

Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Answering God's call to love

Messiah ENewsletter for September 8, 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!



Six Month Giving Statements

Giving statements were mailed 9/1/21. Please review your statement and let me know if you did not receive one for your donations. We are still adjusting to a new system and known statement remedies are listed below:

-If you gave electronically and made a pledge, some of your gifts may still need to be manually applied to your pledge. I am aware and will make sure they are completed for year-end statements.

-If you received two parts to your statement for both electronic and check/cash gifts, your name(s) may be displayed differently. I am aware of this speed bump and will resolve it for year-end statements.

-If you gave electronically through our prior system for January and February, these may not have shown on your statement. Please let me know, I'm working to determine why they didn't migrate to statements.

Please inform me of anything else that doesn't look right to you, and I will resolve and respond. If you already called or emailed, I'm following up on all calls and emails. Thank you in advance for your patience. I work part time so an email would be best, otherwise please contact the office.

Nancy Hoover, Financial Secretary, [Messiah.NancyH@gmail.com](mailto: Messiah.NancyH@gmail.com)

Annual Congregational Meeting – This Sunday

Our **rescheduled Congregational Meeting** will be held on **September 12th at 11:30 am in the sanctuary**. Items of business include the approval of the budget and elections (Council, committee members, delegates). All members are encouraged to come and participate.

Please go to our website <https://www.messiahlutheranmqt.org/about/annual-reports> to read our 2020 annual report and to view additional reports from the audit and nominating committees. On this page you will also find a link to our constitution which was revised December 2019. These changes to our constitution were approved at the annual meeting in January 2020 and need to be ratified one more time (according to our constitution).

English Translator Position Opening at Bothwell Middle School

In last week's ENews, we included an update on the family Messiah is accompanying through the asylum process. This week we are happy to report that Romel and Fernando are enrolled in the Marquette Public Schools. Their first day of class was Wednesday September 1 and they are busy getting used to a new school, a new routine, and—especially—a new language! Bothwell Middle School has listed a new job posting for an English translator to help Fernando in his classes. Applicants may find out more about this position by going to the MAPS website www.mapsnet.org or by calling the human resources department at 906-225-5410. Please spread the word about this position to anyone you know who speaks Spanish.

Glenda, Romel, and Fernando have been very grateful for the hospitality that they have received both at church and in the community. They express that gratitude frequently and are very happy to have arrived in Marquette. Thank you for being such a welcoming community!

Much is being accomplished regarding medical and dental care, educational pursuits, and moving forward through the legal process which anyone seeking asylum needs to accomplish. Thanks to all who have graciously greeted and welcomed them and offered support in any way. There is a volunteer sheet available to be filled out if you would like to offer assistance with transportation, (including rides to church), shopping, etc. There is also a Task Force Volunteer Agreement and a release form for a background check which need to be signed before participating in any volunteer activities with the family. You can get these forms at the church office.

Please be respectful of the family's privacy and refrain from asking personal questions regarding their journey from Honduras. On the other hand, if you have signed up to volunteer in any way, feel free to help them get to know you and our city! Those of us who have had the privilege of interacting with this wonderful family have been impressed by their positive attitudes, eagerness to learn English, and willingness to participate in many different activities. Spanish translators are available to accompany you on an outing with the family. Simply call Inga in the church office and she will arrange a translator for you.

Volunteer Training for Room at the Inn

Are you interested in helping out at Room at the Inn? While we are no longer hosting overnight guests, there are still many ways that you can be involved. You're invited to a training at St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church (401 W Kaye Ave) on September 7th from 6:00 -7:00 pm. Trainings will be offered the first Tuesday of every month at St. Michaels. For more information about volunteering, visit the Room at the Inn website: roomattheinn.org/volunteer

Produce Swap at Messiah

It's that time of year where all of our gardeners share the bounty of their gardens with friends and neighbors. During the next few weeks, we are setting up a table at Messiah where people can bring their produce to share, or to take some produce home with them. We are looking forward to "sharing the harvest" with the Messiah community.

Ingathering for Lutheran World Relief at Messiah

This year our ingathering of quilts, school kits, personal care kits, and baby care kits for Lutheran World Relief will be held at Messiah on Saturday October 2 from 9 am to 1 pm. Churches from the central and western UP will be unloading their items for storage in Messiah's education wing; and early the following week Messiah volunteers will be loading everything on a U-Haul for transport to the LWR warehouse in St. Paul. Please watch for a volunteer sign-up sheet on the welcome table very soon. Volunteers will be needed on October 2 as well as

Monday morning October 4 to load the U-Haul.

If you would like to contribute to the cost of the U-Haul and gasoline expense, please send a check with a notation of LWR U-Haul in the memo line.

We greatly appreciate the faithful work of our Messiah quilters and our Women of the ELCA circles who work to get quilts made and kits assembled. We also thank Les Scheuren who will be transporting all of these items to St. Paul.

CROP Walk 2021! - Messiah Liaison

The 2021 CROP Walk will be held on Sunday, October 10th. Currently we are in need of a CROP Walk liaison for Messiah. This volunteer position isn't too time intensive. You would get the packet of information for the walk, explain the CROP Walk to others in our congregation who inquire about it, and hand out envelopes for those interested in walking to raise funds for local hunger. After the walk you would collect all walkers' funds and turn them in to the First Presbyterian Church. If you choose, you can coordinate a group from Messiah to walk together to help fight hunger. If you are interested in being Messiah's liaison for the CROP Walk please contact the church office (225-1119 or office@messiahlutheranmqt.org).

25% of funds raised this year for CROP walk will stay local and be split between St. Vincent de Paul & NMU's food bank.

If you are interested in giving towards the CROP Walk this year, please make your check payable to: CWS/CROP. All checks need to be turned in to Messiah's office by Tuesday, October 12th. Thank you all for your support.

Synod Lifelong Learning

The Northern Great Lakes Synod offers a diverse series of online classes for adults who want to increase their knowledge and understanding of the Bible, church history, Lutheran Theology, contemporary Christian issues, and more. Launched in 2020, Lifelong Faith Formation, evolved from the synod's Lay School for Mission.

Lifelong Faith Formation is not driven by an end result, such as graduation from a program. It is not a certification program to become a Licensed Lay Minister. It may play a role in an individual's discernment to participate in a higher accountability program through a neighboring synod (East Central Synod of Wisconsin or Northwest Synod of Wisconsin) or lead to seminary. If you are interested in becoming a Licensed Lay Minister, please read this article <https://nglsynod.org/dataarchive/ngls/pdf2017/LaySchoolLetter.pdf> and contact Bishop Katherine Finegan.

Mostly, Lifelong Faith Formation is designed for curious adults who want to engage more deeply with the Bible, to learn more about church traditions, to become better equipped to serve the work of Christ in their congregations and to grow in spirituality and faith.

While pandemic restrictions have eased, these are still uncertain times. The Synod will continue to offer online classes this fall. **Two special notes:** First, some people may meet as a group out of their own congregations. Second, last year we realized that online learning presents an opportunity to connect people from across the synod—people who share a love of learning and have discovered that adult studies help them to grow in faith. Classes are FREE but may require the purchase of textbooks or other materials. Students will receive Zoom links from their instructor. For more information or to ask questions, please contact Deacon Lori Ward at (615) 519-1969 or lori.ward@nglsynod.org.

For details about fall classes and to register, go to <https://nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation/?swcfpc=1>

Confirmation Retreats

Confirmation is going to look very different this year and we are very excited to introduce a new format! This year we will have three retreat style classes. Two of the retreats will be at Fortune Lake and one will be at church. Pastors Andrew and Molly will lead and I will assist along with other volunteers. The retreats are as follows:

November 5-7 will be at Fortune Lake

February 4-5 will be at church

May 13-14 at Fortune Lake

Our hope is that this can be an intentional time for learning, growth and building relationships. In addition to the retreats, we are planning some games and fun at North Fourth with the youth and our guests. We will meet for the first time on Sunday, September 26th at North Fourth (the basement of the Elsenbroek's house) after 10:30 worship (12:00) for games and pizza!

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me with any questions. Feel free to call me (906-202-2657). Also let me know if you did not receive a letter about Confirmation and I will get one to you ASAP.

--Jen Elsenbroek, Confirmation Leader

The New Free Store Donations

The New Free Store is 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.

**September - Feminine pads & tampons*

**October - Hand Sanitizer & Toilet paper (4 or 6 rolls/pack)*

Bell Choir

The Messiah Bell Choir will be playing this fall. We will start rehearsing in mid-October to be prepared to ring for the Advent/Christmas Season. Our first selections will be from the 8 bell arraignments. I hope we can progress to 2 and 3 octave numbers. Blessings to you.

--Judy Quirk, *Bell Choir Director*

Livestream Sponsorship

We are adding another weekly sponsorship item for you to consider. Along with sponsoring the Altar Flowers or the Radio Broadcast, we are adding Livestream. If you would like to sponsor our livestream on any given Sunday, contact the office at 225-1119 or

office@messiahlutheanmqt.org. The cost of the Livestream sponsorship is \$110.

Similar to Altar Flowers and Radio Broadcast, you can sponsor the Livestream in Memory or in Honor of a loved one. Thank you!

LWR School Kits

Messiah's Women Reaching Women Circle will be gathering school supplies for LWR School Kits in September. Please consider donating the following items for the kits, which will be sent to students in need in the US and around the world. A bin is available in the narthex for this collection. Thank you!

