

Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Answering God's call to love

Messiah ENewsletter for December 4, 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!

Community Meal Tonight!

Messiah will be hosting a community meal tonight (Wednesday, December 4th) at 6:00 pm. This meal will be a pot roast with carrots & potatoes; a vegetarian option will be available. Please join us as we gather for a meal. We look forward to seeing you!

Upcoming Events – December

- Dec 4 Advent Meditations with organ music by Kathy Strazzinski and Jon Banitt at 12:15 pm
- Dec 4 Community Meal at 6:00 pm
- Dec 5 Bible Study at 10:30 am
- Dec 6 Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am

- Dec 8 Finnish Independence/Pikku Joulu Celebration at Messiah at 2:00 pm
Dec 8 ELF movie & a meal from 4-7 pm at Grace in Gwinn (6-12 graders)
Dec 9 11-Step Centering Prayer at 6:00 pm
Dec 10 Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
Dec 11 Advent Meditations: "We Can't Go Alone" with Darren Smith on guitar, Tom Bronken on bass & Sara Parks, vocal at 12:15 pm
Dec 11 Brookridge Worship at 1:30 pm
Dec 12 Bible Study at 10:30 am
Dec 12 7:00 pm – Sabbatical Presentation by Pastor Molly
Dec 13 Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am
Dec 14 Confirmation at Messiah at 9:00 am
Dec 15 Cookies, Carols and Soup at 12:00 pm
Dec 16 11-Step Centering Prayer at 6:00 pm
Dec 17 Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
Dec 18 OWLs Christmas Party at 12:00 pm
Dec 18 Yoga, Centering for the Season at 7:00 pm
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Worship Volunteers Needed for Christmas Eve Services

We need volunteers to serve as ushers and communion assistants at our Christmas Eve services. The service times are 4:00 pm, 7:30 pm, and 10:00 pm. We also need a volunteer to be our projection technician for our 4:00 pm and 7:30 pm services. If you can help with any of these, please let us know in the church office or sign up on the Christmas Eve Worship Volunteers sheet on the welcome table. Thanks!

Advent Devotionals Available

Copies of our Advent devotional "Words for the Beginning" are on the welcome table. This devotional is from A Sanctified Art and consists of art, poetry, and reflections for Advent.

Thursday Morning Bible Study 10:30 am, December 5

Pastor Molly returns to Thursday Morning Bible Study after Thanksgiving! We'll be in the first book of Kings, as the story picks up after David and Solomon. It's a story of a divided people and of the abuse of power, as Judah and the rest of Israel pull away from each other. They'll be sometimes rivals, sometimes allies, struggling for survival in an increasingly hostile world.

Celebrate Finnish Christmas and Independence on Dec. 8

A program of music and delicious Finnish foods to celebrate Finnish Christmas and Independence Day is planned for Sunday, December 8th from 2:00 to 4:00 PM at Messiah Lutheran Church in Magnuson Hall. Messiah is located at 305 West Magnetic in Marquette.

All are welcome to attend. Please bring a non-perishable food item for Messiah's food pantry. The program is presented by the Lake Superior Chapter of the Finlandia Foundation National. President Ron Hill will begin with a short review of how the Finns have celebrated their Independence Day on December 6th since 1917.

Musicians will include Oscar Forsman playing his accordion, Tanja Stanaway leading singing of familiar Finnish carols (words and translations provided!), and Howard Aalto playing his six-sided harmonica.

The Chapter will serve "kahvi ja pulla" (coffee and cardamom bread), Oscar Forsman will bring his "kropsua" (coffee cake) with lingonberries, and there will be "juusto" (Finn cheese) and herring on the table as well. Members are encouraged to bring other favorite Finnish foods and specialties for the table.

Membership in the Chapter is \$10 per year per family. See Membership Chair Tanja Stanaway. The Chapter seeks to collect e-mail addresses of all members and potential members so as to facilitate the distribution of the Newsletter and other notices of interest to members and friends. There will be a sign-up sheet on Sunday at the program.

