

Upcoming Events @ St. Mark's

AUGUST 30, 2026

CYF Education registration is now open

Register your kids for CYF education programs, which begin in September. There is **no fee** for our programs, however advanced registration is helpful for planning purposes. We are excited for the upcoming program year and have made some changes that we hope will work well for your family. Wednesday night education begins on Sept 16 and Sunday School begins on Sept. 13. Head to www.stmarks-nsp.org and check out the Children & Youth tab for more information and a registration link or simply scan this QR code to complete the quick registration form.



School Supply Drive – Now through September 1

St. Mark's together with Girl Scout Troop 57696 is collecting new school supplies for the Kids In Need Foundation (KINF). Collection boxes can be found in Rees Hall and outside the church office. KINF, headquartered in Little Canada, MN, distributes school supplies to under-resourced students across the nation. Locally, they have a Teacher Resource Center where qualifying teachers can shop throughout the school year for school supplies and classroom resources at ZERO cost. Pick up a complete shopping list at the Welcome Center. Visit KINF.org for more information.

Wednesday Community Meals resume Sept 16

Join us for a homemade meal on Wednesday nights in Rees Hall from **5-6pm** during the school year. There is no set charge for the meal, however freewill donations are always appreciated.

Sept 16: Pork loin dinner

Wednesday Night Kickoff – Sept 16

The following is the schedule for Wednesday nights. We hope to see you there!

5-6pm – Community Meal (Rees Hall)

5:45-6:40pm – Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

6-6:45pm – Education Hour (all ages)

6:45-7:15pm – Communion Service (Chapel)

7:15-8:30pm – Choir of St. Mark's Rehearsal (Chapel)

Women's Synodical Bible Study Enrichment – Sat. Sept. 19

The event will be in Rees Hall with registration from 8:30-9:00am. The study, from the Gather magazine, will include a journey with women of the Bible – Hagar, Ruth and Mary Magdalene – whose bold faith transformed their unexpected stories. The study, led by Pastor Carrie Johnson Stiles our former youth leader, will also include a session on Prayer. Lunch and fellowship will follow at 12:30pm. Cost is \$20.00 and registration information is on the bulletin board in Rees Hall. ALL women are welcome. Contact Virginia Collier 651-777-0584 for information and copies of the Bible Study lessons. See you there!

Produce Giveaway – Sept 28, 4-6pm

St. Mark's provides free produce on the fourth Monday of the month in July, August and September. Last week we welcomed 193 visitors and 13 volunteers. We had onions, apples watermelons, potatoes, and sweet corn! Invite your friends and neighbors to our last giveaway event on September 28...there's always PLENTY. We're also collecting plastic and paper bags. Bring them to the Rees Hall collection cabinet.

Mark your calendar

- **Sept 13:** Sunday School Kickoff
- **Sept 16:** Wednesday Night Kickoff (dinner, education, worship, choir rehearsals)
- **Sept 17:** North St. Paul Fall Round Up Parade
- **Sept 28:** Free produce giveaways
- **Oct 4-10:** Foundation Week
- **Oct 9:** KidsFest, 4-6 pm (N. parking lot)
- **Oct 25:** Trunk or Treat, 4-6 pm (W. parking lot)

Thank you to our worship assistants

St. Mark's Strummers: Susan Borowick, Cory Engwer, Kim Engwer-Moylin, Richard Mead, Bonnie Meyers, Carol Perrault, Corinna Petersen, Tyler Ronsberg

Usher Team 5: Mike Clasen, Dan Colberg, Marlene Moreno, Terry Kapaun

Reader: Jennifer Arsenault

Communion: Diane Danko, Bob Engwer

Welcome Center: Sue Engwer

Altar Care: Sharon Sporcic

Greeters: Joe & Diane Danko

Multimedia: Gary Martin, Josh Hirman

Next Week's Ushering Schedule

Sept 6 Team 1: Capt: Mike Ericson

Music Notes

Tom Paulson, Director of Music & Worship

Let me introduce you to my friend, Stacy. We have been good friends for 40 years, since we met singing in the choir at Central Lutheran Church, downtown Minneapolis. She is a fine soprano, and her husband Jerry was a full time director of music at several different catholic churches. She was Lutheran, her husband, catholic. At the funeral mass for her husband's father, the priest told the congregation to please respect catholic teaching and only come forward for communion if you are a baptized catholic. Talk about lipstick on a pig! He was asking the sons of the deceased to choose between his wife, and the church.

Our words and our welcome matter. They create insiders and outsiders. They may seem obvious or redundant to the insider, but used well, they can invite the outsider in. Not to conform, but to be a part of the journey together. So I have a special appreciation for St. Mark's Invitation to Communion, "If you are wondering whether or not to come forward for communion, the answer is yes! This is God's table. Everyone is welcome and wanted." And I love that we sing, "Mine is the church where everybody's welcome."

I love the hymn after Pastor David's sermon, *Will You Come and Follow Me*. In the voice of Jesus, it asks some very difficult, pointed questions of the singer: Will you go where you don't know? Will you care for cruel and kind? Will you risk the hostile stare? Will you let me answer pray in you? This goes on for four verses before the singer responds; Lord, your summons echoes true. Let me turn and follow you and never be the same. Of all the difficult tasks Jesus may be calling us to, welcoming the stranger to God's table seems really easy. After all, we're a church, not a country club.

Choir Rehearsals begin Wed. Sept 16

The Choir of St. Mark's (7:15-8:30 in the Chapel) and the Handbell Choir (5:45-6:40 in the Sanctuary) will begin rehearsals for the fall season on Wednesday evening September 16. New members and all returning members warmly welcomed. Contact Tom Paulson, Director of Worship and Music, for more information.

Upcoming in Music

Sept 6 Rachel Wyffels, violin & soloist
Sept 13 Worship Band

North High Staff Appreciation Breakfast

St. Mark's welcomed 124 North High staff and North St. Paul police officers at our annual appreciation breakfast in Rees Hall on August 26. Fourteen hardworking volunteers set up, served, and cleaned up. And everyone had the pleasure of listening to Pastoral Intern Rachