

Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Answering God's call to love

Messiah ENewsletter for April 8, 2026

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 – April

- Apr 8 Stewardship Meeting at 1:00 pm
- Apr 9 Bible Study at 10:30 am
- Apr 10 Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am
- Apr 10 Funeral Service for Pauline Kiltinen at 11:00 am; Lunch to follow in Magnuson Hall

(No visitation)

- Apr 12 Pastor Andrew's Farewell Lunch at noon
 - Apr 13 11-Step Centering Prayer at 5:30 pm
 - Apr 14 Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
 - Apr 14 Ruth Circle at Brookridge at 1:00 pm
 - Apr 15 Fellowship Team at 1:00 pm
 - Apr 15 Council at 6:30 pm
 - Apr 16 Bible Study at 10:30 am
 - Apr 16 OWLs Presentation at 1:00 pm
 - Apr 17 Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am
 - Apr 18 Picture Taking for Photo Directory at 9:00 am
 - Apr 19 Picture Taking for Photo Directory at noon
 - Apr 19 Congregation Invited to Conversation with Bishop Finegan and Church Council at 4:00 pm
 - Apr 20 11-Step Centering Prayer at 5:30 pm
 - Apr 21 Rachel Circle at 9:00 am
 - Apr 21 Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
 - Apr 21 Finance at 5:15 pm
 - Apr 22 Brookridge Worship at 1:30 pm
-

Potluck Luncheon for Pr. Andrew – April 12

On Sunday, April 12, we'll gather to celebrate Pastor Andrew & his family and give thanks for his 7 years of ministry among us at Messiah. Pastor Andrew is leaving and while we will miss him, we are grateful for the many ways he has shaped our life together with care, faith, and steady presence.

We'll celebrate with a potluck following the 10:30 am worship service (around 11:45 am). Please bring a dish to pass. The church will provide chicken and cake. Come help us celebrate Pastor Andrew.

Going Away GIFT for Pr. Andrew

If you would like to contribute to a going away gift for Pr. Andrew, please bring your monetary donation to the church office. If you are giving by a personal check, please make it payable to Messiah and in the note/memo area write Pr. Andrew gift. If you would prefer to give him a gift on your own, that is fine too.

New Photo Directory in 2026

We are setting up picture appointments for everyone on a weekend in April and in May to get your photo in our new, updated 2026 photo directory! We were able to capture pictures of 123 households for our 2023 pictorial directory. Let's try to get many more in our 2026 pictorial directory!

There will be sign up sheets for picture taking starting April 1st on the welcome table. The days to have pictures taken will be on Saturday & Sunday, April 18 & 19. The second set of days will be on Saturday & Sunday, May 16 & 17. Please take time to get your photo taken for this directory. If you can't make any of these four days; please send in a picture of you/your family.

This photo directory will be for members and for visitors. If you would like a copy of your family picture for yourself, we can give them to you at no charge.

Thank you! Jen Dodge, Parish Administrator & Jason Parks, Photographer

OWLs & Polar Bears...Oh my! – April 16

Come take a tour of Canada's subarctic city Churchill, Manitoba called the Polar Bear Capital of the World. This presentation will be on Thursday, April 16th from 1:00 - 3:00 pm in the Atrium.

In October 2024, Mark & Laura Petrie and Ralph & Pam Christensen went on the Road Scholar learning adventure- Lords of the North-Ecology of Hudson Bay's Polar Bears. During this presentation, Mark and Pam will recount their nine-day adventure. The presentation includes museums, landmarks, cultural points of interest, Northern Lights and of course polar bears. Spectacular photos capture the experience and tell the story of this memorable excursion.

You Are Invited To...

a conversation with the Church Council and Bishop Finegan as we gather to listen, ask questions, and share reflections during this time of transition following Pastor Andrew's resignation. We come together as the body of Christ to speak and to listen with care.

When: Sunday, April 19, at 4:00 pm

Where: Messiah's Sanctuary

Brookridge Worship - April 22

Messiah has a worship service on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 1:30 pm. Our next worship at Brookridge will be on Wednesday, April 22nd at 1:30 pm. Please join us for this worship service if you are able.

OWLs Plan Trip to DeVos Art Museum – April 23

The OWLs are going to the NMU DeVos Art Museum on Thursday, April 23rd at 1:00 pm. Here you will see the annual “Senior Exhibit” of the NMU School of Art and Design. Parking is available at the Museum. [****This is a free activity**]. If you have questions about these activities, please contact the church office at 225-1119.

Fortune Lake - Upcoming Events

Hands & Feet: Jr/Sr High Retreat - April 10-11. For grades 7-12

Current 7th-12th graders are invited to our upcoming Hands & Feet: Jr/Sr High Retreat set for April 10-11. This one-night experience is the perfect chance for returning campers to get their fill of camp before summer and for new folks to try things out. Attend with a group, bring a friend, or come on your own!

Our theme, Hands & Feet, will center around our call to serve. Together we will complete a service project as a group, engage in conversations that ground our work in Scripture, and debrief what it means to serve others. Our schedule will feature camp favorites such as a campfire worship, hot saunas, games, songs, art ‘n’ crafts, and more.

While youth are welcome to attend on their own, parents and adult leaders are encouraged to attend with their youth! We will be offering an adult training component on Saturday April 11 that is included in the experience for every adult chaperone. Details about the adult training portion will be shared as they are finalized. Adults can lodge in duplexes with their youth for the full experience or opt to stay in one of our retreat lodges for an additional fee.

Have questions? Reach out by calling the camp office at 906 214-2267 or by emailing Charlotte at hospitality@fortunelake.org.

Fortune Lake Association Annual Meeting - April 26

We’ll gather on Sunday, April 26 at 2:00 pm CENTRAL (3:00 pm Eastern) in the Chapel to celebrate another incredible year of ministry, hear updates from various parts of our ministry, and elect new members to our Board of Directors.

Per our bylaws “Each Association Member Congregation may have up to 3 voting members, including no more than 2 lay people. The third vote may come from the congregation’s pastor. Each Association member congregation shall select its members for this Association by an appropriate method of their choosing.”

Messiah’s Fortune Lake delegates are Mike Davis and Kathy Godec.

Call 906 214-2267 or email officemanager@fortunelake.org with questions. We look forward to seeing you there!

World Hunger Lenten Challenge Update

This year's challenge has been more of a challenge than expected since storms and closures have gotten in the way. With two weeks to go before Easter we have 10 pledges – our goal is 100 pledges of \$1.00 per day for each of the 40 days in Lent. The Good News is that we can still get to 100 – even if it takes a bit longer. PLEASE consider this Lenten challenge and check out the progress on the barometer at the World Hunger Table by the office. PS: It's OK to give more than \$40.00.

Council Highlights

Greetings to our Messiah family from your Church Council, whose members for 2026 are: Mark Petrie (*President*), Al Edgar (*Vice-President*), Dan Kilpela (*Secretary*), Paul Carstens, Wayne Geschwindt, Terry Langenberg, Jean Reynolds, Marina Shinkarenko, Darren Smith, Laura Tripp, Lesley Williams, and Adrienne Wolf. The council meets the third Wednesday of every month, at 6:30 pm in room 202. Meetings are open to all congregation members. We know that Pastor Andrew's resignation, especially so soon after Pastor Molly's departure, has left many in the congregation bewildered and frustrated. You have questions, and you deserve answers. We are doing our very best to respond with clarity, but some details must be kept confidential at the request of the various people concerned. Here is what we can share with you:

First, I must stress that there is no suggestion of improper or illegal behavior on anyone's part. Rather, this is the culmination of a long process to address a breakdown of communication among the council, pastors, and staff. Having reached an impasse last Fall, Pastor Andrew asked the Synod for help in addressing the issues and resolving the conflicts by invoking the Consultation Process established in the Constitution (which the council was prepared to do). He and the council agreed to accept the recommendations of the Consultation Committee. In January, the Synod convened a Consultation Committee of three individuals who interviewed all relevant individuals. In late February, Pastor Andrew met with Bishop Finegan to receive the committee's summary and recommendations ("the report"), which recommended that Pastor Andrew's call with Messiah be concluded. The report was then presented to the council a week later, at which time Pastor Andrew submitted his resignation to the council. While this was one of the outcomes of the process that we knew was possible, a number of us did not expect it. As Pastor Andrew states in his February 24 letter to the congregation, the challenges that Messiah faces call for a different leadership structure, one

that he feels he cannot offer. We wish all the best for Pastor Andrew and his family, as they navigate toward their future.

