

Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Answering God's call to love

Messiah ENewsletter for April 21, 2021

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!



****Worship Service Time Change****

On Sunday May 2 our worship time will shift to 8:30 am. This is a 15-minute change from the current early service worship time (radio broadcast and streaming). It is anticipatory, so that

when we return to in-person worship there will be adequate time for the sanctuary to be cleaned and ventilated in between the Sunday services.

Fortune Lake Summer Camps

Greetings!

We are gearing up for a fabulous summer at Fortune Lake! **Our Early Bird registration deadline is April 22nd.** 5-night camps receive \$25 off, and 2-3-night camps receive \$15 off. Don't miss out!

Due to our half capacity lodging restrictions, spots in our youth camps are extremely limited, and some programs are full with waitlists. Intergenerational Camps and Rentals still have space. The following options still have some availability:

June 20-July 2: Leaders in Training (grades 10-12), application

required <https://fortunelake.org/summer-camp/specialty-youth-camps/>

June 27-July 2: Villager girls (grades 3-4) & Venturer boys (grades 7-8)

July 6-9: Mighty Ones boys (grades 1-2, 2 nights), Mini Camp (grades 2-3), **Mash Ups (grades 4-8) has new increased availability**, Onsite Day Camp (grades K-5)

July 11-16: Villager (grades 3-4), High School (grades 9-12)

July 18-23: Intergenerational Ala Carte (all ages) lodges and rustic cabins only

July 25-30: Intergenerational Ala Carte (all ages)--*Christmas in July Week!*

July 26-29: Onsite Day Camp (grades K-5)

August 1-6: *Staff Supported Rental (all ages), no Emanuel Lodge

August 7-10: *Staff Supported Rental (all ages)

*Staff Supported Rentals provide a great opportunity to vacation with a group of friends, a church youth group, a small family reunion, or as an individual. We have a variety of lodging accommodations and activities to keep everyone comfortable and busy while safely enjoying camp at your own pace. Learn more about the program, and give us a call to learn more or inquire about special group options: <http://fortunelake.org/summer-camp/family/>

If you or one of your camp buddies is holding off on registering, we encourage you not to wait. We anticipate that most programs will be full on or soon after April 22.

Our summer theme is based on Psalm 100:5 which reads, "For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations." We are so excited to share God's love and faithfulness with another generation of campers!

--*Grace & Peace, Amanda Rasner*

Easter Flowers

Thank you to everyone who contributed towards our beautiful display of Easter flowers this year! Please stop by the church during office hours to pick up a lily or pot of flowers to take home and enjoy.

Freezer Meals for Jon and Laurel Kniskern

Jon and Laurel Kniskern would greatly appreciate receiving freezer meals during this time as they travel back and forth to Rochester for Jon's chemo treatments. **Need some ideas?** BBQ beef, chicken noodle soup, lasagna, chicken rice casseroles, sloppy joe mix, pasta sauces. Thank you to everyone who has already contributed a meal. Please bring your meal to Messiah during our office hours (8:30 am to 3:30 pm Monday through Thursday) and we will keep them here for the family to pick up. If you need to arrange a different time to drop off your meal, please contact Inga at 362-1545 or call the church office at 225-1119. Thank you!

Thank You from the Hills

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to everyone for their prayers during my second bout with cancer. After a seven-month battle, the latest tests showed no sign of active cancer. Even my hair is starting to grow back! The prayers have been answered.

--Ron Hill

Pastors' Book Study: Braiding Sweetgrass

Our pastors' book study returns with Braiding Sweetgrass by Robin Wall Kimmerer (2013, 390 pages). Pick up the book in the church office (\$17) and then join us on Thursday, May 6th, 7 pm, for a discussion on Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83504951043>). *(This date is a correction from the announcement in the April Messenger.)*

The subtitle of the book is "Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants." As a botanist and professor of Environmental Biology, Kimmerer has been trained to ask questions of nature with the tools of science. As a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, she embraces the notion that plants and animals are our oldest teachers. She brings these lenses of knowledge together to show that the awakening of a wider ecological consciousness requires the acknowledgment and celebration of our reciprocal relationship with the rest of the living world. The book is a New York Times best seller, and people are finding this work to be grounding, calming, and quietly revolutionary. We hope you'll join us for the conversation!

