

Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Answering God's call to love

Messiah ENewsletter for February 19, 2025

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 – February/March

- Feb 19 Lent Hymn Think! at 4:00 pm
- Feb 19 Council meeting at 6:30 pm
- Feb 20 Bible Study at 10:30 am
- Feb 21 Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am
- Feb 23 Last day to sign up for Suppers for Seven
- Feb 23 Deadline for applications for Hildegard Johnson Music Scholarship
- Feb 24 11-Step Centering Prayer at 6:00 pm
- Feb 25 Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
- Feb 26 Brookridge Worship at 1:30 pm
- Feb 27 Bible Study at 10:30 am
- Feb 28 Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am

Mar 3 11-Step Centering Prayer at 6:00 pm
Mar 4 Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
Mar 5 Ash Wednesday Worship at 12:00 pm and 7:00 pm
Mar 5 Community Meal at 6:00 pm

Thank You!

Thanks to everyone who donated nonperishable food for our food pantry. We now have a good supply available to help those in need.

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!

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.

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

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.

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.

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.

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:

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

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

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

- *March 1, 2025: Standard Enrollment (\$50 application fee)
 - *May 1, 2025: Late Enrollment (\$75 application fee)
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Messiah Birthdays

Feb 19	No birthdays
Feb 20	Sandy Grenke
Feb 21	No birthdays
Feb 22	Lando Gummerus, Christine Thomas-Echelbarger
Feb 23	Alex Lucas
Feb 24	No birthdays
Feb 25	No birthdays
Feb 26	Simon Claybaker
Feb 27	Sharon Farrell
Feb 28	No birthdays
Mar 1	Henryk Fitzpatrick
Mar 2	Darlene Dreisbach, Chris Harkness, Dave Luoma
Mar 3	Alesia Braund
Mar 4	Alexis Armstrong, Gabriel Armstrong
Mar 5	Lucas Boehlke, Angie LeDuc, Kathy Maynard, Sara Moyle

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.

In Our Prayers

Judy Quirk; Jan Brown; Pat Makela; Lesley Williams on the passing of her partner, John; Betsy Cooper; Heidi and Ashton Wood; Paul and Betsy; Carrie Oslund; John Collins; Myra; Becky Abbey; Katie; John Kiltinen; Mary Ruman; Jimmy Anderson; Jeremy; Owen; Sally Olson; Larry Brunton; Charlie Blake; Carol Bell; Dorothy; Lillian Tuimala; Lynne Robertson; 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

Pastor on Call:

Pastor Andrew is on call February 19, 23-26

Pastor Molly is on call February 20-22

Worship Volunteers

Saturday, February 22 -- 5:00 pm in atrium

Assisting Minister Carol Bell
Communion Assistant Barb Salmela

Provide Refreshments: Barb Salmela

Sunday, February 23 -- 8:30 am in sanctuary, on 101.9 FM, Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister: Terry Langenberg
Reader: Brenda Blett
Ushers: Mike Coyne, Cathy Seblonka
Communion Assistants: Terry Langenberg, Marina Shinkarenko, Beth Krznarich
Greeters: Darlene Martin, Marina Shinkarenko

Nursery: Maddie Dykema
Provide Refreshments: **Need a volunteer.**

Sunday, February 23 -- 10:30 am in sanctuary, on Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister Mark Paulsen
Reader: Josh MacIvor-Andersen
Ushers: Nancy Hamlin, Jean Reynolds
Communion Assistants: Marina Shinkarenko, Sandy Lindberg, **need 1 more volunteer.**
Greeters: Ellen Symons, Marina Shinkarenko
Projection Technician Kathy Godec

Nursery: Maddie Dykema
Flower Delivery Jan Julian

Announcements and Classified Ads

Marquette Symphony Orchestra – 2025 Season

The Marquette Symphony Orchestra has announced its concert schedule for the 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.universiticket.com or 907 227-1032 or In-person at the Superior Dome.

Gardening Workshop – March 2

The Marquette Seventh-day Adventist Church, 270 East US 41, Negaunee, will host

“Preserving Your Garden’s Harvest” on Sunday, March 2 at 4:00 pm. Learn the basics of food preservation at this free event which includes a plant-based dinner. Please RSVP at 906-475-4488 or mqtsdachurch@gmail.com.

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

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
3/12/25 2:00 - 3:00 pm
Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice
914 W. Baraga Ave

Telephone Based:

3rd Tuesday of every month
3/18/25 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 26th - April 2nd 2025

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM Via Zoom

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