Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Answering God's call to love

Messiah ENewsletter for November 18, 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 – November/December

Nov 18 Senior Choir Rehearsal at 5:00 pm
Nov 18 Council at 6:30 pm
Nov 19 Bible Study at 10:30 am
Nov 20 Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am
Nov 20 YMCA Night for Sunday School Kids at 5:00 pm

Nov 21	Confirmation at 9:00 am at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Nov 21	Fair Trade Market at 10:00 am
Nov 22	Fair Trade Market at 8:00 am
Nov 22	The Bible's Big Story at 9:45 am
Nov 22	Confirmation (6th-12th grade) Friendsgiving at 5:00 pm at Bethany Lutheran Church
Nov 23	11-Step Centering Prayer at 5:15 pm
Nov 23	Messiah Bells Rehearsal at 5:30 pm
Nov 24	Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
Nov 24	Publicity Team at 1:30 pm
Nov 25	Brookridge Worship at 1:30 pm
Nov 25	Senior Choir Rehearsal at 5:00 pm
Nov 27	Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am
Nov 29	The Bible's Big Story at 9:45 am
Nov 30	11-Step Centering Prayer at 5:15 pm
Nov 30	Messiah Bells Rehearsal at 5:30 pm
Dec 1	Giving Tuesday at 10:00 am
Dec 1	Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
Dec 2	Senior Choir Rehearsal at 5:00 pm
Dec 2	Community Meal at 6:00 pm
Dec 2	Advent Evening Worship at 6:30 pm

Congregational Vitality Survey

Dear Messiah,

The Messiah Transition Team would like to invite every member to complete a Congregational Vitality Survey. The survey is done online, and you can access it using the survey hyperlinks available from the church office.

It should take you about 15 minutes to answer the 36 questions. **There are no right or wrong answers. We are interested in your perceptions and your experience of Messiah.** Please be aware that all questions need an answer. If an answer doesn't exactly fit your perception, choose the closest one to your thoughts. We are keeping the survey open from **November 7 to November 30.** All survey responses are anonymous.

If you don't have access to a computer or a smartphone, call the church office to receive a paper copy of the survey. Your Transition Team is also making sure **that members on our homebound list** will have surveys mailed to them with stamped return envelopes included.

In order to reach as many members as possible, you may experience duplicate announcements about the survey. We are sending out announcements via email and in the weekly bulletins.

Why a survey? This is another good way for your Transition Team to hear what you are thinking. Through this survey, we can **identify shared ideas, concerns, and trends that can help us move forward in our mission.**

The results of this survey will be shared with you either through a letter from us, or we may hold a discussion time as a large group.

We thank you again for taking part in the process. The main benefit of this will be insights we discover so we can begin more serious conversations about our ministry here at Messiah. Working together will bring us strength, love, and continued growth in living out our baptismal promises to God, each other, our community, and the world.

God bless!

Your Transition Team

Madalyn Dykema, Mike Hill, Paul Marin,

Carol Steinhaus, Ron Strazzinski, and Darren Smith

The Story You Were Made For: A Bible Overview – November 1-December 20

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, now through 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*

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.

Seeking Youth Performers for Christmas Eve!

This Christmas Eve we are seeking youth performers, ages 18 and under, to perform during the 15-minute Prelude before the 4:00 pm service. Both vocal and instrumental solos, duets and group numbers are welcome. Songs can be anywhere from 1-3 minutes in length. Please email Sara Parks, Director of Music at sarparks17@gmail.com if you are interested in sharing your gift of music with Messiah this Christmas!

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 2nd, Messiah's Community Meal will begin at 6:00 pm. We will offer a soup supper at 5:30 pm on December 9th & 16th, providing an opportunity to gather around the table before worship.

Whether Advent is a familiar season for you or you are 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 2nd (6:00 pm), 9th (5:30 pm) & 16th (5:30 pm)
• Worship at 6:30 pm in the 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

Superior Conference Youth Events (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.*

Together for Good. #MessiahConnects

Preaching Schedule

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 – communion WILL be served at all 3 services
Dec 19/20	Pastor David Van Kley
Dec 24	4:00 pm and 8:00 pm Pastor Steve Solberg
Dec 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.

Brookridge Worship – November 25

Messiah has a worship service at Brookridge Heights on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 1:30 pm. Our next worship st Brookridge will be on Wednesday, November 25 at 1:30 pm. Please join us for this worship service if you are able.

