

Messiah

Evangelical Lutheran Church

Answering God's call to love

Messiah ENewsletter for April 22, 2026

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!



Brookridge Worship Today!

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

Upcoming Events – April/May

Apr 22 Brookridge Worship at 1:30 pm
Apr 23 Bible Study at 10:30 am
Apr 24 Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am
Apr 26 Fortune Lake Annual Meeting at 3:00 pm
Apr 27 11-Step Centering Prayer at 5:30 pm
Apr 28 Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
Apr 28 Publicity Team at 1:30 pm
Apr 30 Bible Study at 10:30 am
May 1 Senior Men's Bible Study at 9:00 am
May 4 11-Step Centering Prayer at 5:30 pm
May 5 Centering Prayer at 11:00 am
May 6 Community Meal – Bratwurst & Sides at 6:00 pm in Magnuson Hall
May 6 Stewardship Team at 1:00 pm

New Photo Directory in 2026

We have our second weekend of picture taking in May to get your photo in our new, updated 2026 photo directory! We were able to capture pictures of 123 households for our 2023 photo directory. Let's try to get many more in our 2026 photo directory!

There are sign-up sheets for picture taking on the welcome table. The second weekend to have pictures taken will be Saturday & Sunday, May 16 & 17. Please take time to get your photo taken for this directory. If you can't make any of these days, please send in a picture of you/your family.

This photo directory will be for members and for visitors. If you would like a copy of your family picture for yourself, we can give that to you at no charge.

Thank you! Jen Dodge, Parish Administrator & Jason Parks, Photographer

OWLs Plan Trip to DeVos Art Museum – April 23

The OWLs are going to the NMU DeVos Art Museum on Thursday, April 23rd at 1:00 pm. Here you will see the annual "Senior Exhibit" of the NMU School of Art and Design. Parking is available at the Museum. [****This is a free activity**]. If you have questions about these activities, please contact the church office at 225-1119.

Fortune Lake Annual Meeting – April 26

We'll gather on Sunday, April 26 at 2:00 pm CENTRAL (3:00 pm Eastern) in the Chapel to

celebrate another incredible year of ministry, hear updates from various parts of our ministry, and elect new members to our Board of Directors.

Per our bylaws “Each Association Member Congregation may have up to 3 voting members, including no more than 2 lay people. The third vote may come from the congregation’s pastor. Each Association member congregation shall select its members for this Association by an appropriate method of their choosing.”

Messiah’s Fortune Lake delegates are Mike Davis and Kathy Godec.

Call 906 214-2267 or email officemanager@fortunelake.org with questions. We look forward to seeing you there!

Excess Books in Pr. Andrew’s Office

There are extra books that Pr. Andrew left in his office. If you would like to look at them and take what interests you, please feel free to do so. **We will donate what is left by Thursday, April 30th.**

World Hunger Needs Continue

Any contributions made to the Lenten Hunger Appeal by May 15, will be brought to the Synod Assembly as our congregational offering. Please be generous, the needs of the hungry continue. Contributions to this appeal can be made at any time of the year, of course, but this is our yearly effort for the Synod Event.

[Here is an appropriate table prayer for these times:](#)

“Lord, to those who are hungry, grant food to eat; to those who have food, grant a hunger for justice.” AMEN. (Shared by Pastor Dave Van Kley after a trip to Colombia)

Save the Date: Vacation Bible School 2026

Mark your calendars—Vacation Bible School is coming to Messiah!

June 22–26, 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm (Please note the NEW afternoon time!)

This summer we’ll be using Shine Curriculum’s #kidsconnect, a creative and justice-centered VBS experience that helps kids explore how we are connected—to God, to one another, and to the world around us. Through storytelling, music, art, movement, and hands-on activities, kids will discover how faith calls us into community, compassion, and courageous love.

Our afternoon schedule is a change from previous years, so be sure to make note of the 1:00–4:00 pm time frame. We hope this new time will make VBS accessible for even more families!

VBS at Messiah is a joyful, inclusive space where all children are welcomed, celebrated, and invited to grow in faith. Whether your family is part of Messiah or new to our community, there is room for you.

Please check the church website for registration information!

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.

Personal Care Kits

Donations are currently being collected for personal care kits. These kits are sent by Lutheran World Relief where needed around the world. Donations can be brought to the church & will be assembled by Ruth Circle.

Items needed **most** for each kit include:

- 1 comb, large toothed preferred
- 1 metal nail clipper
- 2 bath size bars of soap

Other items needed are: 1 bath size towel, dark color preferred
1 toothbrush, adult size in original packaging

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!

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!

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 Jane Phillips for more information.

A Daily Guide for April 2026

April 22 – Speak Hope

In one conversation today, choose hope instead of complaint. Model it for younger ears.

April 23 – Repair

Mend clothing, glue something broken, or fix a loose hinge. Repairing teaches that broken does not mean finished.

April 24 – Show Up

Attend worship in person or online. Call someone who cannot attend. Make sure no one participates alone if it can be helped.

