

# Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Answering God's call to love

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## Messiah ENewsletter for September 23, 2026

On the web... go to [messiahlutheranmqt.org](http://messiahlutheranmqt.org) for more information about our congregation and “like” us on Facebook to receive updates and information there.

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*Messiah Lutheran Church seeks to be a welcoming community for all people. This includes people of every race, ability, sexual orientation and gender identity, ethnic background, economic grouping, religious affiliation, and political persuasion.*

*We do this simply because God created all people in God's own image and Christ Jesus came so all people might have abundant and eternal life.*

*We may not always be as welcoming as we should be, but this is our intention—all are welcome!*

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### Brookridge Worship Today!

You are invited to a worship service at Brookridge Heights today at 1:30 pm. All are welcome! Messiah has a worship service at Brookridge Heights on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month at 1:30 pm.

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## **Upcoming Events – September/October**

|         |                                                                     |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sept 23 | Brookridge Worship at 1:30 pm                                       |
| Sept 24 | Bible Study at 10:30 am                                             |
| Sept 25 | Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am                                 |
| Sept 27 | Faith Ventures Combined Worship & Continental Breakfast at 10:00 am |
| Sept 27 | Confirmation/Youth Hike Sugarloaf and Black Rocks at 1:00 pm        |
| Sept 28 | 11-Step Centering Prayer at 5:15 pm                                 |
| Sept 29 | Centering Prayer at 11:00 am                                        |
| Oct 1   | Bible Study at 10:30 am                                             |
| Oct 2   | Building & Grounds at 5:00 pm                                       |
| Oct 3   | Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am                                 |
| Oct 5   | 11-Step Centering Prayer at 5:15 pm                                 |
| Oct 6   | Centering Prayer at 11:00 am                                        |
| Oct 7   | Community Meal at 6:00 pm                                           |

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## **Faith Ventures Combined Worship – September 27**

As part of our transition process, Messiah will gather as one community for Faith Ventures this coming Sunday, September 27 at 10:00 am. We will worship around tables, share Holy Communion, dwell in Genesis 8, and listen together for God's direction in this season of new beginnings. There will be no Saturday 5:00 PM service and no separate Sunday Services that weekend. There will be Sunday School and nursery but we invite families to begin together in Magnuson Hall for worship. Following our table meal, Sunday Schoolers will be invited to move to a separate space for their activities. Because this service centers on conversation, our regular radio broadcast will not be possible. The Transition Team is preparing an online virtual table for remote worshipers, as well as a reflection guide for those participating independently. Please check Messiah's website and Facebook page for more information.

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## **Joanne Kingston's Obituary**

Joanne Kingston is a former member of Messiah. She passed away on Monday, Sept 14th and had been living at an Assisted Living facility in Grand Haven, MI where she resided with her husband Dave. There is a funeral planned for her at Edgewood Lutheran Church in Fruitport, MI. The link is: <https://www.sytsemafh.com/obituaries/joanne-kingston/obituary> Her daughter Margaret has been in conversation with Messiah and asked us to share this news. If you would like Margaret's home address to share your condolences with her, please contact the office. Thank you.

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## **Fall Fest and Quilt Auction – October 3**

Come to Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp in Crystal Falls, MI on Saturday, October 3 for continental breakfast, raffle baskets, the Country Store, and the premier event: the LIVE Quilt Auction! Everything kicks off at 9:30 am CENTRAL, with the auction beginning promptly at 11:00 am. And, as always, if you can't make it in-person, be sure to participate in our VIRTUAL Auction, which runs September 23 – October 3.

Our Sisters of the Cloth have been busily sorting all of the beautiful quilts that have come in for Fall Fest 2026, some of which they've made, and others donated by quilters throughout our region. THANK YOU ALL.

Visit <http://fortunelake.org/make-an-impact/annual-fall-fest> for more information.

We hope to see you all at Fortune Lake on October 3 for what promises to be a beautiful day of raising funds to support the ministry of Fortune Lake!

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## **Blessing of the Pets - Saturday, October 3**

All members are welcome to bring their pets for a special blessing following the 5:00 service on Saturday, October 3rd, at approximately 5:45 pm. Pets are welcome to attend the 5:00 service, or you may bring your pet at 5:45 pm and meet outside the main doors or in the Atrium. Thank you!

