

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)

305 West Magnetic Marquette, MI 49855 Tel: (906) 225-1119 Fax: 225-5025

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



October 31, 2021

Reformation Sunday

Flowers: To the Glory of God & In Loving Memory of...

- * Dennis Riutta on his 76th birthday from Sherry Johnson
- * my parents Clarence & Joan Bell and my brother Richard from Carol Bell

Radio: To the Glory of God & In Loving Memory of...

- * my parents Clarence & Joan Bell and my brother Richard from Carol Bell

Livestream: To the Glory of God & in Loving Memory of...

- * Nancy Rolig-Todd from Nancy Hamlin

November Greetings,

With Thanksgiving fast approaching, my mind goes to what we are thankful for, and in tandem, I find that this year I am thinking a lot about All Saints weekend. All Saints weekend is a time at the very beginning of November when we remember the loved ones we have lost in this past year. When someone we love has died, we feel so acutely their loss and it can be hard to look to the memories that we carry with us and to celebrate those memories with thankful hearts. But that is an important part of the grieving process and this month we are called to remember them with thankful hearts. Jan Richardson writes this blessing for All Saints: For those / who walked with us / this is a prayer. / For those / who have gone ahead, / this is a blessing. / For those / who touched and tended us, / who lingered with us / while they lived, / this is a thanksgiving. / For those / who journey still with us / in the shadows of awareness, / in the crevices of memory, / in the landscape of our dreams, / this is a benediction.

Jan Richardson's poem reminds us that our loved ones are always with us. In the book of Thessalonians, Paul writes to the community at Thessalonica and says, "But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died." We do not grieve those who have died without hope. We grieve the loss of those who have gone, but in hope we remember them, and we remember that they are never gone from us, their memories remain and the hope that we will be united with them in death remains. In this we are called to thankfulness to God and for one another.

This year, I wonder if we can readjust our thinking around Thanksgiving and focus a little more on all of those who we are thankful for, whether they have gone ahead of us or are still with us. Before we get caught up in the hustle

and bustle of the Christmas season, let us remember the saints and all those we love. I invite you during this month to each day take a moment to remember someone whom you love and care for. Take 10 minutes to journal about them, share a story with a friend about them, give them a call, write a letter, or just hold them in prayer. Let us this month give thanks for the saints in our lives, those who walk with us still and who have gone ahead to be with Christ.

Yours in Christ, *Pastor Molly*

All Saints

Perhaps you have had a beloved relative or friend pass away in the last year. Perhaps this year marks a significant anniversary of a loved one's death. Whatever your loss, we hope that this worship service of lamentation and remembrance will be significant and meaningful. Letters have gone out to family members of members of the congregation who have died this past year, but if you have also lost someone there will be a time during the service when you are invited forward to light a candle in memory of them. Please join us the weekend of November 6th and 7th for All Saints Sunday.

Fall Youth Plans

- **Confirmation Sunday:** Our confirmation students will be confirmed on Reformation Day, Sunday, October 31st. We are excited to celebrate their faith journey as they continue their commitment to the church and this community. Please join them at the 10:30 service and congratulate them!
- **Confirmation Retreat:** Our first retreat for the year was planned for the first weekend in November, the 5th – 7th at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp. That is no longer the case due to COVID, so the current plan is to meet at Messiah on Saturday, November 6th from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. We look forward to seeing you then! On Saturday we will explore what it means to be Christian community together.

Donated Hats/Mittens/Gloves, etc

Fall is here & it is time to think about keeping our neighbors warm this winter.

Once again we will be collecting NEW warm hats, mittens, scarves, cowls, gloves & even some slippers. They will be distributed locally to Harbor House, The New Free Store & Great Lakes Recovery Center on December 1st.

The Mitten Tree box is out for collecting items. A box of donated yarn is out for those who like to make homemade items to donate to this cause.

Messiah Calendar

Monday, November 1

9:00 am Men's Bible Study
7:00 pm AA
7:00 pm Bell Choir

Tuesday, November 2

12:00 pm QiGong (zoom)
1:00 pm Knotty Knitters
1:30 pm Staff Meeting
7:00 pm Male Chorus

Wednesday, November 3

5:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal
5:30 pm Global Mission (zoom)
7:00 pm Boy Scouts

Thursday, November 4

9:00 am Quilting
10:30 am Koinonia Bible Study
4:00 pm Asylum Task Force
5:00 pm Building & Grounds

