

# Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Answering God's call to love

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**Messiah ENewsletter for January 27, 2021**

## Messiah Events & News

On the web...

go to [messiahlutheranmqt.org](http://messiahlutheranmqt.org) for more information about our congregation and “like” us on Facebook to receive updates and information there.

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*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!*



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### 2021 Annual Meeting and 2020 Report

Due to the pandemic, our Council has decided to reschedule our annual meeting for a future date in June or July. While a remote (Zoom) meeting was discussed at length, Council believes that any congregational meeting should allow all members to participate. The 2020 Annual

Report has been compiled and will be shared electronically (via email and our website) on February 10. If you wish to receive a paper copy by mail, please contact the church office. Messiah's Council has approved a preliminary 2021 budget that will be included in the report. Formal approval of that budget and the election of Council & committee members will take place at the rescheduled meeting. Ordinarily, Council would approve the budget at the January meeting and the congregation would vote on it at the annual meeting (in late January/early February). This year, Council approved the budget in January, but it will not be voted on by the congregation until the summer. There are no major changes to the budget anticipated and a narrative description of the budget will accompany it and the 2020 annual report. The Council/church will operate with the preliminary budget and Council and committee members will serve extended terms (they have voluntarily agreed to do so!) until the rescheduled meeting. If you have questions about these decisions, please don't hesitate to contact Pr. Andrew or Erik Bergh (Council President).

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## **Pipe Organ Fundraiser**

Our online auction to help in the cost of refurbishing Messiah's pipe organ will go "live" on February 3 and continue through February 13. We are so appreciative of everyone who donated items for this auction.

We realize that not everyone has computer access. If you would like to place a bid on an item, please call the church office at 225-1119 or call Inga at 362-1545. We will be happy to help you. A detailed list of items for auction is below.

For those of you who do have computer access, here is how you can access the website and place your bid:

--Type the following into your browser: [www.auctria.com/auction/MessiahPipeOrgan](http://www.auctria.com/auction/MessiahPipeOrgan)

--Click on register in the menu at the top

--Fill out the registration form. You will receive a confirmation email once you have successfully registered.

--Click on auction in the menu at the top. You will be able to view a catalog of items and place your bids.

If you are the winner of an item, please drop off your check or pay by credit card in the office. If you are mailing a check, please let us know in advance. All of our items except for the desserts will be available for pick up in the office.

If you are the winner of a dessert, please contact the baker to arrange a date and method of delivery.

Auction items include:

A variety of artwork including items made from the old organ console (you can check out the organ console items at church starting February 3)

Fly fishing trip

Jewelry

Cross country ski lessons

A variety of desserts

Dinner at camp

Massage

Canning raspberry jam

And more!

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### **Hildegarde Johnson Music Scholarship**

Applications are on the welcome table for anyone interested in applying for the 2021 Hildegarde Johnson Music Scholarship. The applications can be picked up at Messiah or they can be mailed to you, just call or email the church office. Once you have filled out the application, you can mail it back to Messiah or bring it to the church office. They will be collected through Sunday, February 28, 2021.

Hildegarde Johnson was a member of Messiah and was passionate about music. Members of the Worship & Music Team will evaluate the applications and inform recipients in March. Funds from this scholarship can be used for private music lessons, music camp, purchase of an instrument or music supplies, music books, or sheet music. Scholarship funds will be awarded to actively participating Messiah members who are in elementary, middle or high school. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the church office.

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### **Reconciling in Christ Sunday—January 31st**

As a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation, Messiah Lutheran Church will observe Reconciling Sunday in our worship on Sunday, January 31st. This is an opportunity to celebrate what it means to live a theology of reconciliation and lift up what being a Reconciling in Christ congregation means to us.

RIC is a program of ReconcilingWorks: Lutherans for Full Participation, begun in 1983 as a way for Lutheran communities of faith to answer the inclusive call of the Gospel by welcoming people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. Currently, there are over 930 Lutheran settings on the RIC roster, including congregations, campus ministries, synods of the ELCA and Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, camps, colleges, and other independent

organizations. Additional information about the RIC program, including a complete listing of RIC settings and resources for personal and congregational use, are available on-line at the website [www.reconcilingworks.org](http://www.reconcilingworks.org).

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### **Meal Train for the Grenkes**

Herb and Sandy Grenke have been receiving Meals on Wheels during the week, and in addition to that, we have set up a Meal Train for them to receive meals on Sundays. The link for their meal train schedule is [www.mealtrain.com/trains/mnm727](http://www.mealtrain.com/trains/mnm727)

Thank you to everyone who has provided meals for the Grenkes. Herb and Sandy are very thankful for your support and friendship.

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### **Lenten 40-Day Racial Equity Challenge**

This Lent, you are invited to participate in a synod-wide Racial Equity Challenge. You may remember our 21-day challenge from May & June, and now Pr. Molly and Pr. Andrew are working with the synod to broaden the participation, include indigenous resources, and deepen the conversation.

Participating in the Racial Equity Challenge is a personal commitment to devote time every day during Lent to engage in provided resources about the history and impact of racism, and the ways that bias, prejudice, privilege, and oppression show up in our everyday lives. Each day of the challenge will be a new opportunity to consider different voices and perspectives—a time to read, watch, listen, and learn. It is a time for self-examination and honesty. It is a time to open ourselves to the Holy Spirit, to be remade as vessels for God's love and reconciliation.

