

# Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Answering God's call to love

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## Messiah ENewsletter for October 1 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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### Upcoming Events - October

- Oct 1 Community Meal at 6:00 pm
- Oct 2 Bible Study at 10:30 am
- Oct 2 Centering Prayer at 1:30 pm
- Oct 2 Building & Grounds at 5:00 pm

Oct 3 Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am  
Oct 3 Sandy Grenke's Visitation at Fassbender Swanson from 4:30-7:30 pm  
Oct 4 Sandy Grenke's Funeral service at Messiah at 11:00 am  
Oct 4 Funeral Luncheon with finger food start at approximately 12:00 pm  
Oct 6 Personnel Committee at noon  
Oct 6 11-Step Centering Prayer  
Oct 7 Centering Prayer at 11:00 am  
Oct 8 Brookridge Worship at 1:30 pm  
Oct 9 Bible Study at 10:30 am  
Oct 9 Centering Prayer at 1:30 pm  
Oct 10 Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am  
Oct 11 Handbell Workshop at 8:00 am  
Oct 11/12 Blessing of the kits & quilts for Lutheran World Relief  
Oct 12 CROP Walk Registration at 1:30 pm  
Oct 12 CROP Walk at 2:00 pm  
Oct 13 11-Step Centering Prayer at 5:30 pm  
Oct 14 Centering Prayer at 11:00 am  
Oct 14 Ruth Circle at Brookridge at 1:00 pm  
Oct 17 Fun Night at YMCA for Sunday School kids at 5:00 pm  
Oct 18 Load boxes onto LWR truck at 10:00 am  
Oct 19 Commitment Sunday  
Oct 19 Potluck Lunch – bring a dish to pass  
Oct 26 Reformation Sunday and Confirming Youth

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### **Community Meal - October 1**

Our next Community Meal will be on Wednesday, October 1st at 6:00 pm. Our cooks will be making chili (having many toppings available to choose from) cornbread, french bread & dessert! Please join us for an evening of food & fellowship. We look forward to seeing you!

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### **Hayes Corn Maze Trip – October 12**

Youth grades 6-12 are invited to a trip to the Hayes Corn Maze in Rock on Sunday, October 12 from 2:45 pm to 5:30 pm (or 1:30 pm at Immanuel to carpool). The suggested donation is \$10.00. Dinner will be provided. Please RSVP by Monday, October 6 to Stacy at 906 361-9123.

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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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## **Sunday School Fun Night at the Y – October 17**

On October 17th Messiah's Sunday School Teachers and Pastor Molly will host a fun night at the Y. Join us for play and swimming from 5-7 p.m. Beginning at 5:00 the play gym will be open, and we will serve pizza, veggies and cookies starting at 5:30. Then, from 6-7 p.m. the pool will be open to us. We hope that this is a fun night where your kids will get to play with their Sunday School friends and teachers.

A sign-up sheet will be on the welcome table outside the church office. Please sign up by Sunday, October 12th. If you have any further questions, please ask Mary Beth Carstens or Pr. Molly

### Some things to know:

- You are welcome to come and hang out, stay with your child and have dinner. Or, your child can be dropped off and we will watch them as long as they are able to swim without assistance.
  - The Y will provide 2 lifeguards for the swimming time.
  - The play gym will be open and chaperoned for the whole time.
  - All of Messiah's volunteers that work with kids are background checked.
  - If you are dropping your child off, please make sure they are dressed in their swimwear and please return to help them dress for home if they need assistance – we will not be helping your child change.
  - Please have your child bring a towel and a water bottle.
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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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## **Commitment Sunday: Together for Good – October 19**

As we begin our stewardship season and look ahead to 2026, we claim the promise that when we come together in faith, God works through us for good—good in our church family, good in our community, and good in the world. Over the coming weeks, we'll explore how our gifts of time, talent, and treasure can join together to bless others and strengthen our shared ministry. On Commitment Sunday, October 19th, we will gather as a community to offer our pledges of support for the coming year. This is more than filling out a card—it is an act of faith and gratitude, a way of saying *"Here I am, Lord. Use me, use us—together—for good."*

Every gift matters. Whether large or small, when joined together they sustain worship, care for those in need, nurture our children, and keep our doors open as a place of welcome and hope. What to do:

- Bring your completed pledge card to worship on Commitment Sunday.
- If you prefer, you can also submit your pledge online through [insert link].
- Join us after worship for a time of fellowship and thanksgiving as we celebrate the goodness of God and the generosity of God's people.

