

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, April 1

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, April 2

10:00 am Pericope  
12:00 pm Tai Chi/QiGong  
1:00 pm Knotty Knitters  
1:30 pm Staff Meeting  
3:00 pm Lay School-Preaching &  
Exegetical Techniques  
6:30 pm Superior Handbells

## Wednesday, April 3

9:30 am Women Reaching Women  
12:00 pm Lenten Luncheon  
12:30 pm Lenten Worship  
2:30 pm Norlite Worship  
4:00 pm North Fourth  
4:00 pm Swedish Class  
5:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal  
5:30 pm Community Meal  
6:00 pm Lenten Worship  
6:00 pm Music for all Kids  
6:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous  
6:30 pm Celebration Choir Reh.  
6:30 pm Forum - Climate Change  
7:00 pm Boy Scouts

## Thursday, April 4

9:00 am Quilting  
11:00 am Women's Cursillo  
12:00 pm Ecumenical Meeting  
5:00 pm Building & Grounds

## Friday, April 5

*Pr. Andrew's day off*  
8:00 am Men's Ministry

## Saturday, April 6

5:00 pm Worship

## Sunday, April 7

8:15 am Senior Choir Rehearsal  
8:45 am Worship  
10:30 am Worship  
11:30 am Journey

## On Call

Pr. Andrew Ploch: April 1-3, 7-10, 14-17, 21-24  
Pr. Allan Johnson: April 4-6, 11-13, 18-20, 25-27

## Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for articles to be included in the May Messenger is Monday, April 22, 2019.

Messiah's Newsletter

March 31, 2019  
Volume 101, Issue 4

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

# March 31, 2019

## Fourth Sunday in Lent

**Flowers:** To the Glory of God and In Loving Memory of...



Rev. Rudy Kemppainen from his family

**Radio:** To the Glory of God and In Loving Memory of...



John Carlson on his birthday from Linda Carlson

## Beginnings!

Siblings in Christ,

It was with great joy that I accepted your call as senior pastor, and I've truly enjoyed the first couple weeks of my ministry with you. My wife, Anna, and I have both appreciated your warm greetings, your gracious wearing of nametags, and your patience as we slowly find our way in this community. Thank you for welcoming us!

It has been a gift to join with you in listening to the Spirit's voice through this call process, and I look forward our ministry together. I am especially grateful for the faithful work of your Call Committee (Council) and the Transition Task Force. Please take the time to thank them, when you see them, as they have served you well during this time of transition. I am grateful, too, for the excellent interim work of Pastor Don and Pastor Allan. It is wonderful to have Pastor Don stay in the area (at Prince of Peace, Harvey), and to get to partner in ministry with Pastor Allan as we begin the process of seeking our next Associate Pastor. Please thank them when you see them!

As some of you already know, my wife, Dr. Anna Zimmer, is an assistant professor at Northern Michigan University. She and I are looking forward to getting to know you and the community of Messiah. Your commitment to showing God's love and grace to your community and to one another is palpable and energizing.

I'd love to meet you over coffee or lunch, or if you would want to gather over a meal with both of us, please don't hesitate to reach out! While our schedules are a bit busy, as the semester reaches the home stretch for Anna, and I get acclimatized to the wonders of Messiah, we still relish the opportunity to get to know you better. I can be reached on my email at [messiah.andrewp@gmail.com](mailto:messiah.andrewp@gmail.com), through the office, or on my cell phone (373-6036). When you see either of us, please introduce yourselves. Names will take us a little while, but we'd love to put names and faces together. We look forward to getting to know our new Messiah family!

As our calendar turns to April and the days continue to lengthen, so too we continue our walk toward the light of Easter morning. It has been a long and harsh winter this year. Lent's somber tones of repentance and reflection seem even heavier this year. They accompany our Easter hope as we look toward the resurrection wonder of an empty tomb and yearn to see the new life that awaits. As we get closer to Holy Week, I want to share a poem by the late Ann Weems. It resonates with the tension of Holy Week and the rhythms of the season.

Holy is the week...

Holy, consecrated, belonging to God...

We move from hosannas to horror  
with the predictable ease  
of those who know not what they do.

Our hosannas sung,

our palms waved,

let us go with passion into this week.

It is a time to curse fig trees that do not yield fruit.

It is a time to cleanse our temples of any blasphemy.

It is a time greet Jesus as the Lord's Anointed One,

to lavishly break our alabaster

and pour perfume out for him

without counting the cost.

It is a time for preparation...

The time to give thanks and break bread is upon us.

The time to give thanks and drink of the cup is imminent.

Eat, drink, remember:

On this night of nights, each one must ask,

as we dip our bread in the wine,

"Is it I?"

And on that darkest of days, each of us must stand

beneath the tree

and watch the dying

if we are to be there

when the stone is rolled away.

The only road to Easter morning

is through the unrelenting shadows of that Friday.

