

Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Answering God's call to love

Messiah ENewsletter for November 19, 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!



Upcoming Events – November/December

- Nov 19 Council at 6:30 pm
- Nov 19 New WELCA Circle at 6:30 pm
- Nov 20 Bible Study at 10:30 am

Nov 20	Centering Prayer at 1:30 pm
Nov 21	Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am
Nov 21	Movie Night with Sunday School Kids at 5:00 pm
Nov 24	11-Step Centering Prayer at 5:30 pm
Nov 25	Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
Nov 26	Brookridge Worship at 1:30 pm
Nov 27	Thanksgiving Day – Church Office Closed
Dec 1	11-Step Centering Prayer at 5:30 pm
Dec 2	Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
Dec 2	Giving Tuesday from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm
Dec 3	Holden Evening Prayer Service at 5:00 pm
Dec 3	Community Meal at 6:00 pm

Help with Communion Setup

We are looking for volunteers who would be willing to set up communion for the 8:30 am service and then reset for the 10:30 am service on Sundays. Larry Pagel did this every week for many years, but he has moved to Iowa. We will provide training. We would set up the schedule for the month and ask a different volunteer to do communion set up each Sunday. It takes 10-15 minutes to set up communion before the 8:30 am service and 10-15 minutes to reset after the 8:30 am service is over. If you are interested in helping out or if you know someone who might, please let me know. Thanks. Kathy

Sunday School – November & December

On **November 21**, Pr. Molly and the Sunday School teachers will host a movie night in the Atrium. Drop kids off at 5:00 pm & pick them up at 7:00 pm. We will provide pizza for dinner and watch Wall-E. Wear your pajamas and bring blankets/pillows to be cozy. Sign-up sheet will be on the welcome table.

November 30 - Sunday School does not meet

December 14 – The Sunday School Christmas Program will take place during the 10:30 worship Service

December 2 - Sunday School does not meet

January 4 - Sunday School does not meet

Women's WELCA – November 19

Please join us for an informational meeting to start a new WELCA (Women of ELCA) Circle at Messiah. We will discuss an annual group focus, monthly meeting date & time, and browse the Gather magazine materials to guide our focus. Any person is welcome as we start up this new WELCA Circle. Our first gathering will be Wednesday, November 19th from 6:30-7:30 pm in Messiah's Atrium.

UP Wild November Events

*Our Fall/Winter Wilderness Walks will be coordinated via our point leader, Rachel C. If you would like to be added to the hike specific group, please email info@upwild.org. During the winter season, those interested in hiking/snowshoeing/etc. will coordinate the times and locations within this wild group.

*Thursday, November 20th at 12:00-1:00 pm: Coffee in Community

An invitation to get to know each other more over a cuppa! We will share how we find our spirituality in nature. Open to newcomers to ask questions. New location -- Velodrome Coffee, 1125 N. Third St. Marquette

*Sunday, November 30th at 3:30pm: Wild Church Service

New location for winter is potentially the Marquette Commons (TBA www.upwild.org) This is an indoor space with a gas fireplace located in the heart of downtown with an optional outdoor area for wander & ponders.

Superior Conference Youth Group Service Project – November 24

Youth (grades 6-12) are invited to Immanuel Lutheran Church on Monday, November 24 to make blankets that will be given to children at Head Start. In addition to making blankets, there will be a pizza dinner and time for fellowship. The event will be from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. RSVP to Stacy at 906 361-9123 or stacymc6@gmail.com.

Evening of Thanks – November 25

The Marquette Interfaith Forum will present an Evening of Thanks on Tuesday, November 25 at 6:00 pm at the Marquette Hope Connection Center (927 W Fair). A service of thanks for spiritual connection will be offered through shared readings, chanting, music, and prayer. The evening's program will include selections from Anishinaabe, Jewish, Buddhist, Muslim, Christian, and Baha'i traditions. Following the service there will be a sharing of breads, spreads, and beverages from various traditions. Attendees are encouraged to please bring something to share! Gluten and dairy free options will be available. All are welcome! For information, contact: David Arnold, DavidArnoldMgt@gmail.com.

Thanksgiving Potluck – November 27

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church will have its 3rd Annual Thanksgiving potluck at 1:00 pm on Thursday, November 27 (Thanksgiving Day). All are welcome.

They will provide the turkey and ham, dressing, mashed potatoes & gravy, and rutabaga. Coffee, tea, and water, too. They are asking for the following: other sides, desserts, salads, bread/rolls.

An Invitation to Advent – November 30 (1st Sunday in Advent)

Advent begins Sunday, November 30

“Even one step with shaking knees is a step toward home.” — Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed

As the nights stretch longer and the world quiets down, Advent returns — not with answers, but with an invitation: to pay attention. To notice where fear meets longing, where grief brushes against hope, where something holy still flickers in the dark.

