

Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Answering God's call to love

Messiah ENewsletter for April 23, 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!

Worship at Brookridge Today!

Please join us today for worship at Brookridge Heights at 1:30 pm. All are welcome!

Upcoming Events – April/May

- Apr 23 Brookridge Worship at 1:30 pm
- Apr 23 Visitation for Michael Orhanen at 3:00 pm followed by Funeral Service at 4:00 pm
- Apr 23 OWLs Visit to Marquette Regional History Center at 6:30 pm
- Apr 24 Bible Study at 10:30 am
- Apr 24 "Fluoride and Drinking Water" Presentation at 7:00 pm
- Apr 25 Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am
- Apr 26 Pastor Molly's Baby Shower at 2:00 pm
- Apr 27 Fortune Lake Annual Meeting at 2:00 pm CT

Apr 28 11-Step Centering Prayer at 6:00 pm
Apr 29 Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
May 1 Bible Study at 10:30 am
May 2 Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am
May 5 11-Step Centering Prayer at 6:00 pm
May 6 Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
May 7 Community Meal at 6:00 pm

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!

ELCA World Hunger

During Lent we usually focus on Hunger and the upcoming Synod Assembly World Hunger offering. The Assembly is May 16-18 and the need for Hunger Funds is greater than even as government funds are being cut. Please consider making this ministry a part of your Lenten Journey by sending your contribution to Messiah for our support of this effort.

OWLs Visit to Marquette Regional History Center – April 23

The OWLs will be visiting the Marquette Regional History Center on April 23 for a presentation about the Shiras Planetarium.

“A Community Under the Stars: 60 Years of Shiras Planetarium”

Wednesday, April 23 at 6:30 pm

Join us as we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Shiras Planetarium with a special panel Discussion featuring past and present directors. We'll explore the evolution of this iconic facility, from its founding in 1965 to its upcoming transformation in 2025. Discover how the planetarium has inspired generations through education and innovation, and hear stories of its impact on the community. Bring your questions and memories as we reflect on six decades of reaching for the stars. Also enjoy an equipment display. \$5 suggested donation.

“Fluoride and Drinking Water” – April 24

"Fluoride and Drinking Water" will be the topic for the Interfaith Water Stewards public community gathering from 7 - 8:30 PM in Messiah's sanctuary on Thursday evening, April

24th. Messiah continues to serve as a leader in our community's faith-based efforts to address health and environmental concerns. Michael Waite will frame the evening with song, April Lindala will be bringing a blessings song from the Native American community. Presenters on this topic will be Scott Emerson, a physician, and David Campana, pharmacist and former mayor of Marquette. The Cedar Tree Institute is coordinating the 2024-2025 Water Stewards Initiative with representatives of eight religious traditions."

Pr. Molly's Baby Shower – April 26

Messiah women are hosting a baby shower in honor of Pr. Molly & Ethan Hunter's new baby. The shower will be held on Saturday, April 26th starting at 2:00 pm in Magnuson Hall. All are invited! There will be a salad luncheon. They have two online baby registries: Babylist Baby Registry & Target Baby Registry.

Help Wanted: Church Sign Virtuoso

Have a way with words? Enjoy a good pun? Ever dreamed of wielding the power of a marquee? We're looking for a brave soul (or team of souls) to take on the sacred and slightly mischievous task of updating our church sign!

Qualifications? A willingness to swap out letters in all seasons, an appreciation for pith and wit, and a knack for crafting messages that make people smile—and maybe even think a little.

Previous experience in dad jokes, wordplay, or holy humor is a plus but not required.

If you're up for the challenge (or just want to know what happens behind the scenes), contact Pr. Andrew.

Northern Great Lakes Synod

"What then shall we say to this?

If God is for us, who is against us?"

~Romans 8:31

Dear People of the Northern Great Lakes Synod,

As I write this article, we are still in a flurry of executive orders and declarations that give rise to a host of emotions. While some are cheering campaign promises kept, others fear for those most impacted and question the constitutional integrity of actions and orders. My own heart feels heavy as funds have been paused for humanitarian aid. I know the work of Lutheran Social Services makes a compassionate difference in the world and frankly, US AID funds make America look good. (It was through USAID grants that the NGLS was able to help build Kisarawe Junior Theological Seminary in Tanzania.) As we consider our theme of Seeds

Sowers and planting seeds of faith, the seeds that are now being sown by these actions are unclear. Within that space of planting and growth is the tension between border security and a compassionate immigration system that works, between excessive spending and effective stewardship of federal resources, between legal processes and getting things done. What then shall we say to this?

