

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



June 21, 2026

4th Sunday after Pentecost

Flowers: To the Glory of God & In Honor of...

- * Ray Jarvis from Cathy, Brian, Jennifer & Kevin
- * Dave & Mary Lou's wedding anniversary

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

- * our father, Leonard Johnson on Father's Day from Judy & Billie

Radio: To the Glory of God...

- * from our Messiah family

Livestream: To the Glory of God...

- * from our Messiah family

A Season of Becoming

Summer often invites us to pay attention to time. The long light, the slower rhythms, the sense that the world is catching its breath — all of it reminds us that not all time is the same. Scripture gives us two Greek words for time: *chronos* and *kairos*. Both matter, but they do very different kinds of work in us.

Chronos is the time we measure. It's the calendar on the wall, the dates of meetings, the deadlines, the schedules that keep our days ordered. *Chronos* is necessary. Without it, nothing would get planned, nothing would get done, and no one would know when to show up for worship or choir rehearsal. *Chronos* is the time of clocks and calendars — and it's the time we often feel most anxious about.

But *kairos* is different. *Kairos* is God's time — the time of ripening, of readiness, of holy interruption. *Kairos* is the moment when something becomes possible that wasn't possible before. It's the time when God's Spirit nudges, stirs, opens, heals, and reveals. *Kairos* cannot be scheduled. It cannot be rushed. It cannot be forced. It arrives as gift.

As a congregation in transition, Messiah is living in both kinds of time right now.

Chronos tells us that we are between pastors, that we have meetings to hold, listening sessions to host, and steps to take as we discern the future. *Chronos* reminds us that July is here, that fall will come, that the work of the church continues.

But *Kairos* invites us to breathe. To listen. To trust that God is doing something deeper than any timeline can capture. *Kairos* invites us to notice the quieter work of the Spirit — the softening of hearts, the mending of relationships, the courage to imagine what we have not yet seen. *Kairos* invites us to ask not only, "What comes next in God's vision for Messiah?" but also, "What is God making possible in us right now?"

Transitions are rarely comfortable. They stretch us, unsettle us, and ask us to release what has been in order to receive what will be. But they are also fertile ground for *Kairos* — for God's time to break in with healing, clarity, and hope.

My prayer for Messiah this month is simple:

May we honor the *chronos* we must steward, but may we lean even more deeply into the *kairos* God is offering. May we trust that God is not simply leading us through a transition, but toward a future shaped by grace, courage, and renewed purpose. And may we remember that the One who holds all time — both *chronos* and *kairos* — also holds us.

In Christ's peace,

Pastor Steve Solberg, Interim Pastor

Contact

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

*Email: steve@messiahlutheranmq.org

*Cell: (906) 458-2145

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

Superior Conference Youth Group Mission Trip

In July around 25 young people and 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 & her friend, Isla Bucklin. Thank you for your support of Adelyn, Isla and the others venturing out in service.

On July 12, we'll be sending Adelyn & Isla off on their adventure with a Rite of Commissioning at the 10:30 am worship 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.

Messiah Calendar

Monday, June 22

10:00 am OWLs Walk
1:00 pm VBS
5:30 pm 11-Step Centering Prayer
7:00 pm AA

Tuesday, June 23

11:00 am Staff Meeting
11:00 am Centering Prayer
1:00 pm VBS
1:30 pm Publicity Team

Wednesday, June 24

12:00 pm Dwelling in the Word
1:00 pm VBS
1:30 pm Brookridge Worship

Thursday, June 25

10:30 am Koinonia Bible Study
1:00 pm VBS

Friday, June 26

9:00 am Senior Men's Bible Study
1:00 pm VBS

Saturday, June 27

5:00 pm Worship

Sunday, June 28

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

One More From Pastor Steve: A Pastoral Reflection for the 250th Anniversary of American Independence

A Moment to Remember Who We Are

This summer our nation marks 250 years since the *Declaration of Independence* — a moment that invites both gratitude and reflection. Anniversaries are not only about looking back; they help us ask who we are becoming and how we are called to live now.

