

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)

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



Messiah Calendar

Monday, January 28

Pr. Don's day off

10:00 am OWLs Walk

5:30 pm Faith Formation

5:50 pm PFLAG

5:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous

7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous

7:00 pm Bell Choir

Tuesday, January 29

12:00 pm QiGong

1:00 pm Knotty Knitters

1:30 pm Staff Meeting

3:00 pm Lay School-Prophets

5:15 pm Superior Handbells

6:00 pm Lay School-Church Hist.

Wednesday, January 30

4:00 pm North Fourth

5:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal

6:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

7:00 pm Boy Scouts

7:30 pm Tuba Quartet

Thursday, January 31

9:00 am Quilting

11:00 am Women's Cursillo

6:30 pm Pr. Allan's Forum

Friday, February 1

8:00 am Men's Ministry

Saturday, February 2

5:00 pm Worship

Sunday, February 3

8:15 am Senior Choir Rehearsal

8:45 am Worship

9:45 am Celebration Rehearsal

10:30 am Worship

11:45 am Vote on Pr. Andrew

11:30 am Journey

12:00 pm Potluck

1:00 pm Annual Meeting

On Call

Pr. Don Ludemann: Feb. 1-3, 7-10, 14-17, 21-24, 28

Pr. Allan Johnson: Feb. 4-6, 11-13, 18-20, 25-27

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for articles to be included in the March Messenger is Monday, February 18, 2019.

Newsletter Editor

Pr. Don Ludemann

Messiah's Newsletter

January 27, 2019
Volume 101, Issue 2

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

January 27, 2019

Third Sunday After Epiphany

Flowers To the Glory of God and ...

- ✿ In Honor of Ruth Hill's 80th Birthday from her family
- ✿ In Loving Memory of Carol Jarvis from her grandchildren-Ellen, Jacob, Mary, Katherine, Jamie, Rachel, Kyle & Emma
- ✿ In Loving Memory of Robert Malette from Lois

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

- ♪ Our mother, Lolita Johnson on her Feb 2nd birthday and of our father Leonard & brothers Doug & Fred from Tina, Becky & Billie

Wrapping Up

At its January meeting, your Church Council extended my contract a few weeks; we now anticipate that my last weekend with you will be March 9/10, rather than the end of February. Nevertheless, since my time as your Intentional Interim Senior Pastor is coming to an end, it's fitting for me to recap my goals at Messiah.

My 5 tasks, as your intentional interim pastor, were:

First, to "join" you, that is, to become part of your congregation: to not only lead you, but more importantly, to know you, to visit with you at church, in your homes, in the hospital, at community and school events, etc. Quite a few of you took me up on my "Pastor's Audacious, Shameless Solicitation" (PASS) in which I basically begged you to take me into your homes (or a restaurant) for a meal and fellowship. (Hint, hint -- it's not too late to do so, if you haven't already!) Thank you so much for your gracious hospitality! Oh, and thank you for wearing name tags for each and every event at church. You wouldn't believe how helpful that is for fellow members and guests alike!

Second, to "analyze" all the moving parts that make a vibrant congregation like Messiah "tick". What programs and structures work and which don't. Why are things done the way they are; how can we do them better? Are there cliques and exclusive "clubs" at work, or is everyone truly welcome. How is Messiah viewed by the larger community, by the synod, by ecumenical partners. Since each community and congregation are unique and change over time, that is an ongoing task.

Third, to “connect” you, to make sure all the parts of this large “motley crew” are working together in Christ and for the sake of the world. Keys to success here are to make sure there is good information, healthy communication, and timely action. Misunderstandings are resolved in loving ways. New bonds of friendship are created across generations. Partnerships with other congregations and organizations flourish.