Advent Recital – December 11

Join us for a time of reflection and music during our lunchtime Advent recital. It will be held on Wednesday, December 11 from 12:15 – 12:45 pm. Bring your own brown bag lunch and enjoy this special musical offering. The program is titled "We Can't Go Alone" with Sara Parks (vocal), Darren Smith (guitar) and Tom Bronken (bass).

Pr. Molly's Sabbatical Presentation – December 12

On Thursday, December 12th at 7:00 pm Pr. Molly will be presenting on her sabbatical & her trip to Iona Scotland. Come and learn more about Celtic Christianity, how it began, it's spiritual principles and how it shaped the culture of Iona Scotland and the Abby there. Also find out more about how Pr. Molly spent her time away.

Cookies & Carols! (and soup!) – December 15

Join us on Sunday, December 15th at 12:00 pm for a simple soup lunch, cookie decorating, and carol singing! Whether you're 3 or 83, we invite you to come celebrate the Christmas season together. Cookies and decorating supplies will be provided. If you can bring soup and/or bread, or to help set up or cleanup, a sign-up sheet can be found on the welcome table outside the church office (crockpots can be brought to the kitchen before worship). We look forward to seeing you, and singing, supping, and decorating with you on the 15th!

OWLS Christmas Party - December 18

You are invited to the OWLS Christmas party on Wednesday, December 18th from 12:00 to 3:00 pm in the atrium. Please bring a drink & a sandwich cut in half for trading/sharing, and Christmas cookies if you have some. We will also have a white elephant gift exchange. Please bring a wrapped or bagged inexpensive gift if you would like to participate. Frivolity and high jinks are anticipated.

Centering for the Season – December 18

An evening of Yoga - 7:00 pm, December 18th, Magnuson Hall

In the midst of the busyness of the Christmas season, we invite you to take a moment to breathe and care for your body and spirit. Join Anna Zimmer (RYT-200) for a yoga class for all abilities! Whether you're as flexible as gumby or would rather stay seated in a chair. Please wear comfortable clothes and bring your own mat (or towel) for doing yoga on the floor.

About our Advent theme: “Words for the Beginning”

This year's Advent theme, Words for the Beginning, comes from the talented folks at A Sanctified Art. As in previous years, we will be using materials created by them throughout Advent.

Advent is a season of endings and beginnings. As the calendar year ends, a new church year rushes in. Christ's birth ushers us into new ways of living and loving—and yet, we feel the weight of many things ending. What are the reminders we need to move faithfully through this threshold? A Sanctified Art has crafted an Advent series filled with blessings, with the words we need to hear again and again as we begin a new season. Imagine the words Mary would speak to her newborn son. What scriptures and stories would she impart to him? What lessons would she teach him as he grew?

And so, the weekly themes may feel like the lessons taught to children, but in reality, these are lessons we continue to learn and relearn as adults. They may sound like the messages imparted to loved ones during special ceremonies or sacred rituals such as weddings, ordination services, or baptisms. You are invited to enter this Advent season as if you are entering a sacred new chapter, holding fast to the reminders that will bolster you for the journey ahead. In many ways, pregnant Mary was surrounded by endings—large and small, personal and political. And yet, Mary proclaimed hope in a God who was and is making all things new. As we also move through new chapters, may these words for the beginning renew us and remind us of the ways we are called to live out our faith. No matter what you are facing, no matter what this new day brings, let love be your beginning.

A Sanctified Art was inspired by the visual concept of quilting. Like a quilt formed by scraps of old fabrics and meaningful family items, this worship series stitches together the ancient scriptures and reminders we need to hear again and again. Quilts have been used for physical protection, comfort, ceremonies, abolition, family heirlooms, advocacy, and more. Quilting is a medium that transcends countless cultures, regions, and time periods, but is a craft rooted in community and storytelling.