Let us each prayerfully consider how we can grow in generosity this year. And let us rejoice that, with God's help, *our church will continue to be a place of love, welcome, and service—Together for Good.*

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## **Potluck Lunch on Commitment Sunday! - October 19**

Please join us for a warm lunch after 10:30 am worship on Sunday, October 19th. We want to celebrate this day together! The church will provide chicken pieces and we ask that you/your family brings a dish to pass based on the following list, where it goes by the first letter of your last name:

A-K bring a casserole or side dish

L-T bring a salad or fruit or veggies

U-Z bring a dessert

Thank you all so much!

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## **Reformation Sunday is Coming! - October 26**

Reformation Sunday isn't just about looking back—it's about paying attention to how God is still reshaping us today.

In a world where religion is so often used to exclude, divide, or shame—especially those on the margins—Reformation reminds us who we are and whose we are. It re-centers us on God's radical love, on grace over fear, and on community over division.

It calls us to be part of the ongoing work of renewal, justice, and healing in the world.

We'll celebrate with festive worship, bold music, and of course—*lots of red!* Red is the color of the Holy Spirit, of fire and movement & new life. So wear your red—shirts, scarves, shoes, whatever you've got—and come ready to sing, pray, and be re-formed.

And we're extra excited to welcome a brass quintet to help lead us in worship! Their music will bring even more joy and energy to the day.

Reformation isn't just history. It's happening now. Come be part of it.

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## **A greeting from Bishop Malasusa of the Eastern and Coastal Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I bring you warm greetings from the Eastern and Coastal Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania! With great joy, I thank God for the living partnership between Azania Front Cathedral and Messiah Lutheran Congregation. Your faithfulness through the years is a true witness of Christ's love. I am especially grateful to My brother, the Retired Bishop Thomas Skrenes, and to you, my sister and Current Bishop, Katherine A. Finegan, for your leadership in strengthening this bond, and to both congregations for keeping it alive. As Paul reminds us: "I thank my God every time I remember you... because of your partnership in the gospel" (Philippians 1:3–5). We also cherish the lasting marks you have left with us in Tanzania, especially at the Lutheran Junior Seminary in Kisarawe. Whenever students read books in the library, or we do diocese meetings there, we are reminded of you, and the building stands as a testimony of your love and generosity.

I rejoice knowing that during this visit, you prayed together, worshiped together, and encouraged one another in faith. May this joy carry us into the future as we dream new goals for our partnership. As you may know, Azania Front Cathedral is undertaking a major project at Kiharaka, and I warmly invite Messiah and the Northern Great Lakes Synod to walk with us in this noble mission. Hopefully, one day, Azania may be able to host you at Kiharaka! As Martin Luther said, "This life is not righteousness, but growth in righteousness; not health, but healing; not being, but becoming." (Martin Luther's "Defense and Explanation of All the Articles" (1521), May our partnership continue to grow and become a blessing for many.

Finally, I am glad to introduce Rev. Lusungu Mbilinyi as our new Coordinator for Partnership. He will walk closely with you in the days to come. On behalf of our Diocese, I joyfully invite you to visit us in Tanzania, to celebrate with us, see how God's Spirit is moving among His people, and to deliberate together how we can accomplish our noble task of becoming the salt, the light, and the hope of this World in our different contexts. In Tanzania, we say: "Umoja ni nguvu, utengano ni udhaifu"—"Unity is strength, division is weakness." May the unity we share in Christ continue to be our strength and joy. May the Lord bless you and keep you always in His grace.

