

# Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Answering God's call to love

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## Messiah ENewsletter for April 10, 2024

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

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*Messiah Lutheran Church seeks to be a welcoming community for all people. This includes people of every race, ability, sexual orientation and gender identity, ethnic background, economic grouping, religious affiliation, and political persuasion.*

*We do this simply because God created all people in God's own image and Christ Jesus came so all people might have abundant and eternal life.*

*We may not always be as welcoming as we should be,  
but this is our intention—all are welcome!*



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**Brookridge Worship Today**

Please join us for worship at Brookridge Heights today at 1:30 pm. All are welcome!

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### **Upcoming Dates to Remember – April**

April 10	Brookridge Worship at 1:30 pm
April 11	Centering Prayer at 5:30 pm
April 16	Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
April 16	OWLs Dinner at the Casa Calabria at 5:30 pm
April 17	Council/Mini-Retreat at 6:00 pm
April 18	Centering Prayer at 5:30 pm
April 18	Troubled Waters: Health and Hope at 7:00 pm
April 20	9:00 am – Seven Principles of Making Marriage Work
April 24	Brookridge Worship at 1:30 pm
April 27	9:00 am – Seven Principles of Making Marriage Work

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### **Centering Prayer Group**

Beginning in April, there will be two opportunities to meet together each week: during the day on Tuesdays, from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm or in the early evening on Thursdays from 5:30-6:30 pm. A short intro to the method will precede each meeting. So feel free to come at anytime. Each meeting stands on its own. Meetings will take place at Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church. All are welcome.

*For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.*

- - Matthew 18:20

What is centering prayer? Centering prayer is a Christian form of meditation. Instead of talking to God, who already knows all things and all of our needs, it is a form of listening. The practice has simple steps:

The choosing of a sacred word, as the symbol of your intention to consent to God's presence and action within.

Sitting comfortably and with eyes closed, settle briefly and silently introduce the sacred word as the symbol of your consent to God's presence and action within.

When engaged with your thoughts, (and "thoughts" include body sensations, feelings, images, and reflections) return ever-so-gently to the sacred word.

At the end of the prayer period remain in silence with eyes closed for a couple of minutes.

After our period of centering prayer, when hearts are more open to inspiration, we will have a reading to ponder. (Lectio Divina)

Resources to learn more: *"Invitation to Love," "Open Mind, Open Heart," by Thomas Keating*  
*"Into the Silent Land" by Martin Laird and "The Path of Centering Prayer" by David Frenette.*

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## **Calling All Owls (Older, Wiser Lutherans)!**

We will be eating dinner at Casa Calabria on Third Street on Tuesday, April 16th at 5:30 pm. There is a signup sheet on the table outside of Messiah's office. Questions? Please call Betsy 345-9237.

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## **Troubled Waters: Health and Hope**

The Cedar Tree Institute presents an evening with the interfaith water stewards. Troubled Waters: Health and Hope will be held on Thursday, April 18 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm at Messiah Lutheran Church. This program is introducing a two-year initiative to help protect and ensure good quality drinking water here in Northern Michigan and around the planet. Donations to support this initiative are invited.

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## **The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work**

*Saturdays April 20 & 27, May 4 & 11 --- 9:00 am – 12:30 pm, Magnuson Hall*

Cost: \$85 per couple (includes materials & all classes)

Register: <https://tithe.ly/event-registration/#/8602683>

Join other couples for a Gottman Workshop to strengthen your relationship commitment, using The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work by John M. Gottman, PhD.

In this 4-week workshop series couples will learn how to create a solid foundation for their relationship and gain valuable tools to refresh and make their marriage last! Each week couples will be introduced to a new principle for improving their marriage. All workshops are highly interactive and fun.

This class is designed to strengthen your marriage or committed relationship. If you already have a strong relationship, this class will provide you with insights & tools to make it even better. If your relationship is distressed, this class will provide a road map for repair. Carving out time each Saturday morning for the 4-week series allows you to avoid distractions and truly focus on your partner and your relationship.

Couples will each receive a copy of The 7 Principles for Making Marriage Work, a copy of the companion workbook, and the "Love Maps and Open-ended Questions" card decks. Light refreshments will also be provided.

Space in each workshop is limited, so register now (register online at [messiahlutheranmqt.org/the-seven-principles-for-making-marriage-work-workshop](http://messiahlutheranmqt.org/the-seven-principles-for-making-marriage-work-workshop)). Your space will be guaranteed on receipt of payment. Registration ends on April 15th.

It will be led by Rev. Dr. Andrew Plocher (a trained marriage and family therapist and Gottman Leader).

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## **Personal Care Kits**

Ruth Circle will be collecting items for Personal Care Kits in April for Lutheran World Relief. People who must flee their homes quickly often do not have time to pack essential items. These kits can help refugees maintain personal hygiene while living in exile. The kits are a reminder to those receiving them that someone cares for them.

### Items needed for each kit include:

- 1 bath towel, dark color preferred
- 1 toothbrush, adult size in original wrapper
- 1 comb, large toothed preferred
- 1 metal nail clipper
- 2 bath size bars of soap

Donations can be placed in the Personal Care Kit container in the narthex. Monetary donations are also welcome to purchase items, just write Personal Care Kit on the check memo line. Thank you for your help!

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## **What's Your 50?**

The ELCA World Hunger Fund is 50 years old and our synod will be celebrating and raising money to keep the fund going for another 50 years.

Our congregation will be involved by:

1. Choosing a local Hunger Related ministry to split what we raise 50/50. You can put suggestions in the small jar on the table by the office near the World Hunger bulletin board.
2. Thinking about something involving 50 that is worth celebrating and pledging support for ELCA World Hunger to honor that "50 Something". There is a tablet on the table near the bulletin board to write what you might celebrate, such as, "50 Years of Marriage", "50-mile bike ride" "travel to 50 states", "50 family members coming to a reunion", etc. etc. Add your name if you wish.

Here's to 50 more years of Hunger ministries by our ELCA!

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## **Messiah Book Discussion - Apeirogon by Colum McCann**

Join a discussion of the novel *Apeirogon* by Colum McCann. This book tells an epic story rooted in the real-life friendship between two men united by loss. Balsam is Palestinian and Rami is Israeli.

They inhabit a world of conflict that colors every aspect of their daily lives.

If you, like me, have been struggling to understand the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, this novel will have a profound impact on you. The book will be available for purchase in the church office soon.

The discussion will occur on Tuesday, May 21, 7:00 - 8:30 pm in Messiah's atrium.

Betsy Little, facilitator

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### **Calling All VBS Volunteers!**

Vacation Bible School will be held the last week in June, the 24th – 28th from 9:00 – 12:00.

Pastor Molly is looking for a variety of volunteers with different abilities. Are you a musician, do you like helping to prepare food, decorate, or, of course, work with children? There will be a position for everyone and plenty to do. So, contact Pastor Molly if you feel called to help.

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### **Additional Ringers Sought**

Messiah's Bell Choir invites new and returning ringers to join the rehearsals on Monday evenings at 6:00 pm. If you can ring for the spring session, great! If you can ring for only a month or two, we would also welcome you!

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### **Cook Team Needed for October**

We are planning our community meals for this year. We have a community meal 10 months out of the year (we skip January and July) on the first Wednesday of the month. We now have cooks scheduled for every month except October. If you or you and some friends are willing to plan and cook our October community meal, please contact the church office. Thanks to all our volunteer cooks!

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### **OWLs (Older, Wiser Lutherans) Weekly Walk**

OWLs (Older, Wiser Lutherans) - usually 55 or older, but all are welcome!! Please join the OWLs on Mondays at 10:00 a.m. to walk. We walk at Lower Harbor, Mattson Park in the summer and at the dome in the winter. Please call the office for more information. No RSVP required. We'd love to have you join us!

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## **The New Free Store Donations**

The New Free Store is an inter-faith, non-profit group supporting people who express a need for free clothing, linens, hygiene & cleaning supplies. Anyone in need is welcome. Free things are offered as "in God's economy three is always enough." There is a collection bin in our narthex at Messiah for The New Free Store. They are currently collecting:

\*April - *Laundry Soap, Dish Soap & Bars of Soap*

\*May - *Diapers - size 3-6 & Baby Wipes*

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## **Overnight Emergency Shelter**

Superior Connections Recovery Community Organization (SCRCO) continues to host an Overnight Emergency Shelter for homeless individuals in the Marquette area. They are renting space in Ishpeming and transporting the guests to and from Marquette. Currently about 15-20 individuals are being served.

If you are interested in providing assistance, they could use warm meals/snacks, Gatorade, paper products, hygiene products, returnable can/bottles (can be dropped off at SCRCO's office, 620 S. Lake St.) and monetary assistance. There is a box for donations in the narthex.

SCRCO has resurrected the online signup to provide dinners at the Engagement Center located at the Wonderland Motel in Ishpeming. Here is the link to the sign up to provide dinners: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4CA5AA2DA0F5C52-47144629-scrco#/for> more details.

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## **Zoom QiGong**

Zoom QiGong for Health & Wellness, Balance & Fall Prevention. Tuesdays, 12:00 – 1:00 pm – Diana Magnuson 906-362-9386/ [magnusondiana@gmail.com](mailto:magnusondiana@gmail.com)

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## **Messiah Birthdays**

Apr 10      Dorothy Janda, Doug Morton  
Apr 11      Alexandria Braund, Sydney Braund  
Apr 12      Michael Busick, Kim Salmela  
Apr 13      Isabelle Beaudoin, Karla Hardy, Bode Skaw  
Apr 14      Roger Contois, Gail Edgar, Don Hillegas, Dave Lundquist  
Apr 15      Liz Beyne, Brett Peterson, John Rector, Cheryl Shirtz

Apr 16 Hannah Bleckiner  
Apr 17 Luke Beerman  
Apr 18 Greg Carrier  
Apr 19 Mike Hill, Nancy Lyons, Morgan Messana  
Apr 20 Gina Fortin, Mark Paulsen, Grant Rydholm, Deb Vanlerberghe, Veronica Wiese  
Apr 21 Sonia Geschwindt, Maria Rodriguez  
Apr 22 Cathy Seblonka  
Apr 23 Brett Beauchamp, Lois Brazier, Wyatt Crimmins, Sarah Fosco, Laura Kagy  
Apr 24 No birthdays

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### **In the Hospital**

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

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### **In Our Prayers**

Marsha Lucas; Karen; John & Rose Collins; Rick Castillo; Susan Shaver; Ruth Koehler; Don Hillegas; Grant; Kai Dolan; Samantha; Carl & Liz Beyne; Phyllis Champion; Ted; Bruce Lindberg; Betty; Grace Chien; Jamie; Emma; Judy Donckers; Jon Kamps; Donna; Brian; Ben; Sandy Grenke; John Kiltinen; Kathy; Evelyn; Akira Carlson; Karen Eldevick; Grace; Shannon; Billy & Kathy S.; Lu Swanson; Leesa; Jesse Wright; Marshall Lovan; Peter; David Shaver; Ken Smith; Shawn; Mae Desonia; Lisa Douros; Tina; Williamson family; Wayne Hanmer; Karen Johnson; Sierra; Charlene Avery