Friday, November 5

Nothing Scheduled

Saturday, November 6

10:00 am Confirmation Retreat
5:00 pm Worship

Sunday, November 7

8:00 am Senior Choir Rehearsal
8:30 am Worship
10:30 am Worship

Special Events for November & December

November 6/7 All Saints Worship
November 25 Thanksgiving Day - church office closed (11/26 also)
November 30 Giving Tuesday! at Messiah 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
December 1 Advent Worship at 6:30 pm
December 8 Advent Worship at 6:30 pm
December 15 Advent Worship at 6:30 pm
December 18 Longest Night Worship at 5:00 pm
December 22 Advent Worship at 6:30 pm
December 24 Christmas Eve Worship at 4:00, 7:30 & 10:00 pm

Bell Choir

Welcome to all Messiah ringers & prospective ringers. Rehearsals for this season start at 7:00 pm on Mondays. We will meet in the sanctuary to prepare some of the 4 ringer music and 2-3 octave pieces.

Think about the workshop for bell ringers at Mackinac Island in the spring. Looking forward to seeing you & to having a marvelous year.

--- Judy Quirk, Bell Choir Director

Advent Resources & Worship

Our Advent theme for this year is Closer to Home and our resources come from the Sanctified Art Liturgy. On the theme, the authors write, "When something hits close to home, it affects us deeply. During the Advent and Christmas season, we journey through scriptures and rituals that are tender, heavy with emotion, and vulnerable. We carry the memories and truths of this season close to our hearts. The Close to Home theme acknowledges the "already but not yet" tension of our faith: Emmanuel is with us, and yet, God's promised day—our everlasting home—is not fully realized. It names our deep longing for God to come close to us." Indeed, during the season of Advent we receive a special and holy opportunity to become closer to God, who is indeed our home, our refuge, and our comfort. If you are interested in receiving a devotional book, they can be found outside the church office on the welcome table.

Beginning the first week in Advent, we will be holding weekly Advent Worship services on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm in the sanctuary. Join us for Holden Evening prayer throughout Advent: Dec. 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd.

Virtual Worship

Messiah's 8:30 am worship will be broadcast on the radio at Sunny 101.9 FM. Both of our Sunday morning services (8:30 & 10:30 am) can be found online at the following sites:

Vimeo - vimeo.com/messiahlutheranmq

Facebook - www.facebook.com/messiahlutheranmq

In The Hospital

Please inform the church office when you are hospitalized. Pr. Molly Eversoll & Pr. Andrew Plocher would like to visit you when you are there. If you are unable to notify Messiah, please ask a family member to do so.

'Welcome Your Neighbor' Signs

These yard signs are available for purchase in the church office for a suggested donation of \$10.00 to offset the cost. The office is open Monday-Thursday from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, Friday & Sunday 8:00 am - 12:00 pm. Feel free to come in & pick one up for your yard.

On Call

Pr. Andrew Plocher: Nov. 1-3, 7-10, 14-19, 21, 24-30
Pr. Molly Eversoll: Nov. 4-6, 11-13, 20, 22-23

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for articles to be included in our December newsletter is Thursday November 18, 2021.

Messiah's Newsletter

October 31, 2021
Volume 103, Issue 11

Articles for
Weekly Announcements
are due by 6:00 pm
every Wednesday

Messiah's Birthdays

November 2021

Monday 1	Val Dragon, Etta Jo LaFayette, Patty Sarvello, Andrew Wallner
Tuesday 2	Marilyn Andersen
Wednesday 3	Dave Nocerini, Diane Skewis
Thursday 4	John White
Friday 5	Sherry Labbe, Leslie White
Saturday 6	Jane Kamps
Sunday 7	Isabel Johnstone, Elizabeth Peterson
Monday 8	Marc Blom, Bruce Davey, Theresa Delpier, Janice Johnstone, Brett LaBelle
Tuesday 9	Mary Davis, Jeremy Labbe, Kim Young
Wednesday 10	Cookie Aho, Wayne Hanmer, Josh Wetelainen
Thursday 11	Kristina Asta
Friday 12	Linda Carlson
Saturday 13	Nancy Peterson, Lynette Suckow
Sunday 14	Marcia Heron, Mary Ruman
Monday 15	Ray Jarvis
Tuesday 16	Shirley Teed, Jessie Vanlerberghe, Ivy Anna Wash
Wednesday 17	Easton Herman, Peggy Kapfhamer, Wayne Phillips, Sally Wilson
Thursday 18	Katie Beerman
Friday 19	Shelly Johnson, Anna Mendelin
Saturday 20	No birthdays
Sunday 21	Brooklyn Fortin, Rachel Skaw
Monday 22	Peggy Bagley, Brad Brow, Eden Langlois
Tuesday 23	Alison Cory, Stephen Murto, Hannah Ruuska, Will Voskuhl
Wednesday 24	Donna Marlor, Tina Peterson, Jean Whitman-Shelby
Thursday 25	John Bleckiner, Sally Davis, Cecelia Janda, Keith Johnstone

Friday 26	Patricia Sawyer, Kerry Wiese
Saturday 27	Erik Bergh, Becky Blom, Bill Davis
Sunday 28	Harry Rajala
Monday 29	Kayla Dennis-Benam, Molly Eversoll, Kerry McGinley
Tuesday 30	Lucas Buruse, Darlene Martin

Passages

In Sympathy to:

* Shari Brugman & family upon the passing of her husband Andy Anderson. His funeral was at Messiah on Saturday, October 30th at 1:00 pm.

