

Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Answering God's call to love

Messiah ENewsletter for December 30, 2020

Messiah Events & News

On the web...

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

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

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

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



Christmas Eve Radio Broadcasts and Flowers

Thank you to everyone who sponsored our Christmas Eve radio broadcasts and made donations for Christmas flowers. **If you sponsored a poinsettia and would like to take one home, please stop by and pick one up during office hours.**

RADIO BROADCAST SPONSORSHIP

5:00 pm - In Loving Memory of Nancy Rolig-Todd from Doug & Kristen Gordon

8:00 pm - In Loving Memory of Robert from the Soderberg family

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

In Honor of:

-the birth of Jesus Christ, the promised Messiah, the King of Kings from Judy, Tina, Becky & Billie

-the Glory of our Lord from William P. Maki

-Wayne Hanmer & Rick Beyers wedding from Wayne & Rick

-Betty & Grant Sovey from Laurie and Mark McGovern & family

In Loving Memory of:

-Carol Jarvis from her family

-Our parents Lolita & Leonard Johnson & our brothers Douglas & Frederick & our dear friend Jan Summersett from Judy, Tina, Becky & Billie

-Nancy Toyra from the Richard Toyra family

-My husband Lowell R. Johnson from Helen M. Johnson

-Our parents Elaine & Wendell Julian and Vera & Carl Tervo from Jan Julian & Ron Tervo

-Our granddaughter Stephanie, Maria Bierer & Stan Hanson from Grant & Kathy Soltwisch

-Our parents & sister from Tom & Amy Froiland

-My parents & grandparents from Larry G. Pagel

-Timothy Streeter from Penny Streeter & family

-Stephen B. Shelby from Jim Shelby & Jean Whitman-Shelby

-Elsie P. Maki from William P. Maki

-Tim Keuscher, USMC Vet from William P. Maki

-Our son Rodney & granddaughter Beth Ann Rajala from Hary & Arlene Rajala and family

-Pastor Pete, Aunt Elda Gronewold from Marilyn & Philip Andersen

-Terry Hillegas, Nancy Hillegas & Nancy Rolig-Todd from Don Hillegas & family

-Our parents Ellwood & Idamae Mattson and Ken & Arlene Rydholm from Anne & Gus Rydholm

-Betty & Jim McGovern from Laurie and Mark McGovern & family

Celebrate Epiphany with Fortune Lake

Greetings from Fortune Lake!

You are invited to worship with the Fortune Lake Association congregations as we celebrate Epiphany on Sunday, January 10, 2021!

Our Epiphany worship service will include scripture, prayers, engaging preaching (thank you Pr. Brenda Greenwald!), and camp-style worship songs. There will be contributions from campers,

summer staff, and Fortune Lake friends and family from near and far. The recording will be available on our YouTube channel by Saturday, January 9th.

A highlight of this worship experience will be the virtual blending of 'This Little Light of Mine' videos from our camp family. If you or others from your congregation would like to participate, please email fortunelakedigital@gmail.com for details.

Join us as we close out the celebration of our 90th year of ministry through our Epiphany worship. May we all be grateful to God and continue "Lighting the Way" for generations to come.

Grace & Peace,
Amanda Rasner

Check Out Messiah's New Website:

<https://www.messiahlutheranmgt.org/>

Our Publicity Team and pastors have been working on this for a few months and are delighted to share it!

There will likely be a few hiccups as we move into it fully, so please don't hesitate to reach out if you can't find something, if a link doesn't work, or if you have other questions. One exciting feature is that you can now watch the live stream directly on our website!

Messiah's 2021 Annual Report

Messiah's annual meeting will be delayed but the annual report will still be printed and distributed at the usual time during the last week of January. Please submit your reports to Inga (inga@messiahlutheranmgt.org) by Monday January 18. Thank you.

Pipe Organ Fundraiser

Plans are in the works for an online virtual fundraiser to raise money for recent rebuilding work on Messiah's pipe organ. Our organist Kathy Strazzinski and her husband Ron took advantage of the first few months of the shutdown last spring to design beautiful wall art, and racks for jewelry or keys using parts from the old organ console. They would like to offer these items for auction.

We know there are many other creative folks out there who might like to contribute their gifts to this project. We have quilters, painters and musicians galore! Would you like to donate a painting? Present a special singing telegram or short musical performance once it is safe to do so? (We could even help you record something to include in our auction.) Perhaps you would like to offer a weekend at your camp or be the chef for a dinner party.

