

# MESSIAH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH MESSENGER

WWW.MESSIAHLUTHERANMQT.ORG

## Worship Services

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 8:30 am

(with Nursery)

Sunday 10:30 am

(with Nursery)

8:30 am broadcast on 101.9 fm & livestream on facebook at  
[www.facebook.com/messiahlutheranmqt](http://www.facebook.com/messiahlutheranmqt)

10:30 am livestream on Facebook

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Member of the Northern Great Lakes Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



# June 29, 2025

## Third Sunday after Pentecost

**Flowers:** To the Glory of God & In Loving Memory of...

- \* my brothers, Bob & Roy Isaacson from Peggy Letvenow
- \* my son Robert Johnson from Helen M. Johnson

**Radio:** To the Glory of God...

- \* from Larry Pagel

**Livestream:** To the Glory of God...

- \* from our Messiah family

Siblings in Christ,

As July settles in—with its sunlit mornings and breezy lake evenings—I find myself holding both gratitude and grief. There's so much beauty around us here in the U.P., and yet the world feels heavy in so many ways.

The news these days can feel like a constant ache: the looming threat of war with Iran, growing instability around the globe, families torn apart by immigration raids, the deep fractures in our democracy. It's easy to feel overwhelmed. It's easy to wonder where, exactly, hope fits into all of this.

But Christian hope—real hope— isn't naive. It doesn't ignore suffering. It rises from it. As Liberation Theology reminds us, hope is born in struggle. It belongs to those at the margins. It's not passive; it moves us toward justice. It is, as William Stringfellow once wrote, "a political virtue" — meaning that hope shapes how we live, not just how we feel. Hope is a way of choosing life in the face of systems that deal in death.

Hope does not mean pretending everything is fine. It means believing, stubbornly, that God is still at work—even in the rubble, even in detention centers, even in the halls of power where fear often shouts the loudest.

At Messiah, I see that kind of hope all the time. It's in the ways you care for each other. It's in your advocacy, your generosity, your commitment to being a Reconciling in Christ congregation where every person—queer, trans, immigrant, elder, child—is named beloved. It's in your prayers and potlucks, your protests and your quiet kindnesses. These are not small things. They are the building blocks of beloved community.

So, in the midst of global tension and national uncertainty, what can we do?

We can learn—about the systems that harm and the people who resist.  
We can speak up—at city halls, in letters, in conversations that matter.  
We can give—time, money, energy—to causes that align with God's justice.

We can care—for our neighbors, our land, our own weary souls.

We can keep gathering—around Word and Table, in song and silence, trusting that God is here.

The theologian Reinhold Niebuhr said it plainly: "Nothing worth doing is completed in our lifetime... but we must do it anyway." That's the gospel call. We are not asked to finish the work. We're asked to be faithful in it.

So this summer, rest. Breathe. Notice the beauty. And also—keep choosing hope. Keep living love. Keep being the church the world needs.

In Christ,  
Pr. Andrew

## Pastor Molly's Maternity Leave

Messiah's parental leave policy is for 12 weeks of leave. Pr. Molly started her leave on Monday, June 16th & is taking 10 full weeks off. She will then return on Monday, August 25th and take the next 4 weeks half time, being in the office on Tuesday/Thursday each week and weekends until September 21st. She will be back full time starting Monday, September 22nd.

## Endowment Fund Update

The team entrusted with developing "The Robert Malette Mission Endowment Fund Of Messiah Lutheran Church" has met four times. Much of our time has focused on preservation of principle and as well as the method of determining the amount of money available for distribution. We are working on the wording of the governing document as well as an application form. These things will be reviewed by our legal consultant, financial consultant and the council once they are finished. There will be no grants in 2025 but are planning for the process to begin in 2026.

The fund has not been harmed or helped by the fluctuation in the monetary climate this year as it is presently in interest earning money market funds.