In Celebration of:

* Jen Elsenbroek who has been entered into Candidacy to be a Rostered Deacon.

Christmas Wreaths

The Marquette Lions Club is selling beautiful Christmas wreaths again this year. They are 24" wreaths with a bow & some pine cones. The cost is \$25 each, the same as last year. The wreaths will be available for pick up at the church on Monday November 29th between 9-12 am. The last date to order is November 8. If you are interested in ordering please call or text Kerry McGinley at 231-250-1092.

CROP Walk 2021 Results!

The 2021 CROP Walk raised \$6,493.00. Messiah members who walked and donated funds to this cause raised \$615.00 of those funds. Great work Messiah! Thank you Jason Parks for your role in being the acting liaison for the CROP Walk in Marquette County. We thank all of you for helping to stop hunger in our area and around the country.

Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS)

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) meets the second Thursday of each month from 5:30-7:00 pm during the remainder of the academic year. Join to rejoice and discuss the journey of motherhood. We welcome all mothers of pre-school - 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.

Border Trip 2022

Messiah, alongside Northern Campus Ministry, will be embarking on another border trip through Border Servant Corps in the early spring of 2022. This trip will be held from Saturday, February 26th - Friday, March 4th. It is a learning trip where we will visit the border places of Las Cruces, NM and El Paso, TX. It is a time to listen, learn, and reflect on stories and experiences at the border. A few things to expect if you are interested: we will be flying out of Milwaukee, the trip involves a decent amount of walking and sitting for extended periods of time, Border Servant Corps provides housing and several meals, but experiencing the fusion of cuisine at the border is also a large part of the experience. The cost for the trip will be \$1,200 which includes airfare, transportation, and the fees from Border Servant Corps. A \$500 deposit will be necessary to secure your position after you have filled out an interest form & have spoken with Pastor Andrew and Pastor Molly.

Because we are traveling with campus ministry, spots are limited. If you are interested in participating, please fill out an interest form (located on the welcome table outside the office) and Pastor Molly will contact you and meet with you one-on-one in November.

In Our Prayers

Please remember the following people in your prayers at this time: Ken; Shari Brugman & family upon the loss of her husband Andy Anderson; Cheryl, Kai, Gavin, Claire, Richard & Karen; David Shaver; Tom & Jeannie Wagner upon the passing of their sister-in-law, Teri Dillon; family & friends of Pat Maki who passed away; family & friends of Mike who passed away; Tobe Anderson; Ken Smith; William; Chuck; Daniel and Marcos; Ceil Aikala; Mary Leslie; Carol Steinhaus; Dick Toyra; Shawn; Owen, Becky & Joe; Ed Puska, Mae Desonia; Lisa Douros; Martha; Ann Lahti; Grace Wurster; Marjorie Vidlund; Chris Heiskanen; Jon; Jamie Baril; Johnnie; Ray Hasenhauer; Erin Andrews; Tina & her roommate; Matthew Williamson; Jim Shirtz; Wayne Hanmer; Judy Donckers; Karen Johnson; Jill Krah; Michael Orhanen; Kristina Asta; Alli & Johann Elsenbroek; Alison Cory; Sierra; Sandy; Charlene Avery

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!

OWLS (Older, Wiser Lutherans)

The OWLS are walking!! Please join the Older Wiser Lutherans (OWLS) for a weekly walk on Mondays at 10:00 am. Currently, the OWLS are meeting at the Lower Harbor near the ice cream store. We generally walk around the loop at the park. Please come. Some folks walk a bit slower than others, but we feel it's important to get outside, get some exercise, and most importantly, to visit with others. If you have any questions, feel free to call Louise at 906-250-3990. Hope to see you soon!!

Fair Trade Updates

Due mostly to the ongoing pandemic, Messiah will not be hosting our Global Fair Trade Market this year. Know that even though we are not having a formal market this year, there are many other opportunities to support the mission and values that fair trade represents. There will be items that have been brought back from Caracoli, Colombia for sale in the atrium beginning on Giving Tuesday (November 30th) and will remain there through Christmas. Items for sale include purses, beadwork, painted crosses, and other items.