This is a season for honest faith. We won’t pretend all is calm or bright - we know better than that. The headlines, the heaviness, the heartache are all real. And yet, so is the promise that love takes flesh even in the most unlikely places.

So, we will gather — not to escape the world, but to face it with open eyes and open hearts.

To light candles precisely because the night is long.

To tell old stories that still have power.

To listen for angels, even if they sound more like our neighbors.

To practice courage, joy, and tenderness in community.

Come as you are:

with your doubts and your to-do lists,

your questions and your quiet hopes,

your yearning for something more whole, more just, more true.

Come and walk with us toward the manger —

toward the mystery that God is still showing up in this world,

still choosing human form,

still whispering, *“Do not be afraid.”*

Advent begins the weekend of November 29/30. Let’s make room — for hope, for each other, for the holy — together.

Giving Tuesday at Messiah: Support the Community Assistance Fund - December 2

Tuesday, December 2 from 11:00 am – 6:00 pm

This Giving Tuesday, December 2 from 11:00 am – 6:00 pm, we invite you to stop by Messiah for a day of generosity, community, and compassion in action. We'll have lunch and snacks available, and all are welcome to stay, connect, and enjoy fellowship as we come together to support our Community Assistance Fund.

This vital fund—entirely supported by donations and a few small grants—is not part of our church budget, yet it is one of the most impactful ways we serve our neighbors. By year's end, it will have provided over \$50,000 in emergency assistance to more than 500 individuals & families right here in our community.

These funds help people caught in the gaps—those facing urgent needs like rent, utilities, medical bills, transportation, and more. When no other help is available, the Community Assistance Fund often becomes a lifeline.

Your presence and your gifts help ensure that this ministry of mercy and justice continues. Whether you stop by for a bite, drop off a donation, or stay and visit—we're grateful to be in this work with you.

Additionally, if you cannot join us on the 2nd, gifts can also be made online at messiahlutheranmqt.org/give or via Venmo @messiahlutheranmqt.

Let's give generously. Let's give hope.

Book Study: Praying Like Monks, Living Like Fools – December 8

What - An Invitation to the Wonder and Mystery of Prayer

When - Monday, December 8th, 7:00 pm in the Atrium

In a world that often feels chaotic, prayer can begin to feel like a distant or fragile practice.

Tyler Staton's *Praying Like Monks, Living Like Fools* invites us back to the heart of it—not as a task to master, but as a relationship to enter. Drawing on ancient Christian practices and everyday experiences, Staton helps us rediscover prayer as both wonder and grounding presence.

We'll gather for a conversation exploring how prayer can meet us in seasons of weariness, uncertainty, and hope. This is not a lecture but an open, honest space to reflect, question, and imagine new rhythms of prayer together.

All are welcome—whether prayer is a daily practice or something that feels far away right now. Books are available in the church office for \$10.

Age UP Age Well: Workshop on Aging – December 10

SENIOR MOMENTS...have you ever walked into a room and not remembered why? How about going to the grocery store and walking out without the one thing you went in for? Do you think this only happens to us as we get older? What if there was another explanation? Would you like to learn the difference between healthy aging and identify the risks associated with dementia? Join us in Magnuson Hall on Wednesday December 10th from 12:00 to 2:00 for an Aging U.P. presentation with Chris Harkness, Messiah member speaking on strategies to stay safe, sharp and strong. As a Speech-Language Pathologist with over 40 years of experience and specializing in cognition she is dedicated to shifting attitudes and perspectives about getting older. There is a sign-up sheet on the Welcome Table if you plan to attend.

This Advent: Preparing Your Heart for Hope

This year we will explore how we work our way through fear and prepare our hearts for the hope of the gospels in this season leading up to Jesus' birth. Luke's Gospel begins the story of Jesus with this opening line: "In the time of Herod..." This detail may seem minor to modern readers; however, it reveals layers of information about the fearful world Jesus entered, one filled with rampant oppression, economic disparity, uncertainty, and instability. A world not so unlike our own. And yet, throughout the stories of Christ's birth, the whispers of angels deliver a surprising message: "Do not fear." In our own time, we might ask: is it even possible to be fearless in a fearful world? When Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, and the magi are each called into God's redemptive story, they do not deny their fears—they move through them. They ask questions, hold fast to courage, trust in good news, and say, "Here I am, Lord." When we find ourselves in fearful times, can we acknowledge our fears while also insisting on hope? We've crafted an Advent series that takes seriously the angels' message and trusts that Christ's birth truly is good news of great joy for all people. – Taken from "A Sanctified Art"

Mark your calendars for Advent events and be sure to grab a devotional from the welcome table outside of the church office.

