

# Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Answering God's call to love

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## Messiah ENewsletter for September 3, 2025

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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### Community Meal Tonight!

Our Community Meal is tonight (Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>) at 6:00 pm. Our cooks will be making spaghetti (with sausage), garlic bread, salad bar & dessert! Please join us for an evening of food & fellowship. We look forward to seeing you!

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## **Help Needed – Community Meal**

We need 2 more volunteers to help serve our community meal tonight and 1-2 more volunteers to help with cleaning up following the meal. If you can help, please let Jen or Kathy know. Thanks!

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## **Upcoming Events – September**

Sept 3	Community Meal at 6:00 pm
Sept 4	Bible Study at 10:30 am
Sept 4	Centering Prayer at 1:30 pm
Sept 4	Building and Grounds at 5:00 pm
Sept 5	Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am
Sept 7	First Day of Sunday School
Sept 7	Rally Day picnic starting after 10:30 am worship
Sept 7	OWLS Picnic at Judy Quirk's Camp at 2:30 pm
Sept 8	11-Step Centering Prayer at 5:30 pm
Sept 9	Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
Sept 9	Ruth Circle at Brookridge at 1:00 pm
Sept 10	Brookridge Worship at 1:30 pm
Sept 11	Bible Study at 10:30 am
Sept 11	Centering Prayer at 1:30 pm
Sept 12	Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am
Sept 15	11-Step Centering Prayer at 5:30 pm
Sept 15	Book Study "This Here Flesh" at 7:00 pm
Sept 16	Rachel Circle at 9:00 am
Sept 16	Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
Sept 17	Council at 6:30 pm

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## **Exciting News: A New Childcare Partner at Messiah**

As many of you know, Gretchen's House has made the decision to close their Marquette center. We are grateful for the care they have provided to children and families during their time with us, and we share in the disappointment of their closing.

At the same time, we are delighted to announce that Harbor Light Early Education, led by local director Ashley Crosland, will be our new childcare partner at Messiah. Harbor Light brings a commitment to the same high level of quality care and education—while offering more affordable tuition for families. Even more, Harbor Light's vision goes beyond childcare alone:

they are seeking NAEYC accreditation, building a strong community connection, and creating opportunities for collaboration with families, NMU, and our congregation.

We are especially excited about the clarity of planning, excellent communication, and spirit of partnership that Ashley is bringing to this work. We will be sharing more in a letter to the entire congregation soon, and we look forward to a Sunday in the near future when Ashley will join us between services for a meet-and-greet and to share more about her vision for Harbor Light in our space.

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### **Pastor Molly's Maternity Leave**

Pastor Molly has returned to the office and will work half time for the next four weeks. She will be in the office on Tuesday/Thursday each week and weekends until September 21st. She will be back full-time starting Monday, September 22nd.

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### **UP Wild - Blessing of the Monarchs – Sept. 4**

Join U.P. Wild for their 5th Annual Blessing of the Monarchs!

As the monarch butterflies make their long pilgrimage south, we will gather at The Peninsula Point Light House located at the southern tip of the Stonington Peninsula. There will be a special opening ceremony and then we will reciprocate our blessings and prayers for a safe passage. Carpooling is highly recommended. Please bring a folding chair. Service is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, September 4th, however this date may be pushed back to another Thursday in September depending on when the monarchs are ready to take off for Mexico. Please check the website for up-to-date information visit [www.upwild.org/deltacounty](http://www.upwild.org/deltacounty)

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### **OWLs Event – Sept. 7**

The Owls group is invited to a potluck picnic at Judy Quirk's camp on Sunday, September 7th starting at 2:30 pm. We plan to eat at 4:00 pm. Directions are in the office.

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### **Lutheran World Relief School Kits**

During August & September Women Reaching Women Circle will be collecting donations of school supplies for Lutheran World Relief School Kits. These kits are sent to children in need in our country & around the world.

A bin is available in the narthex for your donations. We also welcome cash contributions.