- - - - *Worship Planning Team*

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## **Special Musical Guests - October 4, 8:30 am Worship**

On Sunday, October 4th, we will welcome to Messiah special musical guests, Ameriikan Poijjat, a Finnish style brass septet to play at the 8:30 service - including a prelude, Special Music, hymns, and a postlude. Over the years they have received the generous support of John & Pauline Kiltinen and will be performing in their memory. Thank you! *Worship Planning Team*

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## **Marquette County CROP Hunger Walk – October 4 Virtual**

No one in this world should be hungry. That's why the CROP Hunger Walk is more than just a gathering of people in a place. We're part of a movement, taking steps and raising funds together to provide meals for those in our community who need them – and supporting programs that create greater food security in communities all around the world.

The 2026 CROP Hunger Walk will be virtual (no in-person scheduled event).

Please join us in the fight against hunger. The steps we take and funds we raise will make a difference in the lives of others.

To register, go to [www.crophungerwalk.org/marquettemi](http://www.crophungerwalk.org/marquettemi). Donation envelopes are available on the Welcome Table. Checks should be made out to CWS/CROP. 75% of the funds raised goes to Church World Service and 25% of the funds raised will be split between Feeding America (sponsored by Silver Creek Church) and the NMU Food Bank.

Return your donation envelopes by October 9 to the church office. We will notify Crystal Swanson to pick them up.

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## Help Needed with Communion Set Up on Sundays

We need **1-2 more volunteers** to set up communion for both services on Sundays. If/When we get one or two more, you would only have to do this one time each month. If you can help with this, please let Jen or Kathy know. Training will be provided.

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## Preaching Schedule

Sept 27     Pastor Steve Solberg will preside during Faith Ventures combined worship & continental breakfast at 10:00 am

Oct 3-Sat.   Dave Horn, Lay Leader will preach, Pastor Steve will preside for communion.

Oct 4-Sun.   Dave Horn, Lay Leader will preach, Christine Thomas-Echelbarger will preside for communion at 8:30 and 10:30 am

Oct 10/11   Pastor Steve Solberg

Oct 17/18   Pastor Steve Solberg

Oct 24/25   Pastor Sharolyn Swenson

Oct 31/Nov 1 Pastor Steve Solberg

Nov 7/8     Grant Soltwisch, Lay Leader (*no communion served*)

Nov 14/15   Pastor David Van Kley, *tentative*

Nov 21/22   Pastor Steve Solberg

Nov 28/29   Pastor Steve Solberg

Dec 5/6     Bishop Katherine Finegan

Dec 12/13   Dave Horn, Lay Leader (*no communion served*)

Dec 19/20   Pastor David Van Kley

Dec 24     4:00 pm and 8:00 pm Pastor Steve Solberg

Dec 26/27   Pastor Steve Solberg

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## New Landscaping

Have you noticed the recent Messiah make-over? Nagelkirk Gardens has replaced old, overgrown plantings with plants recommended for maximum enjoyment with minimum care. The ultimate goal is to always have something in bloom to enjoy. This undertaking would not have been possible without several generous donors: THANK YOU! Additional thanks go out to the faithful watering folk who continue to care for the landscaping around our church. It really does take a village.

Do you like being outside around pretty plants? Would you be interested in helping water our new plantings? We would love your help. Please contact Jennifer to volunteer for watering. Thanks again to all for the many ways you contribute to this congregation.

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### **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!

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### **LWR InGathering at Messiah – October 17**

Messiah will have their Lutheran World Relief (LWR) Truck Loading Day on Saturday, October 17th at 10:00 am. The truck will be here for one hour only.

If your Circle/Quilting group has boxes of kits/quilts to send, please record the following information for the office and call the numbers in by 10/15:

1. Number of quilts and/or kits your Circle/Quilting group has made.
2. Number of boxes that your quilts and/or kits are in.

Thank you!

