

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

www.messiahlutheranmqt.org E-mail: office@messiahlutheranmqt.org

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



November 28, 2021

First Sunday of Advent

Flowers: To the Glory of God & In Honor of...

- * Rick & Wayne's first anniversary
- * Pr. Molly's November 29th birthday with gratitude & love from all of us

Radio: To the Glory of God...

- * from our Messiah family

Livestream: To the Glory of God...

- * from our Messiah family

Siblings in Christ,

On September 14th Anna and I welcomed Theo Ashby Zimmer into our lives, and our lives have been a joyful whirlwind ever since!

Thank you for all the prayers, the cards, meals, gifts, and love that you've shared. We have felt the embrace of our community and are deeply grateful. It has made the long days, and even longer nights, less stressful. Thank you!

In the spirit of sleeplessness, I've been thinking a lot about time. Specifically, the difference between kairos and chronos. It is something you may already be familiar with, but it is something I know I need reminding about.

Chronos is the time that we live in. It is the time that is told by the clock. It's ninety minutes since the child last ate. It's being stopped by a red light as you race to a meeting, to school, to the doctor's office and try not to be late again. It is a type of time that moves through the seasons of our lives by counting the days, the years, and the hours. It marks time, both fleeting and lingering. It is the type of time that marks calendars, and stresses over them, looking at time as something that moves linearly: time that we'll eventually run out of.

As we enter the busyness of this coming season, I encourage you to join me in trying to think about time differently. It's not easy to do. We're wired for chronos, but in scripture we glimpse time in a different way: kairos. If chronos is our timeline, kairos is God's. Chronos is quantitative, measuring out each passing second. Kairos is qualitative, measuring moments – specifically, grace moments. Kairos is time above time. It is a time with no end, when you are able to momentarily stand still in the midst of the hubbub of life and see

how things really are. It is stepping back, even in the craziness of life, to take notice of the blessings in life. To realize how God moves, how God provides, and how God simply is.

Like the season of Advent.

Advent is the intentional season of slowing down even in the midst of the consumeristic chaos. It is pausing in order to allow the mystery of the season to swoon us again, to embrace the love that longs to come and hold us tight.

Kairos holds tight.

Pausing in this kairos is to remember things as blessings, not as burdens. A screaming child, an endless stream of emails, the demands of family and friends. Food to be cooked, packages wrapped and sent. It's the type of time that brought Sarah a child in old age, called a stuttering Moses, and had frustrated disciples gather up food by the lakeshore. It is a time that focuses on quality not quantity; a time that works with who and whose we are – beloved children of God.

So as Advent begins, take a deep breath with me, and let us pray:

God of all time, help me to pause this season. Help me to not see the birthday of your son as a burden, but full of holy wonder of a love that comes and holds tight. Amen.

paz,

Pr. Andrew

Giving Tuesday! - November 30

Please join us on November 30th from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm for Messiah's Giving Tuesday. When you come to give a donation to Messiah's Community Assistance Fund you will be helping a local neighbor in need. You will also have an opportunity to win a raffle prize of a beautifully, hand-made quilt by Penny Streeter & you can grab a lunch-to-go from Subway. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to help others in our area.

Wednesday Evening Holden Evening Prayer

6:30 pm, Sanctuary, December 1st, 8th, 15th, & 22nd

Beginning the first week in Advent, we will be holding weekly Advent Worship services, Holden Evening Prayer, on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm in the sanctuary. Written in 1985-1986 while Marty Haugen was the musician-in-residence at Holden Village, a Lutheran retreat center in Washington State, this lovely setting of vespers follows the traditional form while using contemporary and inclusive language. Join us for Holden Evening prayer throughout Advent: Dec. 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd. The services will also be streamed and broadcast on the radio (101.9FM). We hope you'll join us!