Thank you for your help! The following items are needed:

- 70-sheet notebooks, wide- or college-ruled
- Box of 16 or 24 crayons

- Pencil sharpener
  - Unsharpened #2 pencils
  - 2 1/2" Pink Pearl-type eraser
  - 30 cm ruler, or ruler with centimeters on one edge and inches on the other
  - Fiskars-type kids' scissors
  - Black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
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## **Confirmation Kick-Off: Come As You Are!**

September 14, 5:00–7:00 pm - Immanuel Lutheran Church in Negaunee

We're launching a new year of Confirmation with a kick-off gathering on Sunday, September 14, from 5:00–7:00 pm at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Negaunee. All youth and their parents are invited—whether you're new to Confirmation or continuing the journey. Food will be provided!

This evening will be a chance to meet one another—youth, parents, and leaders from Messiah and around our partner congregations. Together, we'll celebrate the radical love of Jesus, explore what's ahead, and outline the rhythms of the coming program year.

As we begin this new chapter, Confirmation will now be centered around grades 7 through 9, with this year's focus being the life and teachings of Jesus in the New Testament.

If you have questions about Confirmation or this year's program, please reach out to Pastor Andrew or Pastor Molly. We're excited to walk this road with you.

Come curious. Come as you are. Come hungry—for dinner and for grace.

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## **This Here Flesh — Book Study – September 15**

What does it mean to live with dignity? To carry memory, fear, hope, and joy in a body that longs for healing? This September, we're inviting you to read *This Here Flesh* by Cole Arthur Riley—a beautiful, thought-provoking book that weaves together story, spirituality, and justice. Riley writes with honesty and beauty—poetic, grounded, and deeply rooted in lived experience. She explores themes like lament, rest, liberation, and wonder—not as abstract ideas, but as threads woven into our everyday lives.

We'll meet once in September (Monday, September 15 at 7:00 pm) to talk about what moved us, what challenged us, and what's still stirring beneath the surface. No homework. No pressure. Just a chance to show up, reflect, and be part of something honest and real. Books are available in the church office for \$15. All are welcome—bring your story, your questions, and maybe a friend.

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## **Lifelong Faith Formation**

*Fall 2025 Classes are open for registration.*

Giving thanks for the opportunity to come together for listening and learning. Lifelong Faith Formation has been working to Equip the Saints in the Northern Great Lakes Synod and beyond for five years.

Join the shared conversations and enjoy the diversity of opportunities to learn with others as we grow in faith and respond to God's daily call.

The classes are free but may require the purchase of books or materials. Classes will be held via Zoom. Registration will be open through September 15.

**Caring for Creation** - a discussion study of the theological, societal, and scientific reasoning of the ELCA Social Statement. Instructor: Chuck Thomas, NGLSynod Vice President.

Wednesday evenings for 6 weeks, September 24 - October 29; 7-8 pm Eastern Time, 6-7 pm Central Time.

**Feeding Your Soul** - Practicing Spiritual Practices - Instructors: Pastors Terry Cathcart, Terry Frankenstein, Lee Goodwin, Grant Van Lishout; Deacons D'Etta Broam and Noreen Stevens.

Monday evenings for 7 weeks, September 15 - October 6, November 3-17; 7-8 pm Eastern Time, 6-7 pm Central Time.

**In the Beginning:** the first 11 Chapters of Genesis - Instructor: Pastor Tommy Wimsae.

Thursday evenings for 10 weeks, September 18 - November 20; 7-8 pm Eastern Time, 6-7 pm Central Time.

**Introduction to Biblical Hebrew** - Instructor: Pastor Nicole Hanson-Lynn. Sunday evenings beginning September 21 with end date to be determined; 7-8 pm Eastern Time, 6-7 pm Central Time.

**Recognizing, Responding, and Re-Visioning Discipleship in an age of Christian**

**Nationalism** - Instructor: Pastor David Van Kley. Tuesday evenings for 4 weeks, October 7-29; 7-8 pm Eastern Time, 6-7 pm Central Time.

