Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Answering God's call to love

Messiah ENewsletter for November 4, 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!

Community Meal Tonight!

We are serving a free community meal tonight (Wednesday, November 4th) at 6:00 pm in Magnuson Hall. The meal will be Thanksgiving dinner! A vegetarian option will be available. Please join us for a delicious, hearty meal. We look forward to it!

Upcoming Events – November

Nov 4	Senior Choir Rehearsal at 5:00 pm
Nov 4	Transition Team at 5:00 pm
Nov 4	Community Meal at 6:00 pm
Nov 5	Bible Study at 10:30 am
Nov 5	Building & Grounds at 5:00 pm
Nov 6	Senior Men's Bible study at 9:00 am
Nov 7/8	Transition Team Retreat at Fortune Lake
Nov 8	The Bible's Big Story at 9:45 am
Nov 9	11-Step Centering Prayer at 5:15 pm
Nov 9	Superior Conference 8 Meeting at 6:00 pm
Nov 10	Worship Planning Team at 9:00 am
Nov 10	Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
Nov 10	Ruth Circle at Brookridge at 1:00 pm.
Nov 11	Senior Choir Rehearsal at 5:00 pm
Nov 11	Celebration Choir Rehearsal at 6:00 pm
Nov 11	The Other Side: A Study of End-of-Life Experiences at 7:00 pm
Nov 12	Bible Study at 10:30 am
Nov 13	Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am
Nov 14	Tai Chi Workshop at 9:00 am
Nov 15	The Bible's Big Story at 9:45 am
Nov 16	11-Step Centering Prayer at 5:15 pm
Nov 17	Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
Nov 17	Sunday School Meeting at 4:30 pm
Nov 17	Finance at 5:15 pm
Nov 18	Senior Choir Rehearsal at 5:00 pm
Nov 18	Council at 6:30 pm

The Story You Were Made For: A Bible Overview – Beginning November 1

Have you ever opened your Bible and felt a little lost?

You're not alone. Many faithful Christians know bits and pieces of the biblical story but wonder how it all fits together. How does Genesis connect to Jesus? Why do some books feel inspiring while others feel confusing? And what do ancient stories have to do with our lives today?

Beginning in November, Messiah Lutheran Church invites you to explore The Bible's Big Story, Our Story, an eight-week journey through Scripture from Genesis to Revelation.

Together, we'll trace the great arc of the biblical story: Creation, Promise, Covenant, Jesus Christ, the Church, and God's promised future.

As we continue our season of transition at Messiah, this feels like a fitting next step. Before asking where God may be leading us in the future, we begin by remembering the story of the God who has faithfully led His people through every generation.

And let's be honest: some parts of the Bible raise difficult questions. Some passages inspire us immediately. Others challenge us. Some comfort us. Others leave us wrestling. Faithful Bible study is not about checking our brains at the door. It is about bringing our questions, curiosity, experiences, and insights into conversation with God's story.

The Bible is not a collection of perfect people getting everything right. It is the story of God's faithfulness amid human weakness, failure, doubt, and renewal. Which is one reason it remains our story as well.

You don't need a seminary degree to attend. You don't need to know the difference between the Old and New Testaments. All you need is curiosity and a willingness to show up.

Whether you join us in person or online, you'll be part of the conversation. We plan to make participation available through Zoom for those who are traveling, homebound, or simply unable to be on campus. The same Zoom link and Meeting ID and Passcode will be used from week to week through the Sunday bulletin, e-News, the church website, and Messiah's Facebook page.

By the end of these eight weeks, you'll have a clearer understanding of how the Bible fits together, greater confidence in reading Scripture for yourself, and a deeper appreciation for the story that continues to shape our lives as followers of Jesus.

Course Details:

• What: The Bible's Big Story, Our Story (8 sessions)
• When: Sundays, November 1 - December 20
• Time: 9:45 am between services
• Location: Magnuson Hall and online via Zoom*(QR code)*
Join Zoom Meeting
https://zoom.us/j/98174636141?pwd=4z4Q1yNn8eFyf7d0Y5GPkg69MJhjSA.1
Meeting ID: 981 7463 6141 & Passcode: 031349
• Cost: $12 for the companion book (recommended but not required)

To register, visit the church website or contact the church office. You're also welcome to simply show up. Come & discover the story you were made for.