A Messiah Advent Calendar

Day 1: Reflect on three blessings God has given you today. Write them down and offer a prayer of thanksgiving. Consider sharing one with a friend or family member as a testimony of God's goodness.

Day 2: Light a candle and meditate on the prophecy of Christ's coming (Isaiah 9:2). Spend five minutes in silence, reflecting on what it means to have hope in God's promises.

Day 3: Perform a kind act for a neighbor or friend, inspired by Jesus' teaching to "love your neighbor as yourself." This could be a thoughtful note, a baked treat, or an offer to help.

Day 4: Take a "gratitude walk" through Presque Isle Park or on another local trail, appreciating God's creation. With each step, offer thanks for the beauty of Lake Superior, the trees, and the (maybe) snow-covered paths.

Day 5: Write a letter of thanks to someone who has shown Christ-like love in your life. Pray for them and, if possible, deliver the letter or share it with them personally.

Day 6: Spend time meditating on what brings you hope in Christ and journal any thoughts or prayers that arise. Consider reading a passage like Jeremiah 29:11 about God's hopeful plans for us.

Day 7: Create a list of small ways you've seen God's presence in Marquette this year—through acts of kindness, moments at church, or blessings in the community. Offer a prayer of thanksgiving.

Day 8: Call or visit someone who has been a source of strength or inspiration. Thank them and let them know how they reflect God's love and grace to you.

Day 9: Set aside clothing or canned goods to donate to a local shelter or pantry. Reflect on Matthew 25:40, "Whatever you did for one of the least of these...you did for me," and pray for those in need across Marquette.

Day 10: Write down three hopes you have, praying over each one and entrusting them to God. Display them somewhere you will see them as a reminder to pray and reflect.

Day 11: Make a "gratitude jar." Each day, add a note about something you're thankful for or hopeful about, and offer a brief prayer of thanks as you place it in the jar.

Day 12: Spend time listening to a hymn or worship song that speaks of hope, like "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." Reflect on how Christ's coming brings hope to the world.

Day 13: Encourage someone who is struggling by offering words inspired by Scripture, such as Romans 15:13: "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace..."

Day 14: Prepare a simple meal, thanking God for His provision and considering ways to extend hospitality as Jesus did. If possible, share it with someone who may be in need.

Day 15: Create a "gratitude art piece"—a drawing, painting, or collage—that celebrates God's faithfulness and blessings in your life.

Day 16: Dedicate time to prayer and reflection, asking God to reveal areas where He is bringing new beginnings or inviting you to be a bearer of hope.

Day 17: Think of a challenge you faced this year. Identify at least one way God brought strength, comfort, or transformation through it. Offer a prayer of thanksgiving.

Day 18: Spend time in mindful breathing, repeating a prayer or affirmation like, "Lord, fill me with Your hope and peace."

Day 19: Bake or prepare something special and offer it to a friend, family, or neighbor, thanking God for the gift of community and fellowship.

Day 20: Observe nature around Marquette—watching the snowfall, the lake, or the stars—and give thanks for the beauty of God's creation. Consider Psalm 19:1, "The heavens declare the glory of God."

Day 21: On this longest night of the year, share a story of how God's light has broken into moments of darkness in your life. Reflect on Christ as the Light of the World and give thanks for his hope and presence.

Day 22: Make a list of people who have shown God's love to you this year. Offer prayers of gratitude for each person and, if possible, reach out to thank one or more of them.

Day 23: Dedicate a few minutes to repeating hope-filled affirmations from Scripture, such as, "The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?" (Psalm 27:1).

Day 24: Light an Advent candle and reflect on the birth of Christ, reading Luke 2:1-20. Give thanks for the light of the world, who brings hope, peace, and love to all.

Day 25: Celebrate the birth of Christ by sharing what you're most grateful for this season and how the hope of Jesus has touched your heart. Offer a prayer for the coming year and those in need of hope.