Messiah Calendar

Monday, November 29

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

Tuesday, November 30

10:00 am Giving Tuesday!
12:00 pm QiGong (zoom)
1:00 pm Knotty Knitters
1:30 pm Staff Meeting
6:00 pm Cub Scouts

Wednesday, December 1

5:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal
6:30 pm Advent Worship
7:00 pm Boy Scouts

Thursday, December 2

9:00 am Quilting
10:30 am Koinonia Bible Study
4:00 pm Asylum Task Force

Friday, December 3

Nothing Scheduled

Saturday, December 4

5:00 pm Worship

Sunday, December 5

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

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.

On Call

Pr. Andrew Plocher: Dec. 1, 5-8, 12-15, 19-22, 26
Pr. Molly Eversoll: Dec. 2-4, 9-11, 16-18, 23-25, 27-31
Pr. Andrew will be on vacation 12/27-1/4

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for articles to be included in our January newsletter is Monday December 27, 2021.

Messiah's Newsletter

November 28, 2021
Volume 103, Issue 12

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

Special Events for December & January

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 23	No quilting
December 24	Christmas Eve Worship at 4:00, 7:30 & 10:00 pm
December 24	Church office closed
December 27	Church office closed
December 30	No quilting
December 31	Church office closed

The Longest Night - December 18

Saturday December 18th, 5:00 pm

For many of us, Christmas is a bittersweet time of year. It is a time for remembering both persons and events that have been a part of our lives in the past, but that are now changed or gone. This is the time of year with the longest nights, so around this time we offer a quiet, meditative worship service that makes time for remembering, sharing our hurting places with God, and preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ. Whether or not you find this season to be difficult, we invite you to join us on Saturday December 18th at 5:00 pm, for a time of music, scripture, silent reflection, healing prayer and communion. Please come.

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.

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

Messiah's Birthdays

December 2021

Wednesday 1	Eastyn Peacock
Thursday 2	Amy Smith
Friday 3	Cary Bjork, Jane Brow, Mark McGovern
Saturday 4	Anne Jackson
Sunday 5	No birthdays
Monday 6	Eric Hammerstrom, Gertrude Leaf
Tuesday 7	Brad Crimmins, Eric Gummerus
Wednesday 8	Barb Avery, Sarah Bleckiner, Travis Christensen, Mike Davis, Carol Fosco, Molly Luty, Lydia Tripp, Rose Young
Thursday 9	Tom Froiland, Grant Soltwisch
Friday 10	No birthdays
Saturday 11	No birthdays
Sunday 12	Jeremy Beerman, Linda Wainio
Monday 13	Charlotte Beauchaine, Joslyn Hewitt
Tuesday 14	Pam Jackovich, Chloe Jackson
Wednesday 15	Ceil Aikala, IC Chien, Marie Moisis
Thursday 16	Jenny Broadway, Judy Donckers, Linda Ruohoniemi, Bill Summersett
Friday 17	Caroline Reynolds, David Tripp, Anne Weaver
Saturday 18	Bob Apple, Peggy Beerman, Evan Busick, Lisa Coombs-Gerou, Sharon Fluette, David Johnson, Kristen Zorza
Sunday 19	No birthdays
Monday 20	Jamie Beauchamp
Tuesday 21	Graham Tollefson
Wednesday 22	No birthdays
Thursday 23	Jeremy Bower
Friday 24	Roberta Bray, Kurt Mensching, Carol Steinhaus
Saturday 25	Nicole Grim, Carol Stevens

Sunday 26	Betty Hartman
Monday 27	No birthdays
Tuesday 28	Michael Broadway, Nicole Brownell, Liam Hewitt, Larry Pagel
Wednesday 29	Aliina Maki-Warne, Tim Weir
Thursday 30	Virginia Bell, Carol O'Neill
Friday 31	Lynn Apple, Jerry Cory

Passages

In Sympathy to:

- * Gene & Sharon Arntsen upon the passing of Gene's daughter Veronica Campbell on November 1st.
- * Jean Arntsen & family upon the passing of her niece Veronica Campbell on November 1st.

