

Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Answering God's call to love

Messiah ENewsletter for May 28, 2025

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!

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

Community Meal - June 4

We will have a community meal on Wednesday, June 4 at 6:00 pm. The cooks will be serving a salad, spaghetti & garlic bread. There will be a vegetarian option served as well. Please join us for food & fellowship. We look forward to sharing a meal with you!

Need Volunteers to Bring Refreshments on Saturdays & Sundays

We need volunteers to bring refreshments for our coffee time on Sundays and for pre-worship on Saturdays. It can be cookies, bars, cheese and crackers, donut holes, fresh fruit, and just

about anything else that would serve as a snack. It does not have to be homemade. There is no need to do any set up or clean up; just put the refreshments on the table in the atrium. There is a signup sheet on the welcome table for Saturdays and for Sundays. You don't have to put down what you are bringing; just sign your name on the Sunday you plan to bring snacks. Thanks to everyone who volunteers.

Upcoming Events – May/June

May 28	Brookridge Worship at 1:30 pm
May 29	10:30 am Bible Study
May 30	Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am
June 1	Light the Fire for Fortune Lake at Prince of Peace at 7:00 pm
June 2	11-Step Centering Prayer at 6:00 pm
June 3	Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
June 4	Community Meal at 6:00 pm
June 5	Bible Study at 10:30 am
June 5	Centering Prayer at 1:30 pm
June 5	Building & Grounds at 5:00 pm
June 6	Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am
June 9	11-Step Centering Prayer at 6:00 pm
June 10	Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
June 10	Ruth Circle at Brookridge at 1:00 pm
June 11	Brookridge Worship at 1:30 pm

Building and Grounds Worker Bee Day

We have an opportunity for you to help beautify our grounds. There is a sign-up sheet on the welcome table for this event but feel free to show up and help or ask Pr. Molly how you can be involved if the date doesn't work for you!

June 19th from 2:00 - 5:00 Grounds Beautification Day: On this day we will be cleaning up around the church, weeding, sprucing up, planting and eradicating some of the mildew on the sides of the building. If you love gardening and would be willing to continue helping to tend some of our plants over the summer, we would so appreciate you showing up this day or contacting Jen in the church office.

Sunday School Families – Summer & Fall

This summer there will be a fun gathering at the home of Jen Bleckiner, who teaches 3 year olds through kindergarten. Join our teachers and other families for a fun evening with a bonfire, swimming, dinner and s'mores at their house. July 25th from 5:00 – 7:30 at 545 Fisher Street. Rain date will be August 1st. You are invited to bring a side dish or dessert. Sunday School for the fall begins on Rally Sunday – September 7th. Mark your calendars!

Light the Fire for Fortune Lake!

On June 1st at 7:00 pm ET (6:00 pm CT) at a location near you or online, you're invited to a campfire site to light the fire for Fortune Lake!

The Board of Directors invites you to our 2nd Annual 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.

The following locations will host simultaneous campfire events:

- *Ascension Lutheran Church - 7937 Hwy 51 South, Minocqua WI 54548
 - *Bethany Lutheran Church - 130 Odill Dr., Norway, MI 49870
 - *Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp - 138 Fortune Lake Camp Rd, Crystal Falls, MI 49916
 - *Holy Trinity Lutheran Church - 42905 Wilson Memorial Dr., Chassell, MI 49916
 - *Beach House hosted by Immanuel Lutheran Church - 1224 Lake Shore Dr., Gladstone, MI 49837
 - *Prince of Peace Lutheran Church - 555 Riverside Rd., Marquette, MI 49855
 - *Zion Lutheran Church - 100 Midland Ave., Ironwood, MI 49938
 - *Zion Lutheran Church - 2714 James St., Marinette, WI 54143
 - *Facebook LIVE - get a glimpse of ALL of 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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Join Messiah at Pride Fest 2025

Saturday, June 14 | 12:00–10:30 pm | Mattson Lower Harbor Park, Marquette

Messiah will once again be present at Upper Peninsula Pride Fest—because we believe every person is made in the image of God, and every story deserves to be seen, heard, and celebrated.

For us, this isn't just an event. It's a ministry of presence.