Judy Quirk

### **Quilting**

*If you would like to work with Messiah's quilting group, please contact the office.*

# Messiah Calendar

## Monday, June 30

10:00 am OWLs Walk  
7:00 pm AA

## Tuesday, July 1

11:00 am Staff Meeting  
11:00 am Centering Prayer

## Wednesday, July 2

nothing scheduled

## Thursday, July 3-Church office closed

5:00 pm Building & Grounds

## Friday, July 4

9:00 am Senior Men's Bible Study

## Saturday, July 5

5:00 pm Worship  
7:00 pm Private Birthday Party

## Sunday, July 6

8:00 am Senior Choir Rehearsal  
8:30 am Worship-Traditional  
10:30 am Beach Worship @ Clark  
Lambros Beach, bring your  
own chair or blanket

## In The Hospital

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

### On-Call

Pr. Andrew Plocher: July 1-20, 31

*Pr. Molly is on maternity leave now through 8/24*

### Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for articles to be included in our August newsletter is **Monday, July 21, 2025.**

### Messiah's Newsletter

June 29, 2025  
Volume 107, Issue 7

Articles for  
*Weekly Announcements*  
are due by 6:00 pm  
each Wednesday

## Community Meal - August 6

In the month of July each year, we skip hosting a community meal. It is usually too close to the holiday and we have often had too low attendance.

Our next Community Meal will be on Wednesday, August 6th at 6:00 pm. We will provide more information regarding the meal as the date nears. In years past this has been a sub sandwich dinner with a couple sides.

## Pray for the 2025 Churchwide Assembly

From July 28 to August 2, delegates from across the ELCA (our denomination) will gather in Phoenix, Arizona, for the Churchwide Assembly—a time of worship, decision-making, and discernment for our whole church.

We invite you to keep our Synod's delegates and the greater church in your prayers. Ask the Spirit to guide their conversations, honor the richness of our varied experiences, and renew our shared calling to love and serve in Christ's name.

*God of wisdom, be present in every voice and vote. Let your church be led with courage and grace. Amen.*

## Bowls for a Cause

Turned Wooden Bowls are available for a donation to the community assistance fund. They are located next to the homemade jams in the narthex. All bowls are homemade and are finished with a food safe finish. If you have questions about the bowls they can be directed to Paul Carstens at pcarsten@alumni.nmu.edu.

## The New Free Store Donations

The New Free Store is in need of the items listed below. There is a collection bin in our narthex at Messiah for The New Free Store.

July Deodorant - male or female

August Diapers, size 3-6 & Baby Wipes

## Upcoming Events in July

July 3 Church office closed in observance of Independence Day

July 4 Independence Day

July 6 10:30 am worship is at Clark Lambros Beach

July 13 Norway Grove arrives at Messiah

July 16 Fellowship Team meeting at 1:00 pm

July 19 Norway Grove heads back home to WI early in the morning

# Messiah's Birthdays

## July 2025

Tuesday 1	Lincoln Gordon
Wednesday 2	Garrett Crimmins, Olivia Ruuska, Paula Taylor
Thursday 3	Linda Bullock
Friday 4	Louise Anderson
Saturday 5	Maria Flores, Charlie Ruuska
Sunday 6	Helen M. Johnson
Monday 7	Rachel Dodge, Sally Olson, Tom Osier
Tuesday 8	Sarah Kemppainen, Bronce Reece
Wednesday 9	Sara Johnson
Thursday 10	No birthdays
Friday 11	No birthdays
Saturday 12	Abigail Reynolds, Emma Ziegler
Sunday 13	Jackson Benam, Barry Johnson
Monday 14	Jessica Gummerus, Erin Langenberg
Tuesday 15	Bennett Gordon
Wednesday 16	Ruth Koehler
Thursday 17	Ruth Anne Davidson
Friday 18	Kim Alanko, Paul Marin
Saturday 19	No birthdays
Sunday 20	No birthdays
Monday 21	Greg Larson, Penny Streeter
Tuesday 22	Mary Hammerstrom
Wednesday 23	No birthdays
Thursday 24	Fred Groos, Bob Sromalski
Friday 25	Jon Banitt, Jeanne Ruman, Sarah Ruuska
Saturday 26	Jari Braund, Linnea Gustafson
Sunday 27	No birthdays

Monday 28	Mark Fuller
Tuesday 29	No birthdays
Wednesday 30	Ernie Johnson
Thursday 31	Devin Fortin, Ron Strazzinski

## Happy Anniversary!

Happy Anniversary to the following couples in July:

Mike & Emily Coyne	July 1
Jeff & Jen Dodge	July 1
Mark & Pam Forsberg	July 1
Peter & Cathy Seblonka	July 6
Andrew Plocher & Anna Zimmer	July 18
Brenton & Emily Fitzpatrick	July 20
Karla Hardy & her husband	July 22
Chuck & Lynette Suckow	July 22
Joe & Julie Blemberg	July 28
Mark & Becky Blom	July 30
Brad Crimmins & Adrienne Wolf	July 31
Deitrich & Jamie Spickerman	July 31

## Sunday School Families – Summer & Fall

This summer there will be a fun gathering at the home of Jen Bleckiner, who teaches 3 year olds through kindergarten. Join all our teachers and all families with Sunday School aged children for a fun evening with a bonfire, swimming, dinner and s'mores at their house. July 25th from 5:00 – 7:30 pm at 545 Fisher Street. Rain date will be August 1st. You are invited to bring a side dish or dessert.

Sunday School for the fall begins on Rally Sunday – September 7th . Registration for this fall is now live on Messiah's website. Rally Day also includes a picnic style lunch of hot dogs after 10:30 worship along with fun activities for kids.

## Knotty Knitters

The Knotty Knitters will continue to meet at Messiah on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month. The knitters typically meet in Magnuson Hall but occasionally meet in the atrium. They do join one another for lunch at Vangos prior to coming to Messiah. Please contact Shelly Johnson for more information.

## Messiah's Community Assistance Fund

A midyear update on our assistance fund. Our dedicated group of volunteers - Mary Lou Bloomquist, Bill Davis, Mike Coyne, Laurel Kniskern, and Pam Christiansen - graciously give of their time throughout the week to see up to 12-15 people and help them with their needs. We most often give money for utilities, rent, medical bills, car insurance/repairs, and bus tickets. We are six months out from Giving Tuesday where we raise the majority of the monetary resources for the assistance fund, but with our calculations and the potential of cuts to social services, we expect that we will run out of funds well before then. I am asking for you to think about contributing at this time of the year if you have some extra funds to give. This ministry is essential to our community, it not only helps people with bills but it allows us to show God's love and care to those who are most in need.

### How can you help?

- Donate to the assistance fund!
- Bring in food for our small pantry - especially things that are easy to prepare like chili, cereals, pastas and sauce, etc. When bringing canned goods, check for an easy open top.
- Do you know of other organizations in the area that help people? Let us know so that we can expand the help each person is receiving.
- Do you know of any grants we could apply for?

## Asylum Family Update

For the past four years, our congregation has had the privilege of accompanying a family from Honduras as they sought asylum in the United States. This ministry has been possible because of the incredible generosity of our community—through financial support and, most especially, through the time and care offered by so many volunteers.

Recently, the family made the decision to relocate to Los Angeles, California. From the beginning, we understood that our role was one of accompaniment—that ultimately, the family would make choices that best serve their future. Still, their departure is a loss. It's especially hard not to have had the chance to say goodbye together as a congregation.

While their move means our physical and day-to-day support has come to an end, we will continue to uphold the legal support already in process as part of their asylum journey. Please know that your pastors, along with the Task Force that has walked closely with the family, are holding this transition with both tenderness and hope.

We invite your prayers—for the family as they begin a new chapter in Los Angeles, and for our congregation as we hold both grief and gratitude: sorrow in their leaving, and joy in their continued independence and strength. In July, we'll be sharing a letter with more details about how the family is doing and how we can find meaningful closure as a congregation. Until then, thank you for being a part of this sacred journey of accompaniment.

## Lectionary Readings - July 2025

### July 6

Reading  
Gospel

### 4th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 66:10-14  
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

### July 13

Reading  
Gospel

### 5th Sunday after Pentecost

Deuteronomy 30:9-14  
Luke 10:25-37

### July 20

Reading  
Gospel

### 6th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 18:1-10a  
Luke 10:38-42

### July 27

Reading  
Gospel

### 7th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 18:20-32  
Luke 11:1-13

## Coming in August: “Revealed – Hope at the Edge of the World”

A New Sermon Series on the Book of Revelation

Starting in August, we're going to spend five Sundays with a book that many of us have avoided, misunderstood, or just found a little...weird: Revelation. But what if it's not about predicting the end of the world? What if it's about how to live in the world—faithfully, courageously, hopefully—even when things feel like they're falling apart?

This series is an invitation to read Revelation not with fear, but with open eyes and open hands. We'll talk about empire and allegiance, beauty and resistance, and the kind of hope that doesn't ignore what's hard but moves through it.

