes the wonderful letters, people who have sent cards, Linda Berry for taking me shopping, the communion stewards who brought me communion.

Messiah is the most loving church and I want to say also thank you for everything you have done to make my long recovery tolerable. I was in a rehab center for almost 5 months and I waited for the newsletter and the wonderful letters of encouragement. It will be at least one more year to walk better. I will do everything I can to give back the love you have given me.

May God continue to bless our church during this holiday season. Thank you again, Bev Ojala

Thank you also to Pastor Dave and Pastor Don for your care and encouragement.

**2018 Christmas Poinsettias** - If you would like to sponsor a poinsettia for Christmas, please fill out the following information and submit it to the office by Wednesday, December 19th.

**In Loving Memory of:**

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**In Honor of:**

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From \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ *(Suggested cost is \$20.00)*

**Messiah's Church Staff:**

**Pastoral Staff:**

Parishioner Service Pastor.....Don Lindemann  
Parishioner Associate Pastor.....Allan Johnson

**Support Staff:**

Parish Administrator.....Jennifer Dodge  
Volunteer & Nursery  
Coordinator.....Inga Barritt  
Cantorian.....Kevin McGrath  
Parish Accountant.....Milka Hill  
Finance Secretary.....Nancy Hoover

**Music Staff:**

Organist.....Kathy Szostak  
Pianist.....Eric Barritt  
Choir Director.....Dave Engemais  
Bell Choir Director.....Judy Quirk

Messiah Lutheran Church  
305 W. Magmetic Street  
Marquette, MI 49855

Return Service Requested