By showing up at Pride, we extend Christ's radical welcome to the 2SLGBTQIA+ community (two-spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning, intersex, asexual, or an identity not named). We embody the truth that God's love has no boundaries—and neither does our embrace. Whether it's through offering a blessing, sharing a smile, or simply listening, our booth becomes holy ground: a space where grace meets joy, sorrow, resilience, and hope.

Why it matters that we're there:

Because too many have heard the church speak rejection.

Because healing begins when love shows up—out loud and unafraid.

Because Pride is a celebration of belovedness, and we believe God delights in that.

We invite you to come:

- To volunteer at the Messiah table (contact the church office!)
- To march, mingle, dance, witness
- To be church in the park: visible, loving, and unashamed

Let's continue to show the U.P. what affirming faith looks like. For full festival details, visit uprainbowpride.org

Senior Men's Ministry

Messiah's Senior Men's Bible Study has been meeting every Friday morning at 9:00 am in room #202. Please join them on Friday morning!

2025 Messiah Directory Available for Pickup

Messiah's 2025 directory with your name, address & phone number, is available for pick up. If your information isn't included and you would like it in there, please contact Jen Dodge in the office. This is a directory for members and for visitors.

Bringing Sound and Vision to Life: Help Us Complete Our A/V Upgrades

Three years ago, a generous and anonymous donor helped launch a much-needed transformation of our audio and visual systems at Messiah. That initial gift sparked exciting progress: a clearer and more reliable speaker system in the sanctuary, upgraded sanctuary audio wiring, improved projection and streaming capabilities, and much needed initial updates to our internet infrastructure. These changes have already made a big difference in how we gather, worship, and connect—both in person and online.

But there's more work to do.

As our worship life evolves and our building continues to serve as a home for community and connection, it's time to finish what was started. We're now raising funds for the next phase of A/V improvements that will help us better serve everyone who comes through our doors.

Here's what's next:

- Improving the T-Coil hearing system for those with hearing aids, to make worship more accessible for all.
- Refreshing the speakers in the narthex, atrium, and nursery—and connecting them to the sanctuary system so that spaces like the nursery and Saturday evening worship can fully participate in sound.
- Creating a centralized A/V and internet closet near the sanctuary and office for better management and reliability.
- Rewiring outdated internet infrastructure throughout much of our building to support streaming, communication, and day-to-day operations.
- Upgrading the Magnuson Hall sound system so it can be a reliable space for worship, meetings, and events.
- Adding a large screen TV to the Atrium for overflow worship and presentations—welcoming all into the experience, even when the sanctuary is full.

It's a bold vision, but it's rooted in the same spirit that launched these improvements years ago: a commitment to inclusion, accessibility, and excellence in how we gather as the body of Christ.

To help reach our goal of nearly \$30,000, Messiah's Church Council has approved a matching initiative using undesignated memorial funds—so every dollar you give will be matched, doubling the impact of your generosity.

You can give by check or online, noting "A/V projects" in the memo line.

Thank you for all the ways you support Messiah—with your time, your gifts, and your love.

Together, we can make sure our worship and community spaces serve us well—not just today, but for years to come.

Let's finish what we started—together.

Vacation Bible School at First Presbyterian Church – June 16-19

First Presbyterian Church (120 N Front Street in Marquette) is holding Vacation Bible School June 16-19 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Children from Messiah are welcome to register and attend. Dinner is provided for all participants starting at 5:30 pm every evening. It is for children ages 5-13 years and there is no charge. This year's theme is Harry Potter, "Let God's Light Be Your Lumos".

To register, go to:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf6OfM1ZHNwx8NpgJYT65UcjOyp1Y6cKDiykO1AJYvMmYQPUA/viewform?usp=header>

Jam News

It is time to clear the shelves to make them ready for [2025 fruits of the harvest](#). We are reducing the price to \$3.00 per jar on all remaining 2024 jam jars as a thank you for supporting the assistance fund with your purchase.

Centering Prayer

What is the purpose of centering prayer? Simply to consent to God's Presence and action within. You can practice it yourself at home, or you can join others in the practice. Not all knowledge comes from books, or words, or others. We were promised an Advocate but in order to hear the guidance of that Advocate, we must go into a private place and listen. The practice is this:

With the intention to consent to God's Presence and action within—

Choose a sacred word, as a symbol of consent to God's presence and action within. It should be a simple word or phrase which keeps reminding us of our intention to seek God's guidance. Sit or lie comfortably, and close your eyes. Gently introduce your sacred word.

