

Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Answering God's call to love

Messiah ENewsletter for June 17, 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 – June

- June 17 Council Meeting at 6:30 pm
- June 18 Church Office closed in observance of Juneteenth (6/19)
- June 18 Canceled – 10:30 am Bible Study
- June 18 Global Mission at 6:00 pm
- June 18 Blessing of the Trees at 7:00 pm
- June 19 Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am

June 19 Bergonzi Piano Trio Concert at 7:30 pm
June 21 VBS Set Up at 4:00 pm
June 21 VBS Music at 6:00 pm
June 22 VBS at 1:00 pm
June 22 11-Step Centering Prayer at 5:30 pm
June 23 Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
June 23 VBS at 1:00 pm
June 24 Dwelling in the Word at 12:00 pm
June 24 VBS at 1:00 pm
June 24 Brookridge Worship at 1:30 pm
June 25 Bible Study at 10:30 am
June 25 VBS at 1:00 pm
June 26 Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:30 am
June 26 VBS at 1:00 pm
June 28 10:30 am Worship Service at Clark Lambros Beach
June 29 11-Step Centering Prayer at 5:30 pm
June 30 Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
July 1 Dwelling in the Word at 12:00 pm

Help Needed with Communion Set Up

We need 1-2 more volunteers to set up communion for both services on Sundays. If you can help with this, please let Jen or Kathy know. Training will be provided.

Jam Sale!!

A new jam season has begun! It's time to clear the shelves for the 2026 jam season. **ALL jam is on SALE! Just \$1 a jar.** Drop off your money in the main office or leave it in an envelope, conveniently located near the jam. Thank you! Rebecca Ulland 906 236-3722).

Pastor Steve Invites You...

To meet WEDNESDAYS at NOON for "DWELLING IN THE WORD." Bring your lunch, if you wish, to Messiah's Atrium and dwell in God's Word with fellow disciples and seekers. Pastor Steve is reserving the whole Noon hour but come for the time & times you're able. Together we'll reflect using the story of God's people led by the Holy Spirit in Acts.

What is "Dwelling in the Word"? It is a simple, prayerful practice many congregations use to listen more deeply to Scripture and to one another. A short passage is read aloud slowly –

usually more than once – with time for quiet reflection. Participants are invited to notice a word or phrase that stands out and to share what they hear God stirring in them. Over time, this shared listening helps us grow in trust, imagination, and clarity about where the Spirit may be leading next.

Interested, but can't make this day and time? Please contact the church office.

Superior Conference Youth Group Event

DID YOU KNOW?

In July around 25 young people and adults from around our synod will be going to North Carolina to help with the ongoing work of Hurricane Helene cleanup. This includes one of Messiah's youth, Adelyn Davis & her friend, Isla Bucklin. Thank you for your support of Adelyn, Isa and the others venturing out in service.

On July 12, we'll be sending Adelyn & Isla off on their adventure with a Rite of Commissioning at the 10:30 am worship service.

The group will arrive at their NC base camp on a Sunday afternoon and do some team building and learning about the disaster areas in which they will be serving. Monday through Wednesday will be spent at sites in need of recovery work, in partnership with Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) Carolinas. All tools and supplies will be provided by LDR Carolinas. Each day will end back at camp with a time to debrief the day and worship together. On Thursday, the group will have an Adventure Day. The week ends with worship on Friday before departing.

Preaching Schedule

June 20/21 Guest Preacher - Pastor Jon Magnuson

June 27/28 Pastor Steve Solberg (10:30 am service is at Clark Lambros Beach)

July 4/5 Dave Blomquist, Lay Leader (*no communion served*)

July 11/12 Pastor Steve Solberg

July 18/19 Pastor Jon Magnuson

July 25 (Saturday) Pastor Allan Johnson

July 26 (Sunday) Pastor David Echelbarger

Food Donations Needed

Messiah now has two shelving units by the inside of the "canopy door" where food donations can be placed. Most of the food is going to people who come to Messiah and need food assistance. If Messiah has excess food, it is brought to the Salvation Army in Marquette.

Suggested food items:

- *cans of tuna, salmon, chicken, peanut butter, canned beans
- *whole grain cereals, rolled oats, rice and pasta
- *canned fruits and vegetables
- *cooking oil – canola or olive oil, pasta sauce, basic dried spices
- *applesauce, granola bars, juice boxes, baby foods (jars or pouches)
- *shelf-stable microwaveable meals

Please check expiration dates & do not bring expired items. Take a minute to look at Messiah's food shelves and decide what you can donate. Any donations are appreciated. Thank you!