For more information on these classes, check the handout on the Welcome Table. To register, go to [nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation/](http://nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation/)

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## **Sunday School Starts September 7**

Sunday School for the fall begins on September 7th. Registration for Sunday School is now live on Messiah's website. Rally Day, this same day, also includes a picnic style lunch of hot dogs after 10:30 worship along with fun activities for kids.

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## **Rally Day - Save the Date! – September 7**

Our kick-off to fall programming starts with Sunday School & Rally Day, which both start on Sunday, September 7th. Our Rally Day picnic will be held in our east parking lot. We will have hot dogs, chips, watermelon & ice cream sandwiches. We will also have some fun things for

the kids! If you are able to help make this day a success, please sign up at the welcome table. Thank you!

To prepare for this festive picnic, we are in need of a few canopies. If you have one you can share for the picnic, please let us know. We also need to start collecting gallon milk jugs. If you have clean, empty gallon milk containers, please drop them by the office between now and Sept 7th. Thank you!

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### **September Visit from Members of Azania Front, Tanzania**

Our congregation will be welcoming nine guests from our companion congregation in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, to visit us this month. They will be with us from September 19-October 1. All of us can play a role in making this group feel welcome. In a few weeks, on September 6th & 7th, members from our Global Mission team will be presenting a temple talk at the beginning of worship to let everyone know how they can participate as “day hosts” accompanying guests to a variety of activities at our church and in the community. And if you are not able to be a day host, you will have an opportunity to meet our guests on the weekends when they are with us in worship.

If you haven't had a chance yet, be sure to check out the kiosk in the atrium with the group members' pictures and information. We are very excited to share our congregational life and the Marquette community with our Tanzanian companions in a few short weeks. Pray for their safe travel!

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### **Day of Renewal Fall 2025 – September 28**

Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 28. Come and join the Women of Grace Lutheran of Gwinn and attend an afternoon of fellowship and dinner to learn about:

Resources for Aging: Finding your way through the maze of services and funding for them. The speaker will be Sue DeGroot, MSW, LMSW who has 40 plus years of experience as a social worker working in health care and as a mental health specialist.

The presentation will include:

Home care: What is it? How to get it? How to pay for it?

Hospice care: What is it? Who qualifies? How to pay for it?

Assisted Living and Nursing Home care: Who qualifies and how is it paid for?

The cost is \$5.00 (checks payable to NGLSWO). The program starts at 3:00 pm with a business meeting and dinner to follow. There is a sign-up sheet on the Welcome Table. Please sign up by Monday, September 22.

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## **Bowls for a Cause**

Turned Wooden Bowls are available for a donation to the community assistance fund. They are located next to the homemade jams in the narthex. All bowls are homemade and are finished with a food safe finish. If you have questions about the bowls, they can be directed to Paul Carstens at [pcarsten@alumni.nmu.edu](mailto:pcarsten@alumni.nmu.edu).

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## **Why Giving Tuesday is Crucial This Year**

As of August 15, seven and a half months into 2025, we have had 231 Assistance Fund visits and distributed \$32,087.71. This amounts to an average of \$139 per recipient. With 4.5 months to go in 2025 we are on schedule to distribute approximately \$51,335 this year – a new high!

Giving Tuesday will be on Tuesday, December 2nd this year. Please keep the Assistance Fund in mind as you plan your giving in 2025.

Thank you to all who make this ministry possible!

- - - Mary Lou Blomquist

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## **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.

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## **Knotty Knitters**

The Knotty Knitters will continue to meet at Messiah on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month. The knitters typically meet in Magnuson Hall but occasionally meet in the atrium. They do join one another for lunch at Vangos prior to coming to Messiah. Please contact Shelly Johnson for more information.

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## **A/V Project: Almost There!**

We've \$16,000 toward our \$30,000 goal—over halfway there! Thanks to your gifts (and the Council's match), every dollar given now takes us twice as far.

These upgrades aren't about gadgets—they're about people. Stronger sound, T-coil support, better internet, and refreshed systems mean everyone can fully join in worship and community, whether in person or online.

We're in the home stretch. Let's finish strong—so that no one is left out of what God is doing here.