Please contact the church office by January 11 if you would like to offer something for this auction, or if you have any additional questions.

Room at the Inn Fundraiser

Messiah's church council has extended a challenge pledge to Room at the Inn as they renovate the Warming Center to become a permanent shelter space. As a congregation we are committed to caring for those in need (Matthew 25), and as such have offered up to \$20,000 in a matching donation to any new donations for the Room at the Inn project. We are delighted to be in the position to be able to do so and that such a vital ministry in our midst is moving toward permanent shelter space. **Send your check directly to RATI, 347 Rock St., Marquette, with the memo referencing "Messiah match."** If you would like to learn more about this giving opportunity for our community, please contact Pastor Andrew.

ELCA Good Gifts - That Make a Difference

New this year - and very appropriate! Soap and Sanitation Supplies - \$25.00 PPE Supplies - \$25.00 The usual favorites of Chicks (\$10.00), Honey Bees (\$20) Pig (\$30), Goat (\$50) and all the others are still available. In this unusual time, we are unable to have an in person ELCA Good Gifts promotion, but many of us still want to order these gifts that "Make A Difference" for Christmas. Catalogs are available on the shelf near the Fair Trade display. We can also go online to order directly from the ELCA at: goodgifts.elca.org. Thank you for your support of this important ministry of our church.

Virtual Worship

If you would like to worship with us from your home, we want to let you know some ways you can listen in and/or watch if you have a computer and internet access.

The 8:45 am worship will always be broadcast on the radio at Sunny 101.9 FM and streamed at the following sites: Vimeo - <https://vimeo.com/messiahlutheranmqt> and Facebook - www.facebook.com/messiahlutheranmqt

Giving Envelopes

Your envelopes are ready for pick up. Stop by to grab them from the narthex any time during our normal office hours, when the main door is unlocked. Or call the office if you need special accommodations. If you don't currently have envelopes and would like them; or have envelopes and don't want them for 2021, just let Nancy Hoover know. She will accommodate what works

best for you. Even if you give electronically, you may still receive envelopes for special donations.

Qi Gong for Health & Wellness--Tuesdays, 12:00 - 1:00 pm

This Zoom class, sponsored in collaboration with Messiah Lutheran Church, is based on a series of gentle exercises developed by Buddhist monks. These exercises involve varying degrees of range of motion that can be done in a chair or standing.

Our class moves body structure for balance, stress and pain relief that are applied to daily activities: walking, turning, lifting, reaching, sitting. These gentle movements can also be used with prayer disciplines and use breathing as an essential component.

After greetings, each person in our class turns off their Zoom video on the computer and mute. The members enjoy the anonymity with permission to pause, go slower, to learn without being self-conscious or competitive. Since I can't see you, my concerns are for safety. I give ongoing verbal, detailed instructions for each movement. Each exercise includes individuals finding their range of motion, improving body structure, balance & breathing instructions.

There is, of course, no fee or charge for these classes but we invite you to make a contribution to Messiah Lutheran Church food bank at any time as a sign of thanksgiving.

--Diana Magnuson, 906-362-9386

Registration Now Open for Synod Lifelong Faith Formation Winter Classes

Registration is now open for the winter schedule of Lifelong Faith Formation, a program of the Northern Great Lakes Synod. The classes provide fun and interesting opportunities for people to connect with each other online, via Zoom, during these challenging times. The following classes begin in January:

Introduction to Biblical Greek II

Reflections on Bonhoeffer's *Life Together*, While We are Apart

The Doctrine of Discovery: From Myth to Reality

Bias in Our Communities: Addressing Race in Rural America

Walking Together: Companionship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania

The Gospel of John

For more information, visit our website or contact Deacon-Elect Lori Ward at (615) 519-1969 or lori.ward@nglsynod.org.