November 30 *First Sunday in Advent*

December 3 Holden Evening Prayer in the Sanctuary at 5:30 pm followed by the community meal

December 7 *Second Sunday in Advent*, Pizza & Advent crafts in Magnuson Hall following 10:30 worship

December 8 Book Study with Pr. Andrew "Praying Like Monks, Living Like Fools" at 7:00 pm

December 10 Age UP Age Well: a workshop on Aging with Chris Harkness – 12:00 pm in Magnuson Hall

December 13 Confirmation Caroling the community is invited to join the confirmation students as they carol at various nursing homes 9:30 am

- December 14** *Third Sunday in Advent*, Sunday School Program during the 10:30 worship service followed by a soup potluck
- December 17** Organ Recital at 12:15 pm in the sanctuary
- December 19** Marquette Choral Society Carol Sing
- December 20** Longest Night Service at 5:00 followed by a soup supper
- December 21** *Fourth Sunday in Advent*
- December 24** Christmas Eve Worship services-4:00, 7:30, and 10:00 pm
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Mitten Tree

We are now in our winter season & it is time for us to help our neighbors in need by donating warm winter wear. Hats, mittens, cowls, earmuffs, head bands, gloves, scarves, etc. are needed. You can help by purchasing items or knitting or crocheting them. There are boxes of yarn under the Welcome Table available for you to use to make items. Special note: we usually need more gloves and mittens than are donated. The donation box is out and ready! All donated items will be distributed on December 3rd. Thank you!

Sweatshirts For Sale

We have 6 Messiah sweatshirts left for sale. Five are size XL; one is size XXL. The cost is \$20 and goes to our Global Mission Team and its work with our sister congregations. The sweatshirts are in the church office.

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.

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.

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.

Coats for 'Cats – Winter Drive for NMU Students

The '90s are back, vintage is in, and your old winter coat might just be the coolest thing a college student wears this year (while staying warm, of course). Let your past be someone else's present—literally!

We're collecting lightly used, clean, and winter-ready coats, hats, mittens/gloves & snowpants for Northern Michigan University students now through November 23rd. Drop yours in the bin in the narthex and give the gift of warmth. Thanks for spreading the love (and the layers)!

A Daily Guide for November 2025

November 1 – All Saints Day

Light a candle and remember those who've shaped your faith and your story. Say their names aloud. Prayer: *"God of all generations, thank you for the saints who carried your light. Let their love live on in us."*

November 2 – Letting Go

What do you need to release this season—an expectation, a fear, a grief? Offer it to God. You don't have to carry it alone.

November 3 – A Prayer for the Heavyhearted

Pray for those who find these darker months difficult—those grieving, isolated, or struggling. Ask God to be a quiet companion for them.

November 4 – Before Sunrise

When you wake in the dark, resist the urge to rush. Light a lamp, a candle, or sit near a window. Let the darkness be a place where God meets you.

November 5 – Together for Good

Reflect: *What does it mean to live "together for good" in this season?* Where are you seeing that hope take shape?

November 6 – Scripture of Endurance

Read Romans 5:3–5 – *"Suffering produces endurance... and hope does not disappoint."* Where has hope held you steady in the past?

November 7 – A Small Act of Hope

Do something hopeful today—light a candle, write a note, make a plan. Small gestures can hold big weight in dark months.

November 8 – Share a Memory

Call or write to someone and share a story from years past. Memory can warm the cold edges of the day.

November 9 – Watch the Wind

Look out at the movement of snow, branches, or water today. Let it remind you that unseen things can still be powerful.

November 10 – Pray for Helpers

Pray for those who serve others in the cold: caregivers, shelter staff, hospitalworkers, teachers, and volunteers.

November 11 – Stewarding Peace (Veterans Day)

Pray for veterans and for peace in every sense—global, communal, personal. Hope often begins with peace.

November 12 – Candle Prayer

Before bed, light a candle. Sit quietly. Let its glow be your prayer: flickering, faithful, enough.

November 13 – Quiet Gratitude

Name three ordinary things you're thankful for on a cold day—a warm blanket, a working furnace, a neighbor's kindness.

November 14 – Stay Connected

Reach out to someone who might be feeling winter's early isolation. A simple check-in can be a lifeline.

November 15 – Scripture of Light

Read John 1:5 – *“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.”* Let that truth steady you.

November 16 – Create a Winter Corner

Set aside a small, warm corner for prayer or quiet: a lamp, a chair, a cup of something hot. Let it be a refuge.

November 17 – Speak a Blessing

Offer this aloud to someone—or whisper it to yourself: *“May you be held. May you find light. May you know you are not alone.”*

November 18 – Remember the Forgotten

Pray for those unsheltered or vulnerable in the cold. Ask God to stir your heart toward tangible care and communal hope.