There is much that I disagree with, and much that provokes concern. But my understanding of the example and call of Jesus to be his disciple brings me back to what I can do, what I should do, and what lies beyond my reach (although not beyond my grief and disquiet.)

I can call my congressional representatives to work to restore funds, and in the meantime, I can encourage congregations to gather in their Synod Assembly offering for World Hunger. I can support local and global efforts to address issues of poverty. I can participate with the efforts of our synod to make a difference with the people who are in our reach and continue to educate around international issues even as we pray for peaceful resolutions and just action. And I can remember, and remind you and myself, that the God we proclaim is one who promises new life from death. The Savior we serve is one who bids us to “go and do likewise,” not seeking to condemn but inviting us into a deeper understanding of how it is that the least are the greatest. God is for us and working through us to be the presence of Christ. What that means for us in these days, we figure out together. I find that the words of ELW Hymn #705 speak to me with new resonance:

God of grace, and God of glory
On your people pour your power.
Crown your ancient church's story.
Bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour.

Lo! The hosts of evil round us
scorn the Christ, assail his ways.
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days.

Cure your children's warring madness;
Bend our pride to your control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss your Kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore;
Let the gift of your salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving you whom we adore.

Grant us wisdom.
Grant us courage.

***In Christ,
Bishop Katherine Finegan***

Living Lutheran Back in Print

We heard you—and listened. We have found a way to bring back the magazine's print publication in a quarterly fashion. Each issue (spring, summer, winter and fall) will feature the stories you know and love, along with updates on the church and your ELCA community. The cost for one year will be \$19.95 for an individual subscription and \$17 per year for a congregation group subscription. Copies of the Spring 2025 edition are on the Welcome Table. Please help yourself.

Why Centering Prayer?

Fr. Thomas Keating, the person responsible for bringing centering prayer to the laity, talks about the "fruits of the Spirit" that flow from a dedicated practice to contemplative prayer. It took me a long time to realize I was experiencing those fruits from my contemplative practice. I noticed that my perceptions of the world were slowly changing and with the change in perception, I was becoming a more compassionate and kind person. Plus, I began to see that prayers that I thought had gone unanswered in my past, HAD been answered. I had been looking for a specific answer and God knew the answer that would actually work.

When Pastor Molly said this Benediction last week, it struck me to the heart:

As you leave this place, may you find God in every messy middle.

May you know that the world is bigger than two sides.

May you trust that you are made in the image of God.

May you move through this world with an open heart, with a curious mind, and with the

confidence that you do not go alone.

God is with you in the mountains, in the valleys, and everywhere in between.

Believe that good news.

There was a time in my life when I did NOT believe that good news, but I believe it now. That has been one of the greatest gifts of my centering prayer practice: increasing trust in God and God's Love for God's creation, including me! And that God DOES answer prayer.

OWLS (Older, Wiser Lutherans) Weekly Walk

The OWLS are now walking at the Dome on Mondays when it is open. 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.

Personal Care Kits

A whole year has gone by and it is once again time to collect donations for Personal Care Kits. Last year we were able to send 48 kits to Lutheran World Relief for distribution where needed. In April items can be brought to the church and will be assembled by Ruth Circle.

Items needed for each kit include:

- 1 bath size towel, dark color preferred
- 1 toothbrush, adult size in original packaging
- 1 comb, large toothed preferred
- 1 metal nail clipper
- 2 bath size bars of soap

Items can be placed in the container provided in the narthex. Monetary donations are also welcomed to purchase needed items - just write 'personal care kits' in the memo line. Thank you for your generosity!

Choral Award Recipient

Rick Beyers is the recipient of the 2025 Choral Leadership Award, given to Rick for his outstanding support of choral music in the area.