#MessiahConnects *- - Pr. Steve Solberg*

Transition Team Shares Themes from Faith Ventures Reflection

The Transition Team recently shared the results of the congregation's Faith Ventures reflection process, which centered on Genesis 8 and Noah's journey through uncertainty, waiting, and new beginnings. Participants reflected on the congregation's current transition following Pastor Andrew's and Pastor Molly's departures, identifying both challenges and opportunities for growth.

Several key themes emerged from the discussion. Many participants saw parallels between Noah's experience and the congregation's own journey, expressing hope that God is leading Messiah toward a new chapter. Members emphasized the importance of faith, trust, honesty, transparency, and openness to change as the congregation moves forward. There was also strong support for nurturing and strengthening the church community, especially its youth, while seeking healing in relationships, attitudes, and ministry life.

The Transition Team affirms its commitment to listening, discernment, and broad congregational involvement as Messiah prepares for future pastoral leadership. Members are encouraged to participate in upcoming listening conversations and continue sharing their insights as the process unfolds.

- - Pr. Steve Solberg

Remembering the Days of Old – The Transition Timeline in the Atrium

"I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that you have done; I ponder the work of your hands." (Psalm 143:5)

As our Congregational Timeline in the Atrium continues to grow, so does the story it tells. Each card, memory, and milestone represents more than an event from the past. Together, they invite us to remember, meditate, and ponder God's work among us.

When David wrote these words, he was seeking God's guidance in a difficult time. Rather than focusing only on present challenges, he looked back and remembered God's faithfulness. Remembering was not an exercise in nostalgia. It was a way of recognizing God's presence and preparing to follow Him into the future.

The same opportunity is before us at Messiah. As you visit the timeline, look not only at what happened, but where God was at work. What moments strengthened faith? What challenges led to growth? What blessings continue to shape our life together?

The Transition Team invites you to continue adding your memories and reflections. As we remember the days of old, we give thanks for God's faithfulness in the past and grow in confidence for the future He is preparing for Messiah.

New Member Orientation - November 8 – RSVP by 11/5

Are you new to Messiah, returning after some time away, or simply ready to take a next step in connecting more deeply? We invite you to join us for a New Member Orientation on Sunday, November 8, following the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

Gather with us for a healthy meal, meaningful conversation, and an opportunity to learn more about Messiah's mission, ministries, and life together. We'll also offer a friendly introduction to Lutheran beliefs and practices, with plenty of time for questions, stories, and getting acquainted.

Whether you're considering membership, exploring your faith, or simply looking for ways to become more connected, this gathering is designed to help you feel at home.

Current members are encouraged to invite friends, neighbors, family members, and anyone who may be looking for a church home. A personal invitation can make all the difference. And current members are welcome, too.

Please RSVP to the church office by November 5 for planning purposes. We look forward to sharing a meal and conversation with you as we grow together in faith and community.

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- - Pr. Steve Solberg

ASSISTANCE FUND BY THE NUMBERS

As of October 31 - $67,421 distributed

Categories of Assistance

Rent – 58%

Utilities – 23%

Transportation – 10%

Miscellaneous – 9%

We have 2 more months to go and are on schedule to run out of funds as needs are increasing.

GIVING TUESDAY IS DECEMBER 1.

*Thanks to Michael Sekely for compiling this data.

Sunday School

We are already preparing Christmas music! Sunday School students will have a special musical performance on Sunday, December 20th during the 10:30 am service. If your child will be present on December 20th, please register online *(Messiah's website or Facebook Page)*. This will help our music teachers prepare for this special performance.

Anyone pre-k through 5th grade is welcome to join us for Sunday School during the 10:30am service. Online registration is appreciated but not required! We will be focusing on Abraham and Sarah in November. If you have questions or would like a fall schedule, please email Emma at Emma@messiahlutheranmqt.org

Pool Night:

Pool night is November 20th from 5:00 - 7:00 pm at the YMCA in Marquette. Join us for an evening of fun, friends, snacks, and swimming! Registration is appreciated but not required. Information will be posted on the Sunday School board in the atrium.

Card Crafting:

Calling crafters of all ages! On Sunday, December 6th, join us between services to craft a custom Christmas card. This intergenerational event is a great time to slow down & connect with our Messiah family this holiday season. All crafters (and snackers) are welcome!