Also, the two primary organizations that we order goods from for our markets, SERRV and Sharing the Dream in Guatemala, both have their items for sale online. Our fair trade wall in the atrium continues to be regularly stocked with fair trade goods such as coffees, teas, chocolates, and other items. You will also see Fair Trade Certified goods for sale in local stores; look for one or more of the Fair Trade certification logos on the packaging. They are becoming increasingly common; I recently noticed that even my Chobani yogurt is fair trade certified.

When something is fairly traded, it means that the farmers, producers, and artisans are provided with a sustainable income and good working conditions. In addition, fair trade also works to protect the environment through waste management, by improving soil/water quality, and in many other ways.

In consciously choosing items that are fairly traded, know that you are endorsing an economic system that provides more opportunity for the producers, artisans, and farmers and are improving their lives in the process.

To learn more and to shop, visit serrv.org and sharingthedream.org. Thank you for supporting this wonderful and important movement!

-Rachel Skaw and the Global Mission Team

2022 ELCA Youth Gathering Update

Every three years, 30,000 high school youth & their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation known as the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged & inspired to live their faith in their daily lives. The ELCA Youth Gathering is an amazing experience for high school youth and adult leaders to experience the boundless love of God.

Congregations from the Northern Great Lakes Synod are already planning for the 2022 Gathering, which will take place July 24-28, 2022 in Minneapolis, MN. Registration is open through May 22, 2022, although registration prices increase on November 22 & February 22.

Council Highlights - October 2021

1. Council welcomed new members Vickie Paupore, Terry Langenberg & Eric Hammerstrom. New officers were elected: Erik Bergh, President; Ruth Robb, Vice President; and Kurt Mensching, Secretary. New members of Council will be elected at the next Annual Meeting, and Council will elect new officers at the following Council meeting.

2. Our Annual Giving continues on pace with our 2021 Budget. Thank you, Messiah, for continuing to support our ministry in Marquette and beyond!

3. There is no change to our current status with regard to COVID protocols.

4. Our Asylum Family had their first check-in with ICE officials in Detroit. Many thanks to those who continue to support our family with fellowship, friendship & finances.

Inga Banitt has informed the church of her intent to retire from her position in the church office at the end of 2021. Best wishes to Inga as she plans to enjoy family!

Respectfully submitted, *Erik Bergh, President*

From Messiah's Financial Secretary

Pledge Cards and Stubs for 2022

Your Plan for Giving (pledge card) is important for determining our budget. A big thank you to those who have already returned their cards! The stubs are yours to keep for your records. If pledge cards are returned with stubs attached, the stubs will be discarded. If you ever need to call the office or email (Messiah.NancyH@gmail.com) to confirm your pledge, Nancy Hoover is available on a part-time basis & will get back to you as soon as possible.

Electronic Giving for December 2021

As a precaution, we're letting you know that giving through our on-line system sometimes takes seven or more days for the transaction to be processed into your financial activity record. Considering Sundays and holidays, you may want to complete year-end electronic giving by 12/17/21.

--- Nancy Hoover, Financial Secretary

Volunteer Training for Room at the Inn - Nov. 2nd

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 November 2nd 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

Lectionary Readings - November 2021

November 7 -- All Saints Sunday

Reading.....1 Kings 17:8-16

Gospel.....Mark 12:38-44

November 14 -- 25th Sunday after Pentecost

Reading.....Daniel 12:1-3

Gospel.....Mark 13:1-8

November 21 -- Christ the King

Reading.....Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

Gospel.....John 18:33-37

November 28 -- First Sunday of Advent

Reading.....Jeremiah 33:14-16

Gospel.....Luke 21:25-36

Prayer Partners

On October 24th at 9:55 am I held a prayer partner gathering. I had no children signed up beforehand. I will schedule another one in the spring & hope there may be some interest. I had one adult turn in their form. Please let me know if this interests you or your children. Thank you!

--- Prayer Partner Co-ordinator, Sherry Johnson

Fortune Lake Senior Days - November 15

Senior Days at Fortune Lake – The next Senior Day at Fortune Lake will be held on Monday, November 15, 2021. The event runs from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Working together, we will prepare and enjoy a Thanksgiving meal. Come and join us for a day of wonderful conversation, delicious food, and great fun! A \$10.00 donation per participant is requested. Please RSVP by Friday, November 12th by calling 906 214-2267.

Jams & Jellies are Back!