Fourth, is to “focus” on the values and activities, vision and mission, that matter most. Your Transition Task Force did a great job with this, as summarized in the colorful Word Cloud you’ve been seeing lately: our vision is focused on welcome, unconditional love, inspired worship, fellowship, great music, and outreach. When a person on a Marquette street is asked, “How would you describe Messiah Lutheran?”, we are working to earn that type of recognition.

My fifth and final task is to “exit”. I’ll wait until my last Messenger article next month to write more about that!

-- Pr. Don Ludemann

Vote For the New Senior Pastor Candidate at Messiah - February 3

On Sunday, February 3rd, following the 10:30 service at about 11:45 am we will have a special congregation meeting in the sanctuary to officially call Pastor Andrew Plocher to Messiah. Please know that confirmed members of Messiah can vote, visitors are unable to vote. Messiah’s council spent this fall reviewing different candidates’ application paperwork and they skyped with many of them. Pr. Andrew Plocher is the candidate that Messiah’s council unanimously recommends for our congregation.

This vote will be on the same day as our annual meeting & our potluck lunch (see the article on pg. 5).

Community Meal - February 6

Our next community meal is on Wednesday, February 6th at 5:30 pm! They will be cooking and serving meatloaf, baked potatoes, vegetable, cole slaw & cookies. We look forward to sharing dinner with you!

Potluck & Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of Messiah Lutheran Church will be held on Sunday, February 3rd. The meeting will begin at around 1:00 pm.

The preceding potluck menu includes chicken & beverages (provided by Messiah) and potluck offerings from those attending. If you are planning to attend please bring a dish to pass using this guide: **if your last name begins with A-D or T-Z, bring a salad or a side dish; E-G bring a dessert, H-S bring a casserole.**

Prayer Partners

The prayer partners will be meeting again on February 10th at 9:55 am. The rest of the schedule is March 17th, April 14th, and May 5th (May 5th is the last one for the school year). We will be meeting in Magnuson Hall for each of these Prayer Partner events. Any adult or child interested in learning more about Messiah's Prayer Partner program may come & see what we do. We are still in need of an adult prayer partner for a 5th grade child.

Sherry Johnson, Prayer Partner Coordinator

Lay School of Theology – Understanding the Bible (and maybe preaching)

This year I'll be offering an eight-session class on Preaching and Exegetical Techniques, on Tuesday afternoons, 3:00 to 5:30 p.m., beginning February 19.

We're going to try breaking the class into two segments; I think there are people who would very much like to learn about understanding the Bible, but have no intention of preaching! So we'll do this in two sections. The first segment (February 19th to March 19th) will be for five weeks and will focus on biblical interpretation, the various ways that a biblical text can be examined and understood. It would be perfectly fine to come for these five weeks only, if you wish. The final three sessions (March 26th to April 9th) will be for those who would like to apply what they've learned, to work with a text and write a sermon.

I'm looking forward to this. Come join us!

Your interim associate pastor, Allan Johnson

Medication Help Available

If you have questions &/or concerns regarding your medications, you can contact pharmacist Barb Salmela at 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.

4 x 4 Groups for 2019

If you are interested in joining the 4 x 4 groups in 2019, we will have a sign-up sheet on the welcome table soon. This is a program that Messiah has been organizing for a few years now and people that have participated in it really enjoy it!

After everyone that wants to sign up has signed up, they get put in to groups of four or five households. These groups of people get together throughout the year at each others homes or camps, or go to restaurants together. In the summer, the group may gather for a picnic. The options are endless!

If you are interested in getting to know others from Messiah, this is a fantastic way to do it. Look for the sign-up sheet soon!

Thrivent Choice Dollars

If you are a member of Thrivent and you have Thrivent Choice Dollars to be donated, they must be directed or assigned by March 31, 2019.

Room At The Inn / Women of the ELCA

Dear Messiah Women of the ELCA, Thank you so much for your kind donation of \$150.00. Your financial support helps us continue in our mission to provide housing and food for the homeless. Every night we provide 20 beds for the homeless and meals for 50+ individuals.