We are looking for old Christmas cards, scrapbooking paper, and stickers for this event. Please drop off any supply donations to the office by Tuesday, December 1st. - - Emma Olechnowicz, *Interim Children's Ministry Coordinator*

Waiting in Hope: Midweek Advent Worship

Advent is a season of waiting, watching, and preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ. This year, Messiah invites you to join us for three midweek Advent services on Wednesdays, December 2, 9, and 16, from 6:30 to 7:15 pm in the sanctuary.

Using the beloved Holden Evening Prayer liturgy, these services will provide a peaceful opportunity to pause amid the busyness of the season and focus on God's promises. Pastor Steve will lead a series of scripture reflections and messages centered on the theme "Waiting in Hope."

A meal and fellowship time will precede each service. On December 2, Messiah's Community Meal will begin at 6:00 pm. We also hope to offer a simple meal at 6:00 pm on December 9 & 16, providing an opportunity to gather around the table before worship.

Whether Advent is a familiar season for you or you're experiencing it in a new way, we encourage you to join us as we wait together in hope, prayer, and anticipation of Christ's coming.

Midweek Advent Worship:

- Wednesdays: December 2, 9 & 16
- Meal at 6:00 pm
- Worship at 6:30 pm
- Sanctuary
- Holden Evening Prayer
- Theme: Waiting in Hope

Come for the meal, stay for worship, and prepare your heart for the joy of Christmas.

- - Pr. Steve Solberg

October Superior Conference Youth Event (Grades 6–12)

Our next event for students in grades 6–12 is coming soon — and we're excited to gather again as a wider community of faith in the Superior Conference of the Northern Great Lakes Synod.

These events help our youth see that their faith journey is not limited to one congregation — they belong to a wider community of peers, mentors, and leaders across the Upper Peninsula.

All youth in **grades 6–12** — whether active in confirmation, youth group, or simply looking for connection — are warmly invited. Friends are welcome.

The full 2026-2027 calendar of events are available from the church office, including the next up:

Friendsgiving & Service Event — November 22

We will gather at Bethany Lutheran Church in Ishpeming from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Bring a dish or treat to pass. Snacks, desserts, or simple sides are welcome.

Youth Lock-In at Messiah — December 11–12

Parents, please mark your calendars and encourage your youth to participate. These gatherings help our students grow in faith, build friendships, and experience the joy of being part of the wider church.

NOTE: *If you haven't yet turned in your **Parent Consent Form**, please do so.*

ALSO: *The registration deadlines for the ELCA National Youth Gathering (grades 9-12, June 28 – July 2 in Minneapolis for Grades 9-12) is October 24 AND for Youth Quake (grades 6-12, February 11-14 in Wisconsin Dells) is November 7.*

Together for Good. #MessiahConnects

Preaching Schedule

Nov 7/8	Grant Soltwisch, Lay Leader
Nov 14/15	Pastor David Van Kley
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

Fair Trade Market – November 21-22

Mark your calendars! Messiah's Fair-Trade Market will be happening on Nov. 21st from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm (open to the public) and Nov. 22nd from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm. How can you be involved? Glad you asked!

1) Be a cashier on Saturday! Cashier slots range from 1 to 4 hours. Basic math and organizational skills are helpful.

2) Be a wrapper on Saturday! Slots range from 1 to 4 hours. Customers need delicate items wrapped.

3) Post flyers! This occurs 2-3 weeks prior, throughout Marquette County.

4) Packaging materials! Please donate gently used packaging materials to the church office: bubble wrap, tissue paper, gift bags, plastic shopping bags, brown wrapping paper.

5) Bake sale! Plan to bake delicious items to be available for our customers to purchase. Please deliver your baked goods to the church office on Thursday, Nov. 19th from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm, and Friday, Nov. 20th from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm. Labeling the baked good is encouraged (Example: 'chocolate chip cookies, contains gluten and dairy, no nuts').

6) Come shop!

Please contact the church office if you desire to volunteer.

Giving Tuesday is December 1

Plan to join us here at church to help support our Assistance Fund, have lunch, meet new people and have a chance to win some great prizes.

Check out the quilt made by Penny Streeter for this year's raffle in the photo on the #Messiah Connects board by the office.

The Assistance Fund is NOT part of our annual budget. It is supported entirely by the generosity of this congregation and a few grants we can attract. This year, the Presbyterian Church contributed $2,400 to our efforts.