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### **Jam News – Help Wanted**

At the end of this harvest year Grant will be going into semi-retirement from the jam project that his wife started so many years ago. Fear not, you may still get the jam as Rebecca Ulland who has been assisting Grant, has agreed to keep the project going. However, she will need the help of volunteers. Know that you will be helping others through the community assistance fund along with providing a variety of jams for congregation members and the community. It is a good way to share God's abundance. If you are interested in helping Rebecca, please contact her at [rjulland@yahoo.com](mailto:rjulland@yahoo.com)

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### **Brookridge Worship**

Our worship service at Brookridge is held on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday at 1:30 pm. Several of our members live there & attend our service regularly. Our service includes hymns, confession, absolution, thanksgiving, psalms, scripture, a homily, Apostles' Creed and Holy Communion. It is a real worship service.

Worshipping with this congregation is a blessing. The singing is robust, the prayers are from the heart, communion and forgiveness is truly felt and the fellowship is sincere.

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### **End-of-Summer Generosity: Staying Rooted Together**

Summer has a way of shifting our rhythms—days at the lake, travel, family gatherings, and long evenings of rest. These are gifts of the season, and many of us need that space to renew our bodies and spirits.

Even while our routines change, the life of the church continues in full: worship each week, care for one another, outreach in the community, and preparation for the ministries of fall. That steady presence is only possible because of your generosity.

As often happens, giving has slowed over the summer months. This dip is natural, but it also means we enter the fall a little behind where we hoped to be. Your faithful support now will help us catch up and move forward with strength—ready for Sunday school, book studies, music, and the many ways we share God's love together.

If you've been away, consider making a special end-of-summer gift or setting up recurring giving. Every offering matters, and every gift helps root our ministry more deeply in Christ's love. Together, we can step into this next season with confidence, knowing that God multiplies what we give and uses it for healing, welcome, and hope.



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## **Fortune Lake News**

### **Senior Day – September 8**

Fortune Lake welcomes you to our next Senior Day on Monday, September 8th, from 10 am to 2 pm CT. Our presentation will be given by Pr. Dave Van Kley, who will share on the pertinent topic of Christian Nationalism: What it is, how to identify it, and how we are called to respond as Lutheran Christians. There is a suggested donation of \$15 to cover the cost of lunch. Those interested can RSVP to the camp office by calling (906)215-2267 or by emailing [hospitality@fortunelake.org](mailto:hospitality@fortunelake.org). We hope to see you there!

### **Fall Fest 2025: Quilt & Fine Arts Auction Fundraiser - Saturday, October 4th.**

Our Sisters of the Cloth and other generous artisans and quilters are hard at work to provide the beautiful, high-quality items you have come to expect from this event. Join us in support of the ministry of Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp! The day begins with a continental breakfast and bake sale at 9:30 am CT in the dining hall with draffle tickets and hand-crafted items for sale in the chapel. The Quilt Auction begins at 11:00 am CT in the chapel. If you cannot attend, there is an online auction beginning September 24.

For more information or for submission forms for the auction or Fall Fest country store, go to [www.fortunelake.org](http://www.fortunelake.org).

### **Made in God's Image: Anti-Racism Retreat - Friday, October 17 – Sunday, October 19**

Our theme: "Made in God's Image," encourages us to walk with our siblings of color in the fight against racism, regardless of our own identities and prior knowledge. The retreat will feature a schedule of Bible studies, presentations, time for processing, opportunities for worship, and a community-centric approach to learning about how to better support our neighbors. There will also be time to enjoy the beauty of Fortune Lake.

For more information or to register, please go to [www.fortunelake.org](http://www.fortunelake.org).

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## **New Presiding Bishop for the ELCA**

The Rev. Yehiel Curry was elected as the next Presiding Bishop of the ELCA on July 30th at the churchwide assembly—a historic and joyful moment for our church. He is the first Black person ever to serve in this role. Currently bishop of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod, Curry brings years of experience as a pastor, community leader, and advocate for justice. His

ministry began in Riverdale, Illinois, where he helped launch Shekinah Chapel, and has always centered on inclusion, relationship, and raising up new leaders.