From Bishop Katherine Finegan

"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope."

~Jeremiah 29:11

Dear Northern Great Lakes Synod,

We all have been making plans; plans to re-open, plans to re-engage in-person congregational life, plans for the welfare of all and not for harm, plans for a future with hope.

It is no easy thing, as you well know, to make plans and adjust, and think through so many details and decisions. Yet it seems we cannot avoid the challenges of our times.

As governors and health departments continue to proclaim edicts and advice, I have found the following to be helpful:

Efforts for in-person gathering should still prioritize creating a safe space for the most vulnerable. Both the vaccinated and the unvaccinated alike need to feel safe and welcomed. Consider the metrics given for bars and restaurants, currently at 50%. While our buildings are not bars or restaurants, they vary in size and capacity. Following a percentage, rather than a flat amount, makes more sense for our worship spaces.

Be aware of the rising or falling numbers of COVID cases and ICU capacity in your community and act accordingly. [This helpful tool](#) to assess your local level of risk has been added to the homepage of our [synod website](#) in the section "Meeting the Challenges of COVID-19."

Pandemic fatigue is a real thing, and we are all tired. Soon and very soon we will turn a corner. I believe every one of our NGLS congregations has been diligent and mindful, and pastoral leaders and councils have considered together what is best. Thank you for your faithful attention to safety, to staying connected, and to encouraging each other.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Katherine Finegan

Bishop of the Northern Great Lakes Synod

HOPE Accomplishes the Impossible

HOPE is the theme for our Synod Assembly this year and is our theme for the World Hunger offering we HOPE to receive from the congregations in our synod. This is an annual fund drive to support ELCA World Hunger - the mission outreach arm of our church, and it represents a major effort on the part of the Northern Great Lakes Synod. Messiah has traditionally supported ELCA World Hunger with a focus during Lent. This year we are HOPING that Hunger needs are part of your Lenten journey again. Giving up something? Honoring someone with a contribution? A gift for Mom on Mother's Day? Sharing COVID Relief Funds? The options are

endless. Please mark your gift for ELCA World Hunger and send to Messiah by May 9th to be included in this year's offering at our "virtual synod assembly".

--Mary Lou Blomquist

Northern Great Lakes Synod Assembly—May 10-15, 2021

Synod Assembly in 2021 will be online! Mark your calendars and join us for a week full of opportunities for engagement, discussion, worship, and information, all with the theme of Hope. For more information about assembly, please check the NGLS website: <https://nglsynod.org/assembly/>

Here is a tentative overview of what to expect:

Mon, May 10 - Pre-recorded Opening Worship

Tues, May 11 - Workshops for the whole Synod

Wed, May 12 - Workshops for the whole Synod

Thurs, May 13 - Workshops for the whole Synod/Installation service livestream

Fri, May 14 - Social gathering online

Sat, May 15 - Business meeting (required for voting members)

Voting members will be required to complete orientation sessions online prior to Synod Assembly week. Stay tuned for more detailed information!

Personal Care Kits

Ruth Circle will be collecting items for personal care kits in April for Lutheran World Relief. Donations can be placed in the labeled container in the narthex. Monetary donations are also welcomed to purchase needed items.

Items needed:

Bath towel - dark color preferred

Toothbrush - adult size in original wrapping

Comb - large toothed preferred

Metal nail clipper

Bars of soap - bath size

--Thank you, Ruth Circle

Join Us for U.P. Wild's Earth Day Event Saturday, April 24 3PM at Presque Isle Park

All are welcome!