The fund has grown significantly since our first Giving Tuesday in 2017. The needs continue to increase and we have helped 268 families and distributed over $56,646 as of September 30th this year. Our checkbook is getting bare!

Thank you for your commitment to this ministry as #Messiah Connects with our Community in this way.

- - Mary Lou Blomquist, *a member of Messiah's Community Assistance Team*

Messiah's Mitten Box

With the cooler, fall weather, it is time to start filling the Mitten box. There is yarn available under the Welcome Table. I would encourage our knitters and crocheters to use a wool or wool blend for mittens, so they are warmer. I will add wool yarn to the stash of yarn. Please label 100% wool items as such , so they are washed properly and do not shrink. The items will be distributed in late November/early December to our local charities who help those in need. Any questions, contact Kate Sromalski at 906 226 6682. Thank you!

Confirmation Ministry Update

Our confirmation ministry continues to gather momentum as youth from throughout Superior Conference 8 learn, worship, and grow together in faith. This year's theme, "Live with Them Among God's Faithful People," reminds us that God forms us not only as individual believers, but as members of Christ's body.

Our next Conference 8 Confirmation Gathering will be held on Saturday, November 21, from 9:00 a.m. to Noon at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Harvey. The focus for the day will be "Bring Them to the Word of God and the Holy Supper," exploring the gift of Holy Communion and the ways God nourishes and strengthens us through Word and Sacrament.

In addition, confirmands, parents, and other interested adults are encouraged to participate in The Bible's Big Story, Our Story, an eight-week Sunday morning series led by Pastor Steve beginning November 1. Meeting from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. in Magnuson Hall, this class will trace the sweeping story of Scripture from Genesis to Revelation and help participants see how every part points to Jesus Christ. While not a required part of confirmation, this series is highly encouraged and provides an excellent opportunity to deepen our understanding of God's story and our place within it.

We give thanks for the faith, curiosity, and commitment of our confirmands and look forward to another month of growing together among God's faithful people.

- - Pr. Steve Solberg

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!

Council Highlights

Greetings to our Messiah family from your Church Council. The council meets the third Wednesday of every month, at 6:30 pm in room 202. Meetings are open to all congregation members.

Because the Council last met September 16, before the previous issue of Council Highlights, there is little to report this month.

ITEMS OF NOTE

- A reminder: Mike Hill asks that any budget requests from the various Teams or Committees be received by him no later than November 1, in order to be considered for the 2027 budget.
- Review of paid staff job descriptions continues.
- Elevator Upgrades: A special congregational meeting was held on September 27 to vote on the funding of required elevator upgrades. There were close to 140 attendees. During the discussion, several members raised questions about why additional bids were not sought for the elevator modernization project. Council appreciates those questions and, since the meeting, has gathered additional information to help clarify the circumstances.

Elevator modernization projects differ significantly from many HVAC, plumbing, or electrical projects, where multiple competitive bids are often available. Because elevator systems are highly regulated and use manufacturer-specific components and controls (TKE/Dover proprietary parts in Messiah's case), the number of companies qualified to perform modernization work can be limited. Council learned that TKE is the only elevator company with a regular technician presence in Marquette and is widely relied upon by organizations such as UPHS-Marquette and NMU for elevator maintenance and service. While other companies may serve the region, they typically do so from more distant locations and may be less likely to bid on smaller projects involving manufacturer-specific systems such as ours. As a result, the availability of multiple bids for this project appears to have been more limited than many members would reasonably expect for other types of building improvements.

A motion was made to accept the bid from TKE, a total of $124,599, for the required code compliance work, modernization, and the recommended power unit upgrade; plus an additional estimated $5,000 to $10,000 for electrical work to be contracted separately. By a hand count, the motion carried 56 to 21. Several donations have already been received toward the remainder of the cost. As this project moves forward, the council remains committed to keeping the congregation informed and to exercising careful stewardship of the resources entrusted to Messiah.

A down payment of $49,000 has been made, which is covered by the 2026 budget's Capital Improvement funds. Several donations have already been received towards the remainder of the cost.

TRANSITION TEAM

On Sunday, September 27, the team hosted a Faith Ventures service in Magnuson Hall, which was well attended. To recap: we had a lovely service with songs, readings, prayer and communion, followed by a continental brunch and then conversation at individual tables to reflect on members' individual faith journey, their vision for Messiah's future, etc. The team plans to hold at least one more such special service as their works progresses; stay tuned!