Bishop-Elect Curry has spoken about the importance of not just naming a vision, but living it—bringing more people to the table and aligning passion with purpose. We give thanks for his leadership and pray for him and for our whole denomination as we move into this new chapter, trusting that the Spirit is at work in bold and hopeful ways.

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## **2025 WELCA Retreat at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp**

Friday, September 19 - Sunday, September 21

### ***Hidden Women of Faith***

*“She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come” Proverbs 31:25*

Meet our Presenter: Dr. Katie Deaver. Our presenter this year is Dr. Katie Deaver. She holds a Ph.D. in feminist Theology and Ethics from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago.

Come and join us as we explore the lives of several remarkable women and discover the “hidden” ways their personal faith impacted their communities and the world. Through stories of resilience, strength, and devotion we’ll celebrate these hidden women of faith as we continue our own faith journey. Katie is committed to making theology accessible and enriching for all people of faith. Cluster 8 welcomes you to come join in our 2025 retreat. We are currently planning our breakout sessions, but plan on card making, bible study and some gourmet s’mores with a wine pairing. Make some time and join us, bring a friend.

Registration forms and scholarship applications can be found at [nglsynod.org/swo](https://nglsynod.org/swo).

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## **Day of Remembrance – September 30**

September 30 is the National Day of Remembrance for Indian Boarding Schools. As a Church, we are committed to understanding our role in the tragic and sinful history of Indian boarding schools so that we can journey towards healing together. You are encouraged to wear an orange shirt and/or raise an orange flag and post a photo on social media.

Use your voice throughout the year to educate and make more people aware of the history of Indian boarding schools, Christian complicity in cultural genocide, multi-generational impacts that are felt by Native Americans today, and paths toward healing. See this [ELCA webpage](#), the “NABS” [website](#) and [Facebook page](#), and our extensive [Learning Toolkit](#).

**Sunday, September 28, 7:00-8:15pm (CDT)**

Discussion of the documentary *Sugarcane*, about an investigation into abuse and missing children at an Indian residential school that ignites a reckoning on the nearby Sugarcane Reserve. "*Sugarcane* illuminates the beauty of a community breaking cycles of intergenerational trauma and finding the strength to persevere" (*National Geographic* documentary films).

TO DO: All participants in the online discussion must view the documentary in advance. Do an internet search on "Watch Sugarcane documentary" and you'll see a variety of choices, including several that do not require a streaming subscription.

Click [HERE](#) for questions that can guide your personal reflection as you watch the film. We'll use some of these questions in our online discussion.

Zoom

link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4756726153?pwd=N0dtMmlrcVBjc1JYU1hPZjh3aXI4Zz09>

Please note that this session is for people who have *watched the film*. (There isn't really a role for people to "listen in" who haven't viewed it and prepared their reflections.)

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## What is Centering Prayer?

Centering prayer is a form of silent prayer that emphasizes resting in God's presence through silence and a sacred word. It involves finding a quiet space, sitting comfortably, and focusing on a chosen word to help maintain stillness and let go of thoughts. The goal is to cultivate a deeper relationship with God through stillness and receptivity. Several members of Messiah lead groups that practice this form of prayer throughout the week as a piece of their faith life. - *Pr. Molly Hunter*

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## Centering Prayer

Did you know that there's a prayer called the "I don't know" prayer?

You just go somewhere quiet and you sit at the feet of God and you say, "I don't know."

I don't know where to go from here.

I don't know what is happening.

I don't know how to process this.

I don't know what to do with these emotions.

I don't know how to handle this situation.

And then, with whatever little grain of faith you have, you say, "But You know."

And you leave it there. God most certainly answers your prayers.

- - - *Author unknown*

#### Practice opportunities:

Here at Messiah Tuesdays from 11-noon, followed by Lectio Divina.

Online via Zoom at [www.meditationchapel.org](http://www.meditationchapel.org)

Using the "Centering prayer" app on your smart phone

Learning about Centering prayer and practicing on your own via written materials.

Two books that have been helpful to me are "Open Mind, Open Heart" and "Invitation to Love" by Thomas Keating.