Giving Tuesday is December 1

Deuteronomy 15: 11
"Since there will never cease to be some in need, open your hand to the needy neighbor in your land"
This verse captures the essence of Messiah's Assistance Fund and is the heart of the Gospel. This is how we open our hand to our neighbors.
Our Giving Tuesday event began in 2017, and 2026 marks our 9 th year of fundraising for this ministry. The needs never cease! Between Jan 1 and October 31, 2026 we have distributed $67,421 to families and individuals who come to us for help not offered by other agencies.
These funds are not part of our church budget – we rely on contributions and a few grants we can attract.
Please join us on Tuesday December 1 between 10 and 6 pm to learn about this ministry and to help keep this fund going for 2027. We will have food, chances to win door prizes and music by Inga and Jon Bannit from 12-1:00. Consider making a gift in honor or memory of someone.
Thanks to Thrivent for their support of this event. Tee shirts will be available!
Messiah's Assistance Fund Volunteers

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

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.

Santa and all of his helpers love JAM!

Check out the new jam flavors on the shelves and don't forget to stock up on JAM for the holidays! Jam makes a perfect holiday gift, especially paired with fresh bread, biscuits, you name it! There is a convenient QR code located near the jam section for payment. Or simply

use one of the available envelopes to pay. Questions? Contact Rebecca Ulland (rjulland@yahoo.com or 906-236-3722)

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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.

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

Dec 2 No birthdays

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: Ashley; the family and friends of Dave Carlson who passed away; 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 18-25

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 21 – 5:00 pm in atrium

Assisting Minister: Chris Kotila
Communion Assistant: Barb Salmela

Refreshments: Need a volunteer

Sunday, November 22 -- 8:30 am in sanctuary, on 101.9 FM, Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister: Mary Lou Blomquist

Reader:	Brenda Blett
Ushers:	Joe and Chris Harkness
Communion Assistants:	Judy Quirk, Dan Rabine, Marina Shinkarenko, need 1 more volunteer.
Greeters:	Tom and Amy Froiland
Nursery:	Allison Brassard
Refreshments:	Need a volunteer.

Sunday, November 22 – 10:30 am in sanctuary, on Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister:	Molly Luty
Reader:	Josh MacIvor-Andersen
Ushers:	Dave and Jill Luoma
Communion Assistants:	Kerry McGinley, Karen Burkman, Marina Shinkarenko, need 1 more volunteer.
Greeters:	Nancy Raisanen, Marina Shinkarenko
Projection Technician:	Kathy Godec
Nursery:	Allison Brassard
Flower Delivery:	Jill Luoma

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

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

Ishpeming Christmas Market – November 27-28 and December 4-5

The Ishpeming Kriskindlmarkt, a traditional European Christmas market is coming to downtown Ishpeming on November 27-28 and December 4-5. The event will feature local vendors, food, music, family activities, and plenty of holiday cheer as we bring the community together and celebrate the holiday season. For more information or to volunteer to help, go to www.ishkindlmarkt.com or www.facebook.com/ishkindl.

Christmas Concert – December 5

The Negaunee Male Chorus will present their Christmas Concert on Saturday, December 5 at 3:00 pm in the W.C. Peterson Auditorium (Ishpeming). Tickets are $15.00 for adults; age 17 and under with an adult are free. Ticket outlets are Super One Foods Negaunee, Country Village Ace Ishpeming, Jubilee Foods Ishpeming, TruNorth Credit Union Ishpeming, or any Male Chorus member.

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.

Tuba Christmas – December 6

A Tuba Christmas concert will be held on Sunday, December 6 at 1:30 pm at the Marquette Regional History Museum (145 W Spring St.). Doors open at 1:00 pm. The concert is free; donations are appreciated.

Holiday Brass Choir Concert – December 20

The Holiday Brass Choir will present a concert on Sunday, December 20 at 4:00 pm at the Marquette Regional History Center (145 W Spring St.). Doors open at 3:30 pm. Admission is free and the concert is open to the public; donations are appreciated.

Marquette Choral Society Event – December 22

The Marquette Choral Society will present "A Beer Choir X-mas" on Tuesday, December 22 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at Ore Dock Brewing (114 W Spring St in Marquette). Erin Colwitz will be the song leader and Sheila Grazulis will be the accompanist.

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

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