

# Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Answering God's call to love

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## Messiah ENewsletter for May 15, 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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### Upcoming Events – May

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| 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 in-person 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 26	Last day to sign up for Suppers for Six
May 27	Memorial Day – church office closed.
May 28	Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
May 30	Centering Prayer at 5:30 pm
May 31	Light the Fire for Fortune Lake at Prince of Peace at 7:30 pm

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## Suppers for Six

Sign up now for the next round of Suppers for Six! This is an intergenerational opportunity to dine with and make new friends within Messiah's community. Anyone is welcome, including children (but only adults factor into the 6 so our kiddos are a bonus). Please sign up by May 26th on the welcome table outside of the office. Your pastors will contact you via email the last week in May with your groups. From there, your group decides when you meet and what you eat. For the summer we recommend a potluck at the beach or in the park! See Pastor Molly with any questions.

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## 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.*

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## **Jam News**

As you remember the jam proceeds support our assistance funds and the mailing of quilts. Grant Soltwisch and Rebecca Ulland will continue the jam project, now in year 20. There are many ways YOU can contribute to this ministry – picking berries, donating sugar or pectin, or learning how to make jam alongside us. If you would like to help, please contact Rebecca Ulland at 906 236-3722 or [rjulland@yahoo.com](mailto:rjulland@yahoo.com). Help us spread God’s love!

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## **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

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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 discussion will occur on Tuesday, May 21, 7:00 - 8:30 pm in Messiah's atrium. Copies of the book are available at Snowbound Books for \$19.00.

Betsy Little, facilitator.

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## **Light the Fire for Fortune Lake**

You are invited to a campfire site near you to Light the Fire for Fortune Lake!

Friday, May 31 at 6:30 pm CT / 7:30 pm ET at a location near you or online.

The Board of Directors invites you to Light the Fire for Fortune Lake, a community-centered evening of friends, family, faith, and fellowship around the campfire as we raise funds for Fortune Lake. We are excited to kick off the summer camp season and to celebrate the work of God through our beloved camp. All are welcome and there is no fee to participate. There will be an invitation to donate in support of Summer Camp at Fortune Lake.

Seven different locations will host simultaneous campfire events.

\*Bethany Lutheran Church in Norway, MI

\*Faith Lutheran Church in Three Lakes, WI

\*Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp in Crystal Falls, MI

\*Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Chassell, MI

\*Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Marquette, MI

\*Zion Lutheran Church in Ironwood, MI

\*Zion Lutheran Church in Marinette, WI

\*Facebook LIVE – get a glimpse of ALL the campfires from Anywhere!

Site hosts are busy preparing for you. If you're joining in person, please bring an outdoor chair or blanket to sit on.

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## **Community Meal – June 5**

Our next community meal is scheduled for Wednesday, June 5 at 6:00 pm. It will be brats, beans, chips, coleslaw, and ice cream sandwiches for dessert.

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## **UP Circuit Ride – June 9**

Sacred Space Campus Ministry at NMU is holding a UP Circuit Ride fundraiser on Sunday, June 9. The check-in time is 2:00 pm. The ride begins at Jackson Park in Negaunee by the Pavilion. It is an out and back on the Iron Ore Heritage Trail toward Ishpeming. You choose your distance! The suggested donation is \$5.00. To register, email [wesley@mqthope.com](mailto:wesley@mqthope.com) or text 805-710-4752.

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## **“Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat”**

The Jubilation Choir of St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Bloomington, MN will present “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat” on Tuesday, June 11 at 7:00 pm here at Messiah Lutheran Church. There is no charge for the performance but a free-will offering will be taken at the end of the event.

Jubilation is a youth choir consisting of seventh through twelfth grade students. Each summer they tour a new area of the country performing "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." This year marks their 36th tour and the choir's 50th year in existence under the direction of Linda Olson. Jubilation has a strong tradition at St. Stephen as most of its members began singing with Linda at the age of 3. Each year, new and returning youth take on different roles in "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" and add new twists to the show. Past tours have taken them to over 40 different states, Canada, and parts of Europe and each year they return with wonderful stories and unforgettable life experiences.

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## **Colombia Delegation 2024!**

We're excited to share that a small group from our congregation will be visiting our siblings in Christ in Bogota from June 21 - July 2! Due to the pandemic, Messiah has not sent a group to Colombia since 2018 and it is time to rekindle those relationships, reconnect with the congregation of Luz y Vida, and to share meals and conversation as we share our experiences of these past 6 years. We hope that this will begin a return of rhythmic accompaniment visits, bringing visitors here (like Pr. Jairo, Ana, and Johanna who came in 2019) and sending groups of us there. This year the initial group will be Pr. Andrew, Jeanne Groos, and Anna & Justin Wild. The group plans to present to the congregation in July after their return.

