

Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Answering God's call to love

Messiah ENewsletter for July 3, 2024

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 – July

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| July 4 | Independence Day – Church office closed |
| July 7 | 10:30 am worship is at Clark Lambros Beach |
| July 9 | Centering Prayer at 11:00 am |

July 10 Brookridge Worship at 1:30 pm
July 15 Pastor Molly Hunter and Jen, Hannah, and Sarah Bleckiner leave for the
National Youth Gathering; returning on July 24

Update on World Hunger Appeal

The total amount of money raised during our World Hunger Appeal was \$4,214.87. Half of that amount will be donated to World Hunger; the other half will be donated to the NMU Food Pantry. Thanks to all for your generosity!

Jam News

Rebecca U. and Grant S. thank you for your continuing support of sugar and fruit from your gardens. There are now well over 100 jars of new jam on the shelves and more to come as berries and fruit ripen. We are already running low on jars, so if you have any empty 1/2 pints please bring them to church. Again, thank you for supporting this mission where 100% of the proceeds go to the church.

Preaching Seminar – July 31

A preaching seminar will be held for licensed lay ministers and lay pulpit supply preachers on Wednesday, July 31 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at Bethany Lutheran Church (715 Mather St. in Ishpeming).

Come be further equipped for the work you are already doing – Support ministry at your congregation and help cover the preaching needs in your area. Call the NGLS Office at 906-228-2300 to register by July 26. Email confirmation will include more information.

More About Centering Prayer

Jesus didn't go into "the quiet place" because he was an introvert who needed a little me time; he went there to pray. Many people hear prayer and think of a particular type of prayer—asking God for things, which is perfectly legitimate. But I mean prayer in the broader scope of the word, as the medium through which we communicate and commune with God.

There are four basic levels of prayer (or, you could say, dimensions to prayer):

Talking to God—praying premade prayers like the psalms or liturgy, or singing prayers at church, and so on.

Talking with God—conversing with God about your life. Lifting up the details of your life before God with gratitude (talking to him about what is good in your life and world), lament (talking to

him about what is evil in your life and world), and petition and intercession (calling on God to fulfill his promises to overcome evil with good).

Listening to God—hearing God's voice through quiet listening, Lectio Divina, the prophetic, and more (centering prayer).

Being with God—just looking at God, looking at you, in love (“contemplative prayer”).

All four types of prayer are essential to cultivate a loving relationship with God. But many people never move beyond the first two types of prayer, and even fewer discover the joy and possibility of the fourth. From “Practicing the Way” by John Mark Comer.

Centering prayer is listening to God and that will lead to Contemplative Prayer, which is receiving God's love and grace. From there, we are better equipped to offer goodness to the world and “overcome evil with good.”

We meet on Tuesdays from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm if this time doesn't work for you and you wish to develop a practice of centering prayer, please let Kathy or Jennifer in the office know what other times might work better and we will see if we can accommodate you. *Prayer” by David Frenette.*

Summer Liturgy

For a portion of this summer, we will be using the liturgy from A Sanctified Art with the theme “I’ve Been Meaning to Ask...” From June 2nd through July 21st, this 8-week series will focus us on texts that foster curiosity, courage, and connection in these times fraught with division. Our rhythms in worship will only differ slightly. You’ll notice there will be a reading of the day – this reading comes from the theme and a psalm will be paired with the reading. There will be fewer readings during this time because the main reading will be lengthier and tell a longer story.

Our hope in using this series is best expanded on by the authors themselves:

May this series help us to behold each other as images of the divine. May it help us strengthen our capacity for empathy and compassion. May it remind us of the power of asking unassuming questions. May it show us that courage is rooted in the heart. Through vulnerability and authenticity, may our courageous conversations lead us to glimpse hope, joy, and beauty—and to become the community God created us to be.

Baby Care Kit Collection

Messiah’s Rachel Circle will be assembling Baby Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. To do this, they will need your help. Each kit will contain the following items (any clothing items should be between 6 & 24 month sizes):

2 lightweight cotton T-shirts (no onsies)
2 long or short sleeved gowns or Sleepers (without feet)
2 receiving blankets (could be crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, up to 52 inches square)
1 jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with hood or include a baby cap
4 cloth diapers, flat fold preferred
2 pair of socks
2 or 3 bath-size bars of soap equaling 8-9 oz, any brand, in original wrapping
2 diaper pins or large safety pins
1 hand towel, dark color recommended

These items will be collected throughout the month of July. Thank you in advance, for your help!