November 19 – Generosity in Small Things

Buy someone a warm drink, donate socks or gloves, send a card. Small acts of warmth carry great weight this time of year.

November 20 – Honor Grief

Name something—or someone—you've lost. Sit with it. Light a candle in remembrance. God meets us in the shadows.

November 21 – Watch the Sky

The U.P. sky holds its own kind of beauty—gray, heavy, clear, or starlit. Notice it tonight. Let it remind you of vastness and wonder.

November 22 – Offer Your Hands

Shovel a walk, deliver soup, hold a door. Stewardship is also what we do with our bodies.

November 23 – Scripture of Belonging

Read Isaiah 43:1 – *“I have called you by name, you are mine.”* Let that promise wrap around you like a warm coat.

November 24 – Reconnect

Reach out to someone you’ve drifted from. Even a short message can be a light in a long night.

November 25 – Thank Your Body

Your body has carried you through cold mornings, icy sidewalks, and the weight of days. Offer thanks—not for perfection, but for endurance.

November 26 – Make Space for Gratitude

Prepare for Thanksgiving by making room—clearing clutter, softening your heart, pausing long enough to notice.

November 27 – Thanksgiving Day

Pause. Breathe. Give thanks—to God, to those around the table (or screen), to the land beneath the snow. Prayer: *“Generous God, thank you for grace that finds us in winter’s chill, in warm hands, and in bread we share.”*

November 28 – Rest in the Quiet

The day after a holiday can feel still and heavy. Don’t rush to fill it. Let quiet be a gift, not a void.

November 29 – Begin Again

As Advent nears, ask: *What hope am I carrying into the new season?* Write it down. Keep it close.

November 30 – First Sunday of Advent

Light the first candle. Pray: *“God of hope, awaken us again. Let your light rise in the darkness, and in us.”* We wait together—not for easy answers, but for the light that always comes.

Advent Devotional Ideas

What Do You Fear? Advent Devotional – A Sanctified Art (free on the Welcome Table)

This year’s devotional offers honest, artful reflections for Advent that name our collective fears while nurturing courage and hope. With powerful poetry, visceral artwork, and soul-stirring questions like “What if it’s beautiful?”, this daily guide helps readers move through uncertainty with faith — not by avoiding fear, but by listening for God’s voice within it.

Other wonderful resources:

***Watch for the Light: Readings for Advent and Christmas* (Orbis Books)**

This classic anthology gathers daily reflections from writers like Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Thomas Merton, Henri Nouwen, and Dorothy Day. It invites honest prayer, deep waiting, and quiet hope when the world feels heavy. Each reading helps us notice God's quiet work in the shadows and prepares our hearts for the light of Christ.

***The Meaning Is in the Waiting* by Paula Gooder**

Paula Gooder explores Advent through the stories of Abraham, Isaiah, John the Baptist, and Mary—people who trusted God in uncertain times. This short, accessible book helps us see waiting not as passive, but as a spiritual practice that opens us to God's presence, even when it's hard to see.

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*

Meditation (Centering Prayer) and Contemplation

Christian mysticism has traditionally made a very clear distinction between meditation and contemplation. Put simply, meditation is what we are able to accomplish on our own, while contemplation is what comes as sheer gift. Meditation includes all the acts and exercises of prayer and spiritual practice—the things one does intentionally. In contrast, contemplation cannot be practiced. Contemplation is entirely God's gift of grace. There is no way to make it happen. It cannot be achieved or acquired. It happens when it happens, and all we can do is be willing, say yes to it, welcome it.

Teresa of Avila likens the human soul to a garden, with God dwelling in the center. The garden contains many exquisite flowers which she says are the virtues. It is only natural that we would want our soul-garden to be beautifully cultivated and fragrant so that God will take delight among these virtues.

The beginning soul-gardener need not worry about tilling the ground, planting seeds, or even uprooting weeds, because God has already done these things by the time a soul is determined to practice prayer. Too much concern over virtues and vices may distract us from our primary task in tending the garden, which is only to see that the garden receives sufficient

water. For Teresa, the water is nothing other than prayer, and prayer is nothing other than loving attentiveness.

Teresa describes four degrees of watering. The first degree is meditation; the other three are deepening dimensions of contemplation in which the person's sense of autonomous effort in prayer is increasingly replaced by a feeling of God's deep and obscure divine activity.