CLOSING BLESSING

Peace be with you all,

Mark Petrie, *Council President*

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.

Youth Ministry Update

Our youth ministry continues to bring together students from across Superior Conference 8 for faith, friendship, service, and fun. All students in grades 6-12 are invited to participate, and friends are always welcome.

Our next event is the Friendsgiving & Service Event on Sunday, November 22, from 5:00-7:00 pm at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Harvey. Youth are invited to bring a dish or treat to share. Snacks, desserts, and simple sides are all welcome as we gather around the table, build relationships, give thanks, and serve together. Please RSVP to the church office by November 19.

Looking ahead, mark your calendars for our Youth Lock-In at Messiah Lutheran Church on December 11-12, beginning at 6:00 pm Friday evening and concluding at 8:00 am Saturday morning.

In addition to our conference events, we are beginning to form a Youth Ministry Planning Team. We are looking for parents, grandparents, mentors, young adults, and other interested members who have a heart for helping young people grow in faith and connection. This team will help dream about future events, support youth gatherings, encourage participation, and shape the direction of youth ministry at Messiah. Whether you have years of experience working with youth or simply a desire to help, your voice and gifts are welcome. Please contact Pastor Steve if you would like to learn more or become involved.

One of the greatest gifts we can give our young people is a church community that knows them, encourages them, and walks alongside them in faith. Thank you for helping us build that kind of community together. Together for Good. *#MessiahConnects*

- - - Pr. Steve Solberg

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

The purpose of centering prayer is to temporarily suspend what we think we know, and still ourselves, let go of our judgments and open ourselves to the Advocate that Jesus told us God has provided us with. The mystics share the insights they receive from such practice. Here is a excerpt from someone who had an awakening experience:

You do not become good by trying to be good, but by finding the goodness that is already within you and allowing that goodness to emerge. But it can only emerge if something fundamental changes in your state of consciousness.

What is stirring now is not a new belief system. The change goes deeper than the content of your mind, deeper than thoughts. At the heart of the new consciousness lies the transcendence of thought, the ability of rising above thought, of realizing a dimension within yourself that is infinitely more vast than thought.

You no longer derive your identity from the incessant stream of thinking, that in the old consciousness you took to be yourself. Ego is no more than this: identification with form, which

primarily means thought forms. This results in a total unawareness of our connectedness with the whole, our intrinsic oneness with every “other” as well as with the Source.
- *A New Earth by Eckhart Tolle* Submitted by Nancy Hamlin

Bell Choir – Members Needed

The bell choir needs some additional players. If you have played an instrument in school and want to reclaim that feeling of belonging and making music, this is the place for you. If you have never played an instrument but can count to at least four, there is a place for you too. We have bells for 4 octaves so we can use many people.
Please join us for rehearsal on Monday evenings from 5:45 to 6:45 pm. When we play we gather Sunday morning at 7:30 am so the senior choir can rehearse at their usual time. We usually play at both Sunday services.

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).

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.

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.
***November –** *Dental floss, toothpaste & toothbrushes (child & adult)*
***December –** *Laundry Soap, Dish Soap, Bars of Soap*

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

Nov 4	No birthdays
Nov 5	Sherry Labbe
Nov 6	Jane Kamps
Nov 7	Kate Ziegler
Nov 8	Mark Blom, Theresa Delpier, Janice Johnstone
Nov 9	Mary Davis, Jeremy Labbe
Nov 10	Wayne Hanmer, Viola Sundman
Nov 11	No birthdays
Nov 12	Linda Carlson
Nov 13	Lynette Suckow
Nov 14	Julia Dellangelo, Marcia Heron, Mary Ruman
Nov 15	Ray Jarvis
Nov 16	Shirley Teed
Nov 17	Peggy Kapfhamer, Wayne Phillips, Sally Wilson
Nov 18	Mark Dellangelo

Happy Anniversary!

Happy Anniversary to the following couples in November:

Peter & Cindy Kotila	November 4
Bob & Mary Beals	November 9
Jim & Julie Elder	November 9
Andrew & Sarah Stevens	November 13
Rick Beyers & Wayne Hanmer	November 28

Fortune Lake Thanks YOU!

The numbers are in, and we're thrilled to report our Fall Fest 2026 fundraising total of $27,388! This puts us above our goal of $26,000!