Now we must prepare for the way forward. Pastor Steve Solberg already had agreed to help fill some of Pastor Molly's pastoral role, and he will continue to do so after Pastor Andrew's departure. We are working with the Synod to prepare a schedule of visiting pastors and lay preachers to conduct services for however long is needed. In the meantime, Bishop Finegan is seeking an Intentional Interim Pastor. As recommended in the Consultation Committee's report, we will be reviewing the roles and responsibilities of staff, pastors, council, and committees. We will be conducting a financial wellness check with the Synod's help to determine our financial standing and also may need to conduct an internal audit. When we are confident in our financial position, a transition team (more on this in a moment) will start working to determine how Messiah will move forward, and what our future ministry will look like (One pastor? Two? A pastor and Deacon? How many services? etc.). Once our future ministry is known, Bishop Finegan then will begin searching for candidates to fill our pastoral needs.

And here is where we need your help. Messiah's transition team will consist of congregation members, with a bare minimum of council representation. To date, we have two volunteers and encourage more. If you are interested in serving, please talk to any council member, Pastor Andrew, Pastor Steve, Jennifer Dodge or Kathy Godec: we'd love to have you on board!

Mark Petrie,
Council President

Save the Date: Vacation Bible School 2026

Mark your calendars—Vacation Bible School is coming to Messiah!

June 22–26, 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm (Please note the NEW afternoon time!)

This summer we'll be using Shine Curriculum's #kidsconnect, a creative and justice-centered VBS experience that helps kids explore how we are connected—to God, to one another, and to the world around us. Through storytelling, music, art, movement, and hands-on activities, kids will discover how faith calls us into community, compassion, and courageous love.

Our afternoon schedule is a change from previous years, so be sure to make note of the 1:00–4:00 pm time frame. We hope this new time will make VBS accessible for even more families! VBS at Messiah is a joyful, inclusive space where all children are welcomed, celebrated, and invited to grow in faith. Whether your family is part of Messiah or new to our community, there is room for you.

Please check the church website for registration information!

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.

Personal Care Kits

In March and April donations will be collected for personal care kits. These kits are sent by Lutheran World Relief where needed around the world. Donations can be brought to the church and will be assembled by Ruth Circle.

Items needed for each kit include:

- 1 bath size towel, dark color preferred
- 1 toothbrush, adult size in original packaging
- 1 comb, large toothed preferred
- 1 metal nail clipper
- 2 bath size bars of soap

Items can be placed in the container provided in the narthex.

Monetary donations are also welcomed to purchase needed items - just write "personal care kits" in the memo line.

Thank you for your generosity!

Senior Men's Ministry

Messiah's Senior Men's Ministry is meeting every Friday at 9:00 am in room #202. We meet for about an hour. Please join us on Fridays!

Do You Like to Mow Lawn in the Summer?

Some people really like to mow the lawn. Especially if it is not a big yard & it gets you outside and in the sun. Would you like to help mow the lawn as a volunteer at Messiah? The thought is we might have two people to do this May - October and each of you mow once a month. Having Messiah's lawn mowed every other week, each month. You would be responsible to mow one time/month. Messiah owns its own lawnmower. You are welcome to use it when you mow.

We have three people who are interested already and we are looking for a couple more volunteers to assist. Might that be you? Give it some thought and let us know. Thanks!

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 Jane Phillips for more information.

A Daily Guide for April 2026

April 1 – Wednesday of Holy Week

Read John 12:1–8

Mary pours perfume on Jesus' feet. The room fills with scent. Some call it wasteful. Jesus calls it love.

