

Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Answering God's call to love

Messiah ENewsletter for April 24, 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!*



Brookridge Worship Today!

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

Upcoming Dates to Remember – April/May

April 24 Brookridge Worship at 1:30 pm

April 25	Centering Prayer at 5:30 pm
April 28	Fortune Lake Annual Meeting at 2:00 pm CST
April 30	Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
May 2	Centering Prayer at 5:30 pm
May 8	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.*

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. The reservation deadline is Wednesday, May 1.

What's Your Fifty?

This year we celebrate 50 years of ELCA World Hunger serving people around the world. It is one of most important ministries of our church. Our Synod has chosen a 50/50 theme this year, with our contributions being split between the national church and a local food related ministry, chosen by our congregation. We are also urged to think about the "50 OMETHINGS" in our own lives that we are thankful for and worth celebrating.

Please join in this effort to support ELCA World Hunger as we help to fund projects in our own country and more than 65 countries around the world. All funds raised during the month of May will be joined with other congregations' offerings at the Synod Assembly and sent to the ELCA. Please label your gifts, "Synod World Hunger offering" and bring them in during the month of May to be included in this fund drive.

If you are willing to share your “FIFTY SOMETHING” add it to the list in the notebook on the table by the office, if you have a suggestion for a local hunger related ministry, add it to the basket on the same table.

The Global Mission Team

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 8:45 am – 12:00 pm. 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.

OWLS (Older, Wiser Lutherans) Weekly Walk

The OWLS are now walking at Mattson Park in the lower harbor on Mondays at 10am. We meet by the bathrooms there. Walk at your own pace. After walking the group goes to Provisions to continue visiting. If you cannot walk just come for coffee/tea. The Dome will not be available for walking this summer due to construction. Questions? Please call Betsy at 906 345-9237.

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*

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 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
May 1	Alexandra Geschwindt, Maximillian Geschwindt, Carol Pfannestiel
May 2	Paul Carstens, Emmett Claybaker
May 3	No birthdays
May 4	Emily Fitzpatrick, Graham Kloet, Delaney Parks
May 5	Liam Boehlke
May 6	Sarah Balding, John Dahlke, Joan Hill, Peter Kotila, Alyson LaBelle
May 7	Jeffrey Olson, Debbie Rolig, Bodil Soderberg
May 8	Adelyn Davis, Thomas Matthews, Clare Sauer

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

Betsy; 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 24 – May 1

Pastor Molly is at offsite Synod Council meeting April 26-27

Worship Volunteers

Saturday, April 27 -- 5:00 pm in atrium

Assisting Minister: Chris Kotila

Communion Assistant: Kathy Godec

Provide Refreshments: **Volunteer needed.**

Sunday, April 28 -- 8:30 am in sanctuary, on 101.9 FM, Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister: Terry Langenberg

Reader: Fred Maynard

Ushers: **two needed** .

Communion Assistants: Terry Langenberg, Kathy Maynard, Larry Pagel

Greeters: Joan Tasson, Jan Vickstrom

Nursery: Maddie Dykema

Provide Refreshments: Linda Ruohoniemi

Sunday, April 28 – 10:30 am in sanctuary, on Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister: **one needed**

Reader: Brenton Fitzpatrick

Ushers: **two needed**

Communion Assistants: Gayle Mack, Karen Burkman, Kerry McGinley

Greeters: Milt and Boli Soderberg

Projection Technician: Inga Banitt

Nursery: Maddie Dykema

Flower Delivery: Jane Brow

Announcements and Classified Ads

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 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.

Support Marquette Lions

The Marquette Lions Club is offering a new opportunity for you to show your patriotism and support our club. We will be placing a 3 x 5 USA made flag in your yard for the summer holidays of Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Labor Day for \$35. If you are interested, please contact us at MarquetteLions@yahoo.com. For more information about this event, visit our website marquettelions.org and click on the drop-down menu for Club Projects.

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.

Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice Events

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):

5/8/24 2:00 - 3:00 pm

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

Gwinn (2nd Tuesday of every month):

5/14/24 1:30 - 2:30 pm

Forsyth Senior Center; 165 N. Maple St

Ishpeming (3rd Tuesday of every month):

5/21/24 1:30 - 3:00 pm

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