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## **Calling All Kids in 6th -12th Grade!!**

*We need your help!*

We would love your help loading boxes on a semi-truck for Lutheran World Relief. We invite any adults & kids ranging in school grade 6-12 to help us load all of our boxes on the semi-truck on Saturday, Oct 17th at 10:00 am. We need a lot of young, strong people to help for this to be a success. Please let the office know if you are willing to help. We only ask for one hour of your time. Thank you! Jen Dodge

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## **Pr. Katie Larson's Visit**

Pr. Katie Larson's visit was a beautiful reminder about the relevance and impact of relationships with God's people throughout the world. Our Fair-Trade Market at Messiah showcases international artisans, including Colombian congregations working with Pr. Katie. You have an opportunity to volunteer with our Fair-Trade Market! Our market will be held Nov. 21-22 at Messiah. There are still some tasks that need volunteers. Please review the sign-up sheet on the welcome table and identify if you feel called to serve at this event. The Fair-Trade Market team will contact you to arrange the next step. Thank you for your support!

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## **Bowls for a Cause**

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

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## **Senior Men's Ministry**

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

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## **Knotty Knitters**

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

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## **For Women of the ELCA**

Dear Sisters in Christ,

I am letting you know that I have been unable to find a congregation within our conference 8 that will host a Fall gathering. Keeping this in mind, should we only have a Spring meeting? Maybe this type of gathering has outlived its purpose. Should we look at something different to bring our conference 8 churches together? I am open to suggestions.

I have found while calling churches that may do not meet as a WELCA group, but continue on with Bible studies, community activities and service within their church. As we are all aware we have aging churches and only so many people to serve on the various committees. I am looking for suggestions at how we can help our younger congregation members become involved without adding additional work to their already busy lives.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at [mjohnso@nmu.edu](mailto:mjohnso@nmu.edu) or my cell phone is 906 360-8226.

Thank you and God bless

Michelle Johnson

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## **What is Centering Prayer?**

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

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## **Centering Prayer**

In Centering prayer or meditation, we go to the Divine and still our minds and all we think we know, to receive the guidance that we have been promised. Here is an excerpt from "Manifesting God" explaining the benefits of going directly to our Source:

### Manifesting God

Contemplation is not the reward of virtue, but a necessity in order to practice it. Christian history is the poignant story of how well or poorly each generation of Christians has assimilated Christ's Abba experience.

*God's love has been poured forth into our hearts by the Holy Spirit who is given to us. Romans 5:5*

...each of us has within us the whole program of divine transformation....The spirit dwelling in each cell of the Mystical Body puts at our disposal all the spiritual gifts we need to be transformed into the mind and heart of Christ and into full participation in the kingdom of God. Our false self develops a world-view of our own inventing. The pillars on which it rests are two: the emotional programs for happiness based on the instinctual needs of survival and security, affection and esteem, and power and control—and over-identification with the group to which we belong, whether this be ethnicity, tribe, family, nation, religion, peer group, or gang. Our unwillingness to let go of the support systems that keep our false selves in place is the source of every sin.

The true self is God's idea of who we are.

One of the Fruits of the Spirit is gentleness. Efforts to further the Kingdom are not exhausting when they proceed from the inner resource of the Divine Indwelling. The desire for success or control damages the good works of people who have not accessed this particular Fruit of the Spirit. They think mistakenly, that everything depends on them, including their own progress in the spiritual journey.

What we most despise in ourselves may be the most direct route to divine union. God wills that we forgive ourselves for our past mistakes and for whatever unwanted memories are burdening our consciousness.

*Thomas Keating—Manifesting God*

- - - Nancy Hamlin]

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## **Electronic Giving/Purchasing**

We have a new Venmo QR code set up; it is on the back of each bulletin as well as near the coffee, chocolates, tea & jam that we have for sale.

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## **Messiah's Jam Ministry**

We have lots of JAM on the shelves right now!! Jam is \$5.00/jar for 8 oz. (half pint) jars. If you're lucky enough to find a sample 4 oz. jar, they are \$3.00/jar or two for \$5. You can leave your money at the office or use the convenient QR code located nearby to pay. THANK YOU to everyone who has donated supplies and fruit. Don't forget to return those empty jars! You can leave them in the jam area. Thank you, *Rebecca Ulland* (email [rjulland@yahoo.com](mailto:rjulland@yahoo.com)).

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## Lutheran World Relief School Kits

Women Reaching Women Circle is collecting donations of school supplies for Lutheran World Relief School Kits. These kits are sent to children in need in our country & around the world. A bin is available in the narthex for your donations. We also welcome cash contributions.