As people of faith, we give thanks for the freedoms we enjoy in this country — including the freedom to worship, serve, and speak openly in Christ's name. These are gifts worth cherishing.

At the same time, we remember that our deepest identity is rooted not in any nation but in the kingdom of God. That identity shapes how we use the freedoms we've been given: to seek the common good, to listen across differences, to pray for leaders (even those we disagree with or struggle to trust), and to love our neighbors with humility and courage.

A 250th anniversary is a *chronos* milestone — a date on the calendar. But it can also be a *kairos* moment if we let it: a time for God to renew in us a sense of vocation as Christ's disciples living in this land.

May this celebration deepen our gratitude, strengthen our commitment to justice and compassion, and remind us that true freedom is always a gift meant to bless others.

In Christ's peace,
Pastor Steve Solberg, Interim Pastor

Community Meal - August 5th

We do not hold a community meal in July, due to the holiday; so our next community meal will be on Wednesday, August 5th at 6:00 pm in Magnuson Hall. The meal will be sub sandwiches. A vegetarian option will be available. Please join us for a delicious meal on Wednesday, August 5th at 6:00 pm. We look forward to it!

Jam Sale!!

A new jam season has begun! It's time to clear the shelves for the 2026 jam season. ALL jam is on SALE! Just \$1 a jar. Drop off your money in the main office or leave it in an envelope, conveniently located near the jam. Thank you! Rebecca Ulland (email rjulland@yahoo.com).

Electronic Giving/Purchasing

We are updating our QR Code & will also have a new VENMO account soon. Look for these to return in the coming weeks.

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: July 1-31

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for articles to be included in our August newsletter is **Monday, July 20, 2026**.

Messiah's Newsletter

June 21, 2026
Volume 108, Issue 7

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

Messiah's Birthdays - July 2026

Wednesday 1 Lincoln Gordon
 Thursday 2 Garrett Crimmins, Olivia Ruuska
 Friday 3 Linda Bullock
 Saturday 4 Louise Anderson
 Sunday 5 Maria Flores, Charlie Ruuska
 Monday 6 No birthdays
 Tuesday 7 Rachel Dodge, Sally Olson
 Wednesday 8 Sarah Kemppainen, Bronce Reece
 Thursday 9 Sara Johnson
 Friday 10 No birthdays
 Saturday 11 No birthdays
 Sunday 12 Abigail Reynolds, Emma Ziegler
 Monday 13 Jackson Benam, Barry Johnson
 Tuesday 14 Jessica Gummerus, Erin Langenberg
 Wednesday 15 Bennett Gordon, Michael Sekely
 Thursday 16 Ruth Koehler
 Friday 17 Ruth Anne Davidson
 Saturday 18 Kim Alanko, Paul Marin
 Sunday 19 No birthdays
 Monday 20 No birthdays
 Tuesday 21 Greg Larson, Penny Streeter
 Wednesday 22 Mary Hammerstrom
 Thursday 23 No birthdays
 Friday 24 Fred Groos, Bob Sromalski
 Saturday 25 Jon Banitt, Jeanne Ruman, Sarah Ruuska
 Sunday 26 Eric Banitt, Jari Braund, Linnea Gustafson
 Monday 27 No birthdays
 Tuesday 28 Mark Fuller

Wednesday 29 No birthdays
 Thursday 30 Ernie Johnson
 Friday 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
Peter & Cathy Seblonka	July 6
Lucas & Krista Theys	July 9
Renee Messana & her husband	July 15
Michael & Linda Chapman	July 20
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
Dietrich & Jamie Spickerman	July 31