The first way of watering the garden is by hauling the water from a well in a bucket. This is meditation—a great labor that provides very little water. Still, it helps the virtues sprout. The second way is by means of a waterwheel, which is less work and gives more water. This is the prayer of quiet, the beginning of contemplation, and it brings the virtues to bud. In the third way, a nearby spring does most of the watering naturally. The gardener needs only to supplement it occasionally. This third prayer brings the virtues to flower. In the fourth way, rain waters the garden. This is the prayer of union, where there is no effort on the person's part at all, and the virtues bear fruit.

Teresa's degrees of prayer are not to be understood as occurring in a strictly linear way. They continually overlap and recur in cycles. The different kinds of prayer mix with each other and are not steady states but rather experiences that happen intermittently in prayer. No one, Teresa says, can predict when or how the contemplative degrees of prayer will be experienced. Relinquish all attempts to achieve more advanced states of prayer. The important thing is not to think much, but to love much. From *The Dark Night of the Soul* by Gerald May

We meet on Tuesdays from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm to practice centering prayer—the first step towards contemplation and follow this with *Lectio Divina*. All are welcome. Come when you are able.

Each session stands on its own. - - - *Nancy Hamlin*

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.

OWLs Christmas Party—December 16

You are invited to the OWLs Christmas party on *Tuesday, December 16th from 12:00 to 3:00 pm* in the atrium. Please bring a drink & a sandwich cut in half for trading/sharing, and Christmas cookies if you have some. We will also have a white elephant gift exchange. Please

bring a wrapped or bagged inexpensive gift if you would like to participate. We look forward to this time together.

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:

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

***December** – *Laundry Soap, Dish Soap, Bar Soap*

Fortune Lake News

The preliminary numbers are in. After totaling LIVE Auction bids, VIRTUAL Auction bids, raffle ticket sales, Country Store sales, Bake Sale proceeds, donations, and the dollar-for-dollar match, we can proudly say that ...

WE'VE REACHED OUR FUNDRAISING GOAL!

With a few things yet to be tallied, our tentative total is \$26,949!

THANK YOU to all who participated in any way: quilters and crafters, bakers, bidders, donors, and all participants.

These funds support outdoor ministry at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp, helping to make these experiences accessible to all, regardless of ability to pay. Thank you, and thanks be to God for another successful Fall Fest!

CROP Walk Update

The CROP Walk held on October 12 raised \$7,771.00. Messiah raised \$400 of this total.

Thanks to all who helped in any way.

Thank you from the Quilters

The Messiah Quilters would like to thank the Church Council and the Congregation for the grant to purchase two new sewing machines. Also, thank you for your donations of sheets and fabric. And a big thank you to Jennifer & Jeff Dodge for setting up/taking down our heavy, custom tables we use for quilting. It all makes our work easier! Thank you again! - - *Messiah Quilters*

Thank you from our Global Mission Team

Thank you! From September 19 to October 1, Messiah Lutheran hosted nine members of our companion congregation, Azania Front, from Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Our guests were diverse in age, education, and personal interests, but they all shared two things in common: a passionate love for God, and a desire to know our church family. Our Messiah community met them with arms and hearts open wide. We thank each of you for your participation, prayers, and financial gifts that made this visit a stunning success. We were blessed to share meals, conversation, tours, and laughter with our new sisters and brothers in Christ. Their visit was a needed reminder of our connections with people throughout the world, and the wondrous ways God touches our lives. Your Global Mission Team is excited to further strengthen our connections with both Tanzania & Colombia in the years to come. Asante sana!

Devotions Link

www.prayfaithfully.org is an on-line devotional reading service maintained by the Northern Great Lakes Synod and written by various pastors and laypersons.

Messiah Birthdays

Nov 19	Shelly Johnson, Anna Mendelin
Nov 20	No birthdays
Nov 21	Brooklyn Fortin, Rachel Skaw
Nov 22	Peggy Bagley, Bradley Brow
Nov 23	Alison Cory, Steve Murto, Hannah Ruuska
Nov 24	Donna Marlor, Tina Peterson, Jean Whitman-Shelby
Nov 25	John Bleckiner, Sally Davis
Nov 26	Linda Chapman, Kerry Wiese
Nov 27	Leonard Beaudoin, Becky Blom, Bill Davis
Nov 28	Anna Rector
Nov 29	Kayle Dennis-Benam, Molly Hunter, Kerry McGinley
Nov 30	Darlene Martin
Dec 1	No birthdays
Dec 2	No birthdays
Dec 3	Jane Brow, Mark McGovern

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.

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.