If you haven't noticed, Kathy and Grant's jams and jellies are back for sale in the atrium at Messiah. We made about 15 cases this year, many of which are out there, with more to come. We also greatly appreciate return of jars and rings which have been very hard to find this past year. We can't make it if we don't have anything to put it in! Thanks, *Grant & Kathy Soltwisch*

**To view our calendar,
updated daily, please go to
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St. Vincent de Paul

Every December, in cooperation with St. Vincent de Paul, the Food Pantry, Toys for Tots, St. Michaels Church, the Marines, the Mining Journal, and generous people in the community, there is a collection and give away of new toys and clothing for children, to parents who qualify according to income.

At St. Vincent de Paul, temporary volunteers are instrumental in sorting toys and clothing according to children's age groups and packing the items in boxes. The volunteers DO NOT have to purchase anything for this task.

Several volunteers are needed, where they will sort toys and clothing, according to child ages. This task will be done with a St. Vincent de Paul volunteer and will typically take 1-2 hours weekly between 10:00 am & 3:00 pm, from now until December 10th. Dates and times will be decided between the new volunteers & the St. Vincent de Paul volunteer. Due to COVID19, masks may be necessary.

Beginning at 9:00 am during the week of December 13-17, more volunteers will be welcome at St. Michael's gym for 1-4 hours on those days. The activities then include: helping set up tables at the gym on the 13th; moving the boxes to the gym on the 13th - 15th and then unpacking the boxes and arranging toys and clothing on tables according to age groups.

On December 16th, volunteers will assist parents select the toys and clothing & help pack the items with the parents. Also on the 16th, a noon potluck will be available for all staff and volunteers at St. Michaels for all that wish to bring in food or not.

Food items for parents will be available from the food pantry after the toys are packed and will not be handled by the temporary volunteers.

On December 17th, all remaining toys and clothing will be repacked and returned to St. Vincent de Paul.

St. Vincent de Paul is located at 2119 Presque Isle Ave in Marquette
St Michael Catholic Church gym is located at 401 W. Kaye Ave in Marquette
Thank you! Jeannette Hauver

From Bishop Finegan

Dear Northern Great Lakes Synod, When we needed to cancel our Walking Together events, what then shall we say to this?

When hospital beds are full of covid patients, leaving little room for accidents and other health emergencies, what then shall we say to this?

As people continue to disagree about vaccine safety, masks, and protocols, what then shall we say to this?

God promises in Christ, that God is not against us. This is good news. But what if we are against each other?

When suspicions are stronger than the ties that bind, when the conviction of political views undermines our common mission and congregational unity, what then shall we say to this?

I think we look for answers, for a diagnosis, for someone to explain or blame. Perhaps we stop listening and only assert our position more loudly. Perhaps we seek to convince instead of understand.

I believe it helps to remember that we are not the first people of faith to argue, lament, suffer, and disagree. The Israelites in the wilderness certainly suffered uncertainty, fear, and pain. And they also grumbled and complained. Paul's letters to the Galatians, the Corinthians, the Colossians and more give witness to each congregation's challenges, from persecution and fear to how to get along and remember their purpose. In his letters, Paul makes an effort to remind people of faith who they are in Christ and what that means.

In the midst of the grief and weariness of all that we must face in these days, I ask you to remember who you are in Christ Jesus, and all that Christ calls you to do and be, no matter the circumstances.

Matthew 22:35-44 reads, "...and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 'Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?' He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.'" This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

I encourage you to weigh your words and your actions, your social media posts and your conversations, your opinions and convictions, against the metric that Jesus provides, love of God and love of neighbor.

While I know there is interpretive room as to how to live these two commandments, I would like to think that remembering love of God and neighbor can indeed help shape our actions and our words in these days, as it has always meant to.

What does it mean to you to love God with your whole heart? What does it mean to you to love your neighbor as yourself? And who do you consider to be your neighbor? Jesus answered this question for us with the parable of the Good Samaritan. If we apply historical context to contemporary circumstances, our neighbor is anyone whom society considers "less than." Or in the nitty gritty details of the parable, anyone that you would rather not be obligated to, anyone you would rather not have touch you, anyone whom the dominant culture considers free to disparage, exclude, ignore, ridicule, oppress, or denigrate.

As you know, loving people that we dislike or do not understand is not easy. And yet, Christ's call upon our love, our speech, and our actions remains.

I encourage you to remember in this pandemic wilderness that "this too shall pass." A time will come when either the pandemic will be managed, or some other new reality will emerge that feels less anxious. Then we will have the luxury to argue about new things and disagree about something other than the current disputes. Whatever the future holds, we are the body of Christ now, called to show the world the rest of what Paul writes in his letter to the church at Rome in Romans 8:38-39, that

*"neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor principalities,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from
the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

Yours in Christ, Bishop Katherine Finegan

Still There When the Headlines Go Away

Fires in California, hurricane floods in New Jersey and Louisiana. They make the news, and response pours in. But what happens when the headlines go away?