Alex G. Malasusa  
Bishop, Eastern and Coastal Diocese  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania

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### **Community Meal Cook Team**

We are in need of one more cook team to make our community meal program a success. Have you ever considered doing this? Do you have questions regarding our community meals? If so, please do not hesitate to inquire in the office. You can cook with a friend or two or you and your spouse/partner could cook... the options are endless. Messiah pays for the meal. Please consider participating in this ministry!

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### **Quilting Needs**

The Quilters are again in need of sheets for our quilts. The sheets need to be clean (no stains), colored (not white), cotton or cotton blend (no microfiber). It is ok if elastic bands on fitted sheets are stretched or cut. The cost of sheets at the thrift stores has really gone up. We would appreciate any donations. Thank you!

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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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### **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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### **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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### **Fortune Lake News**

#### **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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## **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**

*But when you pray, go to your room, shut the door, and pray to God who is in that secret place, and your Abba God-who sees all that is done in secret, will reward you...Your God knows what you need before you ask it. Matthew 6:6, 7 The Inclusive Bible*

*The Spirit of God has made a home in you. Romans 8:9*

*Be silent and know that I am God! Psalm 46:10*

"There are all kinds of ways in which God speaks to us-through our thoughts or any one of our faculties. But keep in mind that God's first language is silence. Prepare yourself for silence in this prayer, and if other things happen, that is His problem, not yours. As soon as you make it your problem, you tend to desire something that is other than God. Pure faith will bring you closer to God than anything else. To be attached to an experience of God is not God, it is a thought. The time of centering prayer is the time to let go of all thoughts, even the best of thoughts. If they are really good, they will come back later.

Don't judge centering prayer on the basis of how many thoughts come or how much peace you enjoy. The only way to judge this prayer is by its long-range fruits: whether in daily life you enjoy greater peace, humility and charity. Having come to deep interior silence, you begin to relate to others beyond the superficial aspects of social status, race, nationality, religion and personal characteristics." Thomas Keating

We meet every Tuesday for 20 minutes of centering prayer practice followed by Lectio Divina. All are welcome and you do not need to have been practicing centering prayer as the instructions are simple and we go over them for newcomers. You also do not need to commit to attendance every week. Come when you can. Tuesdays from 11-noon.

- - - 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:

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

**\*November** – *Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Dental Floss & Denture Cleaner*

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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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## **Hildegarde-Johnson Music Scholarship Recipients**

We are delighted to announce the recipients of this year's Hildegarde Johnson Music Scholarship. Hildegarde was a longtime member of Messiah, a gifted choir director, and a woman whose passion for music and education shaped generations. In her honor, this scholarship supports children and youth in our congregation as they explore music through lessons, camps, instruments, and other opportunities.

This year's recipients are:

- Aegis MacIvor-Anderson
- Simeon MacIvor-Anderson
- Levin MacIvor-Anderson
- Sophie Sander
- Camden Fitzpatrick
- Sarah Bleckiner

We celebrate these young musicians and look forward with joy to hearing their gifts shared in worship in the months ahead. Through their learning and music-making, Hildegarde's legacy of faith, song, and love for community lives on.

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## Fall Finance Update

As summer turns to fall, we give thanks for the steady generosity of Messiah's community. Your giving continues to sustain the ministry we share—keeping worship vibrant, supporting staff and programs, and allowing us to be a place of welcome and hope. (At the end of August, giving remains strong & expenses are running lower than expected [partially due to seasonal costs], putting us in a healthier position than last year.)

Beyond the church's budget, your generosity shines through the Community Assistance fund. Already this year, nearly \$40,000 has been shared with neighbors in need—supporting hundreds of individuals and families with rent, utilities, and gas during difficult times. (At this time last year, that number was \$28,000). This is a powerful witness of God's love at work through you.