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

- 70-80 sheet notebooks, wide- or college-ruled
  - Pencil sharpener
  - Unsharpened #2 pencils
  - 2 1/2" Pink Pearl-type eraser
  - 30 cm ruler, or ruler with centimeters on one edge and inches on the other
  - Box of 16 or 24 crayons
  - Fiskars-type kids' scissors
  - Black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
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## OWLs (Older, Wiser Lutherans)

Every Monday at 10:00 am the OWLs walk at the Lower Harbor Park. 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 them for coffee. Questions? Please contact Betsy or the church office.

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## The New Free Store Donations

The New Free Store is in need of the items listed below. There is a collection bin in our narthex at Messiah for The New Free Store.

**\*September** – *Shampoo; boxes of tampons/packages of pads*

**\*October** – *Toilet Paper (4 or 6 rolls per pack)*

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## 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.

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## Messiah Birthdays

- |         |                                                                              |
|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sept 23 | Jen Bleckiner, Peggy Letvenow, Kaitlin Salmela                               |
| Sept 24 | Brandon Evans                                                                |
| Sept 25 | Henry Dellangelo, Terry Keuscher, Wilho Kilpela, Andrew Stevens, Angela Weir |
| Sept 26 | Laurie Smith                                                                 |
| Sept 27 | Brooklynn Rydholm                                                            |
| Sept 28 | Lynda Trafton                                                                |

|         |                                            |
|---------|--------------------------------------------|
| Sept 29 | Laura Tripp                                |
| Sept 30 | Bob Beals, Leslie Dellangelo               |
| Oct 1   | Cheryl Anderegg, Linda Savage, Pat Vacilek |
| Oct 2   | Shane Parks, Paul Wainio                   |
| Oct 3   | Sylvie Theys, Sarah Zeller                 |
| Oct 4   | Joan Tasson                                |
| Oct 5   | Patty Ryan, Esme Ulland-Joy                |
| Oct 6   | Al Edgar, Candace LeDuc                    |
| Oct 7   | Lois Raikko                                |

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## Happy Anniversary!

*Happy Anniversary to the following couples in September:*

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Mark & Laura Petrie          | September 2  |
| Brent & Rachel Skaw          | September 2  |
| Bill & Mary Davis            | September 5  |
| Mark & Laurie McGovern       | September 5  |
| Joe & Chris Harkness         | September 8  |
| Mark & Michelle Sellers      | September 9  |
| Paula Diedrich & her husband | September 12 |
| Keith & Debra Abraham        | September 13 |
| David & Laura Tripp          | September 14 |
| Michael & Claire Sauer       | September 17 |
| Ron Tervo & Jan Julian       | September 23 |
| Dave & Marion DeLarye        | September 28 |
| Ron & Ruth Hill              | September 28 |

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## 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.

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## Your Prayer Requests at Messiah

At every Saturday & Sunday worship service, we ask people to fill out a welcome card that is found in the bulletin. The card asks people to put their prayer requests on the back, and these requests are prayed for every Tuesday morning at Messiah's staff meeting. If you wish to have

your name or a loved one's name read during worship, please call the office or let the pastor or Jen know. We will need to get permission before we include anyone's name in the worship prayers.

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## **In Our Prayers**

*Please remember the following people in your prayers at this time:* Sarah Bleckiner; the Helsel family; Maria; family & friends of Joanne Kingston who passed away on September 14; Karen Gill; Jan Julian; Lynne; Paul Carstens; Milt Soderberg; Larry & Betty Brunton; Ernie Johnson; Peggy Letvenow; those who seek help from our financial assistance program; Jacelyn (pronounced Jack Lynn) Marra; Gloria Byrnes; Cassidy Eckloff; Sherry Watters; Renee Goyen; Stuart Harslah; 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; Karen Eldevick; Shannon; Marshall Lovan Magnuson; Peter; Shawn; Mae Desonia; Lisa Douros; Wayne Hanmer; Judy Donckers; Sierra; Charlene Avery

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## **Pastor on Call:**

Pastor Steven Solberg is on call September 23-30

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## **A Daily Guide for September**