Messiah's Top Favorite Hymns & Songs

The ballots, all 73 of them, have been tabulated and the results are in! Messiah's Top Favorite Hymns and Songs (12 of them due to ties) are as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Beautiful Savior | 7 A Mighty Fortress is our God |
| 2 Borning Cry | 8 When Peace Like a River |
| 3 Amazing Grace | 9 Blessed Assurance |
| 4 How Great Thou Art | 10 Canticle of the Turning |
| 5 Here I am Lord | 11 Come Thou Font of Every Blessing |
| 6 On Eagle's Wings | 12 Soon and very Soon |

In the months of June & August, we will sing "Borning Cry" on June 20 & 21; "How Great Thou Art," on June 27 & 28; "When Peace Like a River" on August 8 & 9. The remainder will be sung in September, October, November and December. Various other hymns and songs named on the ballots will also be included during this summer and fall.

Keep your eyes and ears open and be ready to sing!

Thanks to all who joined in this fun endeavor. Now we will all share in the joy of worshipping our God!

Messiah's Vacation Bible School! – June 22-26 – 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Join us this summer at Messiah for some God-lovin' fun! Children pre-k-5th grade are invited to use their brain power to learn about connection- to God, to one another, and to the world around us! Kids will discover how faith calls us to connection through hands-on learning. Each day includes worship and drama, Bible study, art and science explorations, brain-building

challenges, and active games. You won't want to miss this! Register using the link on Messiah's webpage.

Want to help? We are still looking for some donated supplies to make the program successful. Please check the list on the welcome table, near the office, if you are willing to contribute!

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

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.

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

Martha, Martha you are worried and anxious about many things ... Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her. - Luke 10:62

Martha and Mary are two complementary dimensions of our humanness. Without Mary's stillness at the center – sitting at the feet of the Teacher and listening – we become like Martha, worried and discontented.

There is nothing wrong with Martha's activity. It is her motivation or intention that is in question. Her anxiety and worry keep her in turmoil and prevent her from being present. She is troubled about many things but only one is necessary. The roar of the Martha mind and emotions drown out the Mary heart. Before we know it, we are acting as if we are separate from God or God is absent.

This story is a wonderful example of the focus we can bring to everyday life activities. Mary and Martha are like two lenses; through the process of transformation these two ways of seeing and being can become one. We usually live alternating between the two lenses, now active, now contemplative, back and forth. Through our practices and God's grace, these two lenses may come into alignment so that we are able to rest in God in all activity, becoming true contemplatives in action.

The Contemplative Life Program 40-day practice, [Welcoming Prayer Consent on the Go](#)
Opportunities to practice centering prayer: Here at Messiah (see calendar) and also online via Zoom at www.meditationchapel.org or online with Minnesota Contemplative Outreach.

- - - Laura Petrie

Electronic Giving/Purchasing

We are updating our QR Code & will also have a new VENMO account soon. Look for these to return in the coming weeks.

2026 Northern Great Lakes Synod Assembly-May 16

Theme: 1 Corinthians 3:6- "Paul planted, Apollos watered and God gave the growth".

Messiah was represented by: Marina Shinkarenko and David and Mary Lou Blomquist*

This year's assembly was hybrid in nature with participants in 8 different sites around the Synod, and online at home. Our Superior Conference met at Bethany Lutheran in Ishpeming. There were 227 total members meeting at the 8 sites, representing the 77 congregations in our UP and Northern Wisconsin synod. The highlights included:

1. Remarks from ELCA Presiding Bishop Curry. "We are a connected church in three ways, congregation, synod and national church with 2.7 million ELCA members. We are called to serve beyond our walls."
2. Sermon from NGLS Bishop Katherine Finegan. "We can plant and water, but that is all – God gives the growth, and it is under darkness that growth and new life happens."

3. Remarks from NGLS Assistant Bishop Sharolyn Swensen. “God is doing new things in the church. The fires have burned – we need to stoke the embers.”
4. Synod VP Chuck Thomas – “We must encourage leadership in ways that are different than we used to do it”.

The gathering also heard reports of committees and church partners, passed seven resolutions relating to the life of our synod, honored pastors with long years of experience and those who are retiring this year – and remembered those who have died since the last assembly. Also passed a Synod budget of \$1,115,481 in restricted and unrestricted funds for 2026-27 & elected members to the Synod council. A worship service with communion was conducted at all 8 sites, with offerings taken for World Hunger.