The generous support of people like you makes it possible for our organization to exist and to make the community a great place to live.

This letter and the receipt enclosed will serve as a record for your donation in accordance with IRS regulations. Room at the Inn is a 501C(3) non-for-profit, tax exempt charity in good standing with the IRS and the State of Michigan. The full amount of your donation is tax deductible. Received for the tax year 2018. Thank you again for your support! Sincerely, *David A Payant, Board Chair*

Gifts!

We've passed our commitment weekend, we hosted a successful Giving Tuesday, and we've celebrated the ultimate Gift, the birth of Jesus. How can we top that, in a giving sense, as we move into a New Year?

When the ushers bring our gifts forward every Sunday, we acknowledge that all we have comes from God; not just our financial gifts, but our talents and our time as well. Coming soon, you will notice a new booklet that describes the many different ministries that our congregation sponsors. The booklet will give an overview of what each ministry strives to accomplish, and how you can get involved. These booklets will be available at our Annual Meeting, in the Narthex, and in the hymnal racks in the pews. (CAUTION: These are not to be read during the Sermon!) Please keep an eye out for this new resource.

But our ministry opportunities are not limited to what's on the list. We all come face to face with chances to be parts of the body of Christ many times each week. Maybe you have the gift of listening—to hear a child read, or to listen and record the experiences of one of our senior members. Perhaps you can be the feet that can run a needed errand for a neighbor who has trouble getting around, or a young parent who has their "hands full". Or, just maybe, you can give a gift that a member gave me as a young student at Northern—you could invite someone to share in a family meal who is a long way from home.

We are all gifted in areas that others are not. By sharing what we have, we encourage our recipients to give what they can, and we are all blessed!

- - Erik Bergh and your Stewardship Team

ELCA Thanks You!

Dear Messiah Lutheran Church, Thank you for your gift of \$300.00 to Lutheran Disaster Response.

"Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

With your Spirit-filled generosity you bring help and hope to families and communities reeling from disasters here in the United States and around the world. No matter the variety of disaster, no matter the variety of need, your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response make possible short- and long-term recovery and rebuilding of lives and livelihoods.

Thank you for sharing the gifts God has activated in you! With you in the Spirit,
The Rev. Daniel Rift, Director, ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal

Lectionary Readings - February 2019

February 3 -- Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

First Reading.....*Jeremiah 1:4-10*

Psalm.....*Psalm 71:1-6*

Second Reading.....*1 Corinthians 13:1-13*

Gospel Reading.....*Luke 4:21-30*

February 10 -- Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

First Reading.....*Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]*

Psalm.....*Psalm 138*

Second Reading.....*1 Corinthians 15:1-11*

Gospel Reading.....*Luke 5:1-11*

February 17 -- Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

First Reading.....*Jeremiah 17:5-10*

Psalm.....*Psalm 1*

Second Reading.....*1 Corinthians 15:12-20*

Gospel Reading.....*Luke 6:17-26*

February 24 -- Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

First Reading.....*Genesis 45:3-11, 15*

Psalm.....*Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40*

Second Reading.....*1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50*

Gospel Reading.....*Luke 6:27-38*

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.

Council Highlights - January 2019

1. Voted to extend Pr. Don Ludemann's contract for one month until the end of March.
2. Voted to transfer the remaining funds from Building to Serve into the capital projects portion of memorial accounts.
3. Approved a draft budget to submit to the congregation at the annual meeting.
4. Added options to make contributions to Messiah by text or mobile app.
5. Temporarily suspended contributions to Lutheran Campus Ministry until programming resumes.

OWLs Go To Red Lobster - February 10

The OWLs group will be going to dinner at *Red Lobster on Sunday, February 10th at 5:00 pm.* If you are interested in attending, please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the welcome table in the narthex.

The OWLs group (Older, Wiser Lutherans) continue to meet every Monday at 10:00 am at the Superior Dome for walking. Following the walk, they meet for coffee & fellowship. Always a fun time, please join them!