Only then will the alleluias be sung;

only then will the dancing begin.\*

Friends, may the grace of God bring you through the unrelenting shadows of this season and into the dawn and dancing of Easter morning.

Grace and Peace,

Andrew

*\*From Ann Weems, Kneeling in Jerusalem. Louisville, Ky: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1992.*

## **Community Meal - April 3**

Our next community meal is on Wednesday, April 3rd at 5:30 pm! We will be cooking and serving ham with or without pineapple, mashed potatoes, a vegetable, salad & dessert. We look forward to sharing dinner with you!

## **Pr. Andrew Plocher's Installation - Apr. 14**

Please join us on Sunday, April 14th at 3:00 pm for Pastor Andrew Plocher's Installation. We are looking forward to this event. Bishop Katherine Finegan will be preaching, there will be special music, some of which will be provided by a combined choir. We are in need of extra volunteers for his installation (greeters, ushers, communion assistants, etc). If this interests you, please contact the church office (225-1119). Following the installation there will be light refreshments in Magnuson Hall.

## **Lent**

Our Lenten season continues to provide a host of meals & worship services. There will be a Lenten luncheon at 12:00 pm with worship to follow on April 3 & 10. On these same Wednesdays there will be a Lenten soup supper at 5:30 pm (with the exception of April 3rd, when we will have a community meal) with worship to follow, typically at 6:00 pm. We look forward to our journey through this Lenten season with you!

During the Lenten season the noon meal & 12:30 worship will be held in Magnuson Hall. The worship after the soup supper will be in the sanctuary.

## **Holy Week 2019**

Messiah's 2019 Holy Week schedule is as follows:

- Maundy Thursday (4/18), worship at 6:00 pm
- Good Friday (4/19), worship from 12:30 pm - 3:00 pm
- Easter Vigil (4/20), worship at 6:00 pm
- Easter Sunday (4/21), sunrise service at 6:30 am at McCarty's Cove along with our regular Sunday worship times at Messiah at 8:45 & 10:30 am

## **Good Friday, April 19 - Radio Broadcast**

Our Good Friday service will be broadcast on the radio for those who are homebound and cannot get to Messiah for the two and a half hour worship. If you are interested in honoring a loved one through the radio broadcast this day or if you would like to honor a loved one that has passed away, please contact the church office. Thank you!

## Forum on Faith & Climate Change

On Wednesday April 3 at 6:30 pm, following the mid-week Lenten service, a forum sponsored by the Social Action Committee on Faith & Climate Change will be led by Fred Maynard in the atrium. Come and learn about the ELCA's Creation Care Program and its partnership with EcoAmerica's Blessed Tomorrow Program. A discussion will occur on why our faith leads us to action on preventing climate damage and what Messiah can do to help. There will also be a short presentation by Jordan Matterella, an NMU student who is a water steward with the Northern Great Lakes Water Initiative.

## Worship Bulletin Available Online

Messiah is now offering an electronic version of the 8:45 am worship bulletin online for those who listen to the 8:45 worship service on the radio. Go to our website, [www.messiahlutheranmqt.org](http://www.messiahlutheranmqt.org), click on WORSHIP and scroll down to the 8:45 am worship section, click the link for the bulletin. You can also find a link for the 8:45 bulletin on our home page where the worship times are listed.

## 4 By 4 for 2019!

Messiah's 4 by 4, a small group ministry at Messiah, aims at helping people get to know one another better. Groups meet at least four times during the year. Most groups choose to meet in each other's homes for dinner. However, some have chosen to share meals at restaurants or arrange picnics at parks, or attend sports or other events together.

Our 4x4 groups have been formed for 2019. They are:

### \*Erik and Kathy Bergh

Tom & Bre Kinnunen and baby Maggie  
Jen, John, Hannah & Sarah Bleckiner  
Gayle Mack  
Myra Zyburt

### \*Ruth Robb and Peggy Kapfhamer

Ann and Barry Johnson  
Frank and Jan Summersett  
Judy Quirk  
Bruce Davey

### \*Dick & Karen Oslund

Grant and Kathy Soltwisch  
Laurie and Darren Smith  
Helen Steinhoff  
Linda Carlson

### \*Boli and Milt Soderberg

Allan and Sara Johnson  
Jayme Bell and Virginia Bell  
Lori Nelson  
Darley Kempainen

### \*Kerry McGinley & Karen Burkman

Jason and Sara Parks  
Fred and Kathy Maynard  
Kathy Peters  
Bev Evans

*\*indicates group leader/facilitator*

# Council Highlights - February & March

## February

-Set Palm Sunday, April 14, at 3:00 p.m. for installation of Pastor Andrew Plocher.

-Approved new members: Darley Kemppainen, Leslie White, Bruce Davey, and Madalyn Dykema.

-Authorized heating system repairs with fund to be used from the appropriate memorial account.

-Approved formation of an Ad Hoc Organ Task Force.