In Celebration of:

- * the birth of Mya Lois Skaw, born on October 29, 2021 at 10:05 pm. Mya came into this world weighing 7 lbs, 14 oz and she was 20 inches long. Her proud parents are Brent & Rachel Skaw, and she has a big brother Bode.
- * Alexis Hammerstrom, Mylee Muscoe & Jacob MacPhee who were all recently confirmed at Messiah on October 31, Reformation Sunday. Congratulations to all of you!
- * the baptism of the Dellangelo children: Lucy, Nora, Julia, Henry & Molly. They were baptized on Sunday, November 21. Please welcome them to our church family.
- * our new members Mark & Sheryl Dellangelo. They are the parents of the five newly baptized children named above.

Your Prayer Requests

At every Saturday & Sunday worship service, we ask people to fill out a welcome card that is found in the bulletin. The card asks people to put their prayer requests on the back, and these requests are prayed for every Tuesday afternoon at Messiah's staff meeting. If you wish to have your name or a loved one's name read during worship, please call the office or let the pastors, Jen, or Inga know. We will need to get permission before we include anyone's name in the worship prayers.

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) and when completed, turn it into the office.

Messiah's Sunday School

Sunday School has been going well this fall! We will be wrapping up Sunday School for the year on December 19 and will not meet again until January 9. In the meantime, we will have a crafting Sunday in Magnuson Hall on December 12 where students can make a craft item or two to help celebrate Jesus' birthday. We look forward to Jesus' arrival throughout the Advent season!

Our attendance has been small, but that just makes for a more intimate experience between the Sunday School teachers and the students. We are often able to dig deeper with a smaller group than we would otherwise be able to do with a larger group. With that said, we always welcome new students if you or someone you know has a child within the age/grade range of four years old to 5th grade. I am available by email at miss.grace.gronowski@gmail.com if you would like your student to join one of our Sunday School classes, if you would like to be a substitute teacher or volunteer, or if you have any questions about Sunday School.

As a reminder, masks are required for all students & teachers regardless of vaccination status, and food is not allowed in the Sunday School rooms until the church moves to a COVID Stage that doesn't require masks. Thank you for your cooperation!

-- Grace, Christian Education Coordinator

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

In Our Prayers

Please remember the following people in your prayers at this time: Gene & Sharon Arntsen & family upon the passing of Gene's daughter Veronica Campbell; Linda; Alli Elsenbroek; Jeff; Erik Strazzinski; Virginia Bell; Carl; Ken; Cheryl; Kai, Gavin, Claire; David Shaver; Tobe Anderson; Ken Smith; William; Chuck; Daniel and Marcos; Ceil Aikala; Mary Leslie; Carol Steinhaus; Richard Toyra; Shawn; Owen, Becky & Joe; Ed Puska, Mae Desonia; Lisa Douros; 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; 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!

Council Highlights - November 2021

1. We welcomed Pr. Andrew back to our meetings—he will return to full-time duty at the beginning of Advent.
2. Council voted to accept the Dellangelo Family (Mark and Sheryl, Lucy, Nora, Julia, Henry and Molly) into membership. Welcome to Messiah!
3. Council reviewed compensation for the Staff and sent recommendations back to the Personnel Committee.
4. As a result of stagnant numbers of COVID cases in our community, there will be no change in our Worship status currently.
5. Council discussed the retirement of Inga Banitt from office staff and Kathy Strazzinski from the Saturday evening worship service. We greatly appreciate what both women add to the life of Messiah!
6. The 2022 Annual Meeting Date was approved—save **January 30, 2022** for the meeting!

Respectfully submitted, *Erik Bergh, President*

Volunteer Training for Room at the Inn - Dec. 7th

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 December 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

Quilting Donations

The Messiah Quilters **are accepting:** Clean, gently used cotton sheets
New cotton fabric

They can **no longer use:** - blankets
- bed pads/mattress pads
- tablecloths
- bedspreads
- microfiber sheets
- t-shirt type sheet (jersey sheets)
- comforters

We appreciate your support & all of your past donations. Thank you!