### September 1 – Begin Again

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

### September 2 – The Gift of Routine

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

### September 3 – A Prayer for New Starts

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

### September 4 – Walk with Intention

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

### September 5 – Celebrate a First

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

### September 6 – Bless the Work

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

### September 7 – Hold a Backpack Blessing

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

### September 8 – Find Beauty in Transition

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

### September 9 – Pray for Educators

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

### September 10 – Let Yourself Be Taught

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

### September 11 – Remember and Recommit

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

### September 12 – Practice Grounding

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

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

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

### September 14 – Create Something Small

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

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

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

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

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

### September 17 – Seek Out Wisdom

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

### September 18 – Welcome the Stranger

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

### September 19 – Pray for the Church

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

### September 20 – Practice Gratitude for Community

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

### September 21 – Bless Your Tools

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

### September 22 – Celebrate Autumn's Arrival

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

### September 23 – A Prayer for Courage

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

### September 24 – Declutter with Intention

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

### September 25 – Pray for Students

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

### September 26 – Return to the Psalms

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

### September 27 – Share a Sacred Meal

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

### September 28 – Remember Your Baptism

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

### September 29 – Practice Hope

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

### September 30 – A Blessing for the Journey

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

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## **Worship Volunteers**

### **Sunday, September 27 – 10:00 am**

Readers: Karen Kimar-Johnson, Chris Harkness, Simeon MacIvor-Andersen,  
Molly Luty, Josh MacIvor-Andersen

Ushers/Greeters Anne Rydholm, Marina Shinkarenko, Amy Diedrich, Paula Diedrich

Nursery: Allison

Flower Delivery: Jean Reynolds

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## **Radio Broadcast & Livestream Sponsorship**

We need sponsors for weekly/ongoing radio broadcasts & livestream. If this is something you would like to support, please contact the office & share what you would like for your sponsorship; it can be in honor or in memory of a loved one.

You can reach us by phone at 225-1119 or email at [office@messiahlutheranmqt.org](mailto:office@messiahlutheranmqt.org). The cost of the Radio Broadcast or Livestream sponsorship is \$110.00 each.

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## **Announcements and Classified Ads**

### **Need for a Mobility Scooter**

Lois Kampe is looking for an electric mobility scooter for a severely handicapped friend. Lois can be reached at 906 250-0740 or [LMKAMPE@ATT.NET](mailto:LMKAMPE@ATT.NET).

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### **“Autumn Comforts” Quilt Show – October 3-4**

The Marquette Area Quilters Association will hold their “Autumn Comforts” Quilt Show and Raffle October 3 & 4 at the Ojibwa Casino (105 Acre Trail in Marquette). Over 200 quilts will be on display. Admission is \$5.00 and all proceeds support community projects. Contact Julie Higbie at 906 361-1537 for more information.

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### **Beethoven and Banjos: Music of Madagascar – October 8**

2026 Beethoven and Banjos will present the Music of Madagascar on Thursday, October 8 at 7:30 pm ET at the Marquette Regional History Center (145 W Spring St.). The concert will feature Mikahely Razafy and Dave Rajaonary with Evan Premo and Laurel Premo. Tickets are \$12.51 and can be purchased at [Eventbrite.com/e/Beethoven-and-banjos-music-of-madagascar-tickets](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/Beethoven-and-banjos-music-of-madagascar-tickets). There will also be a concert at the McArdle Theatre at Michigan Tech on Saturday, October 10 and a concert at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp on Sunday, October 11.

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### **Fall Craft Bazaar and Luncheon – October 24**

The First Presbyterian Church (120 N. Front St.) will hold a fall craft bazaar and luncheon on Saturday, October 24 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. It will feature local crafters, church craft items and baked goods, and a luncheon. The luncheon will be served from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. The luncheon is open to the public; it is free but donations will be accepted. If you are interested in being a vendor, please email [fpcmqtbazaar@gmail.com](mailto:fpcmqtbazaar@gmail.com) or call 906 249-9111

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## **Volunteers Needed – Meals on Wheels and Little Brothers/Friends of the Elderly**

Carol Steinhaus, a member of Messiah and the Transition Team writes: “ I believe we are put into this world to help each other. I volunteer for both Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly and Meals on Wheels. Both organizations need some help. I value both organizations and have found that my work with them has been very rewarding”

“Several people are ill/have moved, and Meals on Wheels drivers are needed, both here in Marquette and in Gwinn. This involves picking up meals from either Lost Creek (near Red Lobster) or the kitchen in Gwinn, and delivering a route, generally to 20 or so people. I volunteer for this and donate my mileage, but you can be paid and/or have mileage paid. Due to the increase in gas costs and shortage of drivers, we are currently delivering only 3 days a week, providing frozen meals for the other days. Most routes go from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm or so, returning to the kitchens. ANY VOLUNTEER TIME, one day a week or as a backup, would be most helpful. It’s possible there is a route in your own neighborhood! If you would like more information, feel free to call me at 906 458-5408 and leave a message. I don’t answer numbers I don’t know but would call you back and give you more information or you can call Gretchen from Meals on Wheels at 906 228-6522 ext. 303.”