Announcements:

1. National Youth Gathering – July 28-August 2 in Minnesota.
2. Synod Youth Gathering at Fortune Lake – August 13-18.
3. FORTUNE LAKE IS NOT JUST FOR KIDS – Check out the schedule!
4. U.P. Wild Church now has seven ministries. (Ecumenical).
5. The schedule for Lifelong Learning Opportunities coursework was announced.
6. Next year’s Assembly will be held April 22-24 at NMU – IN PERSON

**Also in attendance from Messiah -- Pr. Solberg and Dan & Traci Zini who worked on the mammoth task of coordinating the technology between eight different sites.*

Messiah’s Jam Ministry

The 2026 jam season is here and it’s time to make JAM!! Grant and Kathy Soltwisch started Messiah’s jam ministry over 20 years ago to support the Pastor’s assistance fund. Grant retired at the end of last year’s jam season and has turned it over to Rebecca Ulland. But while Grant & Kathy were a highly productive team, Rebecca is all alone in this endeavor so I’m reaching out to you to find if you, YES YOU, would like to be a part of the jam ministry. There are all levels of support, from donating bags of sugar, to picking or supplying berries and other fruit. However, the biggest need is for more jam-makers. Are you an expert and want to share what you have with our community? Have you ever thought about making jam but don’t know where to start? In both cases, YOU ARE WELCOME to join the jam ministry. I love to teach jam-making and would be happy to help you get started. Please contact me if you’re interested in supporting Messiah’s Jam Ministry. All support is welcome! Thank you!
Rebecca Ulland (906.236-3722)

OWLs (Older, Wiser Lutherans)

It appears that spring has arrived so the OWLs will start walking at the Lower Harbor Mattson Park. We meet on Mondays at 10:00 am and we walk at our own speed. If the weather is iffy, plan on walking at the Dome. All are welcome. After walking, we go to Provisions for coffee. Meet us for coffee if you don't feel like walking. 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:

***June** – Razors (*male/female*)

***July** – Deodorant (*male/female*)

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

June 17	Terry Langenberg, Ross Larson, Betsy Little
June 18	Meghan MacPhee, Mylee Muscoe, Jane Phillips
June 19	Joel Tervo, Jan Vickstrom
June 20	Carol Bell
June 21	Mackenzie Beaudoin, Grace Chien
June 22	Betty Dellangelo
June 23	Marjorie Andersen
June 24	Clayton Evans, Elden Wilder
June 25	Jon Magnuson, Logan Peterson, Sophia Sander
June 26	No birthdays
June 27	Ellyn Delpier, Stephen Luty
June 28	Jessica Boehlke, Simeon MacIvor-Andersen
June 29	Jaime Olson
June 30	Melissa Hill, Chuck Suckow
July 1	Lincoln Gordon

Happy Anniversary!

Happy Anniversary to the following couples in June:

Rich & Kirsten Matthews	June 2
Tim & Angela Weir	June 4
Bob & Sue Hewitt	June 6
Ken & Jan Skytta	June 7
Dirk & Gayle VanOsdol	June 7
Wayne & Jane Phillips	June 8
Karen Eldevick & Chip Truscon	June 9
Allan & Sara Johnson	June 11
Kerry McGinley & Karen Burkman	June 14
Mike & Joan Hill	June 15
Tom & Jeannie Wagner	June 15
Dan Kilpela & Gwen Storm	June 16
John & Linnea Gustafson	June 19
Dan Niemi & Tanya Jennings	June 21
Jack & Anna Mendelin	June 21
Dave & Mary Lou Blomquist	June 23
Matt & Kerry Wiese	June 23
Michael & Traci Busick	June 26
Brad & Holly Muscoe	June 26
Josh & Holly Sundman	June 29
Peg Bagley & her husband	June 30

In the Hospital

Please inform the church office when you are hospitalized. 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 pastor

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; Gloria Byrnes; Cassidy Eckloff; Sherry Watters; Renee Goyen; Stuart Harslah; Peggy Letvenow; Farmers and ranchers in Kansas & Nebraska affected by drought and wildfires; John Kiltinen; Lisa Balko; Roger; Karen Sundeen; Linda Ruohoniemi; Charlie Blake; 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; Jamie; Donna; Brian; Ben; Evelyn; Akira Carlson; Karen Eldevick; Shannon; Marshall Lovan Magnuson; Peter; Shawn; Mae Desonia; Lisa Douros; Wayne Hanmer; Judy Donckers; Sierra; Charlene Avery

Pastor on Call:

Pastor Steven Solberg is on vacation June 15-19

Dave Horn is on call June 14-20

Worship Volunteers

Saturday, June 20 – 5:00 pm in atrium

Assisting Minister: Karen Kimar-Johnson

Communion Assistant: Barb Salmela

Provide Refreshments: Barb Salmela

Sunday, June 21 -- 8:30 am in sanctuary, on 101.9 FM, Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister: Brenda Blett