- - - *Rachel Circle*

Help Needed at WELCA Fall Retreat at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp

The Women of the ELCA Northern Great Lakes Synod will be holding its fall retreat at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp on Sept. 21 and 22. Messiah has been asked to staff a booth offering our fair trade/Equal Exchange coffees, teas, chocolate and other food items. The booth would be set up and ready for business by 10:30 on Saturday and would be taken down mid-late afternoon. Lunch is provided and volunteers at the booth are also welcome to attend workshops. We'd like two or three people to help with this. Please contact the church office if you are interested.

Calling all Gardeners!

This fall at NMU's Fall Fest on August 26th campus ministry has a goal to give out 100 house plants to the students for them to grow and nurture as they grow. If you could plant the seedlings of houseplants like Pathos, Spider, Swedish Ivy, etc. and have them sprouted in disposable cups and ready to plant, Rev. Marna Fransen will provide pots for these plants. If you have any questions, contact Pr. Molly. Thank you!

OWLS (Older, Wiser Lutherans) Weekly Walk

The OWLS are now walking at Mattson Park in the lower harbor on Mondays at 10am. We meet by the bathrooms there. Walk at your own pace. After walking the group goes to Provisions to continue visiting. If you cannot walk just come for coffee/tea. The Dome will not

be available for walking this summer due to construction. Questions? Please call Betsy at 906 345-9237.

The New Free Store Donations

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

***July** – *Male/Female Deodorant*

***August** – *Diapers (size 3-6); Baby Wipes*

Zoom QiGong

Zoom QiGong for Health & Wellness, Balance & Fall Prevention. Tuesdays, 12:00 – 1:00 pm – Diana Magnuson 906-362-9386/ magnusondiana@gmail.com

Messiah Birthdays

July 3	Linda Bullock
July 4	Louise Anderson
July 5	Maria Flores, Charles Ruuska
July 6	Helen Johnson
July 7	Rachel Dodge, Kate Johnson, Sally Olson, Thomas Osier
July 8	Sarah Kemppainen, Bronce Reece
July 9	Sara Johnson
July 10	Jillian Perry
July 11	David Broadway
July 12	Alec Beauchamp, Abigail Reynolds, Emma Ziegler
July 13	Jackson Benam, Barry Johnson, Brooke LaBelle
July 14	Jessica Gummerus, Erin Langenberg
July 15	Bennett Gordon
July 16	Ruth Koehler, Susy Swanson
July 17	No birthdays

In the Hospital

Please inform the church office when you are hospitalized. Pr. Andrew Plocher & Pr. Molly Hunter would like to visit you while you are there. If you can't notify Messiah, please ask a family member to do so.

In Our Prayers

Family and friends of Ed Puska who passed away; Sara Parks & family upon the passing of her father; Lillian Tuimala; Lynne Robertson; Jan Brown; Fred Maynard; Betsy; Karen; John & Rose Collins; Rick Castillo; Susan Shaver; Ruth Koehler; Don Hillegas; Grant; Kai Dolan; Samantha; Phyllis Champion; Ted; Bruce Lindberg; Betty; Grace Chien; Jamie; Emma; Judy Donckers; Jon Kamps; Donna; Brian; Ben; Sandy Grenke; John Kiltinen; Kathy; Evelyn; Akira Carlson; Karen Eldevick; Grace; Shannon; Billy & Kathy S.; Lu Swanson; Leesa; Jesse Wright; Marshall Lovan; Peter; David Shaver; Ken Smith; Shawn; Mae Desonia; Lisa Douros; Tina; Williamson family; Wayne Hanmer; Karen Johnson; Sierra; Charlene Avery

Pastor on Call:

