

# Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Answering God's call to love

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## Messiah ENewsletter for February 5, 2025

On the web... go to [messiahlutheranmqt.org](http://messiahlutheranmqt.org) for more information about our congregation and "like" us on Facebook to receive updates and information there.

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*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!*

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### Community Meal – Tonight!

We will have a community meal tonight at 6:00 pm. The cooks will be serving sloppy joes with coleslaw & green beans & cookies! They will also be providing a vegan option. Please join us, we look forward to sharing a meal with you!

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### Upcoming Events – February

- Feb 5 Community Meal at 6:00 pm
- Feb 6 Bible Study at 10:30 am
- Feb 7 Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am
- Feb 8 Confirmation at Bethel, Ishpeming from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
- Feb 10 11-Step Centering Prayer at 6:00 pm

Feb 11 Centering Prayer at 11:00 am  
Feb 12 Brookridge Worship at 1:30 pm  
Feb 13 No Bible study this morning – Pastor Molly on vacation  
Feb 14 Senior Men’s Bible Study at 9:00 am  
Feb 17 11-Step Centering Prayer at 6:00 pm  
Feb 18 Centering Prayer at 11:00 am  
Feb 19 Council meeting at 6:30 pm  
Feb 23 Last day to sign up for Suppers for Seven

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### **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!

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### **Suppers for Seven**

Suppers for Seven sign-up will take place again in February for groups that will meet for the following 6 months (March – August). We heard that you wanted more time to get to know your group, and we want to honor that. Please sign up at the welcome table outside of the church office by February 23rd. You will receive your groups the following week via email. Even if you have signed up before, you need to re-sign-up yourself or your family to be included in this next round. Never been in a group before? These are intergenerational supper groups that meet once a month for a potluck-style meal or at a restaurant, depending on what your group decides. We hope that they will help you get to know people outside your service and circle better so that we can feel connected to one another as siblings in Christ. Questions? Contact Pr. Molly.

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### **Collecting Items for Baby Care Kits**

Rachel Circle will be collecting items in February for the Baby Care Kits that are assembled for Lutheran World Relief. The following items are needed in 6 months - 24 months/2T sizes:

- Lightweight cotton T-Shirts (no-onesies)
- Long or short sleeved sleepers, P.J.’s or gowns (without feet)
- Plain, Hooded Sweatshirts
- Hand Towels, dark colors

There is a collection bin by the office. Thank you for your help! - - - Rachel Circle

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## **Messiah's Non-Perishable Food Pantry**

Our non-perishable food pantry is getting low. We are hoping you can help by bringing in a non-perishable food item or two. Items that serve this ministry well are things like.... cans of soup, cans of beans, crackers, granola bars, boxes of cereal, cans of fruit or vegetables, rice-a-roni, etc. Thank you for considering donating a couple things to our food pantry to help our hungry neighbors. Any donations can be put into the grocery cart in the narthex.

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## **Sunday School Fun Night at the YMCA!**

Sunday school kids & families are invited to a swimming and fun night at the YMCA sponsored by Messiah. On Friday March 7th from 5:00 - 7:00 pm we have rented out the Y. During this time, the play gym will be open. At 5:30 pm we will serve pizza, veggies and cookies. Then, from 6:00 - 7:00 pm the pool will be open to us. We hope that this is a fun night where your kids will get to play with their Sunday School friends & teachers.

A sign-up sheet will be on the welcome table outside the church office. Please sign up by Sunday, March 2nd. If you have any further questions, please ask Mary Beth Carstens or Pr. Molly Hunter

### Some things to know:

- You are welcome to come and hang out, stay with your child and have dinner. Or, your child can be dropped off and we will watch them as long as they are able to swim without assistance.
  - The Y will provide two lifeguards for the hour we are in the pool area.
  - The play gym will be open & chaperoned from 5:00 - 7:00 pm.
  - All of Messiah's volunteers that work with kids are background checked.
  - If you are dropping your child off, please make sure they are dressed in their swimwear and please return to help them dress for home if they need assistance – we will not be helping your child change.
  - Please have your child bring a towel and a water bottle.
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## **Hildegarde Johnson Music Scholarship - 2025**

Applications will be accepted starting February 1st for anyone with interest in applying for the 2025 Hildegarde Johnson Music Scholarship. The applications will be available on the welcome table outside the church office. Please turn in completed applications to the church office by Sunday, February 23, 2025.

Hildegarde Johnson was a member of Messiah and was passionate about music. Members of the Hildegard Johnson Music Scholarship Team will evaluate the applications and inform recipients in March. Funds from this scholarship can be used for private music lessons, music

camp, purchase of an instrument or music supplies, music books, or sheet music. Scholarship funds will be awarded to actively participating Messiah members who are in elementary, middle or high school. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the church office.

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### **Centering Prayer - Tuesdays at 11:00 am**

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

How to do this? In Invitation to Love, Thomas Keating suggests: “Another practice for daily life is to work an active prayer sentence...into our subconscious memory by saying it at moments when we are not engaged in a kind of activity that requires our attention.”