We are deeply grateful for all the ways you give—through offerings, through service, and through prayer. As we step into the months ahead, may we continue to embody generosity together, trusting that God provides more than enough for the work we are called to do. —  
*Messiah's Finance Committee*

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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

Oct 1	Cheryl Anderegg, Linda Savage, Pat Vacilek
Oct 2	Shane Parks, Paul Wainio
Oct 3	Sylvie Theys, Sarah Zeller
Oct 4	Joan Tasson
Oct 5	Patty Ryan, Esme Ulland-Joy
Oct 6	Al Edgar, Candace LeDuc
Oct 7	Lois Raikko
Oct 8	David Echelbarger, Jackie Greising, Milt Soderberg
Oct 9	Carol Cappuccio, Carol Ontto, Craig Teed
Oct 10	No birthdays

Oct 11	Tanya Jennings
Oct 12	No birthdays
Oct 13	Tom Moyle, Brianna Weir
Oct 14	No birthdays
Oct 15	No birthdays

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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:* Herb Grenke and family upon the passing of his wife, Sandy; Former and current CDC employees; Sam Elder; 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; Evelyn; Akira Carlson; Karen Eldevick; Grace; Shannon; Marshall Lovan; Peter; Shawn; Mae Desonia; Lisa Douros; Tina; Wayne Hanmer; Judy Donckers; Sierra; Charlene Avery

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## **Farewell and Thanks**

September 23, 2025

Dear Church,

I want to offer my sincere thanks for walking with me at the beginning of the ministry to which God has called me. Thank you for supporting me. I would not be the person I am today without your support. Being part of this wonderful community has been joyful. I honestly thought Jason and I would live in the Marquette Lutheran community for the rest of our lives; with that being said, we want to let all of you know that we are moving to Milwaukee.

We made the decision rather quickly after God began to open doors that the Holy Spirit was pushing us through. Marquette and the Northern Great Lakes Synod are special places, and it is difficult to think about leaving this beautiful area and the community, yet at the same time, we cannot ignore the push.

Thanks again for allowing us to walk together with you for a time. We will keep our 906 numbers, so feel free to call if you need anything.

Shalom, Deacon Jen and Jason Elsenbroek

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### **Pastor on Call:**

Pastor Andrew is on call October 1, 5-8

Pastor Molly is on call October 2-4

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### **Worship Volunteers**

#### **Saturday, October 4 – 5:00 pm in atrium**

Assisting Minister: Carol Bell

Communion Assistant: Terri Bocklund

Provide Refreshments: Kathy Godec

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

Assisting Minister: Grant Soltwisch

Reader: Mary Lou Blomquist

Ushers: Bruce Robertson, Anne Rydholm

Communion Assistants: Beth Krznarich, Dave Blomquist, **need 1 more volunteer.**

Greeters: Marina Shinkarenko, **need 1 more volunteer.**

Nursery: Mylee Muscoe

Provide Refreshments: Kathy Godec

#### **Sunday, October 5 –10:30 am in sanctuary, on Vimeo/Facebook**

Assisting Minister:	Marina Shinkarenko
Reader:	Nancy Hamlin
Ushers:	Fred and Jeanne Groos
Communion Assistants:	Sandy Lindberg, Gayle Mack, Bronce Reece
Greeters:	Kayleigh Beaudoin, Marina Shinkarenko
Projection Technician:	Inga Banitt
Nursery	Mylee Muscoe
Flower Delivery:	Jan Julian

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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**

### **Beethoven & Banjos Festival 2025 Celebrates Icelandic Roots in the Northwoods – October 10-12**

The Beethoven & Banjos Festival, the annual cross-genre celebration of classical and folk traditions, returns this October with a program inspired by the sounds and landscapes of Iceland. Now in its 11th season, the festival continues its mission of weaving together music, place, and community in uniquely Northwoods ways.