Pastor Andrew is on call July 3, 7-10

Pastor Molly is on call July 4-6

Worship Volunteers

Saturday, July 6 -- 5:00 pm in atrium

Assisting Minister: Carol Bell

Communion Assistant: Terri Bocklund

Provide Refreshments: Kathy Godec

Sunday, July 7 -- 8:30 am in sanctuary, on 101.9 FM, Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister: Larry Pagel

Reader: Mary Lou Blomquist

Ushers: Bruce Robertson, Sam Elder

Communion Assistants: Dave Blomquist, Larry Pagel, Judy Quirk

Greeters: Cathy Seblonka, Marina Shinkarenko

Nursery: Maddie Dykema

Provide Refreshments: Kathy Godec

Sunday, July 7 – 10:30 am at Clark Lambros Beach

Ushers: Fred and Jeanne Groos

Flower Delivery: need a volunteer

Announcements and Classified Ads

Our Friend in Need

The friend who furnished her apartment no longer needs a bookcase. Thanks to all who helped her out.

Marquette City Band – Summer Concerts

As part of their Summer Concert series, there are two concerts in July by the Marquette City Band. “Our Freedom and Democracy” is on Wednesday, July 3 at 6:30 pm in the Lower Harbor Park and “Children’s Concert” is on Thursday, July 18 at 7:30 pm in Presque Isle Park. The band director is Dr. Stephen Grugin. Admission is free but donations are appreciated. In case of inclement weather, performances will be held at NMU’s Reynolds Recital Hall. For more information: facebook.com/mqtcityband or marquettecityband.com.

Marquette Lions Club

The Marquette Lions Club is offering a new opportunity for you to show your patriotism and support our club. We will be placing a 3 x 5 USA made flag in your yard for the summer holidays of Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Labor Day for \$35. If you are interested, please contact us at MarquetteLions@yahoo.com. For more information about this event, visit our website marquettelions.org and click on the drop-down menu for Club Projects.

Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice Events

Community Grief Support - Loss of a loved one can look different for everyone. Let our team help you on your journey to new beginnings. This group is designed to support you with education, resources, and a safe place to listen and share. Free & open to the public. No affiliation to our hospice is required. Please call 906.225.7760 if you have any questions. Choose the location that works best for you!

Marquette

7/17/24 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice office at 914 W Baraga Ave-Marquette

Gwinn

7/10/24 2:00 -3:00 pm

Forsyth Senior Center at 165 N Maple St-Gwinn

Caregiver Support Groups – Are you feeling isolated or burnt 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. There will be occasional guest speakers for relevant topics as well. This group is free and open to the public! The group is moderated by Jamie Barbieri, RN Community Outreach Coordinator from Lake Superior Life Care and Hospice. Choose the location that works best for you! Please call 906.225.7760 if you have any questions.

Marquette (2nd Wednesday of every month):

7/10/24 from 2:00 - 3:00 pm

Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice Office; 914 W. Baraga Ave.

Gwinn (2nd Tuesday of every month):

July meeting is CANCELLED

Forsyth Senior Center; 165 N. Maple St

Ishpeming (3rd Tuesday of every month):

7/16/24 from 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Ishpeming Senior Center; 121 Greenwood St.

Live & Learn Millcreek - Topic: Alzheimer's/ Dementia Community Resources

Do you have a family member, friend, or acquaintance who has Alzheimer's or Dementia? Would you like to learn more about both local and web-based resources that are available to help both you? Join us for this informal presentation to learn about local resources, programs, support groups, and more. 7/18/24 from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Free and open to the public. Millcreek Clubhouse 1728 Windstone Dr, Marquette.

Do you have an announcement?

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

Messiah Contact Information

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

Phone: 906-225-1119

Fax: 906-225-5025

Email: office@messiahlutheranmqt.org

Website: <https://www.messiahlutheranmqt.org/>

Pastoral Staff

Senior Pastor - Andrew Plocher

Associate Pastor - Molly Hunter

Office Staff

Parish Administrator - Jennifer Dodge

Administrative Assistant – Kathy Godec

Parish Accountant - Mike Hill

Financial Secretary – Anne Rydholm

Music Staff

Director of Music – Sara Parks

Bell Choir Director - Judy Quirk

Organist/Pianist - Kathy Strazzinski

Pianist – Jacob Schmeltzer & Jocelyn Basse