

Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Answering God's call to love

Messiah ENewsletter for April 17, 2024

On the web... go to messiahlutheranmqt.org for more information about our congregation and “like” us on Facebook to receive updates and information there.

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

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

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



Sign- Up Sheets for May

We need worship volunteers for all 3 services in May. The sign-up sheets for May are now out on the welcome table. Please consider volunteering to help with worship. Thanks!

Upcoming Dates to Remember – April

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 23	Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
April 24	Brookridge Worship at 1:30 pm

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.

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.

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!

Day of Renewal Spring 2024

Dear Sisters in Christ,

Our Spring Cluster 8 program and meeting will be held on Saturday, May 4, 2024, at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Harvey, MI.

Registration is at 9:30 am. The program and business meeting are at 10:00 am.

Lunch will be served at noon. Join us for some baby shower games. (I heard there will be prizes for the winners of these games).

The cost is \$5.00, payable upon registration. Checks made payable to NGLSWO.

Program: Servitude within and outside the Church.

We will be supporting the Alger-Marquette Community Baby Shower. We will hear from Barbie Dupras about how our work and donations help. Monetary offerings or any of the following new baby items will be accepted: diapers, bibs, crib sheets, burp cloths, toys for 6 months old or younger, books, or anything you think a new mother/infant may need.

If you plan to attend, there is a sign-up sheet on the Welcome Table. Reservation deadline is Wednesday, May 1.

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 basket 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!

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 is available for purchase in the church office.

The cost is \$20.

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

Betsy Little, facilitator

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.

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!

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!

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!

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*

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.

Zoom QiGong

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

Messiah Birthdays

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
Apr 25	David DeLayre, Isaac Olson, Rebecca Ulland
Apr 26	Doug Gordon, Lindsay Johnstone, Karen Larsen
Apr 27	Jackson Kagy
Apr 28	Mitchell Gilbert, Gary Nicholas
Apr 29	Jason Parks
Apr 30	No birthdays

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.

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

Pastor on Call:

Pastor Andrew is on call April 17, 21-24

Pastor Molly is on call April 18-20

Worship Volunteers

Saturday, April 20 -- 5:00 pm in atrium

Assisting Minister: Carol Bell

Communion Assistant: Terri Bocklund

Provide Refreshments: **Volunteer needed.**

Sunday, April 21 -- 8:30 am in sanctuary, on 101.9 FM, Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister: Larry Pagel

Reader: Louise Reichert

Ushers: Anne Rydholm, **one more needed.**

Communion Assistants: Larry Pagel, Beth Krznarich, Dave Blomquist

Greeters: Penny Streeter, Sherry Labbe

Nursery: Jamie Dodge

Provide Refreshments: **Volunteer needed.**

Sunday, April 21 – 10:30 am in sanctuary, on Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister: Kathy Godec

Reader: Mark Paulsen

Ushers: Jill Luoma, **one more needed.**

Communion Assistants: Kathy Godec, Marina Shinkarenko, Sandy Lindberg

Greeters: Ellen Symons, Marina Shinkarenko

Projection Technician: Abby LaForest

Nursery: Jamie Dodge
Flower Delivery: Jill Luoma

Announcements and Classified Ads

Art After Loss

Join us to explore using art as a means of personal healing after death and loss. We will be creating remembrance flags to honor the memory of your loved one or experience. These flags may also be made as flags of hope to help you on your grief journey.

We will have supplies to create a decorative keepsake, and we encourage you to bring any of the following: photocopied pictures (not the actual photo), pieces of clothing, ties, buttons, jewelry, poems, or other beloved tokens which can be glued or sewn to the provided fabric flag.

This event will be held on Tuesday, April 23 from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm at the Peter White Public Library in the Marquette Arts & Culture Center Lower Level. There is no cost to attend, but please RSVP by calling 906 225-7760 or email cvoce@lakesuperiorhospice.org.

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.

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.

Marquette Male Chorus Concert

The Marquette Male Chorus will present "Harmonies and Melodies: Music of Bacharach, Mancini, and Mercer on Friday, May 17 at 7:30 pm at Messiah Lutheran Church. The suggested donation is \$10.

28th 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 19th. Registration opens on April 10; please register by May 10. Call Barbie at 906 228-6522 ext. 253 or email to 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.

Host Families Needed for Japanese Visitors

Our Sister City Partnership Board will be hosting 10 delegates from our Sister City in Higashiomi, Japan, this summer from July 30 to August 6. If you are interested in being a host family, please contact Mary Lou Blomquist at 906 221-1888 or Paulette Lindberg at 906 869-4141. Thanks!

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 or drop by the office at 2354 US 41 South, Marquette.

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. Dates of employment for most roles are June 7-August 5, 2024.

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.

Do you have an announcement?

Send announcements & ads to Kathy Godec (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.

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

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