Senior Men's Ministry

Messiah's Senior Men's Bible Study has been meeting every Friday morning at 9:00 am in room #202. Please join them on Friday morning!

Jam News

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

Centering Prayer - Tuesdays at 11:00 am

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:2

This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds" Hebrews 10:16

I am sure that there are many ways to "discern what is the will of God." Centering Prayer is one of them. I believe that it is so effective because it requires me to request God's help, knowing there is no way this human can do God's will alone.

Centering prayer is the intention to consent to God's Presence and action within myself. It requires that I put aside all my personal ambitions, strategies for personal fulfillment, plans for safety, fears, and concepts and just "be still." God knows me, way better than I know myself. God knows what lies I believe and how they cause me trouble in relationship with the world and God knows how to gently disabuse me of my wrong notions. God is gentle, not harsh, not punishing, and so I am able to tolerate seeing my shadow side via this method. Simply by being aware of how my actions are less than skillful, I find those actions happening less often. Centering prayer is a simple type of prayer, but I will not say that it is easy. It can be boring. It is often frustrating because human minds are not naturally quiet. It can sometimes be blissful, and then frustrating because the bliss is fleeting. The point of centering prayer is just to accept. Accept it all as God's gift.

If you can't attend a group in person, there are lots of opportunities to join a group via zoom online at www.meditationchapel.org The world will be a better place when more people turn to God for direction.

Benefits of an 11th Step Centering Prayer Practice

There is a direct linkage among self-examination, meditation, and prayer. Taken separately, these practices can bring much relief and benefit. But when they are logically related and interwoven, the result is an unshakable foundation for life. 12 & 12

The positive effects of the prayer are experienced in daily life and not necessarily during the prayer period itself. Growth happens when we practice

Centering Prayer in the context of the 12 Steps. Some benefits are:

- We enhance our ability to “Let Go and Let God.”
- We develop a nonjudgmental attitude of ourselves & others.
- We become more comfortable in our own skin.
- We grow in our capacity to listen and serve others.
- We nurture our ability to live in the present moment

Are you searching for emotional and spiritual sobriety? Whether you have been in recovery for a long time or are just beginning, you have probably experienced many frustrated feelings that didn't just go away when you got abstinent or sober...problems with relationships, work, anxiety, depression, or feelings of emptiness. These feelings are natural for us regardless of our addiction or time in recovery. But we don't have to let emotions rule our lives. The 11th Step offers us a solution! Through the simple method of Centering Prayer, we can improve our relationship with our Higher Power by simply consenting to our Higher Power's presence and action within us. Centering Prayer is an ancient meditation practice that has been used over the centuries, but it is different from what we may think of as prayer. It is not the type of prayer we are used to, like praying for something we want. It is simply moving deep within ourselves, in silence, saying nothing, asking for nothing, just being, by letting go of our thoughts and allowing our HigherPower to be with us. (taken from 12 Step Centering Prayer brochure.)

A weekly meeting will be starting on Monday, November 4th at 6:00 pm in room 201. This is an open meeting. All are welcome. You do not need to be in a 12-step program to attend. The meeting will begin with settling in with a prayer. A bell will ring at the beginning and end of our 20-minute silence. After our sit, we will read the Prayer of St. Francis. For more information, please contact Laura Petrie 906-250-1866. Or check out the website for information about Centering Prayer: www.cp12stepoutreach.org or at www.contemplativeoutreach.org

Mitten Box

It is time to think about helping to keep others warm in this winter season. Thankfully, we have an abundance of donated yarn (under the table in the atrium) we can use to make warm accessories for the upcoming winter. So, let's grab our needles, grab a warm beverage and

cozy up for some knitting or crocheting. Purchased items are always appreciated too. Our community in need is always thankful for your generosity. The collection box is in the atrium & distribution of the items for this year is in the first week of December. We will leave the mitten box out for donations until Christmas. Thank you!