Today, do one small act that makes a space feel cared for. A child might draw a picture and tape it to the wall. A teenager might tidy a shared space. An adult might set the table intentionally. An elder might place a photo where it can be seen and remembered. Let someone else feel that the room is different because you were there.

Prayer: God of generous love, help me fill the room with something good. Amen.

April 2 – Maundy Thursday

Read John 13:1–15

Jesus kneels and washes feet.

Find one way to serve someone quietly. A child can help carry something. A teen can do a chore without being asked. An adult can make a phone call to someone who lives alone. Someone in assisted living can pray through the names of family or church members. Service does not require strength. It requires attention.

Prayer: Servant Christ, make my hands willing. Amen.

April 3 – Good Friday

Read Luke 23:33–46

This is a day for honesty.

Sit together — or alone — in quiet for a few minutes. Children can light a candle. Adults can write down something that hurts. Elders can speak aloud a prayer for the world. Let there be space for sadness without fixing it.

Prayer: God who stays near in suffering, hold what we cannot carry alone. Amen.

April 4 – Holy Saturday

Read Matthew 27:57–66

Nothing seems to happen today.

Do one ordinary thing slowly. Tie shoes carefully. Pour coffee without rushing. Fold laundry

with intention. Waiting is not wasted time. Even children understand seeds sleep before they grow.

Prayer: *God of the quiet day, teach us to trust unseen work. Amen.*

April 5 – Easter Sunday

Read Matthew 28:1–10

The stone is rolled away. The women run with fear and joy.

Mark the day physically. Wear something bright. Share a meal. Sing loudly. If you cannot leave your home, open a window or look toward the sky and say, “Alleluia.” Resurrection is meant to be embodied at every age.

Prayer: *Risen Christ, wake up joy in us. Amen.*

April 6 – Tell the Good News

Name one good thing from yesterday. Say it out loud, write it down, or draw it. It can be simple: sunshine, laughter, chocolate, music. Good news grows even when spoken to an empty room.

April 7 – Make Room

Clear one small space — a desk, a bedside table, a backpack, a shelf. As you do, think or pray about what you are making room for: kindness, patience, hope.

Prayer: *God of new beginnings, make room in us for life. Amen.*

April 8 – Tend Life

Water a plant. Check the soil outside. Notice melting snow. If mobility is limited, place a small bowl of water in sunlight and watch how it changes. Life returns slowly in the U.P., but it returns.

April 9 – Reach Out

Call, text, or write someone you have not spoken with in a while. A child can draw a card. A teen can send a thoughtful message. An elder can share a memory.

Resurrection reconnects.

April 10 – Practice Joy

Do something playful. Throw a ball. Watch something funny. Tell an old story. Joy is not childish; it is holy.

April 11 – Notice the Light

Pay attention to how late the sun lingers. Step outside, even briefly — alone or with others.

Say aloud or to yourself, “The light is growing.”

Prayer: *God of steady light, thank you for longer days. Amen.*

April 12 – Second Sunday of Easter

Read John 20:19–29

Name one honest question you carry — about faith, life, or the world. Write it down. You do not need someone to answer it. Doubt named becomes easier to hold.

Prayer: *Patient Christ, meet us in our questions. Amen.*

April 13 – Offer Peace

When entering a room, quietly say, “Peace be here.” Encourage children to try it too. Notice if the tone shifts.

April 14 – Share a Meal

Eat together if possible. If alone, pray for others eating at the same time. Talk about who prepared the food and give thanks.

April 15 – Do the Next Faithful Thing

For a child, that may mean finishing homework. For an adult, returning a call. For an elder, taking medication on time. Faithfulness is rarely dramatic.

April 16 – Speak Encouragement

Reach out to someone — a text, a call, a note — and tell them one thing you see in them or appreciate about them. Age does not matter. Neither does distance.

April 17 – Spend Time Outside

Walk, sit, or simply breathe near fresh air. If you cannot go outside, open a window or watch birds from inside. Creation participates in resurrection.

April 18 – Create Something

Draw, bake, knit, fix, build. Invite different generations to work side by side if possible.

Creation reminds us that new things are still possible.

