

Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Answering God's call to love

Messiah ENewsletter for September 18, 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 – September/October

- | | |
|---------|-------------------------------------|
| Sept 19 | Bible Study at 10:30 am |
| Sept 20 | Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am |
| Sept 21 | Book Study at 9:00 am |
| Sept 24 | Centering Prayer at 11:00 am |
| Sept 25 | Brookridge Worship at 1:30 pm |
| Sept 26 | Bible Study at 10:30 am |

Sept 27	Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am
Sept 29	Confirmation Kick-off Event at Bethany, Ishpeming
Oct 1	Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
Oct 3	Bible Study at 10:30 am
Oct 4	Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am
Oct 4-6	Young Advocates' Retreat at Pine Lake Camp, Waupaca, WI
Oct 6	Marquette County CROP Hunger Walk at 1:30 pm
Oct 8	Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
Oct 10	Bible Study at 10:30 am
Oct 11	Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am
Oct 12	Congregational Resource Fair at Emmanuel, Menominee
Oct 19	LWR Ingathering at Messiah at 10:00 am
Oct 19	Congregational Resource Fair at Bethel, Ishpeming

Book Study: "I think you're wrong (but I'm listening)" – September 21

by Sarah Stewart Holland and Beth Silvers

[September 21st, 9:00 am, in room #202](#)

There is no question that this time in our country & world is putting great stress on our relationships. The political divide in our country is polarizing our families, our communities, and our congregations. Written by two friends who understand themselves to be in opposite political positions, "I Think You're Wrong (But I'm Listening)" is the result of their intentional and careful work of hosting and modeling grace filled conversations on topics that are often divisive. Join Pr. Andrew for a lively discussion about the book and about how we embrace difficult conversations as a spiritual practice.

Senior Men's Ministry

Messiah's Senior Men's Bible Study has started for the academic year. They meet every Friday morning at 9:00 am in room #202. Please join them on Friday morning!

Messiah's Bell Choir

Rehearsals of the Messiah Handbell Choir resume this fall. Please come and be part of this exciting musical group. We practice from 6:00 to 7:00 each Monday. Some come at 5:30 to assist with setup. We are part of the life of this congregation and plan to participate in the 8:30 and 10:30 worship services once or twice each month.

We welcome beginning and veteran ringers. Come if you are curious about how the bells work. This may be the place for you.

Budget and Giving Update

Messiah's ministries, our worship, our outreach, and all that we do, relies on your generosity. Your gifts of money, time, and talent make it possible to do what we do and to dream about what is next. Year-to-date we are behind on the financial support that you so generously give. This is especially true for the late Spring and Summer. After a summer break, our Finance Committee met and wants to provide you with an update on our current numbers. If you are behind on your giving, have not given, or can give a little extra, we prayerfully ask that you consider sharing what you can. We will continue to update you monthly and are hopeful that our financial situation will improve. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to our Parish Accountant, Mike Hill, or to Pr. Andrew.

-Income through July: \$54,779 behind budget

-Underspending budgeted expenses through July: -\$35,255

-Current deficit through July: \$19,524 (income deficit minus underspending)

To meet our 2024 budget, Messiah needs an average monthly giving income of ~\$50,000.

Thank you for your continued generosity! - *Messiah's Finance Committee*

Office Administrator Needed for Northern Great Lakes Synod

This full-time, in-office position is the primary administrative support for the Executive Staff of the Northern Great Lakes Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America located in Marquette. Applicants should have strong organizational skills, ability with both digital and written communication tools, and experience in general office management. Compensation is commensurate with experience. For a full position description, go to www.nglsynod.org. Send resume and cover letter to ngls@nglsynod.org or 1029 N. Third Street, Suite A, Marquette, MI 49855.

Jam News

Most of your favorite varieties are still on the shelves. With fall around the corner, now is the time to buy your gifts for the holidays. A great way to support your church's ministry. Thank you.

Centering Prayer

“Thy Will be done.”

Am I the only one who has trouble deciphering God's Will?

I began a meditation practice many years ago, not to develop any kind of relationship with the Creator, but to relieve my own stress. I understood, however dimly, that when I was in stress, I did not behave in the manner that connected me to my fellow humans.

As my practice continued, there were miraculous times when an internal Voice helped me to perceive situations differently. This led me to behave differently. My thinking became clearer, and my relationships improved. As a person who had been raised in a home of a believer, I identified the Voice that became available to me from meditation as the “Holy Spirit” or the “Christ” or “God” or “Atman” or the “Buddha within”. All these are, to me, naming the same mystery.

The better I behave, the closer I get to sometimes doing the “will of God.” And the closer I come to doing God's will, the more I like life. The more I have trust that things can be worked out; that we will learn that we are all part of each other and of God. I go to centering prayer twice a day now to fill up my well of Divine Love and Wisdom. It happens because I turn down my thinking, and just listen to the stillness. “Be still and know that I am God.”