In Our Prayers

Please remember the following people in your prayers at this time: Family and friends of Bill Maki upon his passing; Rick; Jan Brown; Former and current CDC employees; Sam Elder; Jan Vickstrom; Doug Morton; Tom Osier; Jackie Greising; Art Ortlieb; Christine and Jason; Darlene Dreisbach; Ruth Koehler; Sherrie Wagner; 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

Pastor on Call:

Pastor Andrew is on call November 19, 23-26

Pastor Molly is on call November 20-22

Worship Volunteers

Saturday, November 22 – 5:00 pm in atrium

Assisting Minister: Chris Kotila

Communion Assistant: Barb Maszlewski

Provide Refreshments: **Need a volunteer**

Sunday, November 23 -- 8:30 am in sanctuary, on 101.9 FM, Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister: Chris Harkness
Reader: Brenda Blett
Ushers: Joe and Chris Harkness
Communion Assistants: Marina Shinkarenko, Beth Krznarich, Mike Coyne
Greeters: Marina Shinkarenko, Gail Edgar

Nursery: Maddie Dykema
Refreshments: Susy Swanson

Sunday, November 23 --10:30 am in sanctuary, on Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister: Jeanne Groos
Reader: Laurel Kniskern
Ushers: Amy Diedrich, Jill Luoma
Communion Assistants: Evan Busick, Kerry McGinley, Karen Burkman
Greeters: Marina Shinkarenko, Ellen Symons
Projection Technician: Lesley Williams

Nursery: Maddie Dykema
Flower Delivery: Sally McQueen

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, please visit Jen or Kathy in the office and they will let you know what is involved. Thank you!

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. The cost of the Radio Broadcast or Livestream sponsorship is \$110.00 each.

Announcements and Classified Ads

Food Drive for Those in Need

Messiah is once again joining the TV6 Can-A-Thon and collecting non-perishable food items for our greater food pantry for those in need in our community. If you are able to contribute to this worthy cause, please do. We will collect food for the month of November. Look for our grocery cart out for display to fill up!

Food Pantry-St. Vincent de Paul

As most are aware, the government shutdown has affected the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program funding. This, in addition to the rising cost of food, has resulted in an increased demand on our pantry in Marquette.

Items most in demand, in our pantry include:

Canned pasta sauce	Large cans of baked beans
Spaghetti noodles or elbow macaroni	Canned pasta
Various cans of soup	Saltine crackers
Canned fruit	Cereal
Canned vegetables	Canned tuna
Canned chicken	

Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated. These donations allow us to purchase USDA or donated items from Feeding America West Michigan at a much-reduced cost compared to the grocery store. To donate funds for St. Vincent's food pantry, simply mail or drop off a check (please write "SVDP Food Pantry" on the memo line) to:

SVDP Food Pantry, 2119 Presque Isle Ave., Marquette, MI 49855

St. Paul's Creative Aging Lunch and Learn – November 19 and December 17

St. Paul's Episcopal Church (201 E Ridge in Marquette) will host a "Creative Aging Lunch and Learn" on Wednesday, November 19 from 12:00 to 1:00 pm. The topic will be "Marquette Senior Center: What Is Available at a Senior Center?" presented by Maureen McFadden.

They will host another "Creative Aging Lunch and Lean" on Wednesday, December 17 from 12:00 to 1:00 pm. The topic will be "Drivers Licenses: Senior Driving Presentation and How to Know When It Is Time to Stop Driving" presented by Trooper Tom Kinnunen

Westerly Winds Big Band Swing Dance – November 23

The Westerly Winds Big Band Swing Dance will be held at Ore Dock Brewing on Sunday, November 23 at 2:00 pm. Tickets are \$10.00 (\$5 for students) and will be available at the door. All ages are welcome.

Thanksgiving Dinner for Seniors – November 27

Little Brothers – Friends of the Elderly invites Marquette County seniors (age 60+) to enjoy a free Thanksgiving meal on Thursday, November 27, 2025.

Dine-In at the Marquette Elks Lodge at 1:00 pm.

Home Delivery is available between 12:00 pm and 1:30 pm.

To reserve a meal, call 906 273-2575.

We are also seeking volunteers to help with meal prep, delivery, and hospitality, as well as sponsorships to support this special event.

To get involved, please call or visit littlebrothers.org.

Let's make sure no one spends the holiday alone!

Caroling, Caroling Now We Go! – November 30

Caroling, Caroling Now We Go!: a celebration of the musical legacy of the Rev. Bates and Alfred Burt and Abbie Burt Betinis will be held on Sunday, November 30 at 3:00 pm at St. Paul's Episcopal Church (201 E Ridge). The concert is free but donations will be accepted.

Christmas Choral Concert – December 6

The Negaunee Male Chorus proudly presents their annual Christmas Choral Concert on Saturday, December 6 at 7:00 pm in the W.C. Auditorium at the Ishpeming High School. Tickets are \$15 for adults. Age 17 and under, with an adult are free. Tickets are available from any Chorus or from Super One Foods, Negaunee; Country Village Ace Hardware, Ishpeming; Jubilee Foods, Ishpeming; TruNorth Credit Union, Ishpeming. Tickets are also available online at negauneemalechorus.com.