There'll be a daily devotional to guide us through the month. Plenty of space for honest questions. And (I hope) a fresh look at a strange and stunning text. If you're looking for a thoughtful way to engage the tension between faith and empire, hope and realism, Revelation might have more to say than you've been led to believe. – Pr. Andrew

## Book Study on *The Ungrateful Refugee*

July 14th, 7:00 pm - Atrium

*“Every day of her new life, the refugee is asked to differentiate herself from the opportunist.”* —Dina Nayeri

Join us for a timely and moving book study on *The Ungrateful Refugee* by Dina Nayeri. With honesty and depth, Nayeri weaves her own story of fleeing Iran with the lives of others displaced around the world—revealing what it means to seek safety, navigate suspicion, and search for belonging.

Together we'll explore themes of identity, hospitality, resilience, and faith. This book doesn't offer easy answers—but it does offer an invitation: to listen, reflect, and see with new eyes.

Whether you read often or are picking up your first book in a while, all are welcome. Guided discussions will help us wrestle with complex questions and connect them to our call as people of faith.

There are still a few copies of the book available in the church office for \$18 each.

## OWls (Older, Wiser Lutherans)

Spring is (hopefully) here and on Mondays at 10am we will be walking at the lower harbor/Mattson Park if it's not raining. If the weather is rainy we'll walk at the Dome. Afterwards we go to Provisions for coffee. We walk at different rates and all are welcome. If you're not interested in walking join us for coffee. Questions? please contact Betsy or the church office.

## UP Wild

Sunday, July 27 at 3:30 pm; join us for our Wild Church Service at the Presque Isle Gazebo (*go to [upwild.org](http://upwild.org) for more information*)

## Senior Men's Ministry

Messiah's Senior Men's Ministry is meeting every Friday at 9:00 am in room #202. We meet for about an hour. Please join us on Fridays!

## Summer Generosity Matters

Summer brings a welcome change of pace—time for rest, travel, and renewal. But while many of us shift into vacation mode, the ministry of the church continues in full swing. From worship and music to outreach and care, our shared mission doesn't take a break.

Historically, summer is a time when financial giving dips, simply because routines change. Yet your consistent generosity helps sustain the work we've committed to together. Whether it's supporting local food programs, keeping our building cool and welcoming, or planning for fall ministries, every gift matters.

If you're traveling, consider setting up automatic giving or making a one-time summer offering to keep momentum strong. Your support ensures that we remain a steady presence of hope and hospitality—even when calendars get full and rhythms shift.

Let's continue to be faithful stewards in every season, trusting that God multiplies even the simplest gifts offered in love.

## Passages

### In Sympathy to:

\* Lois Raikko & family upon the passing of her husband David on May 29th. His funeral was held on June 7th at Canale Funeral Home.

### In Celebration of:

\* the birth of Marigold Rae Hunter, daughter of Ethan & Molly Hunter. Marigold was born on June 18th at 9:34 am, weighing in at 6lbs 12 oz & 18 inches long. Mom, Dad & baby are all doing well!

\* Jocelyn Basse becoming a new member of Messiah. Jocelyn is our 5:00 pm worship pianist and has been a part of our staff since the fall of 2023. She has been a wonderful addition to our Saturday service. Welcome to our Messiah family, Jocelyn!

## Devotions Link

[www.prayfaithfully.org](http://www.prayfaithfully.org) is an on-line devotional reading service maintained by the Northern Great Lakes Synod and written by various pastors and laypersons.

**To view our calendar,  
updated daily, please go to  
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## African Visitors from Azania Front

We have received the wonderful news that some of the delegation from our companion church have obtained their visas and will be able to visit us this fall. We are in process of planning the itinerary and special events while they visit.

If you haven't taken time to examine the display with their photos and bios, please take time to do that. We are open to any ideas you may propose to add to their stay.

Each time we exchange visits with fellow Christians from different communities we are blessed by new connections and view points.

Please continue to pray for this endeavor and that US policy doesn't prevent its' happening.  
- - - Judy Quirk

## 2025 Jam

21 years ago Kathy Soltwisch started what she called Jam Ministry. She wanted to give back from God's abundance. She decided to make her jams and give them to the church. The entire income from the sales were to go to the then pastoral discretionary fund to help those less fortunate. Over the years you have generously helped by donating some of your berry picking, sugar and pectin. Most important you have purchased the jam & her Grandma Pickles. Last year Rebecca Ulland joined Grant in keeping Jam ministry going. We hope to continue the effort to help raise money for the Messiah's assistance fund this way. Rhubarb & strawberry jams will soon appear on the shelves. In the mean time take advantage of the reduced price of our 2024 jams.