Six months later, a year, and your house is still not fit to live in. The stores ran out of plywood, and the carpenters and electricians are overwhelmed. It's just plain hard. Tempers fray. And you wonder if anybody still knows you're there.

I first learned about Lutheran Disaster Response when tornados hit Mountain Lake, Minnesota, near where we lived. They called for volunteers. The Red Cross was there, a Jewish Relief group, Lutheran Disaster Response – all of them worked together. There were stacks of bottled water in the high school gym, cartons of food, brooms and rakes to start the cleanup. LDR sent some of us out door to door, in our official T-shirts so people would know why we were there, to find out what people needed most right now.

And as we met for breaks, to talk things over, I learned it was Lutheran Disaster Response that would ask another question. What would this community still need, when all the headlines go away?

Rebuilding is slower than you might expect. "So when do things get back to normal?" In this year of Covid we've come to understand how that goes. After six months, a year, two years, when part of your town is still wrecked, you wonder if normal will ever come again. That's when Lutheran Disaster Response is still there. If supplies are needed, LDR will help find them. When counseling and simple support is what you need, LDR will be there. That's their role. To be there when the headlines go away. To stay there until "normal" comes at last. However long it takes.

You can find their web site: <https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response/> You'll see links for the California fires, and for Hurricane Ida. You'll also see links for the storms back in February when half of Texas froze, and more links for volunteers to help rebuild from Hurricane Maria back in 2017. LDR does not forget. And you will see a promise: 100% of your donation will go for that need. Behind that is another promise: when the needs continue, LDR will still be there. Until the work is done. - - - *Allan E. Johnson*

TV6 Can-A-Thon

Please help our neighbors who go hungry in our community by donating to the TV6 Can-A-Thon. We will have our grocery cart in the narthex for the month of November for this non-perishable food collection. At the end of the month the Salvation Army will bring all of these non-perishable items to their site for distribution to our brothers and sisters. We will be a collection site from November 1 - December 3. Thank you in advance, for your thoughtfulness & generosity.

Plan for Giving (Pledge) & Other Donation Topics

Thank you to everyone that already turned in a 2022 Plan for Giving. Here is an ongoing list of frequently asked questions.

- Do I complete both sides of the Plan for Giving card? The signature side is only needed if giving electronically.
- How do I supply checking/credit card information for electronic giving? Request an authorization form from the office when first setting this up, changing banking, or discontinuing.
- I give electronically, so is a completed Plan for Giving card still necessary? Yes. The plan for Giving provides us with your pledge intent and commitment.
- Will my automatic/electronic giving continue from year to year? Yes, it will remain in effect until you provide reasonable notification to terminate your authorization.
- Will my Plan for Giving (pledge) carry to the next year? No, we start over each year and request a new one. However, you may add a note stating you want to keep it the same as the prior year or call to tell us that. If you make that note & didn't have one completed the prior year, Nancy Hoover will contact you.
- When I complete a Plan for Giving, selecting general and property funds, do my donations automatically get applied to each of them. Yes, if set up electronically; otherwise no. Undesignated donations are applied to the general fund unless you communicate your intentions to Nancy Hoover.
- How are investment checks handled? Please request adding your name on the check memo/stub, and communicate your intent by phone or preferably by email to Nancy Hoover at [Messiah.NancyH@gmail.com](mailto: Messiah.NancyH@gmail.com).
- I prefer to work paperless. Can I complete my Plan for Giving online? Yes, a Google form is located on Messiah's Website, and shown here under Give & Get Involved / Pledge Form.
- I prefer to have a link sent to my email to complete the Plan for Giving Google form. Okay, call the office or email Nancy Hoover at [Messiah.NancyH@gmail.com](mailto: Messiah.NancyH@gmail.com).
- I have questions about completing the Plan for Giving. Okay, call the office & leave a message for Nancy Hoover or email her at [Messiah.NancyH@gmail.com](mailto: Messiah.NancyH@gmail.com).
- I have eyesight problems, could I get assistance with filling out the form. Yes, please call the office and leave a message for Nancy Hoover to call you.