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### **Pastor on Call:**

Pastor Andrew is on call April 14-17  
Pastor Molly is on call April 10--13

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### **Worship Volunteers**

#### **Saturday, April 13 -- 5:00 pm in atrium**

Assisting Minister: Chris Kotila  
Communion Assistant: Barb Maszlewski

Provide Refreshments: Sally McQueen

**Sunday, April 14 -- 8:30 am in sanctuary, on 101.9 FM, Vimeo/Facebook**

Assisting Minister: Kathy Maynard

Reader: Larry Pagel

Ushers: Susy Swanson, **need one more volunteer.**

Communion Assistants: Larry Pagel, Terry Langenberg, Kathy Maynard

Greeters: Al and Gail Edgar

Nursery: Maddie Dykema

Provide Refreshments: Susy Swanson

**Sunday, April 14 – 10:30 am in sanctuary, on Vimeo/Facebook**

Assisting Minister: Mike Hill

Reader: Laurel Kniskern

Ushers: Dave and Nancy Skoog

Communion Assistants: Gayle Van Osdol, Kerry McGinley, Karen Burkman

Greeters: Gayle Van Osdol, Laurel Kniskern

Projection Technician: Lesley Williams

Nursery: Maddie Dykema

Flower Delivery: Gayle Van Osdol

**Announcements and Classified Ads**

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**Marquette Symphony Orchestra – Season Finale**

The Marquette Symphony Orchestra presents “Soul Force” on Saturday, April 13, 2024 at Kaufman Auditorium. The music director is Octavio Mas-Arocas. It is the final concert of their season. Tickets are on sale at NMU Ticket Outlets. The cost of tickets start at \$15 for the general public and \$10 for students.

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**Dinner with the Doctor**

The Marquette Seventh-day Adventist Church, 270 East US 41, Negaunee, will host “Growing Microgreens” with Angela Castleberg, from New Leaf Farms, on Sunday April 14<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m.

This free event includes a plant-based dinner. \$30 microgreen starter kits will be available for



purchase for those who choose to do so. Please RSVP at 906-475-4488  
or [mqtsdachurch@gmail.com](mailto:mqtsdachurch@gmail.com).

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### **Negaunee Male Chorus Concert**

The Negaunee Male Chorus will present a concert “Why We Sing” on Saturday, April 27, 2024, at 7:00 pm in the W.C. Peterson Auditorium at Ishpeming High School. Tickets are \$12.00 for adults. Age 17 and under, with an adult are free. Ticket outlets are Super One Foods, Negaunee; Country Village Ace, Ishpeming; Jubilee Foods, Ishpeming; TruNorth Credit Union, Ishpeming; or any Male Chorus member.

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### **28<sup>th</sup> Annual Marquette County Community Baby Shower**

This is a free event and open to Marquette County families with an expectant mom or with an infant under six months of age. It will be held on Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. Registration opens on April 10; please register by May 10. Call Barbie at 906 228-6522 ext. 253 or email to [bdupras@communityactionam.org](mailto:bdupras@communityactionam.org).

The goal of the shower is two-fold, one; to inform families of services and resources that are available in our community and two; to assist families with obtaining necessary supplies their infants might otherwise go without.

The continued success of the Community Baby Shower is dependent upon the support of community members and service organizations. You can assist by providing a monetary donation or new baby items. All donations can be mailed or dropped off at CAAM – ATTN: Accounting; 1125 Commerce Drive; Marquette, MI 49855. Make checks payable to CAAM Marquette County Community Baby Shower.

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### **Help with Habitat for Humanity**

Marquette County Habitat for Humanity is asking for help providing lunches to their volunteers during the 2024 build season. They have a need for anywhere between 4 to 25 lunches on any given day. They will always give advanced notice to lunch donors regarding the number of lunches needed. Select the date that works best for you online via Yoopers United: <https://yoopersunited.com/agency/detail/MCHFH>. Please call 906 228-3578, 906 204-5757, email [Program@mqthabitat.org](mailto:Program@mqthabitat.org) or drop by the office at 2354 US 41 South, Marquette.

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## **Liturgy and the Natural World**

Join LSTC faculty member Rev. Dr. Benjamin M. Stewart for an inspiring 4-part series on nature and liturgy. Reimagine communal liturgies and daily rituals as you explore the sacredness of the cosmos, sacraments, and our bodies. Sunday sessions begin April 7 and Wednesday sessions begin April 10. To register, go to [lstc.edu/events](http://lstc.edu/events).

