

Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Answering God's call to love

Messiah ENewsletter for May 1, 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!*



Community Meal Tonight!

All are invited to our community meal tonight at 6:00 pm. The meal will be a spaghetti dinner.

Upcoming Events – May

May 1	Community Meal at 6:00 pm
May 2	Centering Prayer at 5:30 pm
May 7	Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
May 8	Brookridge Worship at 1:30 pm
May 9	Centering Prayer at 5:30 pm
May 12	Last Day of Sunday School – Music Rehearsal
May 14	Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
May 15	Council Meeting at 6:30 pm
May 16	Centering Prayer at 5:30 pm
May 17	Male Chorus Concert at Messiah at 7:30 pm
May 18	Synod Assembly
May 18	No 5:00 pm worship
May 19	One service at 10:30 am (no 8:30 am worship)
May 19	Sunday School performance during 10:30 am worship
May 21	Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
May 21	Book study at 7:00 pm
May 22	Brookridge Worship at 1:30 pm
May 23	Centering Prayer at 5:30 pm
May 24	Superior Handbells Concert at 7:00 pm at Messiah
May 27	Memorial Day – church office closed
May 28	Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
May 30	Centering Prayer at 5:30 pm

Centering Prayer Group

There are 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.

Congratulations!

Maria Rodriguez & Karl Kaukola are proud to announce the birth of their newest grandson Jeremiah David who was born to Jeremy & Laura Bower on April 15, 2024. They are all doing really well!

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 today, 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:

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

***June** – *Male/Female Razors, Hand Sanitizer*

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

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
May 9	No birthdays
May 10	Mark Sellers
May 11	Susan Hewitt, Sherry Mattson
May 12	Sharon Arntsen, Sondra Cryderman
May 13	Madison Balding, Anna Zimmer
May 14	Traci Busick, Chris Kotila, Scott Krah
May 15	John Collins, Romel Celaro

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

Jan Brown; Fred Maynard; 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 May 1, 5-8

Pastor Molly is on call May 2-4

Worship Volunteers

Saturday, May 4 -- 5:00 pm in atrium

Assisting Minister: Chris Kotila

Communion Assistant: **Need a volunteer.**

Provide Refreshments: **Need a volunteer.**

Sunday, May 5 -- 8:30 am in sanctuary, on 101.9 FM, Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister: Larry Pagel

Reader: Dave Blomquist

Ushers: Bruce Robertson, Sam Elder .

Communion Assistants: Larry Pagel, Beth Krznarich, Dave Blomquist

Greeters: **Need two volunteers.**

Nursery: Jamie Dodge

Provide Refreshments: Penny Streeter, Sherry Labbe

Sunday, May 5 – 10:30 am in sanctuary, on Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister: Mike Hill

Reader: **Need a volunteer.**

Ushers: Jill Luoma, **need one more volunteer.**

Communion Assistants: Mike Hill Joan Hill, **need one more volunteer.**

Greeters: Ellen Symons, Marcia Heron

Projection Technician: Kathy Godec

Nursery: Jamie Dodge

Flower Delivery: Ruth Circle

Announcements and Classified Ads

Marquette Male Chorus Concert – May 17

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 concert features music from these classic composers including “Do You Know the Way to San Jose”, “Moon River”, and “Accentuate the Positive”. The Male Chorus is directed by Wayne Hanmer and accompanied by Dawn Betts. There is a suggested donation of \$10.00. For more information, feel free to call 906-249-9867.

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.

Superior Handbells Concert at Messiah

Superior Handbells (*a community handbell choir*) presents its 3rd annual Spring Concert titled “Belles au Naturele” on Friday, May 24, 2024 at 7:00 pm at Messiah Lutheran Church. There is no admission, but a free will offering will be taken. Join us as we go *au naturele* and celebrate nature!

Marquette Lions Club

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

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

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. Free & open to the public. No affiliation with our hospice is required. Choose the location that works best for you! Please call 906.225.7760 if you have any questions.

Marquette

5/15/24 5:30-6:30 p.m.

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

5/8/24 2-3 p.m.

Forsyth Senior Center 165 N Maple St in Gwinn

Caregiver Support Groups – Are you feeling isolated or burned 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 2-3 p.m.

Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice Office

914 W. Baraga Ave.

Ishpeming

3rd Tuesday of every month

5/21/24 2-3 p.m.

Ishpeming Senior Center

121 Greenwood St.

Gwinn

2nd Tuesday of the month

5/14/24 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Forsyth Senior Center

165 N Maple St

Caring For an Aging Loved One

Join Attorney Erica Payne from Taproot Law & Jamie Barbieri from Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice for this presentation, question, and answer period. This presentation will cover how to navigate the experience of caring for an aging loved one. Through storytelling, you will learn what to expect about legal matters related to this topic. You'll also receive guidance on having hard conversations now, legal matters, and hospice.

May 7, 2024

1:00-2:30 PM

Peter White Public Library

Heritage Room 217 N. Front St, Marquette.

Free and open to the public! Call 906.225.7760 if you have any questions.

Powerful Tools for caregivers – In Person- Registration is now open for this free caregiver workshop. This 6 – week workshop is designed for the non-professional, informal caregiver and will help you take care of yourself while caring for a parent, spouse, or friend, at home, in a nursing home, or across the country. This workshop will provide YOU, the caregiver tools to: Reduce stress and help you relax, make tough decisions, reduce guilt, anger and depression, communicate effectively with family members, your doctor, etc., take care of yourself, & learn to set goals and problem-solve.

When will it happen? Thursdays May 9th – June 13th from 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Class size is limited! Registration ends May 6th or when class is full. To register visit our website at: www.upcap.org (click on EVENTS) or call 2-1-1 for assistance. There is no charge for this online workshop. Class materials are provided. Call Jamie Barbieri with any questions 906.225.7760.

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