THANK YOU to all who participated in any way. We are grateful for quilters, donors, bidders, bakers, crafters, buyers, promoters, attendees, online shoppers, and cheerleaders! All of your energy was pooled, and God blessed us abundantly! Your generosity helps sustain outdoor

ministry at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp, keeping our programs financially accessible. We thank God for you!

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, October 2 for Fall Fest 2027!

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: Betsy Little; Crystalee; Cheryl; the Helsel family; Karen Gill; 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; Sherry Watters; Renee Goyen; Stuart Harslah; Lisa Balko; 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 November 4-11

A Daily Guide for November

November 1 – Welcome the Season
As a new month begins, pray: "God, help me receive this season with gratitude, trust, and hope."
November 2 – Begin the Story
As our Bible overview begins today, open Genesis 1 and read the first few verses. Remember that every story starts with God.
November 3 – Notice God's Gifts
Name three gifts you might otherwise overlook today. Give thanks for each one.
November 4 – Pray for Our Nation
Lift up our country, its leaders, and its people. Pray for wisdom, justice, and peace.
November 5 – Practice Gratitude
Write down five things for which you are thankful. Let gratitude become a prayer.
November 6 – Encourage Someone
Send a note, text, or call someone simply to encourage them.
November 7 – Pray for Caregivers
Remember those who care for children, aging parents, neighbors, patients, and friends.
November 8 – Rest in God's Presence
Spend five quiet minutes with God. No agenda. Simply be present.
November 9 – Remember the Promise
Read Genesis 12:1-3. Give thanks for God's promise to bless the world through His people.
November 10 – Pray for Veterans
As Veterans Day approaches, thank God for those who have served. Pray for their well-being and peace.
November 11 – Honor Service
Take a moment to remember veterans and military families. Offer a prayer of gratitude for their sacrifices.
November 12 – Share Generously
Look for one opportunity today to share your time, resources, or attention.
November 13 – Pray for Our Youth
Lift up the young people of Messiah. Pray for courage, belonging, and growing faith.
November 14 – Notice Beauty
Pause and observe something beautiful today. Let it remind you of the Creator's delight.
November 15 – Pray for Messiah
Ask God to bless our congregation, guide our ministries, and deepen our love for one another.
November 16 – Remember Your Story
Reflect on a season when God carried you through uncertainty. Offer thanks for that faithfulness.

November 17 – Pray for Church Leaders
Lift up pastors, council members, staff, and ministry leaders as they serve and discern.
November 18 – Practice Hospitality
Welcome someone today with warmth, patience, and genuine interest.
November 19 – Read a Psalm
Spend a few minutes with Psalm 100. Let its words shape your gratitude.
November 20 – Pray for the Hungry
Remember those who lack daily necessities. Ask God to provide and to make us generous servants.
November 21 – Seek Wisdom
Pray Solomon's simple prayer: "Give me a listening heart."
November 22 – Prepare for Thanksgiving
As holiday gatherings approach, pray for safe travel, joyful reunions, and healing where relationships are strained.
November 23 – Gather Around the Story
Read a Gospel passage today. Listen again to the story of Jesus and His invitation to follow.
November 24 – Give Thanks for Home
Whether your home is bustling or quiet, offer a prayer of gratitude for shelter and belonging.
November 25 – Practice Contentment
Pause before seeking more. Give thanks for what you already have.
November 26 – Thanksgiving Day
Before a meal today, pray: "Giver of every good gift, thank you for your abundant grace."
November 27 – Remember Those Who Grieve
As celebrations continue, hold in prayer those who are lonely, grieving, or struggling this season.
November 28 – Pray for Hope
Ask God to renew your hope and help you trust what you cannot yet see.
November 29 – Enter Advent with Expectation
As Advent begins, light a candle and pray: "Come, Lord Jesus. Prepare my heart."
November 30 – Look Toward the Light
As November ends, thank God for His faithfulness through every season and for the promise of Christ's coming light.
#MessiahConnects
Editor's Note: Several of this month's daily reflections connect with our new study, The Bible's Big Story, Our Story, as we journey together through Scripture from Genesis to Revelation. Join us Sundays at 9:45 a.m. in Magnuson Hall or online via Zoom.

Messiah's Quilters - Year in Quilting!