This year's ensemble brings together an extraordinary lineup of international and regional talent. **Sæunn Thorsteinsdóttir** is an internationally acclaimed Icelandic cellist praised for her "*emotional intensity*." Thorsteinsdóttir has performed at Carnegie Hall, Elbphilharmonie, Disney Hall, and beyond. **Halldór Smáráson** is an Icelandic composer and Manhattan School

of Music graduate, whose debut album *STARA* and collaborations with the Iceland Symphony and Ensemble intercontemporain have earned international recognition. **Evan Premo** is Artistic Director of Northwoods Music Collaborative and member of Carnegie Hall's Ensemble Connect. **Laurel Premo** is known for her roots-infused, Nordic-tinged sound that drives the festival's deep and distinctive musical experience.

Together, the ensemble will present a program blending traditional Icelandic melodies with improvisational explorations of "sense of place"—reflecting both the rugged beauty of Iceland and the Northwoods.

### **Festival Dates & Venues:**

**Friday, October 10 — 7:30 p.m.** | Reynolds Recital Hall, Northern Michigan University, Marquette, MI

**Saturday, October 11 — 7:00 p.m.** | Nicolet College Theatre, Rhinelander, WI (*Lakeside Lounge opens at 5:00 p.m.*)

**Sunday, October 12 — 2:00 p.m.** | Crystal Theatre, Crystal Falls, MI (*Come as you are. Pay what you can.*)

For full details, venue addresses, and ticket links, visit: [www.northwoodsmusiccollaborative.org](http://www.northwoodsmusiccollaborative.org)

Since its founding, Beethoven & Banjos has been about more than concerts. It is about building connections—between world-class artists and Northwoods communities, between tradition and innovation, and between music and the landscapes we call home. The festival thrives thanks to the generosity of friends and supporters who share this vision.

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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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### **Fall Craft Bazaar and Luncheon – October 25**

The First Presbyterian Church (120 N Front St) is holding a fall craft bazaar and luncheon on Saturday, October 25 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. The bazaar will feature local crafters, church craft items, and baked goods. Lunch served from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm, is by donation and is open to the public. If you are interested in being a vendor, contact us at [fpcmqtbazaar@gmail.com](mailto:fpcmqtbazaar@gmail.com) or 906 249-9111

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### **Music Workshop for Adult Strings Players – November 8**

For many people, their best memories of high school include the time they spent in their school's music program. After graduation, the demands of college and jobs make it hard to find the time or the opportunity to keep playing. But it's never too late to return to music!

All former adult string players (violinists, violists, cellists, bassists) are invited to a strings refresher course on Saturday November 8. The course will be held from 10 am to 4 pm at St Paul's Episcopal, 201 E. Ridge St, Marquette. Teachers for the day will be Inga Banitt, Wendy Larson and Janis Peterson. Cost is \$25 (cash only) and participants will need to bring a playable instrument. **In-person registration will be held at St. Paul's Episcopal on Sunday October 5 from 1:30 to 3:30 pm; and registrants will also be able to have their instruments evaluated at that time.**

Following the one-day course, participants will have the opportunity to continue playing and learning together. The emphasis of the program is to have fun and experience the camaraderie found in making music. For more information, email [MqtCountySOS@gmail.com](mailto:MqtCountySOS@gmail.com).

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### **Grandparent-Aged Allies for LGBTQ+ Community: Book and Conversation Club for 2025-2026**

**What is the Idea?** A small group of grandparent-aged individuals gather eight times between October 2025 and May 2026 to explore the terrain of being an ally to the LGBTQ+ community in the Upper Peninsula.

**What is Expected?** To read two books which contain LGBTQ+ themes and using the books as a catalyst for conversation, to talk openly about the LGBTQ+ experience.

**How often, where, and when will the meetings be?** Gathering will be on the third Tuesday of the month at St. John's Episcopal Church in Negaunee from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. January's gathering and May's gathering will be at a different time and place and will involve a larger group of folks reading the same book. Details concerning these meetings are yet to be determined.

**What is an Ally?** An ally is someone who walks beside and stands up for another person. Allies continue to be curious and naturally seek out ways to be and stay informed. Allies are motivated by compassion. ALLYSHIP is something that can be learned.