January Book Study: “Stations of the Heart” by Richard Lischer

This poignant love story of a father for his son is at once funny, heartbreaking, and hopeful. In it a young man teaches his entire family “a new way to die” with wit, candor, and, remarkable grace. Richard Lischer’s son, Adam, calls to tell his father, a professor of divinity at Duke University, that his cancer has returned. Despite the crushing magnitude of his diagnosis and the cruel course of the illness, Adam’s growing weakness evokes in him an unexpected strength. This is the story of one last summer and the young man who lived it as honestly and faithfully as possible. We meet Adam in many phases of his growing up, but always through the narrow lens of his undying hope, when in the final season of his life he becomes his family’s (and his father’s) spiritual leader. Honest in its every dimension, Stations of the Heart is an unforgettable book about life and death and the terrible blessing of saying good-bye. We hope you’ll join us to read and discuss this book, as it touches our own stories of grief and hope. Copies of this book are available in the church office for \$16. The conversation will be on Wednesday, January 20th at 7:00 p.m. Further details will be available in the January newsletter and on Facebook.

Bulletin for At-Home Worship - Online or Radio

Please contact the church office if you would like a worship bulletin mailed to your home weekly for each weekend’s worship. Thank you.

Finance / Year-End 2020

Last day to give for 2020? For your information, donations legally need to be separated by the year, based on when we receive them! If you plan to mail them in or drop them off, the last date & time the office will be open to accept cash/check donations for 2020, is 8:30 am to 3:30 pm on Wed, 12/30/20.

Year to-Date Donations

Are you unsure about your donations to date? Or unsure what you pledged for 2020? If you need clarification to finalize your donations in December, please call the office to leave a message for Nancy Hoover, Financial Secretary. Or email her at Messiah.NancyH@gmail.com. Likewise, if you have questions or would like help to complete your donation pledge for 2021, please contact Nancy Hoover.

Prayer Requests

While we are apart from one another, it is still important that we hold one another in prayer. We have posted a prayer request form on our Messiah Family and Friends Facebook page, and those who are not on Facebook or do not have computer access can call the church office with their prayer requests.

We value being a community of prayer for one another during this difficult time and always.

In the Hospital

Please inform the church office when you are hospitalized. Pastor Andrew Plocher and Pastor Molly Eversoll want to call you while you are there during this time of COVID-19. If you can't notify Messiah, please ask a family member to do so.

In Our Prayers

Margo Fischbach & family upon the passing of her husband Bernie, Alice, Ron & Jane Brow and family upon the passing of their son Ben, Erin Andrews, Rose Collins, Candace, Tina & her roommate, Carol, Ted Koehler, Matthew Williamson, Mark Aho, Ron Hill, ill residents/patients & care workers at the Jacobetti VA facility & other nursing homes in our area, inmates & staff at Marquette Branch Prison, Susan & Sommer, Dennis Riutta, Bob & Deb Vidlund, Bill Van Effen, Roger B, Linda Ruohoniemi, Barry, Jim Shirtz, Cheryl, Ryan, Helen Steinhoff, Billi Jo, Pat Maki, Dan, Herb & Sandy Grenke, Wayne Hanmer, Judy Donckers, Ann Marin, Karen Johnson, Jill Krah, Michael Orhanen, Kristina Asta, Jim, Alli & Johann Elsenbroek, Alison Cory, John, Sierra, Sandy, Charlene Avery, Liz Kro

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

Pastor on Call:

Pastor Andrew is on call December 30. He will be on vacation January 3-9.

Pastor Molly is on call December 31-January 9.

Messiah Newsletters

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

Scripture Reading This Week – The Second Sunday after Christmas

First Reading..... *Jeremiah 31:7-14*

Gospel Reading..... *John 1:1-18*

Announcements and Classified Ads

Do you have an announcement?

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

Messiah Contact Information

Messiah Lutheran Church
305 W. Magnetic St.
Marquette, MI 49855
906-225-1119
906-225-5025 (fax)
Email: office@messiahlutheranmgt.org
Website: <https://www.messiahlutheranmgt.org/>

Pastoral Staff

Senior Pastor:
Andrew Plocher
906-373-6036

Associate Pastor:
Molly Eversoll
312-576-7353

Support Staff

Parish Administrator:
Jennifer Dodge
906-235-4921

Administrative Assistant:
Inga Banitt
906-362-1545

Messiah Custodian:
Kevin McGrath
906-226-2097

Parish Accountant:
Mike Hill
906-228-2544

Financial Secretary:
Nancy Hoover
612-419-3000

Music Staff

Music Director:
David Dagenais
906-869-1441

Bell Choir Director:
Judy Quirk
906-228-6729

Organist:
Kathy Strazzinski
906-869-7871

Pianist:

Lynne Lanczy

906-235-4431