

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

10:30 am livestream on Facebook

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



April 26, 2026

Fourth Sunday of Easter

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

* Jane Taube from Sten & family

Radio: To the Glory of God & In Honor of & In Loving Memory of...

* Loved ones from Terry Keuscher

Livestream: To the Glory of God...

* from our Messiah family

THE WELCOME

In these and similar words, Pastor Andrew has regularly extended you an invitation into Christ's Holy Communion:

The risen Christ kept showing up at meetings – on the road to Emmaus, on the shore of the sea, in the upper room with bread and a blessing.

The table was where they knew him. It still is.

So, come! You who are certain and you who are still working it out. You who feel the resurrection in your bones and you who are holding it at arm's length, waiting to see.

Christ sets the table. Christ does the inviting. Come. For you are welcome here.

The grace filled welcome of Christ has been – and still is! – Messiah's greatest gift to offer the world... and each other. I have seen you live this, and I praise God for you.

WELCOME CHALLENGED

Let's face it: welcome can sound so easy, but – O Lord! – it can be so challenging. Each of our stories, perspectives, personalities, and deeply held convictions can differ from those of our neighbors. Even our "facts" can differ. Life with each other can be challenging.

Pause there, please. You don't have to flee from the confusion, discomfort, or even the pain. The risen Christ meets you right here. Christ keeps showing up – on the road to Emmaus, on the shore of the sea, in the upper room... and yes, in Messiah's scatterings and gatherings, even when it's not easy being church together.

With the presence and promise of our Messiah – the crucified, risen, and ascended Lord Jesus Christ – we are still together the body of Christ. You still are Messiah Lutheran Church.

THE WORK OF WELCOME

As you grieve Pastor Andrew's resignation, God invites you – as God always does! – to use this transitional space toward growth and maturity in Christ, inviting you deeper into "the full stature of Christ" (Eph. 4:13).

The gifted body of Christ

Council has entered into an agreement with me to be your parttime interim pastor for the foreseeable future (20 hours/week plus pulpit supply 1-2 week-ends/month). Bishop Katherine Finegan and Assistant to the Bishop Pastor Sharolyn Swenson will walk with us in synod resourcing. Bishop Finegan faithfully pursues a fulltime intentional interim pastor but be aware there are no guarantees of such a person in our future.

Yet Messiah – even now! – lacks nothing to receive, share, and extend the welcome of Christ to each other and the world. Consider the gifts of the Holy Spirit and the fruit of the Holy Spirit by which we use those gifts.

"Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." (1 Cor. 12:4-7)

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control." (Gal. 5:22-23)

Dear ones, *you* are empowered by God to do the necessary work of being Messiah Lutheran Church right now.

Intentional conversations with God and one another

Council will identify, invite, and install six people (beyond council leadership) as Messiah's Transition Team. The team will listen well to God, our congregation, and our community, reflecting back to us, so that we might do the same. Council will identify six persons who are:

- Active (communing and contributing) voting members
- Reflective of the congregation's diversity (gender, age, race, length of membership)
- Faithful in time, desire, and ability for the task
- Open and available to listen to God, congregation, and community
- Growing in spiritual practice and discipline
- Trusted, mature, discerning, and confidential
- Not prone to dominating conversation or pushing a singular agenda

They will help us do our work, but it will be our work to do in Christ.

(continued on page 5)

Messiah Calendar

Monday, April 27

Kindergarten Screening
10:00 am OWLs Walk
5:30 pm 11-Step Centering Prayer
7:00 pm AA

Tuesday, April 28

Kindergarten Screening
11:00 am Staff Meeting
11:00 am Centering Prayer
1:00 pm Knotty Knitters
1:00 pm Publicity Team
5:30 pm Superior Handbells
7:00 pm Male Chorus Rehearsal

Wednesday, April 29

Kindergarten Screening
5:00 pm Senior Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 30

Kindergarten Screening
10:30 am Koinonia Bible Study

Friday, May 1

9:00 am Senior Men's Bible Study

Saturday, May 2

5:00 pm Worship

Sunday, May 3

8:00 am Senior Choir Rehearsal
8:30 am Worship-Traditional
10:30 am Worship-Contemporary
3:00 pm Dinner & Drumming for
Youth at Bethel Lutheran
in Ishpeming

In The Hospital

Please inform the church office when you are hospitalized. Pr. Steve Solberg 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. Steve Solberg: May 1-31

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for articles to be included in our [June newsletter](#) is **Monday, May 18, 2026**.