Messiah's Food Pantry

Messiah now has two shelving units by the inside of the "canopy door" where food donations can be placed for the larger Marquette community. Most of the food is going to people who come to Messiah & need food assistance. If Messiah has excess food it is brought to Salvation Army in Marquette. Suggested food items for our pantry:

- cans of tuna, salmon, chicken, peanut butter, canned beans
- whole grain cereals, rolled oats, rice and pasta
- canned fruit and vegetables
- pasta sauce, basic dried spices
- applesauce, granola bars, juice boxes, baby foods (jars or pouches)
- shelf stable, microwaveable meals

Please check expiration dates and do not bring expired items. Take a minute to look at Messiah's food shelves and decide what you can donate. Any donations are appreciated. Thank you! - - Betsy Little

Messiah's Jam Ministry

The 2026 jam season is here and it's time to make JAM!! Grant & 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 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 (email rjulland@yahoo.com)

UP Wild Event

Sunday, July 26 - This is a Wild Church Service (1 hour) at 4:00 pm held at the Presque Isle Gazebo (structure closest to break wall). Please BYO mug & folding chair. The theme is Nature's Quiet Prayers. The activity is building a Inukshuk/Cairn plus rock painting!

Building & Grounds Team

Messiah's Building & Grounds Team met on June 4th and discussed some upcoming projects. On Friday, June 12th, Pineshearers came and cut down some trees for Messiah on Messiah's rental properties; one south of the Synod building and three smaller trees near our rental home south of the church. This project went well and some of our B&G team helped to cut up some of the wood and they brought it home. B&G's next project is to paint the lines in all of Messiah's parking lots on the east and to the north of the church building. Should be a fun day! Slated for Friday, June 19th.

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.

Lectionary Readings - July 2026

July 5

First Reading
Gospel

6th Sunday after Pentecost

Zechariah 9:9-12
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 12

First Reading
Gospel

7th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 55:10-13
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 19

First Reading
Gospel

8th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 44:6-8
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July 26

First Reading
Gospel

9th Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 3:5-12
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Brookridge Worship - June 24

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, June 24th at 1:30 pm. Please join us for this worship service if you are able.

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!

Passages

In Celebration of:

* Our High School Seniors who recently graduated: Sarah Bleckiner, Elise Busick, Devin Fortin & Esme Ulland-Joy. We wish them well in their future endeavors. We can't wait to see where life takes them.

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.

TRANSITION TEAM FORMATION

Five applications have been received as of today's date (June 12). The council will review them at the June 17 meeting and formally empanel the Team. Keep an eye out for an invitation to a congregational gathering at which the Team will begin their journey by working with you to discern the vision of Messiah's future.

JUNE 7 CONGREGATIONAL CONVERSATION

On June 7, over 30 members of Messiah gathered with honesty, hope, and a shared desire to listen to one another. At the very beginning, participants named what they were seeking in this season of transition: understanding, forgiveness, respect, clarity, grace, identity, mutual trust, shared goals, empathy, energy, unity, and a faithful way of moving forward together. These hopes set a grace-filled tone for the conversations that followed.

Throughout the session, people shared one word needs and questions on sticky notes. Clear themes emerged: a longing for deeper listening and transparent communication; a desire for healing and forgiveness; questions about leadership roles and trust; curiosity about Messiah's identity and mission for the future; and a commitment to building healthy patterns of community life. Many expressed appreciation for the chance simply to talk, listen, and be heard.

In large group reflections, participants also named surprises and lingering questions. These centered on how we include those not present, how we rebuild trust, how scripture guides us in conflict and reconciliation, and how we prevent repeating past patterns. A strong thread throughout was the conviction that "there is strength in community building", and that Messiah can move forward with hope.

Taken together, these reflections paint a picture of a congregation that cares deeply about one another and about the future God is shaping among us. The Council will continue to work with these themes as we discern next steps in our shared life.