We hope that you will consider joining others across our Synod in guided conversations. The Challenge will begin February 18th and run for the week preceding Holy Week. Each participant will access the Challenge material online and be encouraged, but not required, to join a small group that will meet weekly for conversation via ZOOM. More information about registration will be made available by the synod. Please check their website ([nglsynod.org](http://nglsynod.org)) for further information. We will also try to share updates about registration on our Facebook page and in the February newsletter.

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### **Queen City Preachers Podcast**

Have you been listening to Pastor Andrew and Pastor Molly's weekly podcast? Queen City Preachers is their weekly Bible study and it can be found on Messiah's website <https://www.messiahlutheranmqt.org/pages/queen-city-preachers-podcast> or on Google Play or the Apple podcast app.

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## **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](http://www.facebook.com/messiahlutheranmqt)

A link to the bulletin will be sent each Wednesday in the same email where we send a link to Messiah's E-Newsletter. The bulletin can also be found on Messiah's website

[www.messiahlutheranmqt.org](http://www.messiahlutheranmqt.org) Click on worship at the top of the page and then on Sunday's bulletin.

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## **Stewardship**

Every new year gives us a time to reflect on all that we have and also what we hope for. We give thanks for your generosity - of time, talent, and treasure - in 2020. Your financial partnership and support have helped us confidently navigate a difficult year. Thank you!

Looking to 2021, we do not know exactly how our ministry will continue to grow and change.

Thank you to those who have already submitted a "Plan for Giving" (pledge) card for 2021.

Your plans for 2021 helps us know how to best be stewards of the resources entrusted to us. If you haven't already filled out a pledge card, you can do so online (<https://bit.ly/Messiah2021>), by calling our office, or requesting to have one mailed to you. We appreciate your assistance as we try to plan for the year ahead. Thank you for your continued prayers & support. We look forward to 2021 and the ministry that we will partner in as a Messiah family!

- Messiah's Stewardship Team

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## **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 support Messiah's ministry to local food programs either by dropping off pantry items at Messiah or by writing a check to Messiah Lutheran Church specifying local hunger in the memo.

--Diana Magnuson, 906-362-9386

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## **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.

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## **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.

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## **In Our Prayers**

Jan Brown; Johnnie; Rev. Leslie Niemi; Linda Rossberg; Josh; Samantha; Ray Hasenhauer; Jordan Negro; Gina; Scotti Oja & her family; John & Rose Collins; Loretta; Jess Laxo & her grandma Betty; Erin Andrews; Candace; Tina & her roommate; Ted Koehler; Carol; Matthew Williamson; Ron Hill; ill residents/patients & care workers at the Jacobetti VA facility & other nursing homes in our area; inmates & staff at Marquette Branch Prison; Dennis Riutta; Bob & Deb Vidlund; Bill Van Effen; Roger B; Linda Ruohoniemi; Jim Shirtz; Cheryl; Ryan; Helen Steinhoff; Billi Jo; Pat Maki; 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.*

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## **Pastor on Call:**

Pastor Andrew is on call January 27, 31, February 1-3.

Pastor Molly is on call January 28-30.

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## **Messiah Newsletters**

Messiah newsletters and the weekly E-news are all available at [www.messiahlutheranmgt.org](http://www.messiahlutheranmgt.org).

The online Messenger (monthly newsletter) includes all the stories and information but saves the paper!

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## **Scripture Reading This Week – Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

**First Reading**.....*Deuteronomy 18:15-20*

**Gospel Reading**.....*Mark 1:21-28*

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## **Worship Volunteers**

### **Sunday January 31**

Mike Hill

### **Sunday February 7**

Larry Pagel

### **Sunday February 14**

Ruth Robb

### **Sunday February 21**

Molly Smith

### **Sunday February 28**

One needed

### **Sunday March 7**

Larry Pagel

**Sunday March 14**

Ruth Robb

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## **Announcements and Classified Ads**

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### **Home Health Care Aide Needed**

One of our members at Messiah is in need of a care aide. The aide can work up to 59 hours / month. This person needs help with cleaning in her apartment along with some other daily care needs. The care aide would be paid through Northern Home Care Services. Please contact the church office at 225-1119 for more details.

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### **NMU Common Reader Program**

The NMU Diversity Common Reader program chooses a book each year to plan events around; the focus this year is Ta-Nehisi Coates' book *Between the World and Me*. This semester's Diversity Common Reader Program (DCRP) events will begin this Friday January 29. Community members can join us for the following:

A virtual discussion of Coates and current events, Friday, January 29, at 4pm. Register at this link: [https://nmu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUocyvvrTsjHdVOj4BqGbryoHFtMFivcYaf?fbclid=IwAR2s3NSGZ1JDMYACGn4ErV7RwvYpJf7gL\\_JICx2gCfuZBwAwHEf-mKk3Zmg](https://nmu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUocyvvrTsjHdVOj4BqGbryoHFtMFivcYaf?fbclid=IwAR2s3NSGZ1JDMYACGn4ErV7RwvYpJf7gL_JICx2gCfuZBwAwHEf-mKk3Zmg)

A virtual discussion of Black Panther and Afrofuturism with Dr. Leah Milne of the University of Indianapolis at 2pm on Tuesday, February 2. If you are not an NMU student but would like to attend the virtual discussion of Black Panther and Afrofuturism with Dr. Leah Milne, please email Dr. Lesley Larkin (llarkin@nmu.edu) for meeting information. View some information at this link: [https://thehub.nmu.edu/SLFP/rsvp\\_boot?id=945585](https://thehub.nmu.edu/SLFP/rsvp_boot?id=945585)

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### **Do you have an announcement?**

Send announcements and ads to Inga Banitt (inga@messiahlutheranmq.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.

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## **Messiah Contact Information**

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