The other organization that needs help now is Little Brothers/Friends of the Elderly. Often, seniors in town need rides to medical appointments. The cheapest taxi fare is \$40 round trip. Door to Door MarqTran requires a lot of advance notice and gives priority to kidney dialysis patients. There is often a need for 5-10 rides a week. Ruth Robb and I both do this. Little Brothers posts an email list each week of who needs a ride, when and where, and we call the office and let them know what we are able to do. Even a single ride now and then helps! Occasionally, rides are needed from Gwinn. I’ve met some interesting people and made some nice friends this way. If you would like to know more or can help, call Tena at the Little Brothers office, 906 273 5575 ext. 2005.”

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## **Medication Help Available**

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

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## **Financial Help for Cancer Patients**

If you or someone you know is going through any financial hardships while going through cancer treatment, please do not hesitate to contact Dave Poirier of Cancer Care of Marquette County (CCMC). 906-362-9226 / [poirph@msn.com](mailto:poirph@msn.com) or Barb Salmela.

There are no income guidelines. Assistance can be for travel expenses, insurance co-pay, medical bills & medications related to cancer care. This organization is all volunteer based. Money to support is from fundraising, grants and donations. This organization is a 501c3/non-profit, so donations are tax deductible. But I cannot emphasize enough....to CALL if you need help.

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### **Safe Firearm Storage Study**

The Marquette County Health Department is partnering with the University of Michigan on a safe firearm storage study for families. This is open to parents or guardians anywhere in the Upper Peninsula with children under 18 years old who have at least one firearm in their home or on their property. Parents should have regular access to the internet and an electronic device in order to participate. Anyone who is eligible and takes part in the project will be compensated up to \$170 for the surveys they complete. If you are interested, please contact the study email at [storesafely@med.umich.edu](mailto:storesafely@med.umich.edu)

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

#### Community Memorial Service

Our Community Memorial Service is a time for anyone in our community to pause, remember, and honor someone they love. You do not need to have had a connection to Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice to attend. If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, we welcome you to join us for this meaningful evening of remembrance and reflection.

If you are able to attend and would like your loved one remembered, you may contact us to have their name read and a candle lit in their honor during the service. To include a name, please call 906.225.7760 or email [grief@lakesuperiorhospice.org](mailto:grief@lakesuperiorhospice.org)

Wednesday, September 23, 2026 at 5:30 pm

Presque Isle Pavilion, 3 Peter White Drive, Marquette

#### Powerful Tools for Caregivers

Are you caring for a spouse, parent, relative, or friend? Join our Powerful Tools for Caregivers in person class and gain practical skills to help you reduce stress, communicate more effectively, set healthy boundaries, and take better care of yourself while caring for others. This engaging, in-person program provides caregivers with proven tools, helpful resources, and support from others who understand the caregiving journey. Whether you're new to

caregiving or have been providing care for years, you'll leave with strategies to help you feel more confident and empowered.

- No cost to attend- Practical tips and tools you can use right away
- Virtual Via Zoom - Supportive and welcoming environment

Space may be limited—sign up today and invest in your well-being while continuing to provide the best care possible. Thursdays from October 15 – November 19th 1:30-3:00 pm.

Registration ends on 9/15. Call 906.225.7760 for more information and ask to speak to Jamie Barbieri or call 2-1-1 to register. Can also register online at [www.Upcap.org](http://www.Upcap.org).

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### **Do you have an announcement?**

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

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### **Messiah Contact Information**

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

Phone: 906-225-1119  
Fax: 906-225-5025  
Email: [office@messiahlutheranmgt.org](mailto:office@messiahlutheranmgt.org)  
Website: <https://www.messiahlutheranmgt.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  
Interim Children's Ministry Coordinator – Emma Olechnowicz

### **Music Staff**

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