COUNCIL MEETING ACTIONS

The following actions were taken at the May meeting:

- Approved funding the full amount of camp fees for Fortune Lake beyond an initial deposit by the families, allowing for special circumstances.
- Malette Trust – Authorized our attorney to appeal the Court's decision on interest: The Court awarded Messiah \$112,000 in accrued interest; we contend that the actual amount should be \$263,000 (5% on the principle, per Michigan statute).

- Authorized the use of undesignated memorial funds to remove trees on church properties.
- Approve a paid Interim Children's Ministry Coordinator position (20 hours/month), and authorized Pr. Steve to offer the position to Emma Olechnowicz (who has accepted).

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP UPDATE

We continue to fill out the schedule for worship service leaders, and now have commitments through the end of September except for Labor Day weekend. A reminder that there will be no communion at services led by a Lay Preacher. A schedule of upcoming preachers can be found elsewhere in this (and all future) editions of The Messenger, and also will be announced at each service.

CLOSING BLESSING

Peace be with you all, *Mark Petrie, Council President*

Quilting

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

Upcoming Events in June, July & August

- June 28 10:30 am worship is at Clark Lambros Beach
July 6 Church office closed in observance of the 4th of July
July 15 Fellowship Team Meeting at 1:30 pm
July 15 Council Meeting at 6:30 pm
July 19 Norway Grove arrives to work on a Habitat Home for the week
July 25 Norway Grove leaves Messiah to head home
July 27 Danny Stone & his youth group arrive from Iowa for a visit
Aug 2 Danny Stone & group leave Messiah to head home
Aug 16 10:30 am worship is at Clark Lambros Beach

Preaching Schedule

- June 27/28 Pr. Steve Solberg (10:30 am svc is at Clark Lambros Beach)
July 4/5 Dave Blomquist, Lay Leader (*no communion served*)
July 11/12 Pr. Steve Solberg
July 18/19 Pr. Jon Magnuson
July 25 Pr. Allan Johnson
July 26 Pr. David Echleberger
Aug 1/2 Grant Soltwisch, Lay Leader (*no communion served*)
Aug 8/9 Pr. Rell Spickerman
Aug 15/16 Pr. Jon Magnuson
Aug 22/23 Pr. Katie Larson, visitor from Colombia

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

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2026 Fair Trade Market at Messiah in November!

Your Global Mission Team at Messiah is excited to begin planning for the Fair Trade Market, to be held November 14-15 at Messiah. However, this Market is only possible with the assistance of you - our necessary volunteers. We've compiled a list of specific tasks and the approximate time commitment involved. Please review the list, identify how you can serve in this event, and contact the church office. The Fair Trade Market team will contact you to arrange the next step. Thank you for your support!

2026 Tasks

Finance/budget

- Knowledge of Excel
- Document expenses, receipts, funds raised, donations
- Have cash available for change
- 10 hrs

Publicity

- Post Facebook event
- Design flyer, post around town
- Marquette Monthly advertisement & blurb
- TV/radio/newspaper media
- 8 hrs

Ordering items

- SERRV, Sharing the Dream, Jeanne (Peru), Katie (Colombia), Fair Trade Wall (jams, coffee, chocolate), Tanzania(?)
- 4 hrs

Labeling items

- Color-coded & numbered price tags
- 2 hrs

Prepare price sheets

- Color-coded & numbered item lists
- 2 hrs

Set-up

- Friday afternoon, 3 hrs
- Pick up jewelry stands from Beth Wendricks

Take-down

- Sunday afternoon, 2 hrs

Cashier Saturday (3-4 people)

- review use of Messiah credit card machine & Venmo account
- x3 during AM hours, x1 during PM hours

Wrapper Saturday AM hours (2 people)