## A/V Project Update: Let's Keep Going

Thanks to your generosity, we've already raised **\$12,000** toward our **\$30,000** goal to complete the next phase of A/V improvements at Messiah. These upgrades will make our worship more accessible for those with hearing aids, improve sound in shared spaces like the atrium and nursery, refresh Magnuson Hall's system, and strengthen our internet & streaming capacity.

With matching funds approved by Church Council, **every dollar you give is doubled**—bringing us even closer to the finish line.

Let's keep going. Let's finish what we started—together.

## What is Centering Prayer?

Centering prayer is a form of silent prayer that emphasizes resting in God's presence through silence and a sacred word. It involves finding a quiet space, sitting comfortably, and focusing on a chosen word to help maintain stillness and let go of thoughts. The goal is to cultivate a deeper relationship with God through stillness and receptivity. Several members of Messiah lead groups that practice this form of prayer throughout the week as a piece of their faith life. - - Pr. Molly Hunter

## Centering Prayer

I've practiced meditation now for 37 years. I began when I was struggling with the stresses of daily living. Later, I used meditation not only to deal with stress, but with physical issues (no doubt exacerbated by stress). After many years of practice on my own, I decided to attend a Buddhist retreat because those Buddhists sure knew how to meditate and I wanted to make sure I was doing it "right."

Long story short, I make it a priority to attend one retreat per year. At a retreat, the world is placed in the background. My basic need for food and shelter is provided and all the time is spent in prayer.

Prayer has really changed for me. No longer do I pray for specifics, because I have come to learn that what I think I want and what I truly want do not always match. God knows exactly what I want, and what I need to make it in this world, and when I practice 'being still' I allow that wisdom to arrive. Since I am not relying on any other person to tell me how to get what I want, but rather I am trusting in the "Advocate" to guide me, the things that are revealed to me are customized for my own personal growth and also so God's Will can be done.

For some people who practice meditation, blissful spiritual experiences happen, but most sincere spiritual teachers warn that this is not the goal and often becomes a hindrance towards continued spiritual growth. It never has happened for me and I believe this is because if it had, I would be chasing that experience again for the remainder of my life. Instead, I have found that wisdom comes to me in insights, not while I am meditating, but in day-to-day life.. The longer I practice this form of prayer, the more I see that everything that happens in life has the potential to teach me.

Now, in my old age, I recognize the value of being still and welcoming God's Presence. I start to believe that I am loved and accompanied by God in all situations. I realize that God is removing false identities from me, and giving me a new vision of my fellow humans. I understand that it is only Divine Love that ever heals. More and more, with faithful practice, I receive God's grace and then am able to surprise myself when that grace comes forth for me to give to others.



## A Daily Guide for July

### July 1 – Begin Again

Let today be a creative threshold. Ask: What can I co-create with God this month that brings hope or justice into the world?

### July 2 – A Prayer for Justice

Pray: “God of righteousness, stir my heart for what is good and fair. Let my life reflect your justice and mercy.”

### July 3 – Doodle Hope

Take five minutes to sketch, doodle, or scribble whatever comes to mind when you think of hope. Let it be messy and free.

### July 4 – Reflect on Freedom

As you mark this day, reflect on the meaning of true freedom—not just for some, but for all. Pray: “God of liberation, help me use my freedom not for comfort or silence, but for compassion and courage. Teach me to seek justice in love.”

### July 5 – Create Something New

Bake, build, write, plant, or paint. Let your creativity be a quiet resistance to despair.

### July 6 – Pray with Your Hands

Engage in a hands-on task—gardening, kneading dough, folding laundry—as a form of prayer. Let every motion become a sacred rhythm.

### July 7 – Listen Deeply

Seek out a story you don’t usually hear. Listen to a podcast, read a book, or watch a documentary from a different perspective.

### July 8 – Write a Justice Haiku

Write a short poem about justice, mercy, or hope in haiku form. Even a few words can move hearts.

### July 9 – Celebrate Progress

Notice a way the world has changed for the better—big or small. Give thanks for those who made that change possible.

### July 10 – Plant Hope

Plant wildflower seeds or herbs, either in your yard, a pot, or a community space. Trust that small actions bloom.

### July 11 – Name What Breaks Your Heart

Write down a justice issue or need that burdens you. Offer it to God, and ask what small role you might play in healing it.

### July 12 – Joy Is Resistance

Do something joyful today on purpose. Dance, laugh, sing, or play. Let your joy stand as a defiant act of hope.

### July 13 – Create Space

Declutter a corner of your life—your home, schedule, or inbox. Make room for what really matters.