Messiah's Newsletter

April 26, 2026
Volume 108, Issue 5

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

(continued from page 3)

Making time for grief, self-reflection, and community support, before rushing to find a solution or replacement promotes healing and new growth. This is a season of sacred listening to God, self, and those around you.

"Walking Together in Times of Transition" (NGLS)

MY ROLE IN THIS SEASON

I won't pretend that 20 hours/week can compensate for the loss of two full time pastors. Yet our trust is in the One who multiplied five loaves and two fish, feeding thousands, and who continues to multiply whatever we offer in gratitude. Christ still welcomes us to the enough – more than enough – at his table.

My effort is not to replace Pastor Andrew nor Pastor Molly, but to walk with you in pastoral encouragement as together we rediscover the faithful presence of God in this moment. Consider me a steward of the pastoral office in your midst.

Need to talk, question, vent, process, grieve, celebrate, or anything else in this transitional space? It would be my privilege to meet with you. Council members are also available.

My dear sisters and brothers, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

In Christ,

Pastor Steve Solberg

Messiah Interim Pastor

CONTACT

Office hours: Tuesdays–Thursdays, 11 am–2 pm (Other times can be arranged.)

Or contact the church office, and I'll be back in touch with you as soon as I can.

Community Meal - May 7

Our next community meal will be on Wednesday, May 7th at 6:00 pm in Magnuson Hall. The meal will be bratwurst, beans, coleslaw & ice cream sandwiches for dessert. A vegetarian option will be available. Please join us for a warm meal on Wednesday, 5/7 at 6:00 pm. We look forward to it!

Messiah's Birthdays - May 2026

Friday 1	Alex Geschwindt, Max Geschwindt, Carol Pfannenstiel
Saturday 2	Paul Carstens, Emmett Claybaker
Sunday 3	No birthdays
Monday 4	Emily Fitzpatrick, Delaney Parks
Tuesday 5	Liam Boehlke
Wednesday 6	Sarah Balding, John Dahlke, Joan Hill, Peter Kotila, Levin MacIvor-Andersen
Thursday 7	Jeff Olson, Deb Rolig, Boli Soderberg
Friday 8	Addie Davis, Thomas Matthews, Clare Sauer
Saturday 9	Jon Hill
Sunday 10	Mark Sellers
Monday 11	Susan Hewitt
Tuesday 12	Sharon Arntsen
Wednesday 13	Madison Balding
Thursday 14	Trici Busick, Chris Kotila, Scott Krah
Friday 15	John Collins
Saturday 16	No birthdays
Sunday 17	Tom Bronken, Josh MacIvor-Andersen, Owen Stevens
Monday 18	Dale Alanko
Tuesday 19	Karen Oslund, Nancy Raisanen, Dave Skoog
Wednesday 20	Elmer Moisiso, Josh Sundman
Thursday 21	Ralph Christensen, Ron Hill
Friday 22	Barb Salmela
Saturday 23	John VanDreel
Sunday 24	Maria Mendini-Fuller, Eliza Rector
Monday 25	Liam Ulland-Joy
Tuesday 26	No birthdays
Wednesday 27	Laura Goodney
Thursday 28	Miriam Mattson, Michael Peterson

Friday 29 Joe Blemberg

Saturday 30 No birthdays

Sunday 31 Conrad Jewett, Jeannie Wagner

Happy Anniversary!

Happy Anniversary to the following couples in May:

Joseph & Sandy MacPhee	May 4
Paul & Mary Beth Carstens	May 10
Michael & Jenny Broadway	May 16
Conrad & Renee Jewett	May 20
Elmer & Marie Moisiso	May 20
Jim & Carrie Ketchem	May 21
John & Rose Collins	May 22
David Echelbarger & Christine	
Thomas-Echelbarger	May 25
Barry & Ann Johnson	May 26
David Johnson & Karen	
Kimar-Johnson	May 26
Bruce & Sandy Lindberg	May 26
Daniel & Anna Rector	May 27
Andrew Sander & Leslie Dellangelo	May 29

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 four 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

Hildegarde Johnson Music Scholarship 2026

Messiah has awarded a Music Scholarship to Camden Fitzpatrick. These funds will help with his piano lessons. Congratulations Camden!