Prayer: *Creating God, work through our hands. Amen.*

April 19 – Third Sunday of Easter

Read John 21:1–14

The disciples go back to fishing. Jesus meets them in routine.

Talk about ordinary tasks — cooking, studying, driving, cleaning. Where might Christ meet us there? Even children can imagine Jesus standing nearby while they brush their teeth or pack a lunch.

April 20 – Practice Patience

Name something you are waiting for. Write it down if that helps. Pray for patience, yours and others’ who are also waiting.

April 21 – Care for the Earth

Pick up litter, reduce waste, or talk about Lake Superior and the forests around Marquette.

Children and elders alike can pray for the land.

April 22 – Speak Hope

In one conversation today, choose hope instead of complaint. Model it for younger ears.

April 23 – Repair

Mend clothing, glue something broken, or fix a loose hinge. Repairing teaches that broken does not mean finished.

April 24 – Show Up

Attend worship in person or online. Call someone who cannot attend. Make sure no one

participates alone if it can be helped.

Prayer: *God of community, keep us woven together. Amen.*

April 25 – Name Three Blessings

At the end of the day, name three ordinary gifts. Write them down if you live alone. If you are with others, share them aloud — no repeats allowed.

April 26 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

Read Psalm 23

Talk about what it means to be guided and cared for. Ask: Who helps guide you? Who do you help guide?

Prayer: *Good Shepherd, lead us and make us gentle leaders too. Amen.*

April 27 – Be a Shepherd

Check on someone who may feel alone. Invite a child to make the call with you.

April 28 – Practice Gratitude in Writing

Send a handwritten note — at any age.

April 29 – Sit in Quiet

Two minutes is enough. Alone or with others, quiet teaches listening.

April 30 – Look Back

Where did you see life this month? In laughter, in thawing ground, in courage, in forgiveness? Share your answer with someone of a different generation.

Prayer: *God of resurrection, thank you for every small sign of life among us. Amen.*

Endowment Fund Report

The Robert Malette Endowment Fund of Messiah Lutheran Church has funded five grants. This is our first distribution of funds, and the church council has approved our recommendations.

Although the Endowment committee wishes there were flags, trumpets and fireworks to celebrate this momentous occasion, we are pleased to announce the recipients of the grants.

Mary Lou Blomquist

Messiah Assistance Fund - \$10,000.00

Gayle Van Osdol

Messiah Quilters - \$1,600.00 to support the shipping of LWR quilts & kits

Nathan Michels

Outdoor Adventure Therapy School NPO - \$3,870.00 to establish a LGBTQA1+ therapy group.

Jon Magnuson

Cedar Tree Institute - \$5,000.00 in partnership with Wild Church for a healing earth initiative, 1000 trees.

Fred Groos

Superior Connections Recovery Community Organization - \$3,525.00 to assist with the purchase of a van.

There were insufficient funds to grant the other application.

A Message from Herb Grenke & Daughter, Liz

Herb, Liz, and family are so thankful for ongoing support since Sandy's passing. Recently, a bag was found that had been put out of view that still has memorial cards. Please know they are now going through them, getting things in order around them, and appreciate all of the honoring of Sandy's life.

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. Please consider participating in this ministry!

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. -

Centering Prayer

"Meditation once a day is maintenance, twice a day is transformational." This quote has stuck with me even though I don't remember where it comes from.

Before covid in 2020, I joined an early morning centering prayer zoom meeting out of Minneapolis, Minnesota. At the beginning of 2026, I felt my practice needed to have a more local community connection. So, I decided to attend a second sit with other meditation groups in the area and begin advertising for the Monday, 5:30pm 12 step spirituality sit at Messiah. By the last week of January, I was going to afternoon meditation practices and got the Messiah Monday meet advertised in the Marquette Monthly Support Groups section. I did it! I

was on top of the world with my achievement. I reached my goal and I was off to be transformed.