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:

***April** – *Laundry Soap, Dish Soap, Bars of Soap*

***May** – *Diapers, size 3-6 and/or Baby Wipes*

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 Deadline

*May 1, 2025: Late Enrollment (\$75 application fee)

Messiah Birthdays

Apr 23	Lois Brazier, Wyatt Crimmins, Laura Kagy
Apr 24	No birthdays
Apr 25	David DeLarye, Isaac Olson, Rebecca Ulland
Apr 26	Doug Gordon, Karen Larson
Apr 27	No birthdays
Apr 28	Eliza Delpier, Mitchell Gilbert, Gary Nicholas
Apr 29	Jason Parks
Apr 30	No birthdays
May 1	Alex Geschwindt, Max Geschwindt, Carol Pfannenstiel
May 2	Paul Carstens, Emmett Claybaker

May 3 No birthdays
May 4 Emily Fitzpatrick, Delaney Parks
May 5 Liam Boehlke
May 6 Sarah Balding, John Dahlke, Joan Hill, Peter Kotila, Levin MacIvor-Andersen
May 7 Jeff Olson, Deb Rolig, Boli Soderberg

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

Bob and Sue Hewitt and family upon the passing of Sue's brother, Michael Orhanen; Ruth Koehler; Sherrie Wagner; Jan Brown; Betsy; Carrie Oslund; John Collins; Myra; Katie; John Kiltinen; Mary Ruman; Jimmy Anderson; Jeremy; Owen; Sally Olson; Charlie Blake; Carol Bell; Dorothy; Lynne Robertson; Karen; Rose Collins; Rick Castillo; 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; Judy Donckers; Sierra; Charlene Avery

Pastor on Call:

Pastor Andrew is on call April 23, 27-30

Pastor Molly is on call April 24-26

Worship Volunteers

Saturday, April 26 – 5:00 pm in atrium

Usher: Carol Bell

Greeter: Barb Salmela

Provide Refreshments: **Need a volunteer.**

Sunday, April 27 -- 8:30 am in sanctuary, on 101.9 FM, Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister: Marina Shinkarenko
Reader: Louise Reichert
Ushers: Anne Rydholm, Cathy Seblonka
Communion Assistants: Beth Krznarich, Marina Shinkarenko, Terry Langenberg
Greeters: Marina Shinkarenko, Darlene Martin.

Nursery: Mylee Muscoe
Provide Refreshments: **Need a volunteer.**

Sunday, April 27 –10:30 am in sanctuary, on Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister Molly Luty
Reader: Gayle Van Osdol
Ushers: Nancy Raisanen, Bev Evans
Communion Assistants: Kerry McGinley, Karen Burkman, Sandy Lindberg
Greeters: Gayle Van Osdol, Marina Shinkarenko
Projection Technician Kathy Godec

Nursery: Mylee Muscoe
Flower Delivery Gayle Van Osdol

Announcements and Classified Ads

Anderton's Earth Week – April 21-26

To kickoff the start of April, shine.nmu and nmu.gtu announce this year's 11th annual Anderton's Earth Week schedule. Mark your calendars for the week of April 21-26. You don't want to miss out on all the amazing events that will be taking place. To learn more about the history of Anderton's Earth Week or the events taking place this year, head to our website.

Marquette Choral Society Spring Concert – April 26 and 27

The Marquette Choral Society will present their spring concert "Rejoice: Celebrating Spring" with the music of Britten, Thompson, and Rutter on Saturday, April 26 at 7:30 pm and on Sunday, April 27 at 3:00 pm at Reynolds Recital Hall at NMU. Erin Colwitz, conductor and Jan Brodersen, collaborative pianist. General admission is \$10 for adults and \$5.00 for those under age 12 at nmu.edu/tickets.

Connections Through Bowling – April 27

Superior Connections is sponsoring the 2nd Annual Connections Through Bowling event on Sunday, April 27 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. It will be held at River Rock Lanes, 1011 N RD in Ishpeming. It is free to participate in this event. The event is substance-free. Donations make events like this possible. For more information, go to www.superiorconnectionsco.org.

Marquette Male Chorus – Spring Concert – May 2

The Marquette Male Chorus will present their Spring concert titled “Imagine – Music of the Beatles” on May 2nd at 7:30 pm at Messiah Lutheran Church, 305 W. Magnetic. There is a suggested donation of \$10.00 at the door. For further information, please contact Wayne Hanmer at 906 249-9867.