Free Store Fundraiser - Soup & Bread - February 22

The Free Store will be hosting a fundraising event at Messiah in Magnuson Hall on Friday, February 22, 2019. It will start at 11:00 am and they will be offering four different kinds of soup; chicken noodle, chili, seven bean & vegetable beef.

You may pre-order a pint or quart of soup ahead of time by calling Virginia Bell at 235-3553. Then on February 22 between 11:00 am and 5:30 pm you can pick up your pre-ordered items. You may order a pint of soup for \$5.00 or a quart of soup for \$10.00.

Or if you would like to 'dine-in' on February 22 between 11:00 am and 1:30 pm in Magnuson Hall, please sign up on the welcome table and indicate the type of soup you would like for lunch! Your lunch will include a bowl of soup, bread and dessert for \$7.50.

If anyone has extra glass pint or quart jars, please put them in the brown basket in the narthex that is labeled Free Store.

Messiah's Birthdays

February 2019

- Friday 1 Kathy Grisham, Stephen Mattson
- Saturday 2 Bill Angeloff, Trista Beerman, Lincoln Specker, Hanna Westra
- Sunday 3 Liz Brunton, Laurel Kniskern
- Monday 4 Edith Cryderman
- Tuesday 5 No birthdays
- Wednesday 6 No birthdays
- Thursday 7 No birthdays
- Friday 8 Phyllis Aurich
- Saturday 9 Claire Bennett, Everett Davis, Marion DeLarye, Rudy Forsberg, Sarah Stevens
- Sunday 10 Julia Crimmins, Lowell Larson Jr.
- Monday 11 Ken Bullock
- Tuesday 12 No birthdays
- Wednesday 13 John Sarkela
- Thursday 14 Pr. Don Ludemann, Jennifer Pikka, Ed Puska
- Friday 15 No birthdays
- Saturday 16 Jackie Gilbert, Jim Jackson, Vickie Paupore
- Sunday 17 Diana Magnuson, Will Morrison, Grace Wurster
- Monday 18 Betsy Cooper
- Tuesday 19 Victoria Wiese
- Wednesday 20 Carolyn Ciullo, Sandy Grenke
- Thursday 21 No birthdays
- Friday 22 Dave Dagenais
- Saturday 23 Helen Johnson, Alex Lucas, Joyce Peterson, Ethan Wiese
- Sunday 24 Peggy Dewitt, Lu Swanson

Monday 25 No birthdays

Tuesday 26 Simon Claybaker

Wednesday 27 Sharon Farrell

Thursday 28 No birthdays

Although 2019 is not a leap year.....February 29 is Levi Gunville & Greg Bartlett's birthdays.

Passages

In Sympathy to:

* Jean Arntsen and her family & friends upon the death of her husband, Ron Arntsen who passed away on January 3, 2019.

* Family & friends of Carol Tuimala who passed away January 12, 2019.

In Celebration of:

* Recently received new members of Messiah: Ally Anderson, Sally McQueen, Grace Gronowski, Wayne Hanmer, John & Kelly Soderberg and their three children, Don & Kathy Grisham & Bill Maki. Please introduce yourself to these folks and welcome them to (or back to) Messiah!

* Ally Lancour gave birth to a beautiful baby girl on January 15, 2019 at 8:32 pm. She and her husband named their daughter Quinn Marie Lancour. At birth Quinn weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces & measured 19 inches long. Quinn's mom, dad and big brother, Tucker Polini-Lancour are all doing well!

High School Youth Group Events

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

- Sunday, February 3: Potluck & Annual Meeting
- Sunday, March 10: The Escape Room
- 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!