-Elected Paul Marin, president; Jeannie Wagner, vice president; and Jennifer Broadway, secretary.

## March

-Approved purchase of a new copier.

-Discussed next steps in the call of an associate pastor.

-Recommended calling a congregational meeting for the purpose of engaging in a contract for organ repairs & updates.

-Discussed building security.

-Approved a quiet time for meditation in the sanctuary on Wednesdays at noon.

## Need a Ride to Messiah?

If you need transportation to Messiah for worship or other events, call Inga at the church office to be referred to someone who has volunteered to give rides.

## Thank You!

Dear Messiah Lutheran Church, We would like you to know how grateful we are for your gracious donation. Words cannot describe the warmth and peace of mind your assistance has given the two of us (and our expectant). Thanks to your help, we were able to keep our beautiful home. Your assistance towards our past due rent has humbled us 100%. We will never forget the support you have given us! ---*God Bless, Courtney & Rob*

## Thank You!!

Dear friends!

Just a quick note to thank you all once again for a wonderful year together. I really enjoyed all the worship services and the farewell luncheon on March 10th! I'm still busy writing "Thank You" notes to individuals. So as to not inadvertently miss anyone, please let this suffice as a "universal thank you" to all!!

Beginnings and endings are always important in relationships; you made my exit very meaningful and memorable. Continued blessings to you, your families, and everyone at Messiah! --- *Pastor Don*

# Lectionary Readings - April 2019

## April 7 -- Fifth Sunday in Lent

First Reading.....*Isaiah 43:16-21*  
Psalm.....*Psalm 126*  
Second Reading.....*Philippians 3:4b-14*  
Gospel Reading.....*John 12:1-8*

## April 14 -- Palm Sunday

First Reading.....*Isaiah 50:4-9a*  
Psalm.....*Psalm 31:9-16*  
Second Reading.....*Philippians 2:5-11*  
Gospel Reading.....*Luke 22:14--23:56*

## April 21 -- Resurrection of Our Lord

First Reading.....*Acts 10:34-43*  
Psalm.....*Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24*  
Second Reading.....*1 Corinthians 15:19-26*  
Gospel Reading.....*Luke 24:1-12*

## April 28 -- Second Sunday of Easter

First Reading.....*Acts 5:27-32*  
Psalm.....*Psalm 118:14-29*  
Second Reading.....*Revelation 1:4-8*  
Gospel Reading.....*John 20:19-31*

## High School Youth Group Events

Below are some dates/events we have planned & hope you are free to join us!

Sunday, April 14

Go to the Movies

Sunday, May 19

Graduation Lunch

We will meet in the youth group room before each of these events. Lunch will be provided. Feel free to bring a friend to any or all events. We look forward to fun and fellowship!



## **Hildegarde Johnson Music Scholarship**

The Worship & Music team has awarded four youth from Messiah with the Hildegarde Johnson Music Scholarship. These students will use these funds for a variety of music lessons and some will use the funds towards the purchase of a musical instrument. They are all very excited to have been selected for this scholarship and they will all participate with their instrument in worship over the next year, so please look forward to listening to their talents!

They were all recently recognized during worship. The recipients are Emma Maki-Warne, Maija Maki-Warne, Aliina Maki and Meghan MacPhee. Please congratulate them when you see them!

## **Video Projection Update**

Over the next month we'll be making a change in our projection system. Our last update of the existing projection software revealed serious compatibility problems, and rather than make this a continuing struggle we're shifting to a different program, MediaShout. I've worked with it before, and found it stable and easy to use. The appearance of our worship projection will not change; it mostly depends on graphics files we've developed at Messiah, and I'll just plug them into the new program.

That will take some time, and we won't start using MediaShout until after Easter. Once I have it set up, I think our projection team will find it an easy transition. In any event, I'll be offering training (again, after Easter).

Meanwhile, we have a training video available if you'd like a copy – I've put it on a thumb drive, which will be in the office, and you can copy the video onto your own computer.

I find projection a major asset to our worship, and I'm deeply grateful to all of you who continue to work with me to make it happen!

Your interim associate pastor,

Allan Johnson

## **Local Kids Who Are Hungry - JJ Packs**

JJ Packs provides packbacks containing healthy snacks for children in Marquette schools who might be hungry over weekends and holidays when they are not getting breakfast and lunch at school. A box is available in the narthex for you to drop off suggested items such as individual servings of macaroni & cheese, tuna, unsweetened apple sauce, raisins, snack crackers with cheese or peanut butter, goldfish crackers or cheez-its. Donations are appreciated to assure that all hungry children have enough to eat at home as well as at school. Members of the Social Action team will deliver your donated items to Graveraet school in time for packing the backpacks on Friday mornings.