Negaunee Male Chorus Concert – May 3

The Negaunee Male Chorus and The Kingdom Kids present “Music Through the Decades” on Saturday, May 3 at 7:00 pm. The concert will be at W.C. Peterson Auditorium, Ishpeming High School. Tickets are \$15.00 for adults; age 17 and under with an adult are free.

Ticket outlets are: Super One Foods, Negaunee; Country Village Ace, Ishpeming; Jubilee Foods, Ishpeming; TruNorth Credit Union, Ishpeming; or any Male Chorus member.

Muppets and Masters Concert – May 18

Superior Handbells will present their Muppets and Masters Concert on Sunday, May 18 at 3:00 pm at Messiah Lutheran Church (305 W Magnetic St. in Marquette). It will include the music of movies, The Beach Boys, Pops, and others. A free-will offering will be taken.

Marquette County Habitat for Humanity – Crew Lunches Needed

Would you like to give back to your community?

Marquette County Habitat for Humanity has been working for over 30 years to provide affordable housing to community members in need. In that time, we have partnered with 114 low-income families to build decent, safe and affordable housing. We have also performed over 255 critical home repairs through our Home Repair Program.

Our success is due to the support of this community! This support comes in various forms:

*Volunteer assistance on the construction site, in the office, or at the ReStore.

- *Monetary donation and grants.
- *Donations to the ReStore.
- *Lunch donations for our volunteers at the work sites.

We are asking for your help providing lunches to our volunteers in the 2025 build season.

We have a need for anywhere from 4 to 25 lunches on any given day. We will always give advance notice to lunch donors regarding the number of lunches needed.

Choose the most convenient way to assist with crew lunches:

- *Contact the church office. (If you wish to provide crew lunches, Messiah may be able to help with the cost.)
- *Select a date online via <https://www.yoopersunited.com/agency/detail/MCHFH>
- *Call 906 228-3578 or 906 235-4925.
- *Email volunteers@mqthabitat.org.
- *Visit the office at 2354 US 41 South, Marquette, MI 49855.

We look forward to hearing from you! Thank you in advance for your continued support in helping our fellow community members!

Financial Help for Cancer Patients

If you or someone you know is going through any financial hardships while going through cancer treatment, please do not hesitate to contact Dave Poirier of Cancer Care of Marquette County (CCMC). 906-362-9226 / poirph@msn.com or Barb Salmela 906-250-1016.

There are no income guidelines. Assistance can be for travel expenses, insurance co-pay, medical bills & medications related to cancer care. This organization is all volunteer based. Money to support is from fundraising, grants and donations. This organization is a 501c3 group so donations are tax deductible. But I cannot emphasize enough....to CALL if you need help.

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
May 14 from 2:00 - 3:00 pm
Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice
914 W. Baraga Ave

Telephone Based:

3rd Tuesday of every month
May 20 from 2:00-3:00 pm
Call 906.485.5527 to register
Landline or Cell phone required to participate

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.

Live & Learn: Adaptive Equipment Presented by: SAIL

Assistive Technology with SAIL -Assistive technology can be challenging for senior citizens due to complex interfaces, frequent updates, and unfamiliar settings. Navigating smartphones, tablets, laptops, and email can feel overwhelming without the right support. Join us for this special event, where you'll receive assistance to troubleshoot your devices, answer your questions, and gain confidence in using technology with ease. Please bring your devices you have questions with you!

April 30 from 3:00 - 5:00 pm

Marquette Senior Center, 300 W. Spring St in Marquette

Art After Loss - **April 29 from 4:30 - 6:30 pm** at Peter White Public Library – Arts & Culture Center (Lower Level)

Creating a Memorial Collage. Creating collages to honor a loved one after loss can be a deeply personal and healing process. Collages allow you to blend memories, emotions, and creativity into a visual tribute that celebrates their life and the impact they had on you. Please bring photographs, handwritten notes, letters, any favorite symbols, quotes, poems, or song lyrics that you would like to integrate into your collage. Poster Boards and craft supplies will be provided. Please RSVP at 906.225.7760 or email: cvoce@lakesuperiorhospice.org

Do you have an announcement?

Send announcements & ads to Kathy Godec (kathy@messiahlutheranmgt.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@messiahlutheranmgt.org

Website: <https://www.messiahlutheranmgt.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