Whenever you find yourself distracted by thoughts, emotions, bodily sensations (and you WILL find this happening)--ever so gently return to your sacred word. Repeat this step about 10 million times.

At the end of your prayer time, sit briefly to allow yourself to come back to the physical moment.

Traditionally, most centering prayer teachers recommend two silent sittings of 20 minutes, twice daily. This is often too much for beginners. Better to begin with a short amount of time—3 to 5 minutes—when you are establishing your practice. The most important thing is to keep at it and if you make it too onerous, you won't keep at it. YouTube has videos about centering prayer; opportunities to practice with others online can be found at www.meditationchapel.org Books that are helpful by Thomas Keating are: "Open Mind, Open Heart" and "Invitation to Love."

You are invited to join us on Tuesdays from 11-12. No need to commit to every meeting.

Come when you can. We sit together in silent practice for 20 minutes and follow our prayer time with Lectio Divina (readings that have inspired or supported God's command to love God and love one another).

OWLs (Older, Wiser Lutherans) Weekly Walk

Spring is (hopefully) here and on Mondays at 10:00 am we will be walking at the Lower Harbor Mattson Park if it's not raining. If the weather is rainy, we'll walk at the Dome. Afterwards we go to Provisions for coffee. We walk at different rates and all are welcome. If you are not interested in walking, join us for coffee. Questions? Please contact Betsy or the church office.

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 and/or Baby Wipes*

*June – *Hand Sanitizer and/or Razors (male/female)*

Messiah Birthdays

May 28	Miriam Mattson
May 29	Joe Blemberg, Crystal Swanson
May 30	Jason Schilling
May 31	Conrad Jewett, Jeannie Wagner
June 1	Ron Brow
June 2	Sandy Lindberg
June 3	Gayle Mack
June 4	No birthdays
June 5	No birthdays
June 6	Rick Beyers, Lois Kampe, Sally McQueen
June 7	No birthdays
June 8	John Gustafson, John Kiltinen, Judy Quirk
June 9	No birthdays
June 10	Mary Beals, Karen Goins, Rulon Jewett, Carrie Ketchum
June 11	Pauline Kiltinen, Bruce Lindberg

In the Hospital

Please inform the church office when you are hospitalized. Pr. Molly Hunter & Pr. Andrew Plocher would like to visit you while you are there. If you are unable to notify Messiah, please ask a family member to do so.

In Our Prayers

Family and friends of Cary Bjork who passed away; Darlene Dreisbach; Philip Andersen and family upon the passing of Philip's mother, Marilyn; Ruth Koehler; Sherrie Wagner; Jan Brown; Betsy; Carrie Oslund; John Collins; Myra; Katie; John Kiltinen; Mary Ruman; Jeremy; Owen; Sally Olson; Charlie Blake; Carol Bell; Dorothy; Lynne Robertson; Karen; Rose Collins; Rick Castillo; Don Hillegas; Grant; Kai Dolan; Samantha; Ted; Bruce Lindberg; Grace Chien; Jamie; Donna; Brian; Ben; Sandy Grenke; Evelyn; Akira Carlson; Karen Eldevick; Grace; Shannon; Billy & Kathy S.; Leesa; Jesse Wright; Marshall Lovan; Peter; Shawn; Mae Desonia; Lisa Douros; Tina; Williamson family; Wayne Hanmer; Judy Donckers; Sierra; Charlene Avery

Pastor on Call:

Pastor Andrew is on call June 1-4

Pastor Molly is on call May 28-31

Worship Volunteers

Saturday, May 31 – 5:00 pm in atrium

Assisting Minister: Carol Bell

Communion Assistant: Karen Kimar-Johnson

Provide Refreshments: Kathy Godec

Sunday, June 1 -- 8:30 am in sanctuary, on 101.9 FM, Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister: Larry Pagel