Lectionary Readings - December 2021

December 5 -- Second Sunday of Advent

Reading.....Malachi 3:1-4

Gospel.....Luke 3:1-6

December 12 -- Third Sunday of Advent

Reading.....Zephaniah 3:14-20

Gospel.....Luke 3:7-18

December 19 -- Fourth Sunday of Advent

Reading.....Micah 5:2-5a

Gospel.....Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

December 26 -- First Sunday of Christmas

Reading.....1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

Gospel.....Luke 2:41-52

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*

**To view our calendar,
updated daily, please go to
messiahlutheranmqt.org**

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An Update on Our Family

We have been accompanying our family from Honduras for over three months now. It has been a joy getting to know them better and to introduce them to life in Marquette.

Fernando is doing very well with his violin lessons and has received excellent reports from his orchestra teacher and his private lesson teacher. Romel is enrolled in the high school band but has expressed a strong interest in singing and learning how to play the guitar. We hope we can help him join these activities soon. Romel performed in his first high school band concert (a Halloween-themed performance) on October 20; and Fernando's first orchestra concert will be at Kaufman Auditorium on Wednesday December 1.

Romel and Fernando are taking part in a free sled hockey program at Lakeview Arena, and the entire family attended their first hockey game at NMU. They really enjoyed it!

All three continue with regular English classes and Romel and Fernando are working hard at school. They have quite full schedules!

A few of our members have met with the family for walks, knitting, an afternoon at Hotplate and more. Speaking fluent Spanish is definitely not a requirement in spending time together. Being with non-Spanish speakers allows them to practice their English! Some of our volunteers speak a little Spanish, and some rely on a Spanish language app. Glenda, Romel, and Fernando are eager to meet people and experience new things. If you would like to meet the family and do something together, please contact the church office and we will arrange that.

Also--please contact the church office if you are able to help with transportation to medical or other appointments.

The family is in need of a few items:

A guitar (to borrow or to buy)

A football

Please contact the church office if you could help with this. We are very thankful for all at Messiah and in the community who have contributed their time and finances to help.

Office Vacancy

The Personnel Committee invites applications for the part-time Administrative Assistant position. The position will be 20 hours per week. Preference will be given to current members of the Messiah family. Interested candidates should plan to submit an application letter and resume to the Church Office by January 15th.

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

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!!

Gifts That Make a Difference

As Christians we recognize the true meaning of Christmas - the birth of Jesus. Unfortunately, the world has made it a time of excess, secular celebrating and spending lots of money on gifts that people really don't need or even want.

Here are some ways we can "gift" in ways that reflect our faith and honor the person whose birthday we celebrate, Jesus, our Saviour.

ELCA Good Gifts offer a variety of ways we can support projects of the ELCA around the world, while at the same time honoring or remembering someone we care about. The animals have been around for a while and are still popular gifts - especially for kids. Newer opportunities include wells in third world countries, environmentally friendly cookstoves, supplies for medical clinics, microloans, feeding refugees, fruit and vegetable plantings, etc. etc.

Check them all out in the catalogs on the table near the office door. Orders can also be placed online or by phone. Feel free to take an ornament or card that announces your gift. There are also banks for kids to save for a project or animal of their own.

Fair Trade Shopping. When we shop Fair Trade we support an economic system that improves the lives of the farmers and artisans who produce the product, along with protecting the environment. We have held a large Fair Trade Markets in the past, but this year, due to the pandemic, a smaller number of products will be available for purchase. Some are crafted by members of our companion church, Luz Y Vida, in Colombia. They will be displayed in the atrium during Advent. (Near the coffee shelves on the east side of the room). We encourage you to think of the artisan or producer and making a difference in their lives when you buy their products. The coffee, chocolate, jams and other FairTrade products we always carry will be available throughout the year.

Charitable Contributions. Charities and other Non-Profits always need support - and look for it especially at this time of the year. Choose a cause that you know is important to the person you shop for, and honor them with a gift in their name. It is a special way of affirming them and their charity.

Thank You for considering these GIFTS THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

--- Global Mission Committee

Medication Help Available

If you have questions &/or concerns regarding your medications, you can contact retired pharmacist, Barb Salmela. Call the office to get Barb's phone number. All inquiries are confidential. She can help find discounts for medication, ways to possibly obtain them for free, or suggest less expensive alternatives. Also, if you need assistance signing up for Medicare, please call Barb for an appointment. She would be happy to help you through this process.