Messiah Quilters sent 281 quilts to Lutheran World Relief on October 17th.
We also donated two quilts locally to The New Free Store and seven to Child & Family Services. We are very thankful for the Congregation 's financial support and donations of sheets.

Worship Volunteers

Saturday, November 7 – 5:00 pm in atrium

Assisting Minister:	Kathy Godec
Communion Assistant:	Barb Salmela
Refreshments:	Shari Brugman

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

Assisting Minister:	Chris Harkness
Reader:	Fred Maynard
Ushers:	Need two volunteers.
Communion Assistants:	Marina Shinkarenko, Dave Blomquist, need two more volunteers.
Greeters:	Chris Harkness, Marina Shinkarenko
Nursery:	Allison Brassard
Refreshments:	Need a volunteer.

Sunday, November 8 – 10:30 am in sanctuary, on Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister:	Marina Shinkarenko
Reader:	Nancy Hamlin
Ushers:	Bev Evans, Ruth Robb
Communion Assistants:	Marina Shinkarenko, Gayle Van Osdol, need two more volunteers.
Greeters:	Nancy Raisanen, Marina Shinkarenko
Projection Technician:	Kathy Godec
Nursery:	Allison Brassard
Flower Delivery:	Gayle Van Osdol

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

Cultural Hosting Opportunity

The NMU scholar from our Sister City in Higashiomi, Japan this year is Junko Onish, a 31-year-old Special Education teacher. She enjoys pets, has no food allergies and loves cooking, outdoor activities and practicing English while learning about Marquette. If you are available to host her during the school year for part of a break at NMU or just a weekend or evening, contact: Amber Dohrenwend: adohrenwent@gmail.com. Phone: 906 360 2287.

Save Our Clubhouse Concert Series – November 7

You are invited to the Save Our Clubhouse Concert Series at the Women's Federated Clubhouse (104 W Ridge) on Saturday, October 24 featuring Troy Graham and on Saturday, November 7 featuring Keri Lee Pierson, Stephanie Beinlich, and Theresa Camilli (Italian Arias). The concerts are from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm and free will donations will benefit the Women's Federated Clubhouse.

Bowling Recovery Connections Event – November 8

Superior Connections invites you to their 4th Annual Recovery Connections through Bowling event. The event runs from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm at River Rock Lanes in Ishpeming. A meal will be provided. RSVP by November 4 for transportation to Ashley at 906 273-0294.

Recovery Craft Night – November 12

Superior Connections invites you to their regularly scheduled craft night with a joyful twist! A movie and snacks will be provided. The bi-weekly event runs from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm at 1089 Coles Drive in Marquette. The event is substance free and peer led. For more information, contact Haley at 906 458-6923 or 906 273-0294.

Marquette Male Chorus Concert – November 13

The Marquette Male Chorus will present their Fall Concert "A Song for America" on November 13, 2026 at 7:30 pm at Messiah Lutheran Church, 305 W Magnetic, Marquette, MI. The program in celebration of America's 250th anniversary will feature patriotic music, spirituals and songs of Stephen Foster. There is a suggested donation of $10.00 at the door. For further information, please contact Wayne Hanmer at 906 458-1739.

Big Band Swing Dance – November 15

Westerly Winds will present a Big Band Swing Dance on Sunday, November 15 at 2:00 pm at Ore Dock Brewing. There will be a free swing lesson at 1:00 pm. Tickets will be available at the door (cash only) and are $10 ($5 for students). All ages are welcome.

Jingle Bell Shop – November 21

The Negaunee Senior Center invites you to their Jingle Bell Shop on Saturday, November 21 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Negaunee Senior Center (410 Jackson St in Negaunee).

Superior Connections Friendsgiving – November 23

Superior Connections invites you to Friendsgiving on Monday, November 23 at 6:00 pm. Please RSVP by November 16 to Ashley at 906 273-0294

Marquette Choral Society Concert – December 5-6

The Marquett Choral Society will present "On Message, Many Voices"; holiday music from many times, places, and peoples on Saturday, December 5 at 7:30 pm and on Sunday, December 6 at 3:00 pm. The concert will be in the Reynolds Recital Hall at NMU and will feature Jan Brodersen, collaborative pianist and Christopher Schoelen, guitar. Erin Colwitz is the conductor. Tickets are $15 for adults, $10 for NMU and high school students, and $5 for those under 12. To purchase tickets, go to nmu.universitytickets.com.