OWLS (Older, Wiser Lutherans) Weekly Walk

The OWLS are now walking at the Dome, when it is open, on Mondays. We meet at the main entrance at 10:00 am. 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. Questions? Please call Betsy or the church office.

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:

***December** – *Laundry Soap, Dish Soap, Bar Soap*

***January** – *Toothbrushes, (child/adult), Toothpaste, Dental Floss, Denture Cleaner*

Lutheran Summer Music Academy and Festival 2025

Enrollment is open for the 2025 Lutheran Summer Music Academy and Festival. The primary way that young musicians find their way to LSM is through the encouragement of a caring adult – you. Please consider the young musicians in your congregation, school, or community who would thrive at LSM and connect them with us. Contact MaryLynn Mennicke, Dean and Director of Admissions, directly at mmennicke@lutheransummermusic.org or 612 879-9555 ext. 5 or click “Nominate a Student” at LSMacademy.org. We can then work together to get them to LSM 2025!

If you don’t have a direct connection to a young musician, you may have an indirect one. Share about LSM with friends, colleagues, extended family, teachers, or within your church or school. One simple connection from you could lead to a life-changing experience for a young musician!

Tell someone about LSM now – while we offer rolling admission, applications fees increase and spots will fill though the year, so we encourage student to apply early.

Important Enrollment Deadlines

- *December 1, 2024: Priority Enrollment (\$25 application fee)
 - *March 1, 2025: Standard Enrollment (\$50 application fee)
 - *May 1, 2025: Late Enrollment (\$75 application fee)
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Sister Stockings 2024

A Sister Stocking is a handmade holiday stocking filled with self-care gifts delivered on the Winter Solstice. This gift honors women courageous in the face of life's biggest challenges. Women who need a dose of hope, recognition, and magic in their lives this season are nominated by someone who knows them well, and a heartfelt nomination letter is delivered with the stocking. Thank you for your contributions to Sister Stockings last year. Your donations helped to honor 20 women last year, and many recipients cried happy tears at being recognized and appreciated.

Messiah Lutheran is a donation site again this year for the 9th year of the Sister Stocking program, and the donation box is located at the entrance in front of the office. This year there will be up to 20 stockings available. Donations must be dropped off by Thursday, December 5th at 5 pm. The Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPs) group that meets at Messiah Lutheran will be assembling the stockings for a second year.

Even if you aren't able to donate, the Sister Stockings project is so grateful to have Messiah Lutheran as a drop off site for the community. If you are interested in donating, some helpful items are hand lotion, lip balm, tea, journal/pen, gift certificates, coffee, yoga, manicure, haircut, jewelry, ornament, key chain, chocolates.

You can learn more about Sister Stockings at <https://www.facebook.com/SisterStockings/> and contact sisterstockings@yahoo.com with any questions.

Sincerely, Carissa Freeland

Messiah Birthdays

Dec 4	Nora Dellangelo, Andrew Sander
Dec 5	No birthdays
Dec 6	Eric Hammerstrom, Gertrude Leaf
Dec 7	Brad Crimmins, Eric Gummerus
Dec 8	Barb Avery, Sarah Bleckiner, Mike Davis, Molly Luty, Lydia Tripp
Dec 9	Tom Froiland, Grant Soltwisch
Dec 10	No birthdays
Dec 11	No birthdays

Dec 12 Sullivan Sander, Linda Wainio
Dec 13 No birthdays
Dec 14 Pam Jackovich Jim Winkler
Dec 15 Marie Moisio
Dec 16 Jenny Broadway, Linda Ruohoniemi
Dec 17 Caroline Reynolds, David Tripp, Anne Weaver
Dec 18 Evan Busick, Sharon Fluette, David Johnson

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

Dave Luoma; John Kiltinen; Mary Ruman; Jimmy Anderson; Jeremy; Owen; Sally Olson; 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; 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 December 4, 8-11