The practice is simple. Have the intention to consent to God's Presence and action within and then, turn down the personality's thoughts. Keep turning down the volume of the worldly “self” and listen to the Voice for God. In that way, I believe that God's will becomes clearer and following God's will is the key to a vibrant and peaceful life.

Lutheran World Relief School Kits

During September Women Reaching Women Circle will be collecting donations of school supplies for Lutheran World Relief School Kits. These kits are sent to children in need in our country & around the world.

A bin is available in the narthex for your donations. We also welcome cash contributions.

Thank you for your help!

The following items are needed:

- 70-sheet notebooks, wide- or college-ruled
 - Box of 16 or 24 crayons
 - Pencil sharpener
 - 30 cm ruler, or ruler with centimeters on one edge and inches on the other
 - Fiskars-type kids' scissors
 - Unsharpened #2 pencils
 - Black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
 - 2 1/2” Pink Pearl-type eraser
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Musician Recognition Sunday! – September 29

Join us on Sunday, September 29th to celebrate the wonderful musicians at Messiah. From band musicians, song leaders, choir members, bell ringers, pianists and organists, to violinists and brass players, we have been blessed by the rich gifts of music in our congregation. We will celebrate between the worship services (9:30-10:30) and invite you to join us for cake. Also, we'll specifically honor the fact that Ken Vickstrom and the late Kathy Soltwisch both sang in the choir for over 50 years! Hope to see you there!

Confirmation Begins – September 29

Confirmation begins the last Sunday in September with a kickoff event for parents and students on Sunday, September 29th at Bethany in Ishpeming (location may change). Classes begin the second Saturday in October and will continue the second Saturday of every month between October and May of 2024- 2025 from 9:00 am -12:00. We will continue to rotate to the different churches in our conference as the kids gather with all the other kids and pastors in our conference (ELCA churches in Marquette County).

Young Advocates' Retreat – October 4-6

A second youth advocacy retreat will be held October 4-6, 2024, at Pine Lake Camp in Waupaca, WI. This retreat is once again sponsored by the NGLS, all 5 ELCA Synods in Wisconsin, and the Lutheran Office of Public Policy. This year's event is open to high school youth and young adults. Registration is open until September 15 at Youth Advocacy | The Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin (loppw.org). The cost is \$100 and includes housing and meals. Topics covered include environmental justice, gun violence, women's rights, LGBTQIA+ Advocacy.

Please contact Stefanie at youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org with any questions or suggestions for this year's event. Financial assistance and reimbursement for transportation are available.

Marquette County CROP Hunger Walk - Oct. 6 **Save the Date!**

crophungerwalk.org/marquettemi

The Marquette County Crop Hunger Walk will be held on Sunday, October 6 with registration starting at 1:30 pm and the walk starting at 2:00 pm. It is hosted by the Marquette Hope

Connection Center located at 927 W. Fair Ave. in Marquette. 75% of the donations collected will go to Church World Service and 25% of the donations collected will stay local. The 25% that stays local will be split between the NMU Food Bank and Feeding America (sponsored by Silver Creek Church).

Join us in our quest to alleviate hunger in our local area! If you have questions, please call Crystal Swanson at 906 225-0595 or call/text Erica at 805 710-4752 or email at crystaljswanson@yahoo.com and wesley@mqthope.com

Congregational Resource Fair – October 12 and 19

Saturday October 12 - Emmanuel Lutheran, Menominee 2901 13th St
906-863-3431

Saturday October 19 - Bethel Lutheran, Ishpeming 333 East Ridge St.
906-485-5533

Register by October 1 at www.nglsynod.org or send your check payable to the NGLS to 1029 N. 3rd St., Suite A, Marquette, MI 49855.

SCHEDULE – All Times Local

9:30am	Coffee and Registration
10am	<i>All Creation Sings</i> Workshop, Faithful Finances Workshop & Lay Preaching Workshop
11:30am	Festival Worship
12noon	Lunch
1pm – 3pm	Resource Fair & Workshops

Afternoon workshops include Generosity, Prayer, Walking with our Indigenous Neighbors, Protecting water, Preaching and more!

COST: \$25 - Includes Lunch, All Workshops, and a copy of *All Creation Sings*
This event made possible by a generous grant from the NGLS *Equipping the Saints* Endowment Fund.

If you are interested in offering a workshop, please contact Bishop Finegan at the Synod office (906)228-2300.

Messiah's LWR InGathering - October 19

Please join us for loading boxes of quilts and kits onto a semi-truck on Saturday, October 19th. Last year we loaded over 100 boxes just from Messiah! We need many hands as that helps to make light work for all. The truck will be here from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm to load ours and to help those who bring quilts & kits from other churches in our conference. There is a sign up sheet on the welcome table. Thank you!