Reader: Keegan Schmidt

Ushers: Joe and Chris Harkness

Communion Assistants Marina Shinkarenko, Dave Blomquist, **need 2 more volunteers**

Greeters: Penny Streeter, Sherry Labbe

Nursery Maddie Dykema

Refreshments: Louise Anderson

Sunday, June 21 –10:30 am in sanctuary, on Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister: Marina Shinkarenko

Reader: Asa Michels

Ushers: Ruth Robb, Jill Luoma

Communion Assistants: Marina Shinkarenko, Sandy Lindberg, Gayle Mack, **need 1 more volunteer**

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

Projection Technician: Lesley Williams

Nursery: Maddie Dykema

Flower Delivery: Ruth Robb

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

A Blessing of Trees – June 18

You are invited to a Blessing of Trees at Messiah Lutheran Church on Thursday, June 18 at 7:00 pm. There will be special presentations by Jeff Noble, former wild land firefighter, and Lanni Lantto, U.P. Wild plus a benefit concert with folk singer Michael Waite to initiate the planting of 1,000 cedar trees with volunteers from Messiah and the community over the next six weeks. 1,000 cedar tree seedlings will be available at the close of the evening for personal use or to help fund the project. The cedar tree seedlings are \$10 each.

Pine Mountain Music Festival Marquette Events – June 19 and 26

The Pine Mountain Music Festival will hold two more events in Marquette. On June 19, the Bergonzi Trio will be at Messiah Lutheran Church at 7:30 pm and on June 26, “Upstarts” will be at First Presbyterian Church at 7:30 pm. Get tickets at PMMF.org.

Planting Trees – June 20 and July 18

An interfaith initiative to plant 1,000 Northern White Cedar Trees is scheduled for Saturday mornings on June 20 and July 18. Meet at Messiah Lutheran Church (305 W Magnetic) at 8:45 am for carpooling to Big Bay with the return planned for 1:00 pm. Rain or shine! Thanks to the Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve and to volunteers from the wider community for making this happen.

Marquette City Band Summer Concert Series – June 25

The Marquette City Band continues its annual summer concert series (their 140th season) on Thursday, June 25. “The Gem of Presque Isle” will be held in the Peg Hirvonen Bandshell on Thursday, June 25 at 7:00 pm (rain date is Friday, June 26 at 7:00 pm). Prior to the concert, a bandshell ribbon-cutting will occur. Admission is free and donations are appreciated. Learn more at marquettecityband.com.

Returnables Drive – Now Through August 11

Lake Superior Village Youth and Family Center is holding a returnables drive through August 11. You can drop off returnables anytime at the Center at 1901 Longyear Ave. in Marquette. For more information, call 906 458-7550.

Marquette County Fair News

The Marquette County Fair is in need of a new superintendent (or co-superintendents) for the Photography Department for this year’s fair. The fair is August 13-15. Entry day is Wednesday, August 12 from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm and that’s the busiest time. For more information, please call the Marquette County Fair at 906 249-4111 or talk to Penny Streeter (Superintendent of the Antiques Department).

Lions Club Fundraiser

The Marquette Lions Club is asking for your support with our annual Flag Rental Fundraiser. For a donation of \$35 or more the Marquette Lions will place a flag in your front yard over the summer holidays. Flags will be put out before Memorial Day weekend, 4th of July, and Labor Day weekend, and then picked up shortly after each holiday. All proceeds will be used for

support of community needs involving childhood cancer, vision, and hunger. If you are interested in supporting our club, please call or text Lion Kerry McGinley at 231-250-1092.

Discovery Central Forest School ½ Day Preschool Enrollment

The Discovery Central Forest School is enrolling preschoolers (2.5 to 5 yrs old) in their ½ day Pine classes. They offer 2 options: 9am to noon or 1pm to 4pm. Email now to save your spot for the fall. smisale@discoverycentral.org.

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/non-profit, 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](#) – June 24th, 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. Marquette.

[Telephone Based Caregiver Support Group](#): June 17th 2:00 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.

[Walking with Purpose – Camino for Hospice](#) - Hospice volunteer Bart Carroll set out on a 520-mile journey along the Camino de Santiago in Spain- turning every step into support for hospice patients and families. Now he's back to share stories, reflections, and the powerful impact of walking with purpose.

You're Invited! Join us for an inspiring afternoon as Bart shares stories and photos from his pilgrimage!

Held on June 28th, 1:00 - 3:00 pm at the Ore Dock Brewing -114 Spring St. in Mqt

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

Interim 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