### July 14 – Honor a Changemaker

Reach out to someone who works for justice or healing and thank them. A note or kind word can be fuel for their journey.

### July 15 – Scripture of Creative Justice

Read Amos 5:24 – “But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.” Reflect on how you might be part of that flow.

### July 16 – Gratitude for Mentors

Pray for mentors and role models. Honor those who have shaped you with love and integrity.

### July 17 – Make Art with Children

If you can, spend time creating with a child—coloring, crafting, imagining. See the world through their lens of wonder and hope.

### July 18 – Pray with Movement

Take a walk, stretch, or do yoga as a way of praying. Let your body carry your hopes and petitions.

### July 19 – Pray for Repair

Hope and justice begin with truth. Take time today to learn about a harm—historic or ongoing—in your community or country. Ask God to show you what repair might look like, and how you might be part of it.

### July 20 – Midyear Check-In

We’re halfway through the year. Ask: What’s growing in me? What needs to be pruned or planted?

### July 21 – Bless the Light

Step into the sunlight and bless the warmth. Say, “God, thank you for the light within and around me.”

### July 22 – Create a Visual Prayer

Use images, magazine clippings, or found objects to make a collage prayer. Let your creativity express your longings.

### July 23 – Pay Attention to Injustice

Notice one injustice in your community today. What do you see that others might ignore? Ask God how you might respond.

### July 24 – Bless the Artists

Pray for artists, poets, and creators who help us see truth and beauty. May their work challenge, comfort, and inspire.

### July 25 – Reach Out Across Difference

Connect with someone whose background, politics, or worldview differs from yours. Approach with curiosity and grace.

### July 26 – Sabbath of the Imagination

Take a break from your usual routines and do something playful or spontaneous. Let your soul breathe.

### **July 27 – Hope in Scripture**

Read 2 Corinthians 4:8-9: “We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed... struck down, but not destroyed.” Let this truth steady your heart.

### **July 28 – Invite Collaboration**

Ask someone to join you in a creative or justice-focused act. Hope grows when we don’t go it alone.

### **July 29 – Share a Story**

Tell a story—your own or someone else’s—that reflects resilience, grace, or redemption. Stories keep hope alive.

### **July 30 – Pray for Co-Creation**

Pray: “God of imagination and justice, shape my heart for your work. Help me co-create a world where all can flourish. Amen.”

### **July 31 – Give Thanks for the Journey**

Take time to reflect on how you’ve grown this month. Give thanks for each step, each effort, each breath of hope.

## **Beach Worship Is Back!**

We’re heading back to the beach this summer—and you’re invited. On the first Sundays of July and August, and on Labor Day weekend, our 10:30 worship will take place at Clark Lambros Beach Park.

Mark your calendars: • **July 6** • **August 3** • **August 31**

Bring a chair, bring a friend, and come ready to worship with sand between your toes and Lake Superior as our chancel. There’s nothing quite like singing, praying, and sharing communion with the waves rolling in.

If the weather doesn’t cooperate, we’ll be in the sanctuary like usual. But here’s hoping for sunshine and a light breeze!

## **In Our Prayers**

*Please remember the following people in your prayers at this time:* Lois LaBrecque; Susi Dahlke & family upon the passing of her son, Shawn Longtine; Ellen Symons; Joy Schlais; Lois Raikko & family upon the passing of her husband, Dave; family & friends of Cary Bjork who passed away; Darlene Dreisbach; Ruth Koehler; Sherrie Wagner; Jan Brown; Betsy; Carrie Oslund; John Collins; Myra; Katie; John Kiltinen; Mary Ruman; 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

*You may call the office if you would like a person listed in the prayers. Please obtain permission from the person to list his/her name. We also appreciate updates as to how people listed are progressing. Thank you!*

## **Brookridge Worship**

Our worship service at Brookridge is held on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday at 1:30 pm. Several of our members live there & attend our service regularly. In addition, members of other faith communities join us, making our attendance grow to about 20-25 on a given day. Our service includes hymns, confession, absolution, thanksgiving, psalms, scripture, a homily, Apostles’ Creed and Holy Communion. It is a real worship service.

Worshipping with this congregation is a blessing. The singing is robust, the prayers are from the heart, communion and forgiveness is truly felt and the fellowship is sincere.