### **What else do I need to know?**

1. It only takes one caring and accepting adult to decrease an LGBTQ+ youth's risk for suicide by 70%. It is possible to learn how to be that caring adult.
2. This Grandparent-Aged Ally group is part of the new iteration of last year's LGBTQ+ book conversation group. It is being spearheaded by Equality Michigan. Our partnership this year includes ELCA Lutheran Churches in Ishpeming St. John's Episcopal Church in Negaunee, and Equality Michigan.
3. There will be delicious soup for lunch at each of these meetings.
4. Our first meeting on October 21<sup>st</sup> will be a meet and greet: no reading will be necessary in advance of that meeting.
5. Who do I contact to say that I am interested or for more information? You can contact Marna Franson: [marna@upepiscopal.org](mailto:marna@upepiscopal.org) or 906 458-6395.

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### **Request for Clothing Donations**

Your gently used children's and teen clothing can bring warmth and comfort to another family. Every coat, sweater, and pair of shoes helps kids feel cared for while strengthening our community. Donations can be dropped off at Lake Superior Village Main Office (1901 Longyear Ave, Marquette). All donations will be used for our Fall Festival on October 23.

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### **Board Members Needed**

Lake Superior Village Youth and Family Center is seeking dedicated new board members who want to help shape the future of our community. If you're passionate about supporting youth, strengthening families, and bringing meaningful programs to life, we would love to have you join us. If you are interested in making a difference, please contact us at [JBeard@mqthc.org](mailto:JBeard@mqthc.org) or 906 225-1900 ext. 5.



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## **Lake Superior Village Youth and Family Center**

Do you struggle with before and after school care? Does your job have an unreliable schedule? Do you only need help a few days a week? Do you need an emergency back up plan for the unexpected? We have a free program to help. Visit us at 1901 Longyear Ave. in Marquette or call us at 906 225-1900 ext 5 (cell/text 906 458-7550) or email us at [jbeard@mqthc.org](mailto:jbeard@mqthc.org).

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## **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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## **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**

**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	Marquette
Forsyth Senior Center	Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice
165 N Maple St in	914 W. Baraga Ave
October 8th	October 22nd
2:00 - 3:00 pm	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:	Telephone Based:
2nd Wednesday of every month	3rd Wednesday of every month
Oct. 8th 2:00-3:00 pm	Oct. 15th 2:00-3:00 pm
Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice	Call 906.485.5527 to register
914 W. Baraga Ave	Landline or Cell phone required

### **Memory Café : The Power of Play - Board Games**

Join us for a welcoming, stigma-free social gathering for individuals with memory loss and their care partners. Learn why playing games is beneficial for memory, cognition, and social engagement. Enjoy guided play, try out new games—or bring your favorite to share! This relaxed, supportive environment is a wonderful way to connect and enjoy time together. Hosted by Speech-Language Pathologist Christine Harkness. No cost to attend. Registration encouraged at 906.225.7760 or at Outreach@LakeSuperiorHospice.org  
*Peter White Public Library Shiras Room on October 14th from 1:00 – 2:30 pm*

### **Memory Café at the Marquette Regional History Museum**

Join us for a Memory Café—welcoming, stigma-free social gatherings for individuals with memory loss and their care partners. This month, enjoy a welcoming space to connect, reminisce, and explore together at the Marquette Regional History Museum with guided tours of immersive exhibits showcasing the Upper Peninsula's past. Registration encouraged 906.225.7760 or by email at Outreach@lakesuperiorhospice.org

-Date/Time: October 22nd, drop in any time between 1:00 & 3:30 pm

-Location: Marquette Regional History Museum

-Admission: \$5 for the caregiver, free for the care receiver

Come connect, share, and enjoy a meaningful afternoon in a supportive setting!

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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 & Jon Banitt

Pianist – Jacob Schmeltzer & Jocelyn Basse