Prayer: *God of community, keep us woven together. Amen.*

April 25 – Name Three Blessings

At the end of the day, name three ordinary gifts. Write them down if you live alone. If you are with others, share them aloud — no repeats allowed.

April 26 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

Read Psalm 23

Talk about what it means to be guided and cared for. Ask: Who helps guide you? Who do you help guide?

Prayer: *Good Shepherd, lead us and make us gentle leaders too. Amen.*

April 27 – Be a Shepherd

Check on someone who may feel alone. Invite a child to make the call with you.

April 28 – Practice Gratitude in Writing

Send a handwritten note — at any age.

April 29 – Sit in Quiet

Two minutes is enough. Alone or with others, quiet teaches listening.

April 30 – Look Back

Where did you see life this month? In laughter, in thawing ground, in courage, in forgiveness? Share your answer with someone of a different generation.

Prayer: *God of resurrection, thank you for every small sign of life among us. Amen.*

Community Meal Cook Team

We are in need of one more cook team to make our community meal program a success.

Have you ever considered doing this? Do you have questions regarding our community meals? If so, please do not hesitate to inquire in the office. You can cook with a friend or two or you and your spouse/partner could cook... the options are endless. Please consider participating in this ministry!

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. -

Centering Prayer

"Meditation once a day is maintenance, twice a day is transformational." This quote has stuck with me even though I don't remember where it comes from.

Before covid in 2020, I joined an early morning centering prayer zoom meeting out of Minneapolis, Minnesota. At the beginning of 2026, I felt my practice needed to have a more local community connection. So, I decided to attend a second sit with other meditation groups in the area and begin advertising for the Monday, 5:30pm 12 step spirituality sit at Messiah. By the last week of January, I was going to afternoon meditation practices and got the Messiah Monday meet advertised in the Marquette Monthly Support Groups section. I did it! I was on top of the world with my achievement. I reached my goal and I was off to be transformed.

The day after that extravagant thought, I could not get out of bed. I could not eat. I ended up spending the month of February with mono. I did not even have the energy to sit quietly in morning meditation. I did not make it back to the community meditations or Mondays meditation at Messiah that I had advertised. I don't even know if anyone showed up and was disappointed to find an empty room. I had made plans and God laughed. And like Sisyphus, I start again. That is the practice. Everyday a new day, a new start. I plan on being in room 202 Monday at 5:30 pm to sit in meditation if you care to join me. Nancy Hamlin leads Centering Prayer on Tuesdays @ 11:00 am.

Laura Petrie

"There is not a moment in which God does not present Godself under the cover of some pain to be endured, of some consolation to be enjoyed, or of some duty to be performed. All that takes place within us, around us, or through us, contains and conceals God's divine action." -

Jean-Pierre de Caussade, Abandonment to Divine Providence

- - - Laura Petrie

OWLs (Older, Wiser Lutherans)

Every Monday at 10:00 am The OWLs walk at the Dome. After their walk, they go to Provisions for coffee. They walk at different rates, and all are welcome. If you're not interested in walking, join us for coffee. If you have any questions, please contact Betsy Little 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:

***April** – *Laundry Soap, Dish Soap, Bar Soap*

***May** – *Diapers size 3-6 and Baby Wipes*

Devotions Link

<https://nglsynod.org/prayfaithfully/> is an on-line devotional reading service maintained by the Northern Great Lakes Synod and written by various pastors and laypersons.

Messiah Birthdays

Apr 22	Cathy Seblonka
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	Alexandra Geschwindt, Maximillian 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

In the Hospital

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

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.

In Our Prayers

Please remember the following people in your prayers at this time: Faith Downs; Vicki Wicklund; Fred Maynard; Laura Goodney; Karen Sundeen; Linda Ruohoniemi; Charlie Blake; Rick; Jan Brown; Sam Elder; Doug Morton; Jackie Greising; Art Ortlieb; Ruth Koehler; Sherrie Wagner; Betsy; Carrie Oslund; John Collins; Katie; Mary Ruman; Jeremy; Sally Olson; Carol Bell; Dorothy; Karen; Rose Collins; Don Hillegas; Grant; Kai Dolan; Samantha; Ted; Bruce Lindberg; Grace Chien; Jamie; Donna; Brian; Ben; Evelyn; Akira Carlson; Karen Eldevick; Grace; Shannon; Marshall Lovan Magnuson; Peter; Shawn; Mae Desonia; Lisa Douros; Wayne Hanmer; Judy Donckers; Sierra; Charlene Avery

Pastor on Call:

Pastor Steven Solberg is on call April 22-29

Worship Volunteers

Saturday, April 25 – 5:00 pm in atrium

Assisting Minister: Chris Kotila

Communion Assistant: Barb Maszlewski

Provide Refreshments: **Need a volunteer.**

Sunday, April 26 -- 8:30 am in sanctuary, on 101.9 FM, Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister: Brenda Blett
Reader: Chris Harkness
Ushers: Joe and Chris Harkness
Communion Assistants: Beth Krznarich, Marina Shinkarenko, Kathy Maynard, Terry Langenberg
Greeters: Marina Shinkarenko, Gail Edgar