## **Support Local Lions Club**

Support the Marquette Lions Club by renting a 3 x 5 American Flag for your front yard for Memorial Day, 4th of July, and Labor Day. Flags will be delivered prior to each holiday and picked up after the event. The minimum donation requested is \$35. If interested please contact Kerry McGinley at 231-250-1092. Make checks payable to Marquette Lions Club. Thank you for your support.

## **Your Prayer Requests at Messiah**

At every Saturday & Sunday worship service, we ask people to fill out a welcome card that is found in the bulletin. The card asks people to put their prayer requests on the back, and these requests are prayed for every Tuesday morning at Messiah’s staff meeting. If you wish to have your name or a loved one’s name read during worship, please call the office or let the pastors or Jen know. We will need to get permission before we include anyone’s name in the worship prayers.

## **Medication Help Available**

If you have questions or concerns regarding your medications, you can contact retired pharmacist, Barb Salmela. Contact the office to get her number. All inquiries are confidential. She can help find discounts for medication, ways to possibly obtain them for free, or suggest less expensive alternatives.

## **Radio Broadcast & Livestream Sponsorship**

We are in need of sponsors for weekly/ongoing radio broadcasts & livestream. If this is something you would like to support, please contact the office & share what you would like written for your sponsorship; it can be in honor or in memory of a loved one.

You can reach us by phone at 225-1119 or email at office@messiahlutheran-mqt.org. The cost of the Radio Broadcast or Livestream sponsorship is \$110.00 each.

## Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice Events

Grief Support Group - Grief can be overwhelming, and navigating it alone can make the pain feel even heavier. A grief support group is a safe, compassionate space where individuals who have experienced loss come together to share, listen, and heal. Guided by trained facilitators, these gatherings offer comfort, understanding, and connection through shared experiences. Whether you've recently lost a loved one or are still coping with grief from the past, attending a support group can help you process your emotions, reduce isolation, and find strength in community. Healing doesn't mean forgetting — it means learning to carry your loss with support beside you. Choose the location that works best for you! Free & open to the public. No affiliation to our hospice is required. Please call 906.225.7760 if you have any questions.

### Gwinn

Forsyth Senior Center  
165 N. Maple St  
July 9th  
2:00 - 3:00 pm

### Marquette

Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice  
914 W. Baraga Ave  
July 31st  
4:00 pm

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  
July 9th from 2:00-3:00 pm  
Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice  
914 W. Baraga Ave

### Telephone Based:

3rd Wednesday of every month  
July 16th from 2:00-3:00 pm  
Call 906.485.5527 to register  
Landline or Cell phone required to participate

### Memory Café: Asahi for all: Mindful Movement for Care & Connection –

Experience the gentle, flowing movements of Asahi, a simple and calming exercise from Finland designed to support balance, relaxation, and overall well-being. This free class is *open to individuals living with dementia and their caregivers*, offering a supportive space to move, connect, and care for both body and mind – together. No experience needed. Just wear comfortable clothing and come as you are. Please RSVP at 906.225.7760 by July 15 or call for more information. Takes place on July 16th from 1:00 - 2:00 pm at Lower Mattson Harbor Park, near playground.

### Memory Café: Welcome Wednesday at the Trillium House – July 23

A friendly, supportive gathering for individuals living with memory loss and their care partners. Enjoy lunch, connect with others, and hear from special guests from the Alzheimer's Association. Plus take a tour of Trillium House & learn more about how they support families and caregivers with their short term respite stays & hospice support in a warm, home-like setting. Please RSVP by July 16th by calling 906.264.5026. This event is scheduled for July 23rd from 12:00 - 1:00 pm at the Trillium House located at 1144 Northland Dr. Marquette.

### Memory Café: Dementia Friendly Movie matinee: 80 for Brady - August 20

Join us for a special Memory Café event designed for individuals living with dementia and their caregivers. Enjoy a free, relaxed screening of 80 for Brady – a lighthearted comedy celebrating friendship and adventure. Free with pre-registration – all ticket fees are generously covered by Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice. Space is limited so please RSVP to 906.225.7760 or outreach@lakesuperiorhospice.org by August 13th. Come share a joyful dementia-friendly movie experience at Thomas Theatre, 1525 Commerce Drive. The movie will play from 1:00 – 2:45 pm on Wednesday, August 20th.