- + Bring a plant (either a bulb or a full grown) and/or come ready to adopt a plant! By caring for one seed of the Earth we begin the process of caring for our common home.
 - + Bring a poem, song lyric, favorite verse or short reflection to share in circle- we ask everyone to consider participating open mic style.
 - + Bring your own mug as we will have hot tea available
 - + Celebrate and meet new people
 - + Invite friends and bring family
 - + Donations are received in gratitude Self exploration and hiking around the Island is encouraged afterwards. We will meet at the Gazebo near the breakwall. If you do plan to attend, kindly send an email to lanni@upwild.org for planning purposes.
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Messiah Birthdays—April 21-30

Wednesday 21 Sonia Geschwindt, Maria Rodriguez

Thursday 22 Cathy Seblonka, Jane Taube

Friday 23 Wyatt Crimmins, Sarah Fosco, Carl Hammerstrom, Laura Kagy

Saturday 24 No birthdays

Sunday 25 Dave DeLarye, Isaac Olson, Rebecca Ulland

Monday 26 Doug Gordon, Lindsay Johnstone, Karen Larson

Tuesday 27 Jackson Kagy

Wednesday 28 Mitchell Gilbert, Chrys Hendrick, Gary Nicholas

Thursday 29 Jason Parks

Friday 30 No birthdays

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

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 Click on worship at the top of the page and then on Sunday's bulletin.

Donations for The New Free Store

The New Free Store needs your help. They are an inter-faith, non-profit group supporting people in the greater Marquette area who express a need for free clothing, linen, hygiene & cleaning supplies. Over 850 families are now registered to shop for free & that number continues to grow. When doing your weekly shopping, please remember the items noted below in the coming months. Thank you for your support! Feel free to leave these items in The New Free Store 'drop-box' in Messiah's narthex.

*April - laundry detergent, dish soap, bar soap

*May - diapers (size 1-5), baby wet wipes

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

Brian; Sigurds Janners; Carl Hammerstrom; Carol; Chris; Phyllis; Jon; Larry; Roberta; Lee; Wil; Marion Wrate; Jamie Baril; Jan Brown; Johnnie; Ray Hasenhauer; John & Rose Collins; Scotti Oja & her family; Jess Laxo & her grandma Betty; Erin Andrews; Tina & her roommate; Ted Koehler; Carol; Matthew Williamson; Linda Ruohoniemi; Jim Shirtz; Cheryl; Helen Steinhoff; Billi Jo; Wayne Hanmer; Judy Donckers; 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 April 21, 25-28.

Pastor Molly is on call April 22-24.

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 – 4th Sunday of Easter

First Reading.....*Acts 4:5-12*

Gospel Reading.....*John 10:11-18*

Worship Volunteers

Sunday April 25

Darley Kemppainen

Sunday May 2

Larry Pagel

Sunday May 9

Mike Hill

Sunday May 16

Ruth Robb

Sunday May 23

Molly Smith

Sunday May 30

Fred Maynard

Announcements and Classified Ads

Diversity Common Reader Keynote Event—Tonight!

This year's Diversity Common Reader Program virtual keynote event will be held at 7pm on Wednesday, April 21. This event will feature NMU students Suzy Stephens and Stephanie Dye, winners of the inaugural Passages North / DCRP Writing Contest, as well Dr. Kette Thomas, Associate Professor of Diverse Literature at Michigan Technological University. Dr. Thomas's work centers on questions regarding identity, agency, and language. She places special emphasis on religion, myth, folklore, autobiography, film, creative essays and the novel and does research on rhetorical and representational models of human rights violations. In her keynote lecture, "Examining Grief, Testimony, and Ritual," she will discuss the rhetorical structure and effects of expressions of grief and testimony in the context of systemic racism. You can register for this event

at https://nmu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_QPSCrcuJRVyvh3IXjP2gjQ

Additionally, the Diversity Common Reader Program has partnered with UNITED to invite Celeste Sanchez Lloyd, a community health advocate and member of the Governor's Racial Disparities and COVID-19 Task Force, to speak at **2pm on Friday, April 23** on issues of health and equity. For over a decade, Ms. Sanchez Lloyd has worked to foster a more inclusive health system and healthier communities. She will bring this experience to NMU in a lecture entitled "Understanding and Addressing Health Disparities: A Community Approach Perspective." Registration is not required; you can join the Zoom link

directly at <https://nmu.zoom.us/j/98630387601?pwd=d1o1ZGZNN0V1aW12dVMrNnI1QXdhZz09>

For more information, visit nmu.edu/dcrp/events. Both events are free and open to the public.

Do you have an announcement?

Send announcements and ads to Inga Banitt (inga@messiahlutheranmqt.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
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906-225-1119
906-225-5025 (fax)
Email: 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