Pastor Molly is on call December 5-7

Worship Volunteers

Saturday, December 7 -- 5:00 pm in atrium

Assisting Minister: Carol Bell

Communion Assistant Terri Bocklund

Provide Refreshments: Kathy Godec

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

Assisting Minister: Kathy Maynard
Reader: Larry Pagel
Ushers: Sten Taube, Cathy Seblonka
Communion Assistants: Larry Pagel, Kathy Maynard, Terry Langenberg
Greeters: Chris Harkness, Marina Shinkarenko

Nursery: Maddie Dykema
Provide Refreshments: Nancy Raisanen

Sunday, December 8 -- 10:30 am in sanctuary, on Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister: Jeanne Groos
Reader: Mark Paulsen
Ushers: Sally Davis, Jill Luoma
Communion Assistants: Sandy Lindberg, Mike and Joan Hill
Greeters: Marina Shinkarenko, Ellen Symons
Projection Technician: Kathy Godec

Nursery: Maddie Dykema
Flower Delivery: Jan Julian

Announcements and Classified Ads

Free 2025 Calendars

There are many 2025 calendars on the table over by the drive-through entrance. They are free to whoever wants them. Please help yourself.

Negaunee Male Chorus Concert – December 7

The Negaunee Male Chorus presents a Christmas Concert on Saturday, December 7 at 7:00 pm at W.C. Peterson Auditorium in the Ishpeming High School. Tickets for adults are \$15.00. For age 17 and under, with an adult, admission is free. Tickets are available at Super One Foods in Negaunee, Country Village Ace in Ishpeming, Jubilee Foods in Ishpeming, TruNorth Credit Union in Ishpeming or any Male Chorus member.

Tuba Christmas – December 8

The Tuba Christmas concert will be held on Sunday, December 8 at 1:30 pm at the Marquette Regional History Center (145 W Spring Street in Marquette). Join us for the start of the holiday season. Listen to this joyful and humorous one hour concert. The event is free; donations are accepted. Doors open at 1:00 pm

Marquette Choral Society Concert – December 7/8

The Marquette Choral Society presents “Winter Delights”. The concert includes “Magnificat” by John Rutter and other winter themed works. The concert features Erin Colwitz, conductor; Amanda Boundy, soprano; Ryan Dart, guitar; and Jan Brodersen, piano and organ.

The concert will be at the Reynolds Recital Hall at NMU on Saturday, December 7 at 7:30 pm and on Sunday, December 8 at 3:00 pm. General admission is \$10.00; children under 12 \$5.00. Tickets are available at tickets.nmu.edu.

Marquette Choral Society – Christmas Carol Singalong – December 20

The Marquette Choral Society presents “Christmas Carol Singalong” on Friday, December 20 at 5:00 pm. The Master of Ceremonies is Andrew LaCombe. The concert is at St. Michael Catholic Church, 401 W. Kaye Avenue, Marquette. Admission is free. Canned food or monetary donations for St. Vincent de Paul welcomed.

Brass Choir Concert – December 22

A Brass Choir Concert will be presented on Sunday, December 22 at 4:00 pm at the Marquette Regional History Center (145 W. Spring Street in Marquette). Local brass musicians perform this holiday concert full of cheer and merriment. Doors will open at 3:30 pm. The event is free; donations are accepted.

Holiday Meals for the Elderly

Do you know of someone in the greater Marquette area 60 years or older who will not have access to traditional Thanksgiving or Christmas dinner?

Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly's year-round mission is to reach out in friendship to our isolated and lonely elderly neighbors. The holidays are a time when we pull out all the stops.

Elderly folks are invited to dine-in at the LBFE meal site, Marquette Elks Lodge #405, 127 N. Front Street. Transportation will be provided. Our dine-in guests are treated to a family style atmosphere incomplete with musical entertainment.

We also provide a traditional meal with dessert, and a friendship flower, that's then packaged in a bag exclusively designed by our youngest volunteers for delivery. The person knocking on their door turns this activity from a delivery into a friendship visit on this special day.