OWLS (Older, Wiser Lutherans) Weekly Walk

The OWLS are now walking at Mattson Park in the lower harbor on Mondays at 10am. They meet by the bathrooms there. You can walk at your own pace. After walking the group goes to Provisions to continue visiting. If you cannot walk just come for coffee/tea. When raining, they meet at the dome. 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:

***September** – *Feminine pads & tampons*

***October** – *Hand Sanitizer & Toilet Paper packs (4 or 6 rolls/pack)*

Lifelong Faith Formation - Fall 2024 Classes Begin in September

For more information and to register, visit the Northern Great Lakes Synod website: nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation.

Join the conversation, fellowship, and fun with your friends in Christ across the synod and beyond. Grow in faith as you learn more about the Bible, church history, and Christian mission. Beginning in September, classes meet online via Zoom for two to ten sessions.

For more information, or to receive the class schedule by e-mail,

Contact Deacon Lori Ward at (615) 519-1969 or lori.ward@nglsynod.org

Fall 2024 Class Schedule

Beyond the Policy: Equipping the faith community to prevent, recognize and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. Instructor: Rev. Kari Vadis, Trinity Rhinelander. Meeting weekly, Thursday evenings, September 19-26.

The Book of Proverbs Two: Donning A Foreigner's Clothes. Instructor: Rev. Tommy Richter, Zion, Manistique. Meeting weekly, Thursday evenings, September 19-November 21.

Kaleidoscope Challenge, exploring the ELCA social statement "Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity and Culture" along with the ELCA social message on Human Rights and remembering Christ's love for humanity in a world that often feels broken. Instructor: Rev. Jared Howard, Faith, Calumet. Meeting weekly, Sunday evenings, September 15-October 20.

Connecting through Prayer: expanding the definition and understanding of prayer by practicing different weekly prayer exercises together with a group to discover new ways to connect to God and to the Spirit's action in the world. Instructor: Rev. Christine Olson, Interim, Emmanuel, Menominee. Meeting weekly, Monday evenings, September 30-November 18.

Earth's Climate Crisis, using the excellent, comprehensive study guide on the 2023 ELCA Social message, led by Chuck Thomas, Northern Great Lakes Synod Vice President. Meeting weekly, Wednesday evenings, September 18-October 23.

Growing Younger -- Sharing Ideas and Strategies to Engage Young People in our Congregations. Presenters: Stefanie Ehle, Northern Great Lakes Synod Youth Coordinator, and members of the NGLS Youth Ministry Team. Meeting monthly, on the third Thursday, October 17, 2024 -May 8, 2025.

Introduction to Biblical Greek. Instructor: Rev. Nicole Hanson-Lynn, Salem and Zion, Ironwood. Meeting weekly on Sunday evenings, beginning on September 15.

"Raising Kids Beyond the Binary: Celebrating God's Transgender and Gender-Diverse Children," a discussion on Jamie Bruesehoff's book, led by Amanda Rasner, Director, Fortune Lake Lutheran Bible Camp. Meeting weekly on Tuesday evenings, September 15-October 8.

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

Sept 18 No birthdays

Sept 19 Linda Berry, Shari Brugman, Taylor Olson
Sept 20 Liam Beerman, Lynne Hammerstrom
Sept 21 Pam Christensen
Sept 22 Jean Arntsen, Jan Julian, Mark Petrie, Helen Steinhoff
Sept 23 Jen Bleckiner, Peggy Letvenow
Sept 24 Brandon Evans
Sept 25 Jon Christensen, Henry Dellangelo, Terry Keuscher, Wilho Kilpela, Andrew Stevens,
Jordan Vanlerberghe, Angela Weir
Sept 26 Laurie Smith
Sept 27 Gene Arntsen
Sept 28 Melissa Peterson, Lynda Trafton
Sept 29 Laura Tripp
Sept 30 Leslie Dellangelo
Oct 1 Cheryl Anderegg, Linda Savage, Pat Vacilek
Oct 2 Shane Parks, Paul Wainio

In the Hospital

Please inform the church office when you are hospitalized. Pr. Andrew Plocher 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

Joan Myefski; David Raikko; Larry Brunton; Charlie Blake; Carol Bell; Dorothy; Lillian Tuimala; Lynne Robertson; Jan Brown; Betsy; Karen; John & Rose Collins; Rick Castillo; Ruth Koehler; Don Hillegas; Grant; Kai Dolan; Samantha; Phyllis Champion; Ted; Bruce Lindberg; Grace Chien; Jamie; Emma; Judy Donckers; Jon Kamps; Donna; Brian; Ben; Sandy Grenke; Evelyn; Akira Carlson; Karen Eldevick; Grace; Shannon; Billy & Kathy S.; Lu Swanson; Leesa; Jesse Wright; Marshall Lovan; Peter; Shawn; Mae Desonia; Lisa Douros; Tina; Williamson family; Wayne Hanmer; Sierra; Charlene Avery

Pastor on Call:

Pastor Andrew is on call September 18-25
Pastor Molly is on sabbatical now – December 1.