Honoring Inga Banitt

Inga has worked here for just over six years! On Sunday, December 12, 2021 we will take a moment during our 8:30 and 10:30 services to recognize Inga and all the work she has done for our church community. Please feel free to bring a card for her on the 12th, or if you cannot be here then, feel free to mail it to her home. When we get to a point where we can have coffee hour again, we will have cake, coffee & fruit to celebrate Inga and all she has done for us. She will be missed in the church office.

UP Wild

Sat December 4 12:15pm

- Remembering our Fellows: an art installation for the vanished
- Location still to be determined

Our community will be making wooden crosses to put up along some streets in the Upper Peninsula- in remembrance of the lost creatures and those animal friends (our fellows) that have gone extinct in 2021.

In remembering, we will also focus on the hope in our ability to save those on the critically endangered list. This is a powerful activity to do together for Advent. Tentative - Check back for specific date/time. BYOS: Bring your own snack.

We may also have a virtual component so those outside of the area can still be present. Please send an email to lanni@upwild.org for direct ways to participate.

ALSO...

Up Wild will be hosting its third annual evening centering prayer holiday edition, scheduled for December 22 (tentatively). Please contact Lanni for more details. www.upwild.org

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 February 22.

Financial Secretary Corner

2022 Giving Envelopes

Your envelopes will be ready for pick up on Tuesday, November 30th during our Giving Tuesday event. Or pick them up any time during our open hours. They will be in the narthex and placed on tables in alphabetical order by last name. Call the office if you need special arrangements to receive your envelopes. If you don't currently have envelopes and would like them, or have envelopes and don't want them for 2022, just let me know. I will accommodate what works best for you. If you give electronically, you may still receive giving envelopes or use a pew envelope for special/other donations.

Plan for Giving / Pledge - Options

If you have not submitted your pledge, please do so as soon as possible for us to enter your plan in our system and calculate expectations for 2022. If you're giving electronically, those transactions continue until we are notified of a change. However, we don't enter a pledge for our budget planning without an annual card showing your commitment. Please contact me with questions or if you want help in completing your donation pledge for 2022.

Thank you if you already responded. If not, here are some options:

- 1) Fill out a card, keep your stub, mail it in, or drop it off at the office.
- 2) From Messiah's website www.messiahlutheranmq.org click the drop-down for Give and Get Involved and select 2022 Plan for Giving. Then click to complete the form.
- 3) Simplify if no changes are needed for 2022 by printing your full name on a card and writing "same as last year". I will take it from there.
- 4) If all else fails, please send me an email with an expression of your support. Subject 2022 Giving – your last name. Messiah.NancyH@gmail.com.

Donation Deadlines - Year-End 2021

For your information, legally your donations need to be separated by the year, based on when we receive them. **Last day to give for 2021:**

- **Cash/Check** - If you plan to mail in money or drop it off at the office, the last date and time the office will be open to accept cash /check donations for 2021 is Thursday, 12/30/21 between 8:30 am & 4:30 pm.
- **Electronically** - Online giving through our church management system sometimes takes seven or more days for transactions to be processed into your financial activity record. 12/17/21 is only an estimated date to accommodate Sundays and Holidays at year-end, making the 15th an even better date!

Thank you for your gifts,
Nancy Hoover

Gifts for Great Lakes Recovery Center

The Rachel Circle is collecting gifts for the clients at Great Lakes Recovery Center, now until Wednesday, December 15th. There will be a box in the narthex for you to leave your donations.

In their facility, they are currently housing 18 male & 18 female adult clients. Some have children with them.

Possible gift ideas for the adults are: socks, underwear, T-shirts, hats, gloves, winter coats, winter boots, fuel or gas gift cards or any gift card.

****Adult male sizes:** *large or extra large*

****Adult female sizes:** *medium, large or extra large*

All clients are in need of towels, wash cloths and/or hygiene products.