# Messiah's Birthdays

## April 2019

- Monday 1 Karl Kaukola
- Tuesday 2 Bob Hewitt, Tucker Polini-Lancour
- Wednesday 3 No birthdays
- Thursday 4 Ethan Sellers, Bev Zorza
- Friday 5 Barb Bergstrom, Brent Skaw, Trenton Wash
- Saturday 6 Steve Nelson
- Sunday 7 Connor Carr, Denise Eady, Theo Geschwindt, Helen Korpi, Les Rolig, Deb St. Onge
- Monday 8 Janna Benedict, Robert Marlor, Susan Shaver
- Tuesday 9 Andrew Banitt, Nancy Okony
- Wednesday 10 Dorothy Janda, Jennifer LaTourneau, Doug Morton
- Thursday 11 Alexandria Braund, Sydney Braund, Jack Johnstone
- Friday 12 Michael Busick, Kim Salmela
- Saturday 13 Trevor Bartlett, Isabelle Beaudoin, Karla Hardy
- Sunday 14 Roger Contois, Gail Edgar, Don Hillegas, Dave Lundquist
- Monday 15 Liz Beyne, Linnea Mensching, Brett Peterson, Cheryl Shirtz
- Tuesday 16 Julie Aho, Hannah Bleckiner
- Wednesday 17 Luke Beerman
- Thursday 18 Greg Carrier, Jakob Peterson
- Friday 19 Mike Hill, Ray Hirvonen, Nancy Lyons, Morgan Messena
- Saturday 20 Gina Fortin, Mark Paulsen, Jacob Paupore, Grant Rydholm, Deb Vanlerberghe, Zach Wagner, Veronica Wiese
- Sunday 21 Sonia Geschwindt, Maria Rodriguez
- Monday 22 June Ackroyd, Cathy Seblonka, Jane Taube
- Tuesday 23 Brett Beauchamp, Wyatt Crimmins, Sarah Fosco, Carl Hammerstrom, Laura Kagy
- Wednesday 24 No birthdays
- Thursday 25 Dave DeLarye, Isaac Olson, Rebecca Ulland

Friday 26	Doug Gordon, Lindsay Johnstone, Karen Larson
Saturday 27	Jackson Kagy
Sunday 28	Mitchell Gilbert, Chrys Hendrick
Monday 29	No birthdays
Tuesday 30	No birthdays

## Passages

### In Sympathy to:

- \* Family & friends of Phyllis Payne who passed away mid-February.
- \* Elmer Moisio and family upon the death of his sister, Sharon Moisio Pelletier who passed away on February 20, 2019.
- \* Nancy Hoover & her children upon the death of her children's father, Dick Castillo, who passed away on February 16, 2019.
- \* Nancy & Dale Amacher and family upon the death of their son, Steven, who passed away on February 19, 2019.
- \* Family & friends of Nancy Kalweit who passed away on March 5, 2019. Her funeral will be at Messiah on Saturday, August 24.
- \* Family & friends of Eleanor Waatti who passed away on March 23, 2019. Eleanor's funeral will be at Messiah on Saturday, June 1.

### In Celebration of:

- \* New members who have joined Messiah on Sunday, March 31, Barry & Ann Johnson. Please extend a warm welcome to them!
- \* A new grandson of Maria Rodriguez & Karl Kaukola who was born on March 13, 2019. His name is Spencer John D'Ambrosio. Spencer's parents are Melissa Kaukola & Jerry D'Ambrosio. They are all doing very well!

## The New Free Store

The New Free Store (TNFS) is an interfaith non-profit group supporting people who express a need for free clothing, linens, hygiene and cleaning supplies in the greater Marquette area.

TNFS is asking members of area churches to help us with our community service mission by donating new hygiene or cleaning supplies. Currently these supplies are purchased with funds provided by grants and the fundraising efforts of TNFS volunteers, however, the need continues to grow. Over 1,600 participants have been served by TNFS as of the end of 2018.

We need your help to sustain our mission and we have a calendar of needs for each month in the year:

April - female shampoo & conditioner, male shampoo

May - laundry soap, dish soap, bars of soap

June - Male razors & female razors and shaving cream for male & for female

*You can leave your donations in the brown Free Store bin in the narthex.*

*Thank you, in advance, for your participation!*

**To view our calendar,  
updated daily, please go to  
MessiahLutheranmqt.org**

**To view our calendar,  
updated daily, please go to  
[MessiahLutheranmqt.org](http://MessiahLutheranmqt.org)**

## Tai Chi / Qi Gong

A Tai Chi /Qi Gong class meets each Tuesday from 12-12:45 pm in Messiah's Magnuson Hall. Tai Chi / Qi Gong is a gentle movement type of class. It allows us to move slowly and aids in relaxation, balance and breathing. Chairs are available to help with balance. We do not lie on the floor. This is a drop-in class and there is no fee. Participants are encouraged to bring a canned or boxed food item for the food pantry. If you have questions please call Betsy Little at 345-9237.

## Personal Care Kits

People who must flee their homes quickly often do not have time to pack essential items. Personal Care Kits can help refugees maintain personal hygiene while living in exile. Ruth Circle will be collecting contributions in April to assemble kits for Lutheran World Relief. The kits are a reminder to those receiving them that someone cares for them.

Items needed for each kit are: 1 bath towel, dark color preferred, 1 toothbrush, adult size in original wrapper, 1 comb, large toothed preferred, 1 metal nail clipper, 2 bath size bars of soap

Donations can be placed in the Personal Care Kit container in the narthex. Monetary donations to purchase needed items are also welcomed. Thank you for your help! - - Ruth Circle

## Feeding America in Marquette

Some of you have contributed to Feeding America and others have walked in the CROP walk so the Social Action Team thought you might like to know of the organization's involvement in Marquette. Their office told me that there are five groups in Marquette City that are registered with them. If you need food assistance or if you are willing to assist with these programs, here is information that may be helpful: Marquette Salvation Army: (906) 226-2241. Open Tuesday from 9:30 to 12:00 & 1:00 to 3:30, Wednesday from 1:00 to 3:30, Thursday from 9:30 to 12:00. Bring photo ID, proof of income and proof of residence to the office to be added to the assistance list.

NMU Food Pantry: call student services and ask for the pantry. It's open Tuesday and Wednesday evenings from 5:00 to 7:00 in 101B Griese Hall. Bring a photo ID and proof of NMU connection. (There was no mention of income requirement.)

St. Vincent DePaul: (906) 226-3721. Open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1:00 to 4:00. Bring a photo ID and proof of income.

Although Child and Family Services UP was listed as having a food pantry, I could not confirm that.

Marquette Care Clinic, also listed as a site with Feeding America, said that they did not have such a pantry but do have baby formula from time to time for their clients. - - Submitted by Judy Quirk

## Pies For World Hunger

Our Sunday School kids have received World Hunger banks to collect funds for World Hunger during Lent. Pastor Allan has agreed to take a pie in the face, on Sunday, May 26th between services, from the student who brings in the most money by May 5. If you would like to support your favorite kid in this effort, add your contribution to their bank. If you would like a bank of your own - pick one up on the shelf by the Fair Trade items in the atrium. Thank you for your enthusiastic support of ELCA World Hunger.

## Time

Last month, we reflected on time and how precious it is. Once it has passed, you simply cannot get it back, making it an extremely valuable resource. Without the members of Messiah so generously giving their time, it would lack the personality we have all grown to love. It is truly amazing to stop and think about the talents our congregation has to offer the Lord, from music, art, and baking, to good ol' elbow grease.

Ephesians 2:10 - For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

The church is grateful for all the talents our members have shared to serve the Lord. Next month is a time for Messiah to thank all you who have volunteered their time in 2018. Please mark your calendars for Wednesday, May 22nd, when we will gather together to celebrate our good Stewardship of 2018. - - Brent Skaw, Stewardship Committee

## Journey

It has been a crazy winter! If any of you have had a chance to peek at the walkway into North Fourth, you know it has been a challenge to keep it clear! Thankfully, we have only had to cancel a few times.

March was a month to look at Bible stories (Road to Emmaus/Good Samaritan) and see how they relate to our lives today. Sadness and despair often cloud our vision of what is true and right in front of us. Each of these stories taught us that in the midst of sadness and pain, there is eventually light! God sends someone to help us!!

By the time you read this we will also have attended the Marked event in Calumet. The ELCA holds this event for youth in our Synod to celebrate our identity as baptized children of God in the Lutheran tradition.

During April, we will look at the Beatitudes and Easter during our classes. We will also be doing some Earth Day clean up at the end of the month.

Thanks for the support of our youth. What a wonderful group of students we have! - - - Jen Elsenbroek, Confirmation Leader

## **Special Events in April & May**

April 3	Lenten lunch at 12:00 pm with Lenten worship at 12:30 pm
April 3	Community meal at 5:30 pm with Lenten worship at 6:00 pm
April 10	Lenten lunch at 12:00 pm with Lenten worship at 12:30 pm
April 10	Lenten Soup Supper at 5:30 pm with Lenten worship at 6:00 pm
April 14	Palm Sunday
April 14	Pr. Andrew Plocher's Installation at Messiah, 3:00 pm
April 14	Combined choir for Pr. Andrew's installation at 2:00 pm
April 18	Maundy Thursday service at 6:00 pm
April 19	Good Friday service from 12:30 pm - 3:00 pm
April 20	There will not be a 5:00 pm regular worship service
April 20	Easter Vigil at 6:00 pm
April 21	Easter Sunday
April 21	Sunrise service at McCarty's Cove at 6:30 am
April 21	Regular 8:45 am and 10:30 am worship services
April 22	Easter Monday, Messiah's office closed
May 1	Community meal at 5:30 pm
May 5	Sunday School Hunger Banks returned and counted
May 12	Last Sunday to bring World Hunger offerings for Synod Assembly
May 26	Pr. Allan getting a pie in the face from the child who raises the most money for the world hunger campaign

## **Prayer Partners**

The prayer partners have been busy. In February, we made prayer cards to go to people that the Befrienders visit and in March prayer journals were made. We have 2 more meetings, one on April 14th and May 5th at 9:55 am.

- - *Sherry Johnson, Prayer Partner Coordinator*

## **Silent Auction Thank You!**

Wow, what a wonderful lunch and sale. The silent auction and soup lunch in support of the Global Mission plans were a grand success. We raised \$962.00.

Contributions of auction items from a Teddy Bear to a garden basket to floral centerpieces provided a wide range of items for people to bid on.

Selection from eight varieties of soup was exceptional. Lovely decorations added to the ambience.

The Global Mission Team thanks everyone who helped.



# In Our Prayers

Please remember the following people in your prayers at this time: Jim Shelby, John, Bill, Valerie, Kendal, Sandy, Bill, Lois, Mike, Laurie Strokos, Janet Beyne Gonsalves, Jerry Godec, Karen, Cindy LaValley, Marilyn Voce, Larry, Don Dreisbach, Gary, Sierra, Mary Leslie, Charlene Avery, Nai, Cam & his family, 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!*

## April 2019 Worship Volunteers

### Saturday April 6 - 5pm

Ushers- Billie Johnson, Carol Ontto

Reader- Carol Bell

Communion Assistants- Barb Maszlewski, one needed

Communion Set-Up- Barb Maszlewski

### Sunday April 7 - 8:45 am

Acolyte- one needed

Ushers- Frank Summersett, David Dill

Reader- Fred Maynard

Communion Assistants- Fred and Kathy Maynard, Terry Langenberg

Greeters- Pat Nebel, Ruth Koehler

Assisting Minister- Kathy Maynard

### Sunday April 7 - 10:30 am

Acolyte- Hannah Ruuska

Ushers- Bev Evans, Dave Luoma

Reader- Susan Shaver

Communion Assistants- Mike Hill, Betsy Little Paul Marin

Greeters- Gayle Van Osdol, one needed

Assisting Minister- Paul Marin

Video Technician- Joan Hill

### Saturday April 13 - 5pm

Ushers- two needed

Reader- Kathy Godec

Communion Assistant- one needed

Communion Set-Up- Billie Johnson

**Sunday April 14 - 8:45 am Palm Sunday**

Acolyte- one needed

Ushers- Sam Elder, Bruce Robertson

Reader- Larry Pagel

Communion Assistants- Dave and Mary Lou Blomquist, Beth Krznarich

Greeters- Penny Streeter, Helen Steinhoff

Assisting Minister- Mark Petrie

**Sunday April 14 - 10:30 am**

Acolyte- one needed

Ushers- Jean Arntsen, Kerry McGinley

Reader- Ruth Robb

Communion Assistants- Sandy Lindberg, Mike Hill, Karen Burkman

Greeters- Phil and Nancy Hoover

Assisting Minister- Mike Hill

Video Technician- Joan Hill

**Saturday April 20 - 6 pm Easter Vigil**

Ushers- Phyllis Aurich, Chris Kotila

Reader- Karen Kimar-Johnson

Communion Assistant- Peggy Letvenow

Communion Set-Up- Carol Bell

**Sunday April 21 - 8:45 am Easter Sunday**

Acolyte- one needed

Ushers- Ray Jarvis, Cathy Seblonka

Reader- Lynne Hammerstrom

Communion Assistants- Lynne Hammerstrom, Mike and Emily Coyne

Greeters- Jan Vickstrom, Joan Tasson

Assisting Minister- Terry Langenberg

**Sunday April 21 - 10:30 am Easter Sunday**

Acolyte- one needed

Ushers- Jean Arntsen, one needed

Reader- Jeremy Bower

Communion Assistants- Karen Burkman, Kerry McGinley, Ruth Robb

Greeters- two needed

Assisting Minister- one needed

Video Technician- Joan Hill

**Saturday April 27 - 5 pm**

Ushers- Harry Rajala, Chris Kotila

Reader- Chris Kotila

Communion Assistant- Barb Salmela

Communion Set-Up- Carol Bell

### **Sunday April 28 - 8:45 am**

Acolyte- one needed

Ushers- Barb Avery, Beth Krznarich

Reader- Marilyn Andersen

Communion Assistants- Mike and Emily Coyne, Peggy Sager

Greeters- Brenton and Camden Fitzpartrick, Pat Nebel

Assisting Minister- Grant Soltwisch

### **Sunday April 28 - 10:30 am**

Acolyte- one needed

Ushers- Liz Beyne, one needed

Reader- Sarah Janda

Communion Assistants- Sandy Lindberg, Ruth Robb, Mike Hill

Greeters- Herb and Sandy Grenke

Assisting Minister- Dave Luoma

Video Technician- Myra Zyburt

## **World Hunger - Cows, Quilts and Pies**

Our synod World Hunger committee has used various campaigns to stimulate interest in supporting World Hunger. You may recall the "Cow" theme 2 years ago, and the "Hunger Quilt" last year. This year it's "Pies" - "Everyone Deserves A Piece Of The Pie." We are encouraged to think about a just distribution of food and other resources so that we can be part of "Taking A Bite Out Of Hunger In The World". (SORRY!). All World Hunger funds received now through May 12 will go toward Messiah's offering at the Synod Assembly May16-18.

This congregation has a history of generous support for the ELCA World Hunger effort. Last year we sent \$5,879.12 to the Assembly. Let's go for \$6,000. this year.

Mary Lou Blomquist, Synod Hunger Committee

## **OWLs (Older, Wiser Lutherans) Events**

### **Every Monday at 10:00 am!**

Join the OWLs at the Superior Dome for walking every Monday at 10:00 am. After walking they meet for coffee and conversation. Everyone is welcome!

### **OWLs Contact List**

If you are a part of the OWLs group, please take a moment to stop by the welcome table and check your contact information on the list of OWLs members. Louise would like to get this updated for all members. If you aren't on the sheet, please add your contact information so she has a way to contact you for events or any changes to events. Thank you!

*If you have any questions about any OWLs (Older, Wiser Lutherans) events, please feel free to contact Louise Anderson at 906-250-3990.*

# Diversity Immigrant Visa Program

Diversity is a core American value, and in 1990, the Diversity Immigrant Visa Program was established to encourage immigration to the United States from a broader variety of countries. By creating more diversity in our immigration pool, the program helps balance the current U.S. immigration system's tendency to favor individuals who have close relationships with family members or employers in the United States. People who do not have U.S.-based eligible family members or employers able to sponsor their visas have very few opportunities for permanent, legal immigration to the United States—even if they have other promising attributes that could benefit the country.

This fact sheet provides an overview of the diversity visa program, the requirements and security checks currently in place, and demographic information about recipients.

## What Is a Diversity Visa?

Congress established the diversity visa program through the Immigration Act of 1990 in an effort to promote immigration from countries underrepresented in the United States. The number of diversity visas is limited by law to 55,000 per fiscal year, but the annual cap has been reduced to 50,000 since fiscal year 2000. While Congress called this cap a “temporary reduction,” it does not have an expiration date. As of 2017, the U.S. government states that this reduction will remain in effect as long as needed, including for 2019.

The diversity visa program makes up to 50,000 visas available each year to natives of eligible countries. The program is well known as the “diversity lottery,” since potential visa recipients are randomly selected from the pool of qualified entries. Yet, being randomly selected—or “winning” the lottery—does not guarantee admission to the United States but rather provides the individual an opportunity to apply for the Diversity Visa. The odds of being selected for this opportunity are very small, with an average of 13.3 million people submitting applications each year.

## Who Is Eligible for a Diversity Visa?

Only nationals of low-admission countries—defined as any country with fewer than 50,000 natives admitted to the United States in the previous five years—are eligible to enter the diversity lottery. Natives of countries that traditionally send large numbers of immigrants to the United States, such as Mexico, India, and China, are generally not eligible.

Eligible countries are grouped into six geographic regions: Europe; Africa; Asia; Oceania; North America (excluding Mexico); and South America, Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) calculates each region's annual diversity visa allotment using a specific formula and recent immigration statistics. The allocation formula, which is recalculated every year, gives fewer visas to “high-admission” regions, or any region that accounted for more than a sixth of all immigrant

admissions to the United States in the previous five years. Additionally, no more than 7 percent of the year's available visas may go to natives of any one country.

To be eligible for a diversity visa, applicants must be admissible to the United States under the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) and have either a high-school education (or its equivalent) or at least two years of recent qualifying work experience. The applicant or the applicant's spouse must be a native of one of the countries that qualify for the diversity visa program.

The diversity visa program only accepts applications submitted electronically within a short timeframe designated each year. Eligible applicants are limited to one entry per registration period and will be disqualified for submitting multiple entries.

### **What Security Measures Are in Place for the Diversity Visa Program?**

Diversity lottery "winners" have a short period of time to file the necessary paperwork and undergo extensive screening before a visa will be issued, including multiple identity confirmations using biometrics, criminal and security background checks, cross-checks with various watch-lists, and in-person interviews. These requirements and security procedures also apply for any family members (spouses and minor children) whom the lottery winner petitions to bring to the United States as derivatives.

An individual may be issued a visa and admitted into the United States only after passing all electronic and in-person screenings. If visa processing for a lottery winner or an eligible family member is not completed before the end of the fiscal year, the U.S. government will deny the application, and the person loses the opportunity to immigrate to the United States through that year's diversity visa program. While the individual may be eligible to enter the diversity lottery in future years, the chances of again being randomly selected to apply for the visa are slim.

- - - *Article submitted by the Social Action Team*

## **Marquette Choral Society Choral Leadership Award**

Messiah's own Kathy Strazzinski is one of the recipients of the UP Choral Leadership Award this year! This award is given annually by the Marquette Choral Society and will be presented to Kathy at the Choral Society spring concert at Reynolds Recital Hall on Saturday, April 27 at 7:30 p.m. and on Sunday, April 28 at 3:00 p.m. Tickets for this concert are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and are available at NMU ticket outlets, by phone at 906-227-1032 and online at <http://www.nmu.edu/tickets>.

The criteria for the UP Choral Leadership Award are at least ten years' service to choral music, excellence in teaching or conducting, and/or support for quality choral music in the Upper Peninsula.

# Annual Meeting & Summer Camp at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp

Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp's ANNUAL MEETING: *Sunday, May 5th!* Send your delegates and pastors to join us in celebrating the start of a new summer season and our new Director! Elect new board members, learn about what's been happening, and what excitement lies ahead! Remember Camp is on Central Time: check-in at the Chapel and camp tours from 2-2:50 pm; Meeting promptly at 3:00, Service of Installation at 4:00, supper and fellowship at 5:00. Materials will be emailed and posted on the FLLC website in advance of the meeting.

## SUMMER CAMP:

EARLY BIRD Registration Discount (\$25 for full-week sessions, \$15 for 3-night sessions) ends at midnight on April 1st!

Some sessions are filling up, so encourage your campers to make their plans and to register soon!

We're offering a National Youth Gathering Reunion from June 30-July 3! This 3-night program is intended to rekindle the vibrant faith of ALL youth (completed grades 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12), NOT JUST those who went to Houston last summer. The program will focus on community-building, service projects and nurturing faith in Christ in the real world. You know who should be encouraged to participate! They can invite their friends! Please encourage participation! See the online registration system for youth registrations. Adults interested in participating (to be housed in one of our retreat buildings) are welcome to join in for a nominal fee to help defray the cost of lodging and meals. Contact us with questions, or to register adults for this session. Youth registrations may use the FLLC online registration system.

Please encourage your young people to consider our Leaders in Training (LIT) program. This incredible 3-week program gives youth who have completed grades 10, 11, or 12, the experience of a week of hands-on leadership training and then the opportunity in 2 optional weeks to utilize their skills alongside our college-aged summer staff. Special application/registration process - see website or contact us for details!

Hard copies of flyers for these two programs can be mailed to your congregations upon request, or emailed for you to print out.

**GRANDPARENTS AND GRANDKIDS!** Come to our exciting 3-night session, and build faith, fun, and family together! Special speakers are scheduled for all our Intergenerational camps. We are excited to welcome Rev Dr Philip Johnson and Dr Rene Johnson as speakers for the Grandparent/Grandkid camp! There will be lots of time to enjoy camp and relax in nature, as well as opportunities for involvement in Bible study, chapel, campfires, games, and meals with others! Lodging options and more are described on our website.

**PASTORS** -- we welcome our affiliated pastors to come to Camp for a week, especially when youth from your own congregation are attending! Get involved, in coordination with our staff, with various aspects of leadership and camper-interaction, and enjoy relaxing at your Camp! Camp pastors especially needed for the following weeks: June 17-21, June 30-July 3, July 14-19, and July 28-Aug 2 ... AND ... welcome any time (coordinate with the camp office soon, regarding lodging and other details).

## Help Our Neighbors Facing Disaster

Friends,

As I write you this, many of our neighbors around the world are facing disasters, including:

In Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe, where Cyclone Idai has caused massive destruction and flooding that have killed more than 200 people, with the death toll expected to rise. Aid workers are rushing to rescue trapped survivors. News reports estimate that 1.5 million people will be affected by the cyclone.

In the United States, where heavy rainfall and rapid snow melt have caused major flooding across several states. At least three people have died, and hundreds of homes and businesses have been affected. With more rain and warmer weather expected, more flooding may happen soon.

In Madagascar, where a measles outbreak has led to 800,000 reported cases and an estimated 900 deaths since October 2018, worsened by food shortages and drought. Children are most at risk.

You've recently supported the ministry of Lutheran Disaster Response. First, thank you. Because of your generosity, we're able to respond with Christ's love, hope and healing — and practical support for disaster survivors.

Second, I'm writing to you with a special request because you've demonstrated your care and commitment. The donations we receive to Lutheran Disaster Response's general fund mean that we can respond quickly whenever and wherever disaster strikes.

Unfortunately, not every disaster that should be front-page news makes the headlines. But even when they don't, we can still accompany our neighbors, with your help.

I'm writing to ask you to give today to help people whose lives are being affected by disasters right now. The website to donate is:

**<https://community.elca.org/lutherandisasterresponse>**

With gratitude for your partnership in ministry, *The Rev. Daniel Rift, Director, ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response Funding Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

**Messiah's Church Staff:**

**Pastoral Staff:**

Parishioner Pastor.....Don Luthemann  
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 Szostkowski  
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