In the coming months, Camden will be invited to share his piano playing at one of our services. We look forward to hearing your music, Camden.

Council Highlights

Greetings to our Messiah family from your Church Council. The council meets the third Wednesday of every month, at 6:30 pm in room 202. Meetings are open to all congregation members.

In the past month, we have made significant progress towards our future. We approved an interim pastoral agreement with Pastor Solberg to provide twenty hours of pastoral service per week until an Intentional Interim Pastor is named. Bishop Finegan continues to search for an interim and we remain hopeful for her rapid success.

Until then, we will be relying on a number of people to lead worship services. To date, we have commitments for every weekend through June from Pr. Steve, Bp. Finegan, Rev. Sharolyn Swenson, and Messiah members David Echelbarger, Allan Johnson, and Jon Magnuson. In addition, Rev. Elizabeth Hazel from Park Falls, WI will lead services the weekend of May 23/24, and we hope to have Rev. Eugene Cho from Bread for the World in Washington D.C. preach at least one Sunday service when he visits in mid-June. One other visiting pastor has agreed to serve after June; we have yet to establish date(s) for his visits.

A review of Messiah's "financial health" is underway. We are fairly confident that no major changes to the way our finances are managed will be suggested.

And we have a large number of members volunteering to serve on the Transition Team. We will be meeting this month with Rev. Swenson to learn more about the process. And then the tough work begins: selecting the members of the team (six is recommended), providing them "training" and direction, and maintaining a "hands off" oversight of their progress.

Peace be with you all,

Mark Petrie,

Council President

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)

Lectionary Readings - May 2026

May 3

First Reading
Gospel

5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60
John 14:1-14

May 10

First Reading
Gospel

6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 17:22-31
John 14:15-21

May 17

First Reading
Gospel

7th Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:6-14
John 17:1-11

May 24

First Reading
Gospel

Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21
John 20:19-23

May 31

First Reading
Gospel

The Holy Trinity

Genesis 1:1—2:4a
Matthew 28:16-20

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.

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!

Brookridge Worship - May 27

Messiah has a worship service on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 1:30 pm. Our next worship at Brookridge will be on Wednesday, May 27th at 1:30 pm. Please join us for this worship service if you are able.

Messiah's Jam Ministry

The snow is finally starting to melt and the trees and bushes are slowly showing their spring colors. What does that mean? It's time to start thinking about making JAM!! Grant and Kathy Soltwisch started Messiah's jam ministry over 20 years ago to support the Pastor's assistance fund. Grant retired at the end of last year's jam season and has turned it over to Rebecca Ulland. But while Grant & Kathy were a highly-productive team, Rebecca is all alone in this endeavor so I'm reaching out to you to find out if you, YES YOU, would like to be a part of the jam ministry. There are all levels of support, from donating bags of sugar, to picking or supplying berries and other fruit. However, the biggest need is for more jam-makers. Are you an expert and want to share what you have with our community? Have you ever thought about making jam but don't know where to start? In both cases, YOU ARE WELCOME to join the jam ministry. I love to teach jam-making and would be happy to help you get started. Please contact me if you're interested in supporting Messiah's Jam Ministry. All support is welcome! Thank you! Rebecca Ulland (*please reach out to the office to get Rebecca's contact info*)

UP Wild Event

Friday, May 15 - Sunday, May 17: Endangered Species Art Installation

The art installation of crosses (carrying the names of animals that have gone extinct) will be on display outside at The Episcopal Diocese of Northern Michigan, 131 E. Ridge St, Marquette, MI. The public is invited to stop by and choose an endangered animal that is up for "spiritual adoption" along with a prayer packet to take home and share with family and friends.

Pastor Steve Invites You...

To meet WEDNESDAYS at NOON for "DWELLING IN THE WORD," starting May 6. Bring your lunch, if you wish, to Messiah's Atrium and dwell in God's Word with fellow disciples and seekers. Pastor Steve is reserving the whole Noon hour but come for the time & times you're able. Together we'll reflect using the story of God's people led by the Holy Spirit in Acts.