LWR School Kits - Items needed

- 70-sheet spiral notebooks, wide- or college-ruled
 - 30 cm ruler, or ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
 - pencil sharpeners
 - Fiskar-type children's scissors
 - box of 16 or 24 crayons
 - Pink Pearl-type erasers
 - ballpoint pens, blue or black ink (No gel ink)
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Prayer Partners

Prayer Partners will meet for the first time on Sunday, October 24th at 9:45 am in Magnuson Hall. There are sign-up sheets on the welcome table near the office for children & adults.

Participating children can be between the age of five & 5th grade. It is an opportunity for the children to meet an adult that works with them. The sign-up sheets must be turned into the church office by Sunday, September 26th. If you have any questions, you can email Sherry at

sherrymj2@yahoo.com. Thank you.

--Sherry Johnson, Prayer Partner Coordinator

Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS)

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) meets the second Thursday of each month from 5:30-7:00 pm during the academic year (Sept-May). Join to rejoice and discuss the journey of motherhood. We welcome all mothers of preschool - Kindergarten aged children. We are always looking for volunteers who would like to help with childcare or be a mentor mom. Visit our Facebook page Marquette Area MOPS or call Olivia 906-360-8466.

Special Events for August and September

September 12 Annual Meeting for 2020 at 11:30 am

September 19 Sunday School starts

September 26 Bible Sunday for 3-year-olds, 3rd graders & 6th graders

October 2 LWR In-Gathering at Messiah, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

October 2 Blessing of the Pets at 4:30 pm (5:00 pm worship to follow)

October 10 CROP Walk, 2:00 pm at Hope Connection Center (Fair Ave.)

Zoom Qi Gong for Health & Wellness

It's often an effort to keep moving as we age. Our health tosses in so many roadblocks, increasingly.

It was so much easier in our youth: Hop up and go and the body responded.

It does keep our mind active to continually adjust to circumstances and find our way through.

Wherever you are in this journey, wishing you blessings.

Zoom Qi Gong is held on Tuesdays from 12:00 - 1:00 pm. It is led by Diana Magnuson (906-362-9386 or magnusondiana@gmail.com)

Each class member applies their own range of motion to the qigong exercises, standing or chair. We use body structure for balance, stress and pain relief in daily life; walking, turning, lifting, reaching, sitting. The gentle movements can also be used with prayer disciplines, using breathing as an essential component. Members turn off video and mute while I lead. It's a welcome anonymity -no competition, rest as you wish. In the beginning and at the end, we review together. Instead of a fee, we invite you to make a contribution to Messiah Lutheran Church's food bank at any time as a sign of thanksgiving.

In the Hospital

Please inform the church office when you are hospitalized. Pastor Andrew Plocher and Pastor Molly Eversoll would like to visit you while you are there. If you can't notify Messiah, please ask a family member to do so.

In Our Prayers

John Lindholm, Ceil Ailkala, Mary Leslie; Carol Steinhaus; Dick Toyra; Shawn; Owen, Becky & Joe; Ed Puska, Mae Desonia; Lisa Douros; Martha; Ann Lahti; Grace Wurster; Marjorie Vidlund; Mike McGrath; Jean Rahilly; Chris Heiskanen; Brian; Sigurds Janners; Chris; Phyllis; Jon; Larry Pagel; Lee; Wil; Jamie Baril; Johnnie; Ray Hasenhauer; Erin Andrews; Tina & her roommate; Matthew Williamson; Linda Ruohoniemi; Jim Shirtz; Cheryl; Wayne Hanmer; Judy Donckers; Karen Johnson; Jill Krah; Michael Orhanen; Kristina Asta; 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 September 8, 12-15.

Pastor Molly is on call September 9-11.

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 – 16th Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading.....*Isaiah 50:4-9a*

Gospel Reading.....*Mark 8:27-38*

Worship Volunteers

Saturday September 11 – 5:00 pm in sanctuary

Ushers: Ron Tervo, Jan Julian

Assisting Minister: Clare Sauer

Sunday September 12 – 8:30 am in sanctuary and on 101.9 FM, Vimeo and Facebook

Ushers: Ray Jarvis, Linda Berry

Reader: Jennifer Bleckiner

Communion Assistants: Dave and Mary Lou Blomquist

Greeters: Penny Streeter, Mary Lou Luke

Assisting Minister: Mary Lou Blomquist

Sunday September 12 –10:30 am in sanctuary and on Vimeo and Facebook

Ushers: Jean Arntsen, Bev Evans

Reader: Mike Hill

Communion Assistants:

Greeters:

Assisting Minister: Gayle Van Osdol

Announcements and Classified Ads

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
305 W. Magnetic St.
Marquette, MI 49855
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