Reader: Judy Quirk

Ushers: Bruce Robertson and Sam Elder

Communion Assistants: Larry Pagel, Judy Quirk, Marina Shinkarenko

Greeters: Al and Gail Edgar

Nursery: Mylee Muscoe

Provide Refreshments: Karen Kimar-Johnson

Sunday, June 1 –10:30 am in sanctuary, on Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister	Molly Luty
Reader:	Mike Hill
Ushers:	Dave and Jill Luoma
Communion Assistants:	Mike and Joan Hill, Marina Shnkarenko
Greeters:	Marina Shinkarenko
Projection Technician	Lesley Williams

Nursery:	Mylee Muscoe
Flower Delivery	Jill Luoma

Announcements and Classified Ads

Iconography: Painting as a Spiritual Practice – October 13-18

Iconography is an ancient Christian tradition where painting becomes a form of prayer. More than just creating art, it's a spiritual practice—slow, reflective, and deeply rooted in centuries of sacred storytelling. Through color, shape, and tradition, icons invite us to see with new eyes and connect with the divine in a hands-on, meaningful way.

This 6-day workshop in October, led by a teacher from the Prosopon School, offers a unique chance to step into this sacred art form. It's open to anyone—no art experience needed. The workshop is an investment of both time and resources, but full details (including cost and registration) are available online.

The workshop will be held at St. Louis the King Catholic Church (264 Silver Creek Rd. in Marquette). For more information, contact Mary Jane Lynch 906 360-5279 or maryjanelynch62@yahoo.com.

Support Local Lions Club

Support the Marquette Lions Club by renting a 3 x 5 American Flag for your front yard for Memorial Day, 4th of July, and Labor Day. Flags will be delivered prior to each holiday and picked up after the event. The minimum donation requested is \$35. If interested, please contact Kerry McGinley at 231-250-1092. Make checks payable to Marquette Lions Club. Thank you for your support.

Financial Help for Cancer Patients

If you or someone you know is going through any financial hardships while going through cancer treatment, please do not hesitate to contact Dave Poirier of Cancer Care of Marquette County (CCMC). 906-362-9226 / poirph@msn.com or Barb Salmela 906-250-1016.

There are no income guidelines. Assistance can be for travel expenses, insurance co-pay, medical bills & medications related to cancer care. This organization is all volunteer based. Money to support is from fundraising, grants and donations. This organization is a 501c3 group so donations are tax deductible. But I cannot emphasize enough....to CALL if you need help.

Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice Events

Grief Support Series – Loss of a loved one can look different for everyone. We will be exploring feelings, support, and tools to help guide you on your grief journey. Please join us, in a safe place to learn and share about the tender moments of grief. This series will take place every other Thursday from June 5th – August 14th from 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Facilitated by Lisa Martilla, Bereavement Coordinator & Social Worker. Please call our office at 906.225.7760 to sign up no later than 6/4/2025.

Grief Support Group - Grief can be overwhelming, and navigating it alone can make the pain feel even heavier. A grief support group is a safe, compassionate space where individuals who have experienced loss come together to share, listen, and heal. Guided by trained facilitators, these gatherings offer comfort, understanding, and connection through shared experiences. Whether you've recently lost a loved one or are still coping with grief from the past, attending a support group can help you process your emotions, reduce isolation, and find strength in community. Healing doesn't mean forgetting — it means learning to carry your loss with support beside you. Choose the location that works best for you! Free & open to the public. No affiliation to our hospice is required. Please call 906.225.7760 if you have any questions.

Gwinn

Forsyth Senior Center

165 N. Maple St

June 11

2:00 - 3:00 pm

Marquette

Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice

914 W. Baraga Ave

June 26

4:00 pm

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. Please call 906.225.7760 if you have any questions.

Marquette:

2nd Wednesday of every month
June 11 from 2:00-3:00 pm
Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice
914 W. Baraga Ave
participate

Telephone Based:

3rd Wednesday of every month
June 18 from 2:00-3:00 pm
Call 906.485.5527 to register
Landline or Cell phone required to

If you have any questions about these events, please don't hesitate to contact Jamie Barbieri (Community Outreach Coordinator) at 906.225.7760 or jbarbieri@lakesuperiorhospice.org

Do you have an announcement?

Send announcements & ads to Kathy Godec (kathy@messiahlutheranmgt.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@messiahlutheranmgt.org
Website: <https://www.messiahlutheranmgt.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