What is "Dwelling in the Word"? It is a simple, prayerful practice many congregations use to listen more deeply to Scripture and to one another. A short passage is read aloud slowly – usually more than once – with time for quiet reflection. Participants are invited to notice a word or phrase that stands out and to share what they hear God stirring in them. Over time, this shared listening helps us grow in trust, imagination, and clarity about where the Spirit may be leading next.

Interested, but can't make this day and time? Please contact the church office.

Devotions Link

www.prayfaithfully.org is an on-line devotional reading service maintained by the Northern Great Lakes Synod and written by various pastors and laypersons.

Passages

Congratulations to:

- * Luke Rector & Nora Rasmussen on receiving their First Communion on Sunday, May 3th.
- * Camden Fitzpatrick on being a recipient of the Hildegarde Johnson Music Scholarship in 2026. Congratulations Camden!
- * Sarah Bleckiner, Elsie Busick, Devin Fortin & Esme Ulland-Joy upon graduation from high school. This celebration will be on Sunday, May 31st at our 10:30 am worship service.

Upcoming Events in May

May 6	Community Meal at 6:00 pm in Magnuson Hall
May 7	Building & Grounds Team Meeting at 5:00 pm
May 8	Tom & Kathy Osier's funeral at Messiah
May 10	Mother's Day
May 17	Last day of Sunday School
May 20	Council meeting at 6:30 pm
May 25	Memorial Day - church office closed
May 26	Publicity Team Meeting at 1:30 pm
May 27	Brookridge Worship at Brookridge Heights at 1:30 pm
May 27	Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at 6:00 pm
May 31	Recognize High School Seniors in our church family

Building & Grounds Team

Messiah's Building & Grounds Team will be meeting on Thursday, May 7th at 5:00 pm. At this meeting, the team will be discussing spring clean up around the church & parking lot clean-up/re-paint lines, etc. We will set two different dates for these two events. When the date(s) are selected, we will be sure to announce them. If you are interested in helping, please contact the church office.

Lions Club Fundraiser

The Marquette Lions Club is asking for your support with our annual Flag Rental Fundraiser. For a donation of \$35 or more the Marquette Lions will place a flag in your front yard over the summer holidays. Flags will be put out before Memorial Day weekend, 4th of July, and Labor Day weekend, and then picked up shortly after each holiday. All proceeds will be used for support of community needs involving childhood cancer, vision, and hunger. If you are interested in supporting our club, please call or text Lion Kerry McGinley at 231-250-1092.

**To view our calendar,
updated daily, please go to
messiahlutheranmqt.org**

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Youth News

CONFIRMATION

Our confirmation ministry is being lived out together with partner congregations of our Northern Great Lakes Synod Conference 8. Each month our confirmands gather with youth from these partners at our various church sites. The final confirmation gathering for this school year will be Saturday, May 9th (9:00 am – Noon) at Bethel Lutheran Church in Ishpeming.

What gift these young people are to us! Thank you for your support and encouragement of each one, currently Kayleigh Beaudoin, Evan Busick, Adelyn Davis, Brooklyn Fortin, William Kaurala, Violet Rector, Bronce Reece, Sophie Sander, and Emma Ziegler.

Confirmation ministry is a three year journey in which young people explore the basics of Christian faith, Scripture, and Lutheran identity, supported by caring adults and the life of the congregation. Its purpose is to help students grow in trust in God, ask real questions, and prepare to affirm their baptism in community.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

- DINNER & DRUMMING – Sunday, May 3rd (3:00 – 5:00 pm) at Bethel Lutheran Church, Ishpeming.
- BOWLING & PIZZA – Sunday, June 7th (4:00 – 6:00 pm) at River Rock Lanes in Ishpeming (1011 North Rd). A \$5 donation is requested.

DID YOU KNOW?

In July around 25 young people & adults from around our synod will be going to North Carolina to help with the ongoing work of Hurricane Helene cleanup. This includes one of Messiah's youth, Adelyn Davis. Thank you for your support of Adelyn and the others venturing out in service.