Marquette Choral Society Concert – December 6 and 7

The Marquette Choral Society presents Hallelujah! (highlights from “Messiah” by C.F. Handel along with other holiday classics). The concert will feature Keri Lee Pierson, soprano; Ava-Fett, mezzo-soprano, and Tony Beacco, tenor with Erin Colwitz, Conductor and Jan Brodersen, collaborative pianist. The concerts will be on Saturday, December 6 at 7:30 pm and Sunday, December 7 at 3:00 pm in the Reynolds Recital Hall at NMU. General admission is \$15.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children under 12 years of age. To purchase tickets, go to nmu.edu/tickets.

Tuba Christmas – December 7

The Tuba Christmas concert will be held on Sunday, December 7 at 1:30 pm at the Marquette Regional History Center (145 W Spring St). The concert is open to the public and admission is free.

Manna: Spiritual Nourishment for the Journey – December 14

The First Presbyterian Church (120 N Front St. Marquette) invites everyone to worship and a community meal on December 14. Join them at 4:30 pm for a modern worship service (including music by Porter’s Gate, The Many, Sandra McCracken & others). A community meal will follow the worship service. The meal will be served at 5:30 pm and is free for all seeking food and friendship.

Holiday Brass Choir Concert – December 21

The Holiday Brass Choir Concert will be held on Sunday, December 21 at 4:00 pm at the Marquette Regional History Center (145 W Spring St.) The concert is open to the public and admission is free.

Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly – Holiday Sponsorships

Share the gift of joy and friendship this holiday season.

As the snow begins to fall and families gather around warm meals, many of our elderly neighbors face the holidays alone. But with your help, we can change that.

At Little Brothers – Friends of the Elderly, we believe no one should feel forgotten, especially during the holidays. With the help of our compassionate volunteers, we deliver more than just food – we deliver, love, laughter, and connection.

Each meal is lovingly prepared, decorated with handmade crafts and cards, topped with a fresh flower, and delivered by a volunteer who brings warmth and companionship to the doorstep. For those who can join us in person, we offer transportation to our festive meal site at The Marquette Elks Lodge where hugs and heartfelt conversations are always served.

Your sponsorship helps ensure that no Marquette County senior spends the holidays alone. It's not just a meal, it's a moment of joy, a reminder that someone cares.

Holiday Sponsorship Opportunities

Option 1: Thanksgiving Elderly Meal \$25 each

Option 2: Christmas Elderly Meal \$25 each

Option 3: Christmas Food Box \$40 each

Option 4: Christmas Gifts \$35 each

Payment Methods

*Check payable to LBFE 131 W Washington St. Ste C., Marquette, MI 49855. Memo: MQT Holidays.

*Credit card online: lbfemichigan.org *DONATE* Comment/note: MQT Holidays

Questions? Contact Danielle Berg 906 273-2575

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 21st 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 or 906 458-6395.

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.

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.

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.

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

Drop-in Grief Support: Marquette – Nov. 26th at 4:00 pm Grief doesn't follow a schedule - and neither do we. Our drop-in grief support group offers a safe, welcoming space for anyone navigating the loss of a loved one. Join us to share, listen, or simply be among others who understand. No registration required. Come as you are when you need it most. It takes place on the 4th Wednesday of every month. No registration or affiliation to our hospice is required. 914 W. Baraga Ave. Marquette.

Caregiver Support Groups Marquette – Nov. 12th from 2:00 – 3:00 pm 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. Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice Office, 914 W. Baraga Ave.

Telephone Based Caregiver Support Group: Nov. 19 from 2:00 – 3:00 pm. 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 our new phone-based support group. For family, friends, and other caregivers who are caring for a person with a chronic illness or disability. This group is a great opportunity for caregivers who are unable to leave the person they are caring for. Please call Jamie Barbieri at 906.225.7760.

A Slice of Support: Caregivers Pie Social -Being a caregiver can be both rewarding and challenging. This Hospice Month, we want to support you. Join us for a relaxed afternoon of pie and coffee, connection, and conversation. We'll start with a brief 15-minute presentation on "5 Things You Didn't Know About Hospice", offering insights and helpful information for anyone in a caregiving role. Afterward, we'll open the floor for a supportive, informal discussion, where you can share experiences, ask questions, and find solutions to the challenges you face as a caregiver. This event is open to all caregivers. Come enjoy a slice of

pie, sip some coffee, and connect with others who understand what it means to care.

Big Boy Marquette

Friday, November 14, 2025

2:00 – 3:00 pm

Registration is encouraged but not required 906.225.7760 or
outreach@lakesuperiorhospice.org. Free to attend.