Listening to talks on YouTube. Many of Thomas Keating's talks are available.

- - - *Nancy Hamlin*

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### **OWLs (Older, Wiser Lutherans)**

The OWLs meet on Monday morning at 10:00 am at the lower harbor/Mattson Park. If the weather is rainy, they walk at the Dome. Afterwards they go to Provisions for coffee. They walk at different rates and welcome everyone to join them. If you're not interested in walking, join us for coffee. If you have any questions, please contact Betsy Little or the church office.

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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:

\*September – *Packages of feminine pads and/or tampons*

\*October – *Hand Sanitizer & Toilet Paper (packs of 4 or 6 rolls)*

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### **Messiah's Bell Choir**

Messiah's Bell Choir will resume in October on Monday, October 6th. There are spaces and bells for 14 to 16 people or more. New ringers and/or experienced ringers are welcome. Come and see. Come and learn. Come and ring.

- - - *Judy Quirk*

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### **Crop Hunger Walk – October 12**

The Marquette County Crop Walk will be on Sunday, October 12 with registration starting at 1:30 pm and the walk starting at 2:00 pm. Our host is The Marquette Hope Connection Center at 927 W Fair Ave. 25% of the money raised will be distributed locally to Feeding America (sponsored by Silver Creek Church) and the NMU Food Bank. 75% of the money raised will go to Church World Service for use with grassroots, hunger-fighting development efforts around the world. Join us in our quest to alleviate hunger in our communities! For more information, contact Crystal Swanson at [crystaljswanson@yahoo.com](mailto:crystaljswanson@yahoo.com) or [wesley@mqthope.com](mailto:wesley@mqthope.com).

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## **LWR InGathering at Messiah – October 18**

Messiah will have their Lutheran World Relief (LWR) Truck Loading Day on Saturday, October 18th at 10:00 am. The truck will be here for one hour only.

If your Circle/Quilting group has boxes of kits/quilts to send, please record the following information for the office:

1. Number of quilts and/or kits your Circle/Quilting group has made
  2. Number of boxes of quilts, school kits, personal health kits, baby care kits and/or number of boxes of sewing kits. Thank you!
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## **A Daily Guide for September**

### September 1 – Begin Again

Say a quiet blessing over this new month. Welcome it with open hands and a willing heart.

### September 2 – The Gift of Routine

Notice one ordinary rhythm in your day—making coffee, a commute, packing lunch—and let it become a prayer.

### September 3 – A Prayer for New Starts

Pray for all who are beginning something new this fall—students, teachers, caregivers, and those starting over.

### September 4 – Walk with Intention

Take a short walk today. Let each step be a small act of presence. Whisper a prayer with your feet.

### September 5 – Celebrate a First

What's a first you remember fondly—first day of school, first job, first friend? Let memory stir up gratitude.

### September 6 – Bless the Work

Offer a blessing over your work—paid or unpaid, creative or caretaking. "God, may this labor be rooted in love."

### September 7 – Hold a Backpack Blessing

Whether it's your own, a child's, or symbolic: "God, may this carry not just books, but hope, courage, and wonder."

### September 8 – Find Beauty in Transition

Notice the light shifting, the air changing, the quiet transformation underway. Bless this in-between time.

### September 9 – Pray for Educators

Lift up teachers, aides, mentors, and professors. Ask God to renew their energy and honor their calling.

### September 10 – Let Yourself Be Taught

Learn something new today—however small. Receive it with childlike curiosity.

### September 11 – Remember and Recommit

On this day of national memory, pray for peace. Let sorrow deepen your resolve to love.

### September 12 – Practice Grounding

Place your feet flat on the floor. Breathe deeply. Say: "God, help me be rooted in you today."

### September 13 – A Mid-Month Check-In

How is your spirit? What do you need more of? Less of? Offer it honestly to God.

### September 14 – Create Something Small

Draw, write, sing, cook, or build something—anything. Let it be a quiet act of joy.

### September 15 – Rest in God's Presence

Turn off noise for ten minutes. Be still. Imagine God resting with you.