The group will arrive at their NC base camp on a Sunday afternoon and do some team building and learning about the disaster areas in which they will be serving. Monday through Wednesday will be spent at sites in need of recovery work, in partnership with Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) Carolinas. All tools and supplies will be provided by LDR Carolinas. Each day will end back at camp with a time to debrief the day and worship together. On Thursday, the group will have an Adventure Day. The week ends with worship on Friday before departing.

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.

What is Centering Prayer?

Centering prayer is a form of silent prayer that emphasizes resting in God's presence through silence & 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 during the week as a piece of their faith life.

Centering Prayer

OPEN MIND, OPEN HEART by *Thomas Keating—Centering prayer*

The chief thing that separates us from God is the thought that we are separated from Him. We hesitate to believe this until personal experience gives us the confidence to believe in it. This involves the gradual development of intimacy with God. God constantly speaks to us through each other as well as from within. The interior experience of God's presence activates our capacity to perceive Him in everything else—in people, in events, in nature. We may enjoy union with God in any experience of the external senses as well as in prayer.

God's presence is available at every moment, but we have a giant obstacle in ourselves—our world view. It needs to be exchanged for the mind of Christ, for His world view. The mind of Christ is ours through faith...to take possession of it requires a discipline that develops the sensitivity to hear Christ's invitation: Behold I stand at the door and knock; if anyone opens I will come in and sup with him and he with me. (Revelations 3:20)

Our ordinary preoccupations involve unconscious value systems. Some thoughts are attractive to us because we have an attachment to them springing from the emotional programming of our early childhood. When such thoughts go by, all our lights start flashing because of our heavy emotional investment in the values that they stimulate or threaten. By training ourselves to let go of every thought, we gradually develop freedom from our attachments and compulsions.

Centering prayer is not just sustained attention to a special word or image or to one's breathing, but the surrender of one's whole being to God. Centering prayer is not a relaxation exercise although it may bring relaxation. It is the exercise of our personal relationship with God.

When the presence of God emerges from our inmost being into our faculties, whether we walk down the street or drink a cup of soup, divine life is pouring into the world. The effectiveness of every action depends on the source from which it springs. If it is coming out of the false self, it is severely limited. If it is coming out of a person who is immersed in God, it is extremely effective. The contemplative state brings Christ into the world.

Opportunities to practice centering prayer: Here at Messiah (see calendar) and also online via Zoom at www.meditationchapel.org or online with Minnesota Contemplative Outreach.

Global Fair Trade Market

In 2023 & 2024, members of the Global Mission Team hosted a Fair Trade Market in November, here at Messiah. This Market is a sustainable way to directly support artisans from around the world, some of whom our congregation has cultivated direct relationships. The shopping experience supplies you with unique gift items, funds fair-trade communities, and highlights the beliefs of Messiah Lutheran within the Marquette community. However, orchestrating the logistics of the Market requires volunteers from our church. We are currently evaluating the feasibility of continuing with the Fair Trade Market. Volunteers are needed to order and label items, assist with the market budget, and help on market day with set-up, take-down, and cashier stations. If you have any interest in volunteering with the Market, please contact the church office.

Mark Your Calendars

VBS is happening this year Monday, June 22 thru Friday, June 26th from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm!!

(Note afternoon schedule) We will learn about being CONNECTED to our friends, God, our family and our world. Bring your friends, it will be a fun time!!

Registration forms on line or outside church office. Volunteers are needed, this is a fun time for all!! Any questions, please contact Mary Beth Carstens or Emma thru the church office.

ALSO... Plans are underway for Fall Sunday School... and 6th grade helpers are always welcome!

First Communion

Nora Rasmussen and Luke Rector will each receive their First Communion on Sunday, May 3rd. Luke will participate at the 8:30 am worship service and Nora will participate at the 10:30 am worship service. Please congratulate them when you see them.

High School Seniors

We would like to congratulate the following seniors upon their graduation at the end of May: Sarah Bleckiner, Elsie Busick, Devin Fortin & Esme Ulland-Joy. We will be celebrating this achievement on Sunday, May 31st at our 10:30 am worship service. We will enjoy a cake in their honor at our coffee hour that morning starting just after 9:30 am. Please join us in the celebration of our graduates.

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.

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.