- Pack purchased items for customers

Cashier Sunday AM

- x1

After market inventory

- Return items to Sharing the Dream
- Inventory remaining items
- 2 hrs

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

Many of the various spiritual traditions that I've studied tell me that the world that I see is extremely distorted, because, the thing that I think I am (that which "sees") is also distorted. It happens to each of us innocent humans as we grow and experience the material world. The admonition to be "in the world, not of it" makes so much more sense to me now that I've spent a lifetime exploring this worldly self and discovered some very faulty notions that were downloaded into my personality. I discovered that there is something good within me, and that is the thing I think that God created. When I let go of my worldly fears and notions, my concepts of what will make me happy in life and my ideas of who or what God is...that quiet "good" thing began to have an influence on the ways that I view the world and its creatures. I started to see the world and its inhabitants as fellow travelers on the very same path...back to knowing our Oneness with each other and with the Divine. Centering prayer is a method to stop the false self from running the show and learning how to "be" from the Inner Self, the Self that knows that what is good for all of God's creation is also what is good for this single part of Creation. That is what leads to true happiness, to true safety, to feeling there is some purpose to the earthly life.

" You do not become good by trying to be good, but by finding the goodness that is already within you, and allowing that goodness to emerge. But it can only emerge if something fundamental changes in your state of consciousness. What is stirring now is not a new belief system. The change goes deeper than the content of your mind, deeper than thoughts. At the heart of the new consciousness lies the transcendence of thought, the ability of rising above thought, of realizing a dimension within yourself that is infinitely more vast than thought. You no longer derive your identity from the incessant stream of thinking, that in the old consciousness you took to be yourself. Ego is no more than this: identification with form, which primarily means thought forms. This results in a total unawareness of our connectedness with the whole, our intrinsic oneness with every "other" as well as with the Source." -- A New Earth by Eckhart Tolle / shared by Nancy Hamlin

Collecting Items for Baby Care Kits

Rachel Circle will be collecting items in July for Baby Care Kits. They assemble them for Lutheran World Relief. The following items are needed in the following sizes: 6 months - 24 months/2T:

- Lightweight cotton T-Shirts (no-onesies)
- Long or short sleeved sleepers, P.J.'s or gowns (without feet)
- Plain, Hooded Sweatshirts
- 3 oz. bars of Ivory soap

There is a collection bin by the office. Thank you for your help! - *Rachel Circle*

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.

July Deodorant (male/female)

August Diapers size 3-6; Baby Wipes

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!

In Our Prayers

Please remember the following people in your prayers at this time: Those who seek help from our financial assistance program; Cassidy Eckloff; Larry Brunton; Sherry Watters; Renee Goyen; Stuart Harslah; Peggy Letvenow; farmers and ranchers in Kansas & Nebraska affected by drought and wildfires; John Kiltinen; Lisa Balko; Roger; Karen Sundeen; Linda Ruohoniemi; Charlie Blake; 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; Jamie; Donna; Brian; Ben; Evelyn; Akira Carlson; Karen Eldevick; 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!

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 or Messiah's office for more information.

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 906-225-1119 or email at office@messiahlutheranmq.org. The cost of the Radio Broadcast or Livestream sponsorship is \$110.00 each.

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.

Visitors this Summer!

This Summer we look forward to another visit from our church friends in WI. The group from Norway Grove will be here, late July helping with the Habitat for Humanity Group in our area. They will stay with us at Messiah during their visit. They will arrive on Monday, July 20 and stay through Saturday, July 25.

We will also have a visit from Danny Stone & his youth group from his church in Iowa this summer. They will arrive on Monday, July 27th, stay with us for the week & head back to Iowa on Sunday, August 2nd. He tries to get here to visit with his youth group every other year. Danny Stone had worked here at Messiah years ago as our Youth Director. Welcome home for a week Danny!

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.

Lake Superior Life Care & Hospice

Drop-in Grief Support: Marquette – July 22nd, 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.

Caregiver Support Groups Marquette – July 8th, 2:00 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: July 15th 2:00 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.

Grieving... Before Goodbye? Understanding Anticipatory Grief and the Emotions that come *Before* Loss.