There are two ways that you can assist this group: 1) please pray for them as they prepare and travel! And, 2) they will be collecting school supplies to take to some of the programs run by the Lutheran congregations in Bogota. More details and a list of supplies will be available in the coming weeks (please check the weekly announcements and eNews).

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## Calling all gardeners!

This fall at NMU's Fall Fest on August 26th campus ministry has a goal to give out 100 house plants to the students for them to grow and nurture as they grow. If you could plant the seedlings of houseplants like Pathos, Spider, Swedish Ivy, etc. and have them sprouted in disposable cups and ready to plant, Rev. Marna Fransen will provide pots for these plants. If you have any questions, contact Pr. Molly. Thank you!

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## 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.

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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:

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

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

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## Vacation Bible School 2024: Seekers in Sneakers

**June 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> from 8:45 am – 12:00 pm**

Grab your sneakers because this year's Vacation Bible School will embark on the theme of Seekers in Sneakers: Discover Jesus! Every day kids will gather for songs, worship, and Bible stories with the extra fun of using geocaching methods in all our activities. Kids will travel around the church with their shepherd playing active games, learning about Jesus, enjoying a fun snack, and doing science activities or creating art. This five-day Vacation Bible School is sure to be energetic and fun-filled, so register today on Messiah's website – [messiahlutheranmqt.org](http://messiahlutheranmqt.org)! Registration will end on June 10<sup>th</sup>.

For questions, contact Pr. Molly Hunter.

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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

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## **Messiah Birthdays**

May 15 John Collins, Romel Celaro  
May 16 No birthdays  
May 17 Tom Bronken  
May 18 Dale Alanko, Leslie Jarvi, Ken Vickstrom  
May 19 Karen Oslund, Nancy Raisanen, Dave Skoog  
May 20 Elmer Moasio, Joshua Sundman  
May 21 Marianne Brugman, Ralph Christensen, Ron Hill, Kiera Summersett  
May 22 Ricky Orhanen, Barb Salmela  
May 23 John VanDreel  
May 24 Maria Mendini-Fuller, Eliza Rector  
May 25 Laim Ulland-Joy  
May 26 No birthdays  
May 27 Laura Goodney  
May 28 Miriam Mattson, Michael Peterson  
May 29 Joe Blemberg, Jim Duranceau

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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**

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

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**Pastor on Call:**

Pastor Andrew is on call May 15, 19-22

Pastor Molly is on call May 16-18

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**Worship Volunteers**

**Saturday, May 18 – No 5:00 pm service**

**Sunday, May 19 – No in-person service; 8:30 am on 101.9 FM, Vimeo/Facebook**

**Sunday, May 19 – 10:30 am in sanctuary, on Vimeo/Facebook**

Ushers: Bev Evans, Marina Shinkarenko

Communion Assistants: Larry Pagel, Dave Blomquist, Sandy Lindberg

Greeters: Penny Streeter, Sherry Labbe

Projection Technician: Lesley Williams

Nursery: Maddie Dykema

Flower Delivery: Bev Evans

**Announcements and Classified Ads**

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**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.

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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 [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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### **Superior Handbells Concert at Messiah**

Superior Handbells ( *a community handbell choir*) presents its 3<sup>rd</sup> 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!

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### **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](mailto:MarquetteLions@yahoo.com). For more information about this event, visit our website [marquettelions.org](http://marquettelions.org) and click on the drop-down menu for Club Projects.

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### **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!

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

### **Advance Directives Presentation**

Learn how to make your healthcare preferences known! On June 20<sup>th</sup> there will be a presentation on advance directives. It will take place at the Millcreek Clubhouse (free and open to the public to attend). We will be discussing the most popular advance directive, the 5 wishes. There is no fee to attend this presentation, however there will be the 5 wishes available to purchase for those who are interested. The cost is \$5.00. There will also be a free Advance directive available for those who aren't able or interested in purchasing.

Have a say in your healthcare when it matters most. An advance directive is right for EVERYONE! Advance directives prepare you for the possibility that you wouldn't be able to speak for yourself – it is your voice. You should have an advance directive at any age, even if you're not sick.

For more details, please go to our website – [lakesuperiorhospice.org](http://lakesuperiorhospice.org).

**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](http://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.

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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