My “sacred word” for centering prayer is “Love”--specifically, Divine Love. So, when I am walking my dogs, I repeat the word, “Love” and picture Divine Love growing within as I breathe in and going out to this aching world as I breathe out.

When I find myself anxiously rushing through my day, I refocus by asking myself, “What is the purpose of what you are doing right now?” If it is washing dishes the answer is, “to clean the dishes” and then, I become mindful of THAT purpose for THAT moment and voila!--I am calmer.

These, I have found, are just some of the fruits of a regular meditation practice. In Centering Prayer, we aren’t petitioning God to give us what we think we need—we are opening ourselves to receiving the boundless grace and unconditional Love that God is always pouring upon us. Feel free to join us to practice centering prayer on Tuesday mornings from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm. Twenty minutes of silent prayer are followed by a Lectio Divina for us to consider together. All are welcome and it is not necessary to make every meeting. Come as you can.

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### **Messiah’s Nursery**

We are looking to employ another person to work in our nursery on Sunday mornings. Anyone applying would need to be at least 18 years of age and would go through a background check for the safety of our children. You may work one or two Sundays each month, and sometimes more, but rare. If you are interested in joining the nursery team, please inquire in the office.

Thank you!

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### **Installation of Pr. Amanda Kossow at Zion Lutheran Church – Feb. 16**

On Sunday, February 16th at 3:00 pm (**Central Time**), Zion Lutheran Church in Marinette, WI will have an installation service for Pr. Amanda Kossow. There will be a reception following the service.

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## **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.

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## **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:

**\*February** – *Hand Sanitizer, Toilet Paper (4 or 6 rolls/pack)*

**\*March** – *Shampoo (male/female), boxes of feminine pads/tampons*

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## **Lifelong Learning Faith Formation**

Winter classes begin in January and February. For more information and to register, visit the Northern Great Lakes Synod website: [nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation](http://nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation).

Youth ministry, the Bible, church traditions, and “Walking With Our Indigenous Neighbors” are included in the focus of Lifelong Faith Formation this winter. In its fifth year, the program is one way for the people of the Northern Great Lakes Synod, and beyond, to take part in conversations that nurture spiritual growth and Christian community. Four courses will meet online via Zoom. One, “Take and Eat,” will meet in person at Immanuel Lutheran in Escanaba.

## **Winter 2025 Lifelong Faith Formation Class Schedule**

**Introduction to Biblical Greek II with Pastor Nicole Hanson-Lynn, Salem & Zion, Ironwood.** Sunday evenings, beginning January 19 (end date to be determined) 7-8 pm, Eastern Time, 6-7 pm Central Time.

**Walking With Our Indigenous Neighbors with members of the Walking With Our Indigenous Neighbors Synod Task Force.** Tuesday evenings for 4 weeks, February 4-25 from 7-8 pm Eastern Time, 6-7 pm Central Time.

**Take and Eat: A Study of Food and Spirituality, from Holy Communion to Potlucks with Pastor Mike Markwell, meeting at Immanuel, Escanaba.** Every other Wednesday evening, January 22 – March 5 from 6-7 pm Eastern Time , 5-6 pm Central Time.

**Revelation – Revealing a Boon of Hope & Comfort with Pastor Tommy Richter, Zion, Manistique.** Thursday evenings for 10 weeks, January 16 – March 20, 7-8 pm Eastern Time, 6-7 pm Central Time.

**Growing Younger: Sharing Ideas and Strategies to Engage Young People with Stefanie Ehle, Youth Coordinator, Northern Great Lake Synod and members of the Youth Ministry Team.** Third Thursday of each month, January 16 – May 15, 7-8 pm Eastern Time, 6-7 pm Central Time.

Courses are free but may require purchase of textbooks. Please register at least one week before the date your class begins.

Any questions? Contact Deacon Lori Ward at 615 519-1969 or [lori.ward@nglsynod.org](mailto:lori.ward@nglsynod.org).

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## **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](mailto:mmennicke@lutheransummermusic.org) or 612 879-9555 ext. 5 or click “Nominate a Student” at [LSMacademy.org](http://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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### **Messiah Birthdays**

Feb 5 No birthdays  
Feb 6 No birthdays  
Feb 7 No birthdays  
Feb 8 No birthdays  
Feb 9 Everett Davis, Marion DeLarye, Sarah Stevens  
Feb 10 Julia Crimmins  
Feb 11 Ken Bullock  
Feb 12 No birthdays  
Feb 13 John Sarkela  
Feb 14 No birthdays  
Feb 15 Annabel Sander  
Feb 16 Mary Beth Carstens, Jackie Gilbert  
Feb 17 Diana Magnuson, Andrew Plocher  
Feb 18 Betsy Cooper  
Feb 19 No birthdays

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### **In the Hospital**

Please inform the church office when you are hospitalized. Pr. Molly Hunter & Pr. Andrew Plocher would like to visit you while you are there. If you are unable to notify Messiah, please ask a family member to do so.