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

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Coffee Hour to Honor Kathy Strazzinski

Congratulations to our organist/pianist Kathy Strazzinski! January, 2019 marks 25 years of Kathy serving as Messiah's organist for the 8:45 am service! Back in 1994, Kathy was hired to succeed her teacher and mentor, Messiah's longtime organist, Ruth Matthews. While serving as our organist, Kathy has consistently provided high-quality music for our congregation and community, while graciously handling the many aspects of the job including special services, weddings, funerals and organ maintenance, just to name a few. For the past two years, Kathy has also served as pianist at our 5:00 pm worship and she has filled in at all of our services numerous times over the years.

Please join us during the coffee hour between Sunday services on January 27 to honor Kathy! Congratulations and we look forward to many more years of great organ music!

RIC Weekend

This weekend is the official ELCA recognition of 'Reconciling In Christ', however, we will recognize the anniversary of our vote to become more inclusive on February 16th & 17th.

Thank You!

Dear Messiah Lutheran Church, On behalf of the Alumni Writer's Group, I am writing to thank you for providing a meeting space while Peter White Library was undergoing renovation. The room was perfect for our group and provided excellent access. Thank you all so much, Mary Davis, Jan Amunol-sen, Kathy Schuck, Claire Bishop & Betty Brotherton

Thank You!

Blessed are the givers... and grateful are the receivers. Thank you so much. You made me finally see the end of the tunnel. You are angels to help like you do. Thanks, Sheri M. Merry Christmas!

LWR Thanks Messiah Quilters!

Dear Messiah Quilters, Thank you for your generous gift to Lutheran World Relief's Quilt & Kit Shipping Fund! Your donation ensures that LWR Quilts and Kits get into the hands of people who need them most.

Last spring, a shipment of Quilts, School Kits, Personal Care Kits, Baby Care Kits and Fabric Kits traveled to Peru. LWR staff and our partner, CARITAS, distributed the quilts and kits to 30,600 women, men and children all across the country. Mountain-dwelling families especially welcomed the warmth of quilts as winter temperatures began to set in, hitting average lows in the 30s in July and August.

The blessing of your gift doesn't end there! In our long-term projects in Peru, students receive Personal Care Kits that help their families learn better hygiene, which also helps strengthen their dairy and cheese livelihoods.

To learn more about how your gift makes a difference, and specifically about this community in Peru, watch our brand new quilt and kit video at lwr.org/videos/quilt-kit-pipeline. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or the LWR staff at 800-597-5972 or lwr@lwr.org

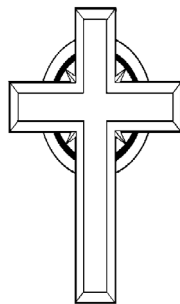
On behalf of LWR, our partners and those we serve together, please accept my heartfelt thanks once more for your gift and all that it will do.

Warm Regards, *Daniel V. Speckhard, President and CEO*

Bible Study Only Circle

After some months of trying, I have removed the Bible Study Circle from the church calendar. Perhaps the Wednesday evening time was an unfortunate choice. I am willing to lead the study using the material from the "Gather" (WELCA) magazine if we can find a different slot - would the daytime work for more people?

Let me know if there is interest and we can explore possibilities. Judy Quirk, 228-6729.



A Place To Be Alone Together?- Feb. 6

Coffeeshouses were established over 600 years ago in the Middle East. Historically, they have served two primary functions: dispensing beverages and providing a space for social interaction. On Wednesday, Feb 6th at about 6:15 pm in the atrium, following the community meal in Magnuson Hall, Michael Broadway will report the results of his research into whether US coffeeshouses still provide a space for social interaction or whether they have become 'a place to be alone together.'