### Powerful Tools for Caregivers – 8/21-9/25 Thursdays

In Person class starting in August at the Negaunee Senior Center! Now is your chance to register for our in-person class which only occurs once a year! This 6-week workshop is designed to help YOU the caregiver and will help you take care of yourself while caring for a parent, spouse, or friend, at home, in a nursing home, or across the country. This workshop will provide YOU the caregiver tools to reduce stress and help you relax, make tough decisions, reduce guilt, anger, and depression, communicate effectively with family members, your doctor, paid help, take care of yourself, and to set goals and problem solve. Thursdays, August 21 – September 25, from 1:00 – 2:30 pm at 410 Jackson St. in Negaunee. Call 2-1-1 to register or register online at [www.upcap.org](http://www.upcap.org) (click on OTHER then EVENTS).

## Subscribe to Messiah's ENewsletter

Messiah publishes an electronic newsletter every Wednesday which is sent to subscribers via email. Receiving the ENews is a good way to stay abreast of church news and activities. If you are interested in subscribing, contact Kathy at Messiah's office. And, you can access the ENews through Messiah's website.

## 10:30 am Worship Volunteers

We are in need of more volunteers for our 10:30 worship service. Specifically ushers and communion assistants. If either of these roles interest you or if you have questions about it; please visit Jen or Kathy in the office and they will let you know what is involved. Thank you!

## July 2025 Worship Volunteers

### Saturday, July 5 - 5:00 pm

Assisting Minister 1 Chris Kotila  
Communion Asst 1 Barb Salmela

### Sunday, July 6 - 8:30 am

Assisting Minister 1 Larry Pagel  
Reader 1 Louise Reichert  
Ushers 2 Bruce Robertson, Sam Elder  
Communion Assts. 4 Beth Krznarich, Larry Pagel, Kathy Maynard,  
Dave Blomquist  
Greeters 2

### Sunday, July 6 - 10:30 am — *Worship at Clark Lambros Beach*

Ushers 2 Laurel Kniskern, Jeanne Groos  
Communion Asst 1

### Saturday, July 12 - 5:00 pm

Assisting Minister 1 Carol Bell  
Communion Asst 1 Barb Salmela

### Sunday, July 13 - 8:30 am

Assisting Minister 1 Chris Harkness  
Reader 1 Larry Pagel  
Ushers 2 Joe and Chris Harkness  
Communion Assts 4 Larry Pagel, Kathy Maynard, Dave Blomquist  
Greeters 2

### Sunday, July 13 - 10:30 am

Assisting Minister 1 Mike Hill  
Reader 1 Nancy Hamlin  
Ushers 2 Fred and Jeanne Groos  
Communion Assts. 4 Kerry McGinley, Karen Burkman, Sandy Lindberg &  
Gayle Mack  
Greeters 2  
Projection Technician 1 Kathy Godec

### Saturday, July 19 - 5:00 pm

Assisting Minister 1 Chris Kotila  
Communion Asst 1 Karen Kimar-Johnson

### Sunday, July 20 - 8:30 am

Assisting Minister 1  
Reader 1  
Ushers 2 Anne Rydholm,  
Communion Assts. 4 Beth Krznarich, Larry Pagel,  
Greeters 2

### Sunday, July 20 - 10:30 am

Assisting Minister 1 Molly Luty  
Reader 1 Mike Hill  
Ushers 2 Dave and Nancy Skoog  
Communion Assts. 4 Sandy Lindberg  
Greeters 2  
Projection Technician 1 Lesley Williams

### Saturday, July 26 - 5:00 pm

Assisting Minister 1 Karen Kimar-Johnson  
Communion Asst 1

### Sunday, July 27 - 8:30 am

Assisting Minister 1  
Reader 1  
Ushers 2  
Communion Assts 3  
Greeters 2 Darlene Martin

### Sunday, July 27 - 10:30 am

Assisting Minister 1  
Reader 1  
Ushers 2  
Communion Assts 3  
Greeters 2  
Projection Technician 1 Abby LaForest

## Messiah's Church Staff:

### Pastoral Staff:

Senior Pastor.....Andrew Plocher  
Associate Pastor.....Molly Hunter

### Support Staff:

Parish Administrator.....Jennifer Dodge  
Administrative Assistant ..Kathy Codec  
Parish Accountant.....Mike Hill  
Financial Secretary.....Anne Rydholm

### Music Staff:

Music/Choir Director.....Sara Parks  
Organist/Pianist.....Kathy Strazzinski  
Bell Choir Director.....Judy Quirk  
Pianist.....Jocelyn Basse

Messiah Lutheran Church  
305 W. Magnetic Street  
Marquette, MI 49855

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