May Diapers size 3-6 & Baby Wipes

June Razors (male/female)

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!

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!

In Our Prayers

Please remember the following people in your prayers at this time: Those who seek help from our financial assistance program; Faith Downs; Vicki Wicklund; Fred Maynard; Karen Sundeen; Linda Ruohoniemi; Charlie Blake; Rick; Jan Brown; Sam Elder; Doug Morton; Jackie Greising; Al Ortlieb; Ruth Koehler; Sherrie Wagner; Betsy; Carrie Oslund; John & Rose Collins; Katie; Mary Ruman; Jeremy; Sally Olson; Carol Bell; Dorothy; Karen; 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

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!

Fortune Lake News

Fortune Lake Association Annual Meeting - Sunday, 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!

New Camp Intern

Great News!! We are thrilled to introduce to you our new Camp Intern, Carolyn Bruchman! **Here is what she has to say:**

Hello All! My name is Carolyn Bruchman and I am so excited to be stepping into the role of Camp Intern! I am originally from Laurium, MI. I've served on summer staff twice before, once as a Cabin Leader and last summer as Vagland Coordinator. Fortune Lake is a place where God moves powerfully in all seasons of the year, and I am thankful to be seeing another side to this ministry! I'm pursuing a degree in Conservation Biology at Central Michigan University (Fire Up Chips!) and am passionate about the outdoors, community, music, and camp! I arrived early last week and will be here until the first couple weeks of August. I am most excited to see some familiar faces, meet a lot of new ones, and see all the different ways that God shines through our work here at camp and the strong, far-reaching community it creates. I have already been a grateful recipient of the outpouring of love that this place creates and am so ready to add to it in any way I can!

Grace and Peace!

Please join us in sharing a warm Fortune Lake welcome with Carolyn!

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.

Nick's Run for Recovery

Dear Messiah Lutheran community,

Every family has a story. Substance use disorder and mental illness impact almost all of us, in many different ways. Coming together to share stories, resources and support can help.

If you have family members or loved ones affected by addiction and/or mental illness, if you are in recovery or would like to be in recovery from substance use, or just want to support the community: **Please join Superior Connections Recovery Community Organization (SCRCO) on May 30, 2026 as we host the 4th annual Nick's 5K Run/Walk.**

This 5K event honors local Nicholas Suardini who lost his life to suicide due to substance use and mental illness. Our goal is to push back against the hopelessness, isolation and stigma of addiction and mental illness. People struggling with mental health and addiction issues can and do recover with help and hope.

SCRCO is a local, non-profit organization that serves to accompany people in the UP on their walk of recovery as they try to get back on their feet. We operate two recovery residences for men, one in Marquette, and the other in Ishpeming. The men can stay in these houses for 6-12 months as they heal, find jobs, get the helping services they need, and transition to their own housing. It is an important half-way step, after receiving substance use treatment and before reentering everyday life. We also operate Fisher House in Marquette which serves a vital need in providing transitional and structured housing for men. We are currently hoping and planning for an addition of a women's recovery residence in the Marquette area. That will depend on securing grants for the funding.

SCRCO furthermore has a team of peer navigators who are men and women trained to walk step-by-step with participants in our recovery programs. The secret sauce of this service is a mix of compassion, non-judgement, harm reduction and accompaniment. We strive to keep people alive, break the stigma, bring in community partners like yourselves, and create connections for participants and families.

Another important role we perform is to offer sober events which are alcohol and drug-free fun events in the community on a regular basis where people in recovery and their families can enjoy and spend relaxing time together. Pushing back against the ubiquitous alcohol and cannabis culture in Marquette is a job we take seriously.

So, if this sounds at all interesting or fun to you, please join us at Nick's Run for Recovery!

Pre-registration ticket purchase (less expensive than race-day) till 5/14/2026 to guarantee shirt size. Registration and shirt pick-up the day of the race from 8:45-9:30am at Elizabeth's Chop House. *(continued on next page)*

The run/walk starts at the Lower Harbour bell tower in Marquette at 10:15am on Saturday, May 30th. Free food and the chance to win door prizes!

To preregister or for more info go to: givebutter.com/NicksRun4, or Superiorconnectionsco.org.