### September 16 – Light a Candle for the Future

As the church year edges toward harvest, light a candle and say: "God, guide what is yet to come."

### September 17 – Seek Out Wisdom

Ask a question you've been holding. Listen for an answer—in scripture, conversation, or silence.

### September 18 – Welcome the Stranger

Look for someone who feels on the edge and extend kindness. Invite connection.

### September 19 – Pray for the Church

Pray for your congregation, pastors, musicians, children, and ministries. Ask for renewed vision and joy.

### September 20 – Practice Gratitude for Community

Name five people who help you feel less alone. Offer thanks for them—perhaps even tell them.

### September 21 – Bless Your Tools

Bless the instruments of your daily life—your phone, your car, your pen, your planner. May they serve grace.

### September 22 – Celebrate Autumn's Arrival

As the season shifts, say: "Thank you, God, for cycles and seasons. For endings, beginnings, and all that falls in between."

### September 23 – A Prayer for Courage

Say: "God, give me the courage to show up as I am, to risk love, to keep becoming. Amen."

### September 24 – Declutter with Intention

Choose one area to clear today. As you do, whisper: "Make space in me, too, O God."

### September 25 – Pray for Students

Remember students of all ages today. Pray for curiosity, resilience, rest, and belonging.

### September 26 – Return to the Psalms

Read a psalm aloud. Let its poetry hold your own prayers.

### September 27 – Share a Sacred Meal

Eat intentionally today—with someone else, or with presence. Taste. Savor. Give thanks.

### September 28 – Remember Your Baptism

Touch water today—washing your hands, walking in rain, sipping tea. Remember you are beloved.

### September 29 – Practice Hope

Hope can feel risky. Try it anyway. Say: "God, help me hope for what I cannot yet see."

### September 30 – A Blessing for the Journey

Say: "God of every season, thank you for this month. Go with me into what's next—steady, stretching, and sustaining me. Amen."

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## **Devotions Link**

[www.prayfaithfully.org](http://www.prayfaithfully.org) is an on-line devotional reading service maintained by the Northern Great Lakes Synod and written by various pastors and laypersons.

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## **Messiah Birthdays**

Sept 3	Cecelia Christopher
Sept 4	No birthdays
Sept 5	Jack Van Alstine
Sept 6	Dietrich Spickerman, Ellen Symons
Sept 7	Kathy Osier, Nancy Skoog
Sept 8	Gary Peterson, Charlie Sander
Sept 9	Renee Messana, Natalie Weir
Sept 10	Jim Elder
Sept 11	Julie Elder, Emma Maki-Warne

Sept 12     Sten Taube  
Sept 13     Wayne Geschwindt, Joe Harkness  
Sept 14     Jen Dodge, Theo Zimmer  
Sept 15     Laurie McGovern  
Sept 16     Ashlee Blom, Ilene Mattson, Kristen Smith  
Sept 17     Emily Coyne, Hali Ziegler

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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 are unable to notify Messiah, please ask a family member to do so.

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## **Your Prayer Requests at Messiah**

At every Saturday & Sunday worship service, we ask people to fill out a welcome card that is found in the bulletin. The card asks people to put their prayer requests on the back, and these requests are prayed for every Tuesday morning at Messiah's staff meeting. If you wish to have your name or a loved one's name read during worship, please call the office or let the pastors or Jen know. We will need to get permission before we include anyone's name in the worship prayers.

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## **In Our Prayers**

*Please remember the following people in your prayers at this time:* Jan Vickstrom; Doug Morton; Tom Osier; Karen; Jackie Greising; Art Ortlieb; Christine and Jason; Judy Quirk; Lois LaBrecque; Darlene Dreisbach; Ruth Koehler; Sherrie Wagner; Jan Brown; Betsy; Carrie Oslund; John Collins; Myra; Katie; John Kiltinen; Mary Ruman; Jeremy; Sally Olson; Charlie Blake; Carol Bell; Dorothy; Lynne Robertson; Karen; Rose Collins; 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