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### **In Our Prayers**

Betsy Cooper; Heidi and Ashton Wood; Paul and Betsy; Carrie Oslund; John Collins; Myra; Becky Abbey; Mary Beals; Katie; John Kiltinen; Mary Ruman; Jimmy Anderson; Jeremy; Owen; Sally Olson; Larry Brunton; Charlie Blake; Carol Bell; Dorothy; Lillian Tuimala; Lynne Robertson; Jan Brown; Betsy; Karen; Rose Collins; Rick Castillo; Ruth Koehler; Don Hillegas; Grant; Kai Dolan; Samantha; Ted; Bruce Lindberg; Grace Chien; Jamie; Donna; Brian; Ben; Sandy Grenke; Evelyn; Akira Carlson; Karen Eldevick; Grace; Shannon; Billy & Kathy S.; Leesa; Jesse Wright; Marshall Lovan; Peter; Shawn; Mae Desonia; Lisa Douros; Tina; Williamson family; Wayne Hanmer; Sierra; Charlene Avery

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## **Pastor on Call:**

Pastor Andrew is on call February 5-12

Pastor Molly is on vacation February 6-15

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## **Worship Volunteers**

### **Saturday, February 8 -- 5:00 pm in atrium**

Assisting Minister Carol Bell

Communion Assistant Barb Salmela

Provide Refreshments: Barb Salmela

### **Sunday, February 9 -- 8:30 am in sanctuary, on 101.9 FM, Vimeo/Facebook**

Assisting Minister: Jen Bleckiner

Reader: Larry Pagel

Ushers: Joe and Chris Harkness

Communion Assistants: Larry Pagel, Beth Krznarich, Terry Langenberg, Marina Shinkarenko

Greeters: Al and Gail Edgar

Nursery: Maddie Dykema

Provide Refreshments: Penny Streeter and Sherry Labbe

### **Sunday, February 9 -- 10:30 am in sanctuary, on Vimeo/Facebook**

Assisting Minister Mike Hill

Reader: Josh MacIvor-Andersen

Ushers: Fred and Jeanne Groos

Communion Assistants: Gayle Mack, Marina Shinkarenko, Mike and Joan Hill

Greeters: Marina Shinkarenko, Bev Evans

Projection Technician Lesley Williams

Nursery: Maddie Dykema

Flower Delivery Lois Raikko

## **Announcements and Classified Ads**

**Marquette City Band – Winter Concert – February 16**

The Marquette City Band will present a Winter Concert “Celebrating Winter Holidays” at Kaufman Auditorium on Sunday, February 16 at 3:00 pm. Admission is free but donations are appreciated.

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## **Marquette Symphony Orchestra – 2025 Season**

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

Saturday, March 1, 2025 – 7:30 pm – Kaufman Auditorium  
Romantic Masters - 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](http://nmu.universitytickets.com) or 907 227-1032 or In-person at the Superior Dome.

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## **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](http://www.Equalitymi.org) or EQMI at 906 458-8322 or St. Paul’s Episcopal Church at 906 226-2912.

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## **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 with our hospice is required. Please call 906.225.7760 if you have any questions.

Gwinn

2/12/25 2:00 - 3:00 pm; Forsyth Senior Center 165 N. Maple St in Gwinn

**Caregiver Support Groups** – Are you feeling isolated or burned out as a caregiver? Do you experience frustration or guilt and need a safe place to process? Join us for opportunities to share your feelings, develop friendships, receive emotional support, and to learn about available community resources. 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. Please call 906.225.7760 if you have any questions.

Marquette:

2nd Wednesday of every month

2/12/25 2:00 - 3:00 pm

Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice

914 W. Baraga Ave

Telephone Based:

3rd Tuesday of every month

2/19/25 2:00-3:00 pm

Call 906.485.5527 to register

Landline or Cell phone required to participate

**\*New\* Grief Support Series starting in February!** *Loss of a loved one can look different for everyone. We will be exploring feelings, support, and tools to help guide you on your grief journey. Please join us, in a safe place to learn and share about the tender moments of grief. This group will now contain a combination of both structured and open grief sharing. Groups will take place every other Thursday starting February 6 – April 17 from 10:30 - 11:30 am at Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice, located at 914 W Baraga Ave in Marquette. Please RSVP by 1/31/25. 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/mo. from 2:00 - 3:00 pm, Book Club: Every first Monday/mo. 11:00 am - 12:00 pm hosted by Ishpeming Library, and Coffee & Conversations: Every Wednesday from 1:00 - 2:00 pm. Topics vary. Please call the Ishpeming senior center to register at 906.485.5527.

Registration now open for **Virtual Powerful Tools for Caregivers Class** - This 6 week **online** workshop is designed to help you take care of **yourself** while caring for a parent, spouse, or friend, at home, in a nursing home, or across the country.  
Wednesdays February 26<sup>th</sup> - April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2025

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM Via Zoom

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### **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.

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### **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