Nursery: Maddie Dykema
Provide Refreshments: Penny Streeter and Sherry Labbe

Sunday, April 26 --10:30 am in sanctuary, on Vimeo/Facebook

Assisting Minister: Marina Shinkarenko
Reader: Nancy Hamlin
Ushers: Paula Diedrich, Amy Diedrich
Communion Assistants: Kerry McGinley, Karen Burkman, Marina Shinkarenko, Gayle Van Osdol
Greeters: Marina Shinkarenko, Kayleigh Beaudoin
Projection Technician: Kathy Godec

Nursery: Sarah Bleckiner
Flower Delivery: Gayle Van Osdol

10:30 am Worship Volunteers

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

Radio Broadcast & Livestream Sponsorship

We need 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 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@messiahlutheranmqt.org. The cost of the Radio Broadcast or Livestream sponsorship is \$110.00 each.

Announcements and Classified Ads

Swimming Suffragettes – April 22

Swimming Suffragettes: The Evolution & Revolution in Women's Bathing Suits will be presented on Wednesday, April 22 at 5:30 pm at the Marquette Regional History Center (145 W Spring St.). This is a fundraiser for the League of Women Voters of Marquette County. Carrie Moon-Dupree, Director of Development for the League of Women Voters of Michigan, showcases her wonderful collection of vintage to modern swimwear, tracing the style changes as a mirror of the changing history of women's rights in the United States. There will be light snacks and mocktails. Tickets are \$45 each (\$5 more at the door or over the phone).

Magnificent Mozart Concert – April 25-26

The Marquette Choral Society will present Magnificent Mozart on Saturday, April 25 at 7:30 pm and on Sunday, April 26 at 3:00 pm. Both concerts will be in Kaufman Auditorium. Soloists are Keri Lee Pierson, Erin Sura, Tony Beacco, and Alexander Romero Wilson. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. Tickets can be purchased at nmu.edu/tickets.

Negaunee Male Chorus Concert – May 2

The Negaunee Male Chorus will present "Sing Your Way Home" on Saturday, May 2 at 7:00 pm in the W.C. Peterson Auditorium (Ishpeming High School). Tickets are \$15.00 for adults and free for those aged 17 and under (with an adult). Ticket outlets are Super One Foods, Negaunee; Country Village Ace, Ishpeming; Jubilee Foods, Ishpeming; TruNorth Credit Union, Ishpeming; or any Male Chorus member.

Habitat for Humanity – Lunches Needed

Habitat for Humanity is asking for help providing lunches to their volunteers for the 2026 building season. They need anywhere between 4 to 25 lunches on any given day. They always give advance notice to lunch donors regarding the number of lunches needed. You can volunteer in several ways. Call 906 228-3578 or 906 235-4925. . Select a date online via <https://www.yoopersunited.com/agency/detail/MCHFH>. Email volunteers@mqthabitat.org. Visit the office at 2354 US 41 South in Marquette.

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.

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.

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.

Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice

[Drop-in Grief Support: Marquette](#) – *April 22 at 4:00 pm* Grief doesn't follow a schedule - and neither do we. Our drop-in grief support group offers a safe, welcoming space for anyone navigating the loss of a loved one. Join us to share, listen, or simply be among others who understand. No registration required. Come as you are when you need it most. Takes place on the 4th Wednesday of every month. No registration or affiliation to our hospice is required. 914 W. Baraga Ave.

[You Don't Have to Grieve Alone](#) - Join our community grief support series. The series will be held every other Thursday from April 2 - May 14. The program offers a supportive environment to learn about the grief process, share experiences, and explore healthy coping strategies. The series is free & open to the community. To learn more or register, call 906-225-7760. 10:30 -11:30 am.

[Caregiver Support Groups Marquette](#) – *April 8 from 2:00 – 3:00 pm* 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. Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice Office, 914 W. Baraga Ave.

[Telephone Based Caregiver Support Group](#): *April 15 from 2:00 – 3:00 pm* 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 our new phone-based support group. For family, friends, and other caregivers who are caring for a person with a chronic illness or disability. This group is a

great opportunity for caregivers who are unable to leave the person they are caring for. Please call Jamie Barbieri at 906.225.7760.

Take Control of Your Future: Advance Directives Made Simple: In recognition of National Advance Directive Month, join us for an informative presentation about the importance of making your healthcare wishes known. Learn what an advance directive is, why it matters, and how it helps ensure your voice is heard if you are unable to speak for yourself. Everyone who attends will receive a free copy of the Five Wishes, an easy-to-understand advance directive that helps guide conversations about medical, personal, and emotional wishes. This presentation will help you take an important step toward peace of mind for yourself and your loved ones.

Two Locations:

Marquette Senior Center Wednesday, April 29 2:00 - 3:00 pm

Gwinn Senior Center Monday, April 20 1:00 - 2:00 pm

Call Jamie Barbieri at 906.225.7760 or email Outreach@lakesuperiorhospice.org for more information.

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

Interim Associate Pastor – Steven Solberg

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 and Jon Banitt

Pianists – Jacob Schmeltzer and Daniel Cipriano