Early Childhood Programs at Community Action Alger Marquette

Community Action Alger Marquette early childhood programs are high-quality preschool experiences designed to provide a strong foundation for children's learning and development. They have three program options to serve a variety of family needs: Early Head Start, Head Start, and GSRP. All of their programs are free to qualified families; they accept applications

year-round. To get in touch with them: 906 228-6522 or frontdesk@communityactionam.org or www.communityactionam.org. They are located at 1125 Commerce Dr. in Marquette.

Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice

Dine to Donate – Texas Roadhouse – November 10 from 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Enjoy a meal while supporting our Patient Care Fund! Texas Roadhouse will donate 10% of sales during the fundraiser to help support patients and families in our community.

Caregiver Support Groups Marquette – November 11 at 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 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.

Dementia LIVE- November 13 – Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice in Marquette. Dementia LIVE is an interactive, hands-on experience designed to build awareness, understanding, and compassion for people living with dementia. Through simulated sensory changes and everyday activities, participants gain a better understanding of the challenges a person with dementia may experience. You'll also learn practical tips and tools to improve communication, strengthen connections, and provide more meaningful support. You must call ahead to register – Della at 906-280-8734. Register by November 6.

Pop In for Hospice – Movie Afternoon – November 14. Life is made up of little adventures, meaningful moments, and the people who make them special. Join Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice this Hospice Month for a free screening of Disney-Pixar's UP — a heartwarming reminder to cherish the moments that make life meaningful. This event is on Saturday, November 14 at 2:00 pm at Thomas Theatre on Commerce Dr. Movie admission is free; optional pop/popcorn combo for $6.00. Pre-register by November 6, call 906-225-7760 or email outreach@lakesuperiorhospice.org

Mindful Aging: Noticing the Changes That Matter – November 16. As we age, changes in how we manage everyday tasks can happen gradually. Join us for an informative presentation to learn how to recognize functional changes, understand when additional support may be needed, and explore resources to help you plan. November 16 at 1:00 pm at Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice

Coping Through the Holidays – Marquette Senior Center – November 18 For some, the holidays bring wonderful memories. For others, they can bring reminders of who or what has changed. Maybe traditions look different this year, a loved one is no longer at the table, or family expectations are creating extra stress. Join us as we explore ways to cope with the holiday blues, manage stress and anxiety, and make room for what you need during the holiday season. This will take place on November 18 from 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm at Marquette

Senior Center.

Telephone Based Caregiver Support Group: November 18 at 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 Barbiere at 906.225.7760.

Art & Loss – Hot Plate – November 19: When someone we love dies, finding meaningful ways to remember them can be an important part of grief. Join us for a creative evening of remembrance as you choose a pottery piece to paint in memory of a friend or loved one. This event will be held on Thursday, November 19 from 5:00 -7:00 pm at Hot Plate in Marquette. The cost is free; but registration is required, call 906-225-7760 or email outreach@lakesuperiorhospice.org

Drop-in Grief Support: Marquette – Nov. 25 at 4:00 p.m. 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.

Live and Learn - Hospice: Get to Know Us Before You Need Us – November 25

November is National Hospice and Palliative Care Month, making it the perfect time to learn more about hospice — before you or someone you love needs it.

Join us for a relaxed, informative conversation about hospice, including what it is, who it's for, what services are available, and how hospice can support patients and families. Come with your questions! This will be held on November 25 from 2:00 - 3:00 pm at Millcreek Clubhouse. It is free and open to the public!

Evergreen Memories

Honoring the lives and memories of those we carry in our hearts

Each year, Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice creates a Tree of Remembrance at the Peter White Public Library to honor loved ones who have passed away.

-Personalized Ornaments: Each loved one will be honored with a personalized ornament displayed on the tree throughout December.

-Tree Viewing: Visit the Peter White Public Library throughout December. Viewing dates and times will be available on the library's website.

-Ornament Pickup: Personalized ornaments will be available for families to pick up at our Lake Superior Hospice office in January.

Would you like to remember someone special?

Email Outreach@LakeSuperiorHospice.org by December 5 with:

• Your loved one's name
• Your name and phone number for a pickup reminder

During a season of cherished memories and difficult moments, we hope Evergreen Memories offers a special place to remember and honor those who remain forever in our hearts.

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
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