Are you caring for someone and feeling overwhelmed, anxious, or grieving...even before a loss? You are not alone. When someone you care for is declining, grief doesn't always wait. Presented by: Lisa Marttila, Social Worker & Bereavement Coordinator

Held on July 16th, 12:30 pm at Ishpeming Multi-Purpose Senior Center, 121 Greenwood St., Ishpeming. This is FREE and open to the public.

Join us to learn: What anticipatory grief really is, why it happens before a loss, how to cope with difficult emotions, and ways to care for yourself while caring for 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.

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.

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 pastor or Jen know. We will need to get permission before we include anyone's name in the worship prayers.

Beach Worship at Messiah

We will hold Beach Worship on three Sundays this summer during our 10:30 am worship time. At each of these events we will meet at Clark Lambros Beach and we ask all those who attend to bring your own blanket or chair to sit on during worship. The dates for these special outdoor services are:

June 28th	10:30 worship	Pr. Steve Solberg presiding
August 16th	10:30 worship	Pr. Jon Magnuson presiding
September 6th	10:30 worship	presiding pastor not yet confirmed

July 2026 Worship Volunteers

Saturday, July 4 - 5:00 pm

Assisting Minister 1 Chris Kotila

Sunday, July 5 - 8:30 am

Assisting Minister 1

Reader 1

Ushers 2 Bruce Robertson, Sam Elder

Greeters 2 Al and Gail Edgar

Sunday, July 5 - 10:30 am

Assisting Minister 1 Mike Hill

Reader 1

Ushers 2

Greeters 2

Projection Technician 1 Inga Banitt

Saturday, July 11- 5:00 pm

Assisting Minister 1 Carol Steinhaus

Communion Asst 1 Karen Kimar-Johnson

Sunday, July 12 – 8:30 am

Assisting Minister 1

Reader 1 Fred Maynard

Ushers 2 Anne Rydholm,

Communion Assts 4

Greeters 2

Sunday, July 12 -10:30 am

Assisting Minister 1 Mike Hill

Reader 1

Ushers 2 Amy Diedrich,

Communion Assts 4 Kerry McGinley, Karen Burkman, Gayle Mack,

Greeters 2

Projection Technician 1 Lesley Williams

Saturday, July 18 - 5:00 pm

Assisting Minister 1 Carol Bell

Communion Asst 1 Barb Salmela

Sunday, July 19 - 8:30 am

Assisting Minister 1 Brenda Blett

Reader 1 Louise Reichert

Ushers 2

Communion Assts. 4

Greeters 2 Penny Streeter, Sherry Labbe

Sunday, July 19 - 10:30 am

Assisting Minister 1 Molly Luty

Reader 1

Ushers 2 Ruth Robb

Communion Assts. 4

Greeters 2

Projection Technician 1 Abby LaForest

Saturday, July 25 - 5:00 pm

Assisting Minister 1 Karen Kimar-Johnson

Communion Asst 1

Sunday, July 26 - 8:30 am

Assisting Minister 1 Chris Harkness

Reader 1 Brenda Blett

Ushers 2

Communion Assts 4

Greeters 2

Sunday, July 26 - 10:30 am

Assisting Minister 1

Reader 1

Ushers 2 Amy Diedrich,

Communion Asst 4

Greeters 2

Projection Technician 1

Messiah's Church Staff:

Pastoral Staff:

Interim Pastor.....Steve Solberg

Support Staff:

Parish AdministratorJennifer Dodge

Administrative AssistantKathy Gowen

Parish AccountantMike Hill

Financial Secretary.....Anne Rydholm

Music Staff:

Music/Choir Director.....Sara Pariss

Organist/Pianist.....Kathy Strazzinski

Jon Bamitt

Bell Choir Director.....Judy Quirk

Pianist.....Jacob Schmeltzer

Daniel Cipriano

Messiah Lutheran Church

305 W. Magnetic Street

Marquette, MI 49855

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