The day after that extravagant thought, I could not get out of bed. I could not eat. I ended up spending the month of February with mono. I did not even have the energy to sit quietly in morning meditation. I did not make it back to the community meditations or Mondays meditation at Messiah that I had advertised. I don't even know if anyone showed up and was disappointed to find an empty room. I had made plans and God laughed. And like Sisyphus, I start again. That is the practice. Everyday a new day, a new start. I plan on being in room 202 Monday at 5:30 pm to sit in meditation if you care to join me. Nancy Hamlin leads Centering Prayer on Tuesdays @ 11:00 am.

Laura Petrie

"There is not a moment in which God does not present Godself under the cover of some pain to be endured, of some consolation to be enjoyed, or of some duty to be performed. All that takes place within us, around us, or through us, contains and conceals God's divine action." -

Jean-Pierre de Caussade, Abandonment to Divine Providence

- - - *Laura Petrie*

OWLs (Older, Wiser Lutherans)

Every Monday at 10:00 am The OWLs walk at the Dome. After their walk, they go to Provisions for coffee. They walk at different rates and all are welcome. If you're not interested in walking, join us for coffee. If you have any questions, please contact Betsy Little or the church office.

The New Free Store Donations

The New Free Store is an inter-faith, non-profit group supporting people who express a need for free clothing, linens, hygiene & cleaning supplies. Anyone in need is welcome. Free things are offered as "in God's economy three is always enough." There is a collection bin in our narthex at Messiah for The New Free Store. They are currently collecting:

***April** – *Laundry Soap, Dish Soap, Bar Soap*

***May** – *Diapers size 3-6 and Baby Wipes*

Devotions Link

<https://nglsynod.org/prayfaithfully/> is an on-line devotional reading service maintained by the Northern Great Lakes Synod and written by various pastors and laypersons.

Messiah Birthdays

Apr 8	Janna Benedict, Robert Marlor
Apr 9	Andrew Banitt
Apr 10	Doug Morton
Apr 11	Alexandria Braund, Sydney Braund
Apr 12	Michael Busick, Kim Salmela
Apr 13	Isabelle Beaudoin, Paula Diedrich, Karla Hardy, Bode Skaw
Apr 14	Roger Contois, Gail Edgar, Don Hillegas, Dave Lundquist
Apr 15	Liz Beyne, John Rector, Cheryl Shirtz
Apr 16	Hannah Bleckiner
Apr 17	No birthdays
Apr 18	Greg Carrier, Dan Kilpela
Apr 19	Mike Hill, Morgan Messana
Apr 20	Gina Fortin, Mark Paulsen, Grant Rydholm
Apr 21	Sonia Geschwindt
Apr 22	Cathy Seblonka

In the Hospital

Please inform the church office when you are hospitalized. Pr. Andrew Plocher & Pr. Steve Solberg 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: Those who seek help from our financial assistance program; John Kiltinen and family upon the passing of his wife, Pauline; the Osier family upon the passing of their mother, Kathy; Fred Maynard; Laura

Goodney; Karen Sundeen; Linda Ruohoniemi; Charlie Blake; Rick; Jan Brown; Sam Elder; Doug Morton; Jackie Greising; Art Ortlieb; Ruth Koehler; Sherrie Wagner; Betsy; Carrie Oslund; John Collins; Katie; Mary Ruman; Jeremy; Sally Olson; Carol Bell; Dorothy; 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 Magnuson; Peter; Shawn; Mae Desonia; Lisa Douros; Wayne Hanmer; Judy Donckers; Sierra; Charlene Avery

Pastor on Call:

Pastor Andrew Plocher is on call April 8, 12

Pastor Steven Solberg is on call April 9-11, 13-15

Worship Volunteers

Saturday, April 11 – 5:00 pm in atrium

Assisting Minister: Carol Bell

Communion Assistant: Kathy Godec

Provide Refreshments: Kathy Godec

Sunday, April 12 -- 8:30 am in sanctuary, on 101.9 FM, Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister: Kathy Maynard

Reader: Fred Maynard

Ushers: Anne Rydholm, Sten Taube

Communion Assistants: Judy Quirk, Beth Krznarich, Dave Blomquist, Marina Shinkarenko