Gifts for the children: any toys appropriate for 5 years and up

There is a box outside the office for the gift drop-off. You are also welcome to make a financial donation too if you would prefer. Thank you, in advance, for your help to make a memorable Christmas for these clients, both kids & adults. We appreciate your generosity! *Rachel Circle*

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.

***December** - *Laundry Soap, Dish Soap, Bars of Soap*

***January** - *Toothbrushes (child & adult), toothpaste, dental floss, denture cleaner*

Livestream Sponsorship

We have another weekly sponsorship item for you to consider. Along with sponsoring the Altar Flowers or the Radio Broadcast, we have added Livestream. If you would like to sponsor our Livestream on any given Sunday, contact the office at 225-1119 or office@messiahlutheranmq.org. The cost of the Livestream sponsorship is \$110.

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

Fortune Lake News

Winter Wonderland Retreat

The days are short and the air is cold. Why not join us at Fortune Lake for a winter getaway? Our Winter Wonderland Retreat will be held January 14-16, 2022 (with optional extension through Monday, January 17 for an additional fee). The event is open to everyone: families, youth groups, and individuals. Come and enjoy a hot sauna, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, and all sorts of winter fun. The weekend will include opportunities to hear Scripture and reflect, enjoy quality time with family and friends, and play in the winter wonderland of Fortune Lake. Go to the Fortune Lake website for housing and pricing information. Online registration is open through January 7, 2022.

Senior Day – January 10, 2022

Come and join us for a day of wonderful conversation, delicious food, and great fun. Senior Day is a wonderful way to reconnect with old friends and make a few new ones along the way. We gather in the Dining Hall from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm and enjoy a delightful day at Fortune Lake, including a devotion, program, lunch and fellowship. A \$10.00 donation per participant is requested. RSVP by January 7th, please call 906 214-2267.

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.

Still There When the Headlines Go Away

Natural disasters are happening around our country all the time. 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

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.

December 2021 Worship Volunteers

Saturday December 4 - 5 pm

Ushers- Dick and Laura Goodney
Assisting Minister- Carol Bell

Sunday December 5 - 8:30 am

Ushers- Sam Elder, Bruce Robertson
Reader- Kathy Soltwisch
Greeters-
Assisting Minister- Dave Blomquist

Sunday December 5 - 10:30 am

Ushers- Jill Luoma, Kurt Mensching
Reader- Jill Luoma
Greeters- Milt and Boli Soderberg
Assisting Minister- Mike Hill

Saturday December 11 - 5 pm

Ushers- Barb Salmela
Assisting Minister- Kathy Godec

Sunday December 12 - 8:30 am

Ushers- Barb Avery, David Dill
Reader- Fred Maynard
Greeters-
Assisting Minister- Kathy Maynard

Sunday December 12 - 10:30 am

Ushers- Ruth Robb, Kurt Mensching
Reader- Erik Bergh
Greeters- Sally Davis
Assisting Minister- Molly Luty

Saturday December 18 - 5 pm The Longest Night service

Ushers- Jan Julian, Ron Tervo

Sunday December 19 - 8:30 am

Ushers- Linda Berry, Ray Jarvis
Reader- Jennifer Bleckiner
Greeters-
Assisting Minister- Larry Pagel

Sunday December 19 - 10:30 am

Ushers-
Reader- Ruth Robb
Greeters- Linda Carlson
Assisting Minister- Erik Bergh

No 5 pm service on Saturday December 25

Sunday December 26 - 8:30 am

Ushers- Linda Berry, Bruce Robertson
Reader- Brenda Blett
Greeters-
Assisting Minister- Mary Lou Blomquist

No 10:30 am service on Sunday December 26

2021 Christmas Poinsettias - If you would like to sponsor a poinsettia for Christmas, please fill out the following information & submit it to the office by *Wednesday, December 15th*.

In Loving Memory of:

In Honor of:

From: _____

Phone # _____

Suggested cost is \$20.00

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 Strazzinski
Pianist.....Lynne Lancy
Bell Choir Director.....Judy Quirk

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

Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. Postage

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Marquette, MI