Worship Volunteers

Saturday, September 21 -- 5:00 pm in atrium

Assisting Minister: Chris Kotila
Communion Assistant: Barb Salmela

Provide Refreshments: Barb Salmela.

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

Assisting Minister: Mary Lou Blomquist
Reader: Judy Quirk
Ushers: Sten Taube, Linda Berry
Communion Assistants: Kathy Maynard, Larry Pagel, Dave Blomquist, Judy Quirk.
Greeters: Joan Tasson, Jan Vickstrom

Nursery: Jamie Dodge
Provide Refreshments: Darlene Martin

Sunday, September 22 -- 10:30 am in sanctuary, on Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister: Kathy Godec
Reader: Nancy Hamlin
Ushers: Jill Luoma,
Communion Assistants: Bronce Reece, Gayle Mack, Lydia Tripp; Sandy Lindberg
Greeters: **Two volunteers needed.**
Projection Technician: Abby LaForest

Nursery: Jamie Dodge
Flower Delivery: Jill Luoma

Announcements and Classified Ads

Pancake Breakfast and Glucose Check – September 21

Come see how your body reacts to blood sugar in real time! As part of their Saturday worship service, the Marquette Seventh-day Adventist Church is offering an opportunity to have your glucose level tested during this FREE pancake breakfast. The free pancake breakfast will be on Saturday, September 21 at the Marquette Seventh-day Adventist Church (270 US 41 East, Negaunee). Registration is at 10:00 am. Glucose levels are tested at registration. Breakfast is served at 10:20 am, a presentation at 11:00 am, and a retest of glucose levels at 12:20 pm.

Please RSVP at 906 475-4488 or mqtsdachurch@gmail.com. (The glucose test is for information only. If you feel you are at risk, you are strongly advised to see your primary physician.)

Auditions for Christmas Musical – October 28-29

LoveMarq Church will be holding auditions for a Christmas musical called *Two from Galilee* on October 28 and 29 starting at 6:30pm. Show dates are December 20 and 21. For more information, contact Leslie Parkkonen at lsolid@yahoo.com or 906-250-8837.

Two from Galilee is built on the love story of Mary and Joseph and how God encounters people in their lives. Considered the "next step" in musicals for the church, this full-length production brings the powerful and majestic sounds of the popular stage musical to the church setting.

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

9/18/24 5:30 - 6:30 pm

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

Gwinn

10/9/24 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):

10/9/24 from 2:00 - 3:00 pm

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

Telephone Based: (3rd Tuesday of every month)

10/15/24 from 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Call 906-485-5527 to register.

Landline or Cell phone required to participate.

Live & Learn Millcreek – Topic: Learn what the Marquette Senior Center

can provide for you or a loved one Join Maureen McFadden, Center Director to learn more about all the amazing programs and events that are taking place at the senior center. This is a great presentation for those who are looking for local resources for themselves or for a family member or friend. 10/17/24 from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Free and open to the public. Millcreek Clubhouse 1728 Windstone Dr., Marquette.

Aging U P Series (3 parts) is coming to the Marquette Senior Center! This exciting, up-beat, motivational presentation helps us to embrace aging by being active physically, socially, and mentally. This presentation is encouraged for any age; not just those who are in their retirement years. Licensed speech pathologist Chris Harkness, MS-CCC-SLP, will be offering cognitive assessments for senior citizens as well. In addition, she will be offering part two of her Aging U.P. presentation on 10/2/24 from 1:00 – 2:00 pm at the Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St.

Memorial Service – Are you grieving the loss of a family member or friend? Our annual service honors those who have passed away in our hospice care during the last year. It's also open to all community members grieving a loss. We will read your loved one's name and light a candle in their honor. Wednesday 9/25/24 at 6:30 pm at D J Jacobetti Home for Veterans Chapel, 425 Fisher St. in Marquette. Please call 906.225.7760 or email jbarbiere@lakesuperiorhospice.org to add a name to be read at the service or for more information.

Powerful Tools for Caregivers Virtual – This 6-week workshop is designed for the non-professional, informal caregiver and will help you take care of yourself while caring for a parent, spouse, or friend at home, in a nursing home, or across the country. There is no charge for this online workshop. Participants must have a device with internet connection, webcam, microphone, and email address to attend. Class materials are provided. Please call 2-1-1 for assistance with registering. Class starts October 9th –

November 13th from 11-12:30 p.m.

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