The number of meals available is limited and you must make a reservation for dine-in or delivery by Nov. 14 and Dec. 16.

Deliveries are 12:00-1:30 pm and dine-in is at 1:00 pm on each holiday. Due to the generosity of our community and volunteers, there is no cost.

Do you know someone who we should invite? Would you like to volunteer? Let's hear from you.

Contact Leslie Bek or Danielle Berg at 906-273-2575. More information about LBFE visit lbfemichigan.org.

Marquette Symphony Orchestra – 2024-2025 Season

The Marquette Symphony Orchestra has announced its concert schedule for the 2024-2025 season. Octavio Mas-Arocas, Music Director

Saturday, December 14, 2024 – 7:30 pm – Kaufman Auditorium
Sounds of the Holidays
Erin Colwitz & Matt Ludwig, Guest Conductors

Sunday, December 15, 2024 – 2:00 pm – Kaufman Auditorium
Special Holiday Matinee: Sounds of the Holidays
Abbreviated performance, about 45 minutes
Family-friendly & perfect for younger kids!

Saturday, January 18, 2025 – 4:00 pm – Kaufman Auditorium
Symphonic Broadway
with Kristen & Jimmy Ludwig

Saturday, March 1, 2025 – 7:30 pm – Kaufman Auditorium
Masterworks: Schumann Piano Concerto & Brahms
Piano Concerto in A minor – R. Schumann
with 2024 Youth Concerto Winner Hyerim Lee, piano
Symphony No. 2 – Johannes Brahms

Saturday, April 12, 2025 – 7:30 pm – Kaufman Auditorium
Festive Folk with the Knockabouts
-Festive Overture – D. Shostakovich
-Symphony No. 2 – P.L. Tchaikovsky

Season and individual tickets are on sale now at NMU Ticket Outlets.
nmu.universitytickets.com or 907 227-1032 or In-person at the Superior Dome.

Queer Conversation Book Club

The Queer Conversation Book Club meets on the first Saturday of every month from October 5 through May 3 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Join us to read LGBT+ books and graphic novels to learn and build community! The book club meets at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 201 E. Ridge St. in Marquette. Snacks and materials are provided. This is a supportive and inclusive space for LGBT+ folks and Curious allies, for tweens, teens, and adults. Presented by Lav-YAC, Equality Michigan, and St. Paul's Episcopal Church. For more information: www.Equalitymi.org or EQMI at 906 458-8322 or St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 906 226-2912.

Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice Events

Grief & the holidays - Thursday, December 5th from 6:00 - 7:00 pm

When you are grieving a loved one's death, the holidays can feel especially difficult. Please join us to discuss challenges, tips, techniques, and ideas to manage the holiday season. This event is free and open to anyone to attend. No RSVP required. Peter White Public Library Heritage Room, 217 N Front St. Contact number: 906.225.7760.

Live & Learn – Christmas Cookie Recipe Exchange Party!

Thursday, December 19th from 2:00 - 3:00 pm at Millcreek Clubhouse

Join us for a festive afternoon of holiday cheer, delicious treats, and recipe swapping! If you'd like to bring some holiday cookies feel free! If you have a favorite recipe to share, please bring printed copies or there will be blank recipe cards to jot them down. We'll exchange recipes,

enjoy each other's creations, and make wonderful holiday memories. Feel free to bring a friend – we are looking forward to sharing sweet treats and warm moments with you! There will also be a raffle for a free lap quilt for those who attend! Free & open to the public. Contact number: 906.225.7760

Connected at Home – Are you looking for ways to socialize without leaving the comfort of your home? All you need is a phone number to participate! Choose whichever group that you are interested in and call to register! Groups that are offered – Caregiver support group: every 3rd Tuesday of the month 2-3 PM, Book Club: Every first Monday 11-12PM hosted by Ishpeming Library, & Coffee & Conversations: Every Wednesday 1-2 PM Topics vary. Please call the Ishpeming senior center to register at 906.485.5527.

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