Nancy Hoover, Financial Secretary

Lutheran World Relief 2021

Messiah hosted its first Lutheran World Relief Ingathering of quilts & kits on Saturday October 2nd. Churches from the central & western UP brought their boxes to Messiah to be added to the quilts and kits made by our own congregation. Even a global pandemic did not prevent our quilters & circle members from continuing this vital ministry! Here are the numbers of items that were made by Messiah quilters and circles:

- 213 quilts
- 50 baby care kits
- 37 personal care kits
- 40 school kits

Thank you, quilters, circle members, and all who donated items. We appreciate your faithful work. Thank you also to Messiah member and professional truck driver Les Scheuren who drove the U-Haul from Marquette to the Lutheran World Relief warehouse in St. Paul, and to our volunteers who did all the heavy lifting!

Where will Lutheran World Relief be sending these quilts and kits? Here are some of the recipients:

- Vulnerable refugees and children escaping conflict in Jordan, Syria and Lebanon
- Orphans and the elderly in Tanzania
- Poor communities devastated by flooding in El Salvador
- Families displaced by conflict in Armenia
- Street children at risk of being drawn into gangs in Honduras
- Struggling schoolchildren in the Democratic Republic of Congo
- Impoverished families in South Sudan

For more information on the work of Lutheran World Relief, please visit their website: www.lwr.org/

Our Family

It has been over two months since our congregation has been accompanying the family from Honduras.

The boys have started school. It is challenging. Fernando is now being accompanied to his classes by a fluent Spanish speaker. She is assisting in class and also translating worksheets into Spanish so that he can complete his assignments. Romel also has a translator. However she is not available the entire day so he is challenged particularly in his Auto Mechanics class when he does not have a translator. Both boys are working on their English.

Meanwhile at home Glenda has English lessons three times/week. Two of these lessons are just for her & the third lesson includes the boys. There has been amazing response from our Messiah community & also our Marquette community with help translating for the family.

The family is particularly thrilled with the arrival, fitting and placement of Romel's prosthesis. He is adjusting very well. Other medical issues have also been addressed. The family has received their Covid vaccinations and had medical checkups with primary care physicians.

Fernando is taking weekly violin lessons. This was made possible through the Hildegarde Johnson Music scholarship at Messiah. He has a loaner violin from the school.

The family's asylum papers are in order. An immigration lawyer from the Detroit area has been of assistance. The family made an appearance in Detroit recently for an address change to Marquette. In November, they have another immigration appointment in Grand Rapids. The process is slow. Please continue to pray that asylum will be granted to this family.

The family has been attending 10:30 am worship on Sundays & are happy to be part of our congregation.

The generosity of the congregation and the community has been overwhelming and appreciated. We are so thankful for your assistance and support in our accompanying of this family.

- - - Asylum Task Force

Inga is Retiring

Dear Messiah friends, I'm writing to let you know that I will be retiring from my position in the church office at the end of the year. My husband Jon retired from the National Weather Service last summer; and after some reflection, we decided it would be good to retire together and have more flexibility to travel and visit our children and our extended family.

Fortunately for the two of us, we are not leaving Messiah or Marquette! Jon has found more time to practice the organ and will fill in for Kathy Strazzinski in worship whenever needed. And I plan to continue volunteering in several different areas at Messiah as well.

This congregation has been blessed with a wonderful pastoral team in Pastor Andrew and Pastor Molly as well as a top-notch supportive team in the church office. It has been a joy working with everyone at Messiah, and I've also appreciated the chance to build and deepen more relationships with Messiah members and friends since I started working in late 2015. So many of you have offered your gifts and talents in service of Messiah's ministry within our congregation and in the wider community. I've been inspired by your example in answering God's call to love and serve our neighbors. Thank you for your ministry! - - - Inga Banitt

Un-Finished Object (UFO) Crafter's Retreat

November 19-21, 2021

Crafters! Are you needing a change of scenery and an opportunity to finish that project that you've been working on for what seems like forever? Join us at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp for a weekend of crafting and community. Stay in one of our lodges & spend time on your passion projects while socializing and relaxing. Let us do the cooking and cleaning. Meet old & new friends, have time for spiritual reflection, and cross that project off of your list for good. Cost is \$120.00 per person. The registration and payment deadline is November 8. You can register online at the Fortune Lake website (www.fortunelake.org/event).

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.

***November** - Toothbrushes (child & adult), toothpaste, dental floss, denture cleaner
***December** - Laundry Soap, Dish Soap, Bars of Soap

Giving Tuesday - November 30

We began our Giving Tuesday event as a way to replenish our Assistance Fund in 2017. It has become the major source of funding for this ministry of our congregation. This year, you are invited to come to the church between 10:00 am & 4:00 pm on Tuesday, November 30 to make a contribution. Those making a donation will receive a "Grab and Go" lunch courtesy of Thrivent, AND a chance to win a beautiful quilt. Mask Up, Please. Below you will see the amount of funds we have distributed in the most recent 4 years:

2018	\$24,000
2019	\$34,317
2020	\$20,262
2021	\$25,300 (As of October 25)

Assistance has become an important ministry in our area, and the needs are only growing. The biggest issue is housing and even though there are rental assistance programs in place during the pandemic, many people fall through the cracks. A huge problem is coming up with money for the deposit once housing is found. We receive referrals from agencies & charities that are set

up to help and either don't have funds, or the person needing help does not qualify. We are even found through Google! Please keep our Assistance Program in mind as you plan your charitable contributions.