Thank you,

Fred Groos

Messiah parish member & president of the Board of Directors of Superior Connections Recovery Community Organization.

Thank You Messiah!

Dear Messiah (volunteer social worker), Thank you for being so kind to me today when I was seeking help for my water heater. I was dreading the event, but after raising five children, I've learned that I have to do many unpleasant things in order to keep a home for them. You were a joy to talk to and you made the job very tolerable. Thank you again, 'financial assistance recipient'

Thank You, Friends at Messiah Lutheran!

To our friends at Messiah Lutheran, We wanted to take a moment to say Thank You so much for your recent support through the Robert Malette Endowment Fund. Your generous contribution will help us achieve our goal of purchasing a vehicle to better serve our program participants. Thank you for supporting our mission, and our vision for our community! From Superior Connections RCO - *Ashly, Haley, Steve, Abbie, Sarah, Kim, Bill Alec, & Leah*

Free Books!

There are extra books that Pr. Andrew left in his office, that he no longer needs/wants. 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.

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.

May 2026 Worship Volunteers

Saturday, May 2 - 5:00 pm

Assisting Minister 1 Carol Bell

Communion Asst 1

Sunday, May 3 - 8:30 am

Assisting Minister 1 Grant Soltwisch

Reader 1

Ushers 2 Bruce Robertson, Sam Elder

Communion Assts. 4 Dave Blomquist,

Greeters 2 Al and Gail Edgar

Sunday, May 3 - 10:30 am

Assisting Minister 1

Reader 1

Ushers 2 Jill Luoma, Amy Diedrich

Communion Assts. 4 Gayle Van Osdol, Laurel Kniskern

Greeters 2 Gayle Van Osdol

Projection Technician 1 Lesley Williams

Saturday, May 9 - 5:00 pm

Assisting Minister 1 Chris Kotila

Communion Asst 1

Sunday, May 10 - 8:30 am

Assisting Minister 1 Chris Harkness

Reader 1

Ushers 2

Communion Assts 4 Dave Blomquist,

Greeters 2 Chris Harkness,

Sunday, May 10 - 10:30 am

Assisting Minister 1

Reader 1

Laurel Kniskern

Ushers 2

Communion Assts 4

Greeters 2

Projection Technician 1

Saturday, May 16- 5:00 pm
Assisting Minister 1 Carol Steinhaus
Communion Asst 1 Ron Tervo

Sunday, May 17 - 8:30 am
Assisting Minister 1 Louise Reichert
Reader 1
Ushers 2
Communion Assts. 4 Beth Krznarich,
Greeters 2 Penny Streeter, Sherry Labbe

Sunday, May 17 - 10:30 am
Assisting Minister 1
Reader 1 Nancy Hamlin
Ushers 2 Paula Diedrich, Amy Diedrich
Communion Assts. 4 Kerry McGinley, Karen Burkman
Greeters 2
Projection Technician 1 Inga Banitt

Saturday, May 23 - 5:00 pm
Assisting Minister 1 Chris Kotila
Communion Asst 1 Barb Salmela

Sunday, May 24 - 8:30 am
Assisting Minister 1 Brenda Blett
Reader 1
Ushers 2 Joe and Chris Harkness
Communion Assts 4
Greeters 2

Sunday, May 24 - 10:30 am
Assisting Minister 1
Reader 1
Ushers 2
Communion Assts 4
Greeters 2
Projection Technician 1

Saturday, May 30 - 5:00 pm
Assisting Minister 1 Carol Bell
Communion Asst 1 Barb Salmela

Sunday, May 31 - 8:30 am
Assisting Minister 1
Reader 1
Ushers 2 Anne Rydholm,
Communion Assts 4 Beth Krznarich,
Greeters 2 Darlene Martin,

Sunday, May 31 - 10:30 am
Assisting Minister 1
Reader 1 Inga Banitt
Ushers 2 Paula Diedrich, Amy Diedrich
Communion Assts. 4
Greeters 2
Projection Technician 1

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 them for coffee. Questions? Please contact Betsy or the church office.

Quilting

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

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.

Messiah's Church Staff:

Pastoral Staff:

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

Support Staff:

Parish Administrator.....Jennifer Dodge
Administrative Assistant ...Kathy Godec
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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