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## **Pastor on Call:**

Pastor Andrew is on call September 3, 7-10

Pastor Molly is on call September 4-6



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## **Worship Volunteers**

### **Saturday, September 6 – 5:00 pm in atrium**

Assisting Minister: Carol Bell  
Communion Assistant: Barb Salmela

Provide Refreshments: **Need a volunteer.**

### **Sunday, September 7 -- 8:30 am in sanctuary, on 101.9 FM, Vimeo/Facebook**

Assisting Minister: Dave Blomquist  
Reader: Louise Reichert  
Ushers: Bruce Robertson, Sam Elder  
Communion Assistants: Kathy Maynard, Beth Krznarich, Dave Blomquist  
Greeters: Al and Gail Edgar

Nursery: Mylee Muscoe  
Provide Refreshments: Karen Kimar-Johnson

### **Sunday, September 7 –10:30 am in sanctuary, on Vimeo/Facebook**

Assisting Minister: Inga Banitt  
Reader: Mark Paulsen  
Ushers: Jill Luoma, Jean Reynolds  
Communion Assistants: Gayle Mack, Bronce Reece, Sandy Lindberg  
Greeters: Ellen Symons, **need one more volunteer.**  
Projection Technician: Abby LaForest

Flower Delivery: Jill Luoma

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### **10:30 am Worship Volunteers**

We need more volunteers for our 10:30 worship service. Specifically, ushers and communion assistants. If you are interested in either of these roles or if you have questions about them; please visit Jen or Kathy in the office and they will let you know what is involved. Thank you!

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### **Radio Broadcast & Livestream Sponsorship**

We need sponsors for weekly/ongoing radio broadcasts & livestream. If this is something you would like to support, please contact the office & share what you would like written for your sponsorship; it can be in honor or in memory of a loved one. You can reach us by phone at 225-1119 or email at [office@messiahlutheranmqt.org](mailto:office@messiahlutheranmqt.org). The cost of the Radio Broadcast or Livestream sponsorship is \$110.00 each.

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## **Announcements and Classified Ads**

### **Medication Help Available**

If you have questions or concerns regarding your medications, you can contact retired pharmacist, Barb Salmela. Contact the office to get her number. All inquiries are confidential. She can help find discounts for medication, ways to possibly obtain them for free, or suggest less expensive alternatives.

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### **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](mailto:maryjanelynch62@yahoo.com).

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### **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](mailto:poirph@msn.com) or Barb Salmela.

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.

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

Memory Café: Painting with Purpose: Create, Connect & Paint! Memory Cafes are welcoming stigma free social gatherings for individuals with memory loss and their care partners. Take a moment to unwind with gentle painting. Explore color, spark memories, and enjoy creative time together – no experience needed. Registration required to 906.225.7760 or outreach@lakesuperiorhospice.org. Free to attend. Peter White Library 217 N. Front St, on Monday, Sept. 22nd from 10:30 am – 12:00 pm.

Memory Café: Welcome Wednesday at the Trillium House – Sept. 24th from 12:00 – 1:00 pm. A friendly, supportive gathering for individuals living with memory loss and their care partners. Enjoy lunch, connect with others, and hear from special guests from the Alzheimer's Association. Plus take a tour of Trillium House and learn more about how they support families and caregivers with their short term respite stays and hospice support in a warm, home-like setting. Please RSVP by Sept. 17th by calling 906.264.5026. Trillium House is located at 1144 Northland Dr. in Marquette.

Community Memorial Service – Are you grieving the loss of a family member or friend? We invite you to gather with us in remembrance of loved ones who have passed. This special service is open to all members of the community. If you'd like to have your loved one's name read during the service, please contact us at 906.225.7760. This community memorial service takes place at D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans Chapel, 425 Fisher St. on Wednesday, Sept. 10th at 6:30 pm.

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## **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.

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## **Messiah Contact Information**

Messiah Lutheran Church  
305 W. Magnetic St.

Phone: 906-225-1119  
Fax: 906-225-5025

Marquette, MI 49855

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 & Jon Banitt

Pianist – Jacob Schmeltzer & Jocelyn Basse