The following expresses the importance of this ministry to those struggling with addiction:



10000 Lake
Avenue
Marquette, MI 49801
Phone: 231.225.1111
Fax: 231.225.1111
www.greatlakesrecovery.com

October 14, 2021

Dear Messiah Lutheran Community

I am writing to formally thank you and thank you for the help that we have provided to my clients at the Sue B's Recovery Residence in Marquette, Michigan.

As a recovery residence, the Sue B's House acts as an essential service for homeless and housing insecure women in early recovery from substance use disorders. Residents of the house form a community centered around recovery and mutual support, receiving regular case management services to ensure that they are as healthy and successful in their recovery as possible.

Messiah Lutheran Church has been instrumental in assisting Sue B's House residents with their financial needs. The generous social service workers and volunteers have continuously provided clients of any program with the necessary funds to help them begin their recovery in a safe and stable environment.

My clients and I are truly blessed to have the support and such a generous organization. We are very grateful for the Messiah Lutheran Church and the community that it has built.

Beth Mess, LMSW, DP - Case Manager

Sue B's Recovery House

Creating Healthy Communities One Person at a Time



November 2021 Worship Volunteers

Saturday November 6 - 5 pm

Ushers- Chris Kotila
Assisting Minister- Carol Bell

Sunday November 7 - 8:30 am

Ushers- Sam Elder, Bruce Robertson
Reader- Grant Soltwisch
Greeters- Shelly Johnson
Assisting Minister- Kathy Maynard

Sunday November 7 - 10:30 am

Ushers- Sandy Lindberg, Liz Beyne
Reader- Nancy Raisanen
Greeters- Michael and Clare Sauer
Assisting Minister- Jen Elsenbroek

Saturday November 13 - 5 pm

Ushers- Carol Bell, Chris Kotila
Assisting Minister- Chris Kotila

Sunday November 14 - 8:30 am

Ushers- Barb Avery, Linda Berry
Reader- Fred Maynard
Greeters-
Assisting Minister- Mary Lou Blomquist

Sunday November 14 - 10:30 am

Ushers- Kurt Mensching, Grace Gronowski
Reader- Ruth Robb
Greeters- Milt and Boli Soderberg
Assisting Minister- Susan Shaver

Saturday November 20 - 5 pm

Ushers- Chris Kotila, Barb Salmela
Assisting Minister- Karen Kimar-Johnson

Sunday November 21 - 8:30 am

Ushers- Mike and Emily Coyne
Reader- Brenda Blett
Greeters-
Assisting Minister- Larry Pagel

Sunday November 21 - 10:30 am

Ushers- Mark and Vickie Paupore
Reader- Jill Luoma
Greeters- Linda Carlson, Jill Luoma
Assisting Minister-

Saturday November 27 - 5 pm

Ushers- Chris Kotila, Barb Salmela
Assisting Minister- Kathy Godec

Sunday November 28 - 8:30 am

Ushers- Mike and Emily Coyne
Reader- Larry Pagel
Greeters-
Assisting Minister-

Sunday November 28 - 10:30 am

Ushers- Kurt Mensching, Grace Gronowski
Reader- Susan Shaver
Greeters-
Assisting Minister-

Devotions Link

www.prayfaithfully.org is an on-line devotional reading service maintained by the Northern Great Lakes Synod and written by various pastors and laypersons.

Zoom Qi Gong for Health & Wellness

- * *It's often an effort to keep moving as we age. Our health tosses in so many road-blocks, 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 lead 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.

Messiah's Church Staff:

Pastoral Staff:

Senior Pastor.....Andrew Plocher
Associate Pastor.....Molly Eversoll

Support Staff:

Parish Administrator.....Jennifer Dodge
Administrative Assistant.....Inga Banitt
Custodian.....Kevin McGrath
Parish Accountant.....Mike Hill
Financial Secretary.....Nancy Hoover

Music Staff:

Music Director.....Dave Dagenais
Organist/Pianist.....Kathy Strazzirski
Pianist.....Lynne Lancy
Bell Choir Director.....Judy Quirk

Messiah Lutheran Church
305 W. Magnetic Street
Marquette, MI 49855

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