The LSTC Learning Communities offer no-cost spring and fall theological education programs via Zoom designed to enhance lay theological education, enrich parish learning programs, and foster a stronger relationship between the seminary and its constituent congregations.

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## **Summer Employment at Bay Cliff**

Bay Cliff Health Camp in Big Bay is now hiring for all positions for summer 2024. We are seeking camp counselors, lifeguards, leadership staff, professional and support staff. For more information, or to apply online, go to [www.baycliff.org](http://www.baycliff.org). Dates of employment for most roles are June 7-August 5, 2024.

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## **Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice Events**

[Community Grief Support](#) - Loss of a loved one can look different for everyone. Let our team help you on your journey to new beginnings. This group is designed to support you with education, resources, and a safe place to listen and share. Facilitated by Bereavement Coordinator and Social Worker Lisa Marttila. Free & open to the public. No affiliation to our hospice is required. [Choose the location](#) that works best for you! Please call 906.225.7760 if you have any questions.

### [Marquette](#)

4/17/24 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice office at 914 W Baraga Ave-Marquette

### [Gwinn](#)

4/10/24 2:00 -3:00 pm

Forsyth Senior Center at 165 N Maple St-Gwinn

[Caregiver Support Groups](#) – Are you feeling isolated or burnt out as a caregiver? Do you experience frustration or guilt and need a safe place to process? Join us for opportunities to share your feelings, develop friendships, receive emotional support, and to learn about available community resources. There will be occasional guest speakers for relevant topics as well. This group is free and open to the public! The group is moderated by Jamie Barbieri, RN Community Outreach Coordinator from Lake Superior Life Care and Hospice. Choose the location that works best for you! Please call 906.225.7760 if you have any questions.

**Marquette (2nd Wednesday of every month):**

4/10/24 2:00 - 3:00 pm

Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice Office; 914 W. Baraga Ave.

**Gwinn (2nd Tuesday of every month):**

4/9/24 1:30 - 2:30 pm

Forsyth Senior Center; 165 N. Maple St

**Ishpeming (3rd Tuesday of every month):**

~~4/16/24 2:00—3:00 pm~~ CANCELED

Ishpeming Senior Center; 121 Greenwood St.

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**Marquette Choral Society Concert**

The Marquette Choral Society presents “Divine Light” (the choral music of Eric Whitacre) on Saturday, April 27 at 7:30 pm and Sunday, April 28 at 3:00 pm at Reynolds Recital Hall. The conductor is Erin Colwitz with Jan Brodersen, piano and Adam Hall, cello. Tickets are \$15.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under 10 and can be purchased at [nmu.edu/tickets](http://nmu.edu/tickets).

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**Do you have an announcement?**

Send announcements & ads to Kathy Godec ([kathy@messiahlutheranmqt.org](mailto:kathy@messiahlutheranmqt.org)). Send concert or performance information, yard sale announcements, party invitations, requests for babysitters, yard maintenance, rooms for rent and items for sale. E-newsletter deadline is 12:00 pm on Tuesdays.

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**Messiah Contact Information**

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

Phone: 906-225-1119

Fax: 906-225-5025

Email: [office@messiahlutheranmqt.org](mailto:office@messiahlutheranmqt.org)

Website: <https://www.messiahlutheranmqt.org/>

**Pastoral Staff**

Senior Pastor - Andrew Plocher

Associate Pastor - Molly Hunter

**Office Staff**

Parish Administrator - Jennifer Dodge

Administrative Assistant – Kathy Godec

Parish Accountant - Mike Hill  
Financial Secretary – Anne Rydholm

**Music Staff**

Director of Music – Sara Parks  
Bell Choir Director - Judy Quirk  
Organist/Pianist - Kathy Strazzinski  
Pianist – Jacob Schmeltzer & Jocelyn Basse