Greeters: Tom and Amy Froiland

Nursery: Maddie Dykema

Provide Refreshments: Linda Berry

Sunday, April 12 –10:30 am in sanctuary, on Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister: Molly Luty

Reader: Mark Paulsen

Ushers: Paula Diedrich, Amy Diedrich

Communion Assistants: Linda Chapman, Emma Ziegler, Marina Shinkarenko, Laura Tripp

Greeters: Kayleigh Beaudoin, Marina Shinkarenko

Projection Technician: Kathy Godec

Nursery: Maddie Dykema

Flower Delivery: Jane Brow

10:30 am Worship Volunteers

We are in need of more volunteer ushers & volunteer communion assistants for our 10:30 worship service. 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 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

Swimming Suffragettes – April 22

Swimming Suffragettes: The Evolution & Revolution in Women's Bathing Suits will be presented on Wednesday, April 22 at 5:30 pm at the Marquette Regional History Center (145 W Spring St.). This is a fundraiser for the League of Women Voters of Marquette County. Carrie Moon-Dupree, Director of Development for the League of Women Voters of Michigan, showcases her wonderful collection of vintage to modern swimwear, tracing the style changes as a mirror of the changing history of women's rights in the United States. There will be light snacks and mocktails. Tickets are \$45 each (\$5 more at the door or over the phone).

Magnificent Mozart Concert – April 25-26

The Marquette Choral Society will present Magnificent Mozart on Saturday, April 25 at 7:30 pm and on Sunday, April 26 at 3:00 pm. Both concerts will be in Kaufman Auditorium. Soloists are Keri Lee Pierson, Erin Sura, Tony Beacco, and Alexander Romero Wilson. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. Tickets can be purchased at nmu.edu/tickets.

Negaunee Male Chorus Concert – May 2

The Negaunee Male Chorus will present “Sing Your Way Home” on Saturday, May 2 at 7:00 pm in the W.C. Peterson Auditorium (Ishpeming High School). Tickets are \$15.00 for adults and free for those aged 17 and under (with an adult). Ticket outlets are Super One Foods, Negaunee; Country Village Ace, Ishpeming; Jubilee Foods, Ishpeming; TruNorth Credit Union, Ishpeming; or any Male Chorus member.

Habitat for Humanity – Lunches Needed

Habitat for Humanity is asking for help providing lunches to their volunteers for the 2026 building season. They need anywhere between 4 to 25 lunches on any given day. They always give advance notice to lunch donors regarding the number of lunches needed. You can volunteer in several ways. Call 906 228-3578 or 906 235-4925. . Select a date online via <https://www.yoopersunited.com/agency/detail/MCHFH>. Email volunteers@mqthabitat.org. Visit the office at 2354 US 41 South in Marquette.

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 – April 22 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. Takes place on the 4th Wednesday of every month. No registration or affiliation to our hospice is required. 914 W. Baraga Ave.

You Don't Have to Grieve Alone - Join our community grief support series. The series will be held every other Thursday from April 2 - May 14. The program offers a supportive environment to learn about the grief process, share experiences, and explore healthy coping strategies. The series is free & open to the community. To learn more or register, call 906-225-7760. 10:30 -11:30 am.

Caregiver Support Groups Marquette – April 8 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: April 15 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.

Take Control of Your Future: Advance Directives Made Simple: In recognition of National Advance Directive Month, join us for an informative presentation about the importance of making your healthcare wishes known. Learn what an advance directive is, why it matters, and how it helps ensure your voice is heard if you are unable to speak for yourself. Everyone who attends will receive a free copy of the Five Wishes, an easy-to-understand advance directive that helps guide conversations about medical, personal, and emotional wishes. This presentation will help you take an important step toward peace of mind for yourself and your loved ones.

Two Locations:

Marquette Senior Center Wednesday, April 29 2:00 - 3:00 pm

Gwinn Senior Center Monday, April 20 1:00 - 2:00 pm

Call Jamie Barbieri at 906.225.7760 or email Outreach@lakesuperiorhospice.org for more information.

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
Interim Associate Pastor – Steven Solberg

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 and Jon Banitt
Pianists – Jacob Schmeltzer and Daniel Cipriano