Find Your Balance — and Keep It!

Informational Presentation: “A Matter of Balance”

Worried about falls or avoiding activities because of balance concerns? A Matter of Balance is an award-winning program that helps older adults reduce fall risk and stay active through practical strategies and gentle exercises.

Join us for an in-person informational session to learn about the program, meet the facilitators, and receive registration materials and the required waiver to participate in the upcoming class series.

November 20 at Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice, 914 W. Baraga, from 1:00 - 2:00 pm

Who should attend:

- ☐ Anyone concerned about falls
- ☐ Those wanting to improve balance, flexibility, and strength
- ☐ Individuals who have fallen or limited activities due to fear of falling

Take control and keep moving safely.

Pop in for Hospice — A Feel-Good Film for Hospice Month

A free movie that celebrates what really matters — life.

Celebrate National Hospice Month with Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice at Thomas Theatre! Join us for a special showing of the heartwarming and inspiring film The Bucket List — a story about friendship, purpose, and living life to the fullest. This event is our way of honoring life, cherishing memories, and highlighting the compassionate work hospice provides to patients and families. Take a moment to reflect, laugh, and be inspired — because every moment counts, and life is meant to be lived fully.

Date: Tuesday, November 18, 2025

Time: 3:00 pm

Location: Thomas Theatre, Marquette

Cost: Free Admission

Concessions: Small popcorn & pop combo available for \$6.00

Pre-Registration Encouraged: Call 906.225.7760 to reserve your seat

Unmask Your Grief: A Creative Healing Workshop

Grief can feel heavy—and sometimes the masks we wear hide what we're really feeling. Join us for a creative, healing experience as we explore the masks we wear in grief and create a personal mask that tells your story.

Date & Time: Thursday, November 20 at 5:00 pm

Location: Peter White Public Library, Lower Level

Cost: Free & open to the community

Sponsored by: *Lake Superior Life Care and Hospice*

Step into a safe, supportive space, honor your journey, and let art help you express what words can't. Pre-Registration is encouraged but not required at 906.225.7760.

Mindful Aging - Aging U.P. Learning Series. Shifting attitudes and perspectives as they relate to getting older. Have you ever walked into a room and forgotten why you are there? You're not alone! Join us for a 4-part Virtual Zoom workshop series that explores the everyday "Senior moments" we all experience. We'll guide you through understanding how our brains work, what sets us up for forgetfulness, and — most importantly — practical strategies to strengthen memory and cognitive connections. Walk away with tips you won't forget and plan to turn those senior moments into senior momentum! Registration is open but limited.

Date & Time: Wednesdays, Jan. 14 – Feb. 4 from 10:30–11:30 am

Location: Virtual via Zoom

Cost: Free & open to the community

Note: Participants must have a device with internet connection & an email address to attend.

Register now by calling Jamie Barbieri at 906.225.7760 or

Outreach@LakeSuperiorHospice.org.

Personalized Ornament Request: Forever in Our Hearts

A Tree to Remember, a Season to Celebrate

This holiday season, Lake Superior Life Care and Hospice invites you to honor your loved ones as part of the 2025 Winter Solstice Art Exhibit at the Peter White Public Library. Our Remembrance Tree will be adorned with personalized ornaments — each one a heartfelt tribute to those we've loved and lost. You're invited to share the name of someone special, and we'll create an ornament in their memory to shine among the trees.

Submit your loved one's name by November 30, 2025

906.225.7760 or Outreach@LakeSuperiorHospice.org

Ornaments will be available for pick-up from our Marquette office in 2026.

Do you have an announcement?

Send announcements & ads to Kathy Godec (kathy@messiahlutheranmqt.org). Send concert or performance information, yard sale announcements, party invitations, requests for babysitters, yard maintenance, rooms for rent and items for sale. E-newsletter deadline is 12:00 pm on Tuesdays.

Messiah Contact Information

Messiah Lutheran Church
305 W. Magnetic St.
Marquette, MI 49855

Phone: 906-225-1119
Fax: 906-225-5025
Email: office@messiahlutheranmqt.org
Website: <https://www.messiahlutheranmqt.org/>

Pastoral Staff

Senior Pastor - Andrew Plocher
Associate Pastor - Molly Hunter

Office Staff

Parish Administrator - Jennifer Dodge
Administrative Assistant – Kathy Godec
Parish Accountant - Mike Hill
Financial Secretary – Anne Rydholm

Music Staff

Director of Music – Sara Parks
Bell Choir Director - Judy Quirk
Organist/Pianist - Kathy Strazzinski & Jon Banitt
Pianist – Jacob Schmeltzer