Lay School 2019

The Winter/Spring 2019 Lay School schedule is as follows:

Jan. 29 - Feb. 12 3:00 pm

Prophets I/Isaiah and Jeremiah, led by Pr. Ann Gonyea

Jan. 29 - Feb. 26 6:00 pm

American Church History, led by Pr. Stacy Pethke

Feb. 19 - Apr. 9 3:00 pm

Preaching & Exegetical Techniques, led by Pr. Allan Johnson

Mar. 5 - Apr. 9 6:00 pm

God the Holy Spirit, led by Pr. Steve Solberg

There is a class description sheet on the welcome table as well as a sign-up sheet. Please sign up early for any of the classes you are interested in. If you have any questions, please contact Pr. Warren Geier at 486-4351 or pastor@bethanyishpeming.org

Journey in February

During the month of January, our class spent time looking at 'temptation' and what are techniques we can use as Children of God to resist temptations. We had great discussions and learned a little bit more about each other.

During the month of February we will be talking about Love, particularly the four Greek words for Love (Storge, Philia, Eros, Agape). I am tentatively assuming that we will need to extend this topic into March. I covered this topic last year and the students enjoyed it, and requested we talk about it further. Classes will be held on February 3 and 10. For our social event/service project, we will be making Valentine cards for homebound members, as well as delivering the cards. Please let me know if there is someone you know who would benefit from a visit and card. --- *Jen Elsenbroek*

Did You Know?

As of last year, more people have been forced by violence and conflict to flee their homes than live in the U.K. or France.

Why it matters: That's upwards of 60 million people—a global nation of refugees. More than half of refugees are under age 18.

If all of these asylum-seekers, internally displaced people and refugees were a country, they'd be the 21st most populous nation in the world, according to the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees estimates.

It's also important to understand the difference between refugees, who have fled and found protection outside of their home nation, and migrants, who can be anyone now residing in a nation that is not their own—regardless of legality, permanence or reason.

This crisis is the worst it has been since World War II, and it's not getting better:

This population will continue to grow as violent conflicts drag on and climate change wreaks havoc.

Host countries and refugee camps could increasingly become permanent homes to tens of millions of refugees while many wealthy nations turn their backs.

The top five places people are running from:

Syria: Millions of people have been forced from their homes amid internal conflict and terrorism by ISIS.

Afghanistan: Ongoing violence has created one of the largest, longest-lasting refugee crises.

South Sudan: Millions of South Sudanese have fled to Uganda and other surrounding nations as a civil war rages on.

Myanmar: The Rohingya minority has faced deadly persecution and many have fled.

Somalia: A combination of natural disasters and 25 years of conflict have produced hundreds of thousands of Somali refugees.

Submitted by Anne Weaver, Social Action Team

North Fourth

North Fourth has become a place for Journey students to come on Wednesday afternoons as well as for class on Sunday. During the month of February we will be holding some additional meetings for making cards and fellowship. - - - *Jen Elsenbroek*

Special Events in February & March

February 3	Special Congregational Meeting following 10:30 worship
February 3	Annual Meeting following potluck lunch
February 5	Lay School programming
February 6	Community Meal
February 6	Forum on coffeehouses by Michael Broadway
February 10	Prayer Partner event
February 12	Lay School programming
February 14	MOPS event
February 16/17	Inclusion and Welcome Worship
February 17	Forum on Reconciling in Christ, being inclusive & welcoming
February 19	Lay School programming
February 22	Free Store Soup & Bread Luncheon Fundraiser
February 26	Lay School programming
March 6	Ash Wednesday worship at 12:00 pm
March 6	Community Meal at 5:30 pm
March 6	Ash Wednesday worship at 6:00 pm
March 13	Lenten lunch at 12:00 pm with Lenten worship to follow
March 13	Lenten worship at 6:00 pm
March 10	Going Away Luncheon for Pr. Don Ludemann
March 18	Pr. Andrew Plocher starts at Messiah (if called on 2/3/19)

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. To do your part, choose Messiah as your charity, and then always log into 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; when you click the "About" link, you'll see our familiar Welcoming statement.
- 3) select Messiah as your charity, and you're ready to begin shopping.

Remember, log in and shop at smile.amazon.com. All your lists, Prime benefits, etc. are the same as regular Amazon; but you're making a small donation to Messiah! Be sure to tell your friends, too!

In Our Prayers

Please remember the following people in your prayers at this time: family & friends of Carol Lynn Tuimala who passed away, Janet Beyne Gonsalves, Jerry Godec, Kristine Hill, Karen, Cindy LaValley, Marilyn Voce, Larry, Matt Davis, Sherry Johnson, Alison, Diane, Don Dreisbach, Ted, Gary, Sierra, Mary Leslie, Ted Querin, Charlene Avery, Cathy Church, Nai, Cam & his family, 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!

2018 Annual Report

The 2018 annual report can be picked up on the welcome table by the church office. If you take a copy home, please remember to bring it with you to the annual meeting on Sunday, February 3rd at 1:00 pm.

February 2019 Worship Volunteers

Saturday February 2 - 5pm

Ushers- Billie Johnson, Virginia Olson

Reader- Carol Bell

Communion Assistants- Peggy Letvenow, one needed

Communion Set-Up- Peggy Letvenow

Sunday February 3 - 8:45 am

Acolyte- one needed

Ushers- Frank Summersett, David Dill

Reader- Marilyn Andersen

Communion Assistants- Katie Purmal, Peggy Sager, Beth Krznarich

Greeters- Brenton and Camden Fitzpatrick, Pat Nebel

Assisting Minister- Larry Pagel

Sunday February 3 - 10:30 am

Acolyte- Simon Claybaker

Ushers- Dave Luoma, one needed

Reader- Kristina Asta

Communion Assistants- Ruth Robb, Kerry McGinley, Karen Burkman

Greeters- two needed

Assisting Minister- Sarah Janda

Video Technician- Myra Zyburt

Saturday February 9 - 5pm

Ushers- Ron Tervo, Jan Julian
Reader- Karen Kimar-Johnson
Communion Assistant- Julie Blemberg
Communion Set-Up- Billie Johnson

Sunday February 10 - 8:45 am

Acolyte- Hannah Bleckiner
Ushers- Mark and Laura Petrie
Reader- Larry Pagel
Communion Assistants- Mike and Emily Coyne, Terry Langenberg
Greeters- Penny Streeter, Helen Steinhoff
Assisting Minister- Kathy Maynard

Sunday February 10 - 10:30 am

Acolyte- one needed
Ushers- Conrad and Renee Jewett
Reader- Jen Elsenbroek
Communion Assistants- Michael and Jenny Broadway, one needed
Greeters- two needed
Assisting Minister- Michael Broadway
Video Technician- Brent Skaw

Saturday February 16 - 5 pm

Ushers- Harry Rajala, Chris Kotila
Reader- Chris Kotila
Communion Assistant- one needed
Communion Set-Up- Carol Bell

Sunday February 17 - 8:45 am

Acolyte- one needed
Ushers- Bruce Robertson, Barb Avery
Reader- Lynne Hammerstrom
Communion Assistants- Carl Hammerstrom, Fred and Kathy Maynard
Greeters- Jan Vickstrom, Joan Tasson
Assisting Minister- Al Edgar

Sunday February 17 - 10:30 am

Acolyte- one needed
Ushers- two needed
Reader- Jeremy Bower
Communion Assistants- Jen Elsenbroek, two needed
Greeters- Liz Beyne, Sandy Grenke
Assisting Minister- Dave Luoma
Video Technician- Joan Hill

Saturday February 23 - 5 pm

Ushers- two needed

Reader- one needed

Communion Assistant- one needed

Communion Set-Up- one needed

Sunday February 24 - 8:45 am

Acolyte- one needed

Ushers- Ray Jarvis, Cathy Seblonka

Reader- Judy Quirk

Communion Assistants- Judy Quirk, Katie Purmal, Peggy Sager

Greeters- John VanDreel, Pat Nebel

Assisting Minister- Mary Lou Blomquist

Sunday February 24 - 10:30 am

Acolyte- one needed

Ushers- Dave Luoma, one needed

Reader- Jayme Bell

Communion Assistants- Ruth Robb, Paul Marin, Betsy Little

Greeters- two needed

Assisting Minister- one needed

Video Technician- Joan Hill

From the Bishop “...Then shall
all the trees
of the forest
sing for joy
before the Lord;
for he is coming...”
~from Psalm 96

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

From November 17-27, 2018, I was honored to be chosen by Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton to be one of two newly elected leaders to attend a Retreat Of Newly Elected Leaders (RoNEL) sponsored by the Lutheran World Federation. The other ELCA representative was Bishop Pedro Suarez of the Florida-Bahamas Synod. The two of us joined bishops from all over the world: India, Chile, Canada, Angola, Guyana, Tanzania, Mexico, Hungary, and Poland.

The Lutheran World Federation came into existence out of a desire to respond to the overwhelming refugee crisis after World War II. With much of Europe in a shambles, millions of people were displaced. Some estimates put the number of refugees from Europe at nearly 60 million. Around 10 million of these were Lutheran Christians. Immediately after the end of the war, Lutherans around the world mobilized to provide assistance. This was the context in which LWF was founded in 1947.

We spent about five days in Geneva, Switzerland at the Ecumenical Center. The Lutheran World Federation shares space with the World Council of Churches and they partner together, where possible, for deeper and broader impact.

Some statistics:

The Lutheran World Federation is a partnership representing 148 churches and 75.5 million people from Lutheran traditions in 99 countries. The three areas of their work are:

1. Service
2. Holistic Mission & Theology and
3. Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations

There are 75 staff people in Geneva overseeing the work of over 5000 deployed staff and volunteers. Pretty impressive.

After hearing about the work of the LWF, our group travelled to Wittenberg, Germany. There we enjoyed worship at St. Mary's church where Martin Luther had preached over 2000 sermons, and we took in the sights of the Castle Church where the 95 theses was first posted. A highlight for me was planting an apple tree as part of the Luthergarten project to observe the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. We are tree #468! I invite you to go to www.luthergarten.de, click on the British flag for English and find more information on this project.

Martin Luther once said, "If the world were to end in disaster tomorrow, I would plant an apple tree today." In this new year, may we look for and plant signs and seeds of hope. May God bless our efforts for the work of Christ in the year of our Lord, 2019.

Yours in Christ,

Bishop Katherine Finegan

ELCA Advocacy Alert

Our values are tangibly expressed when elected policy makers create laws and programs that support and protect vulnerable people in all our communities in times of great need. The current government shutdown is unnecessary. Vital domestic programs that ensure food, housing, health, safety and more are stalemated. Global initiatives that bring sustenance and hope are interrupted. Civil servants across our land and low wage federal contractors who strive daily to carry out the work of our government are experiencing increasing strain as the shutdown elongates. God calls us to care and to act.

The solution to the current impasse is simple. Congress and the president should reopen government. The hard work of fixing the immigration system in the United States by ensuring a pathway to citizenship for members of our community without legal status in the United States and by supporting research-based border policy should follow.

Our opportunities to be heard are limited during this shutdown period. Currently the White House call center is closed. Leave a voice message with your Senators and Representatives urging them to reopen government today. Locate the phone number of your lawmaker from <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members>.

Suggested Message:

"I am your constituent from [CITY/TOWN/ZIP CODE], and as a Lutheran I urge you to reopen the government and end the budget impasse as soon as possible.

I am deeply concerned about the shutdown's immediate and long-term ramifications on federal programs and the low-income people they serve in the U.S. and around the world. I am also concerned about the shutdown's impact on federal employees and low-wage government contractors who often live paycheck to paycheck. [Insert your own story.]

I encourage you to pass legislation to reopen the government immediately. I pray for you in your public service during these difficult days and look forward to your response."

Altar Flowers & Radio Broadcasts

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

Messiah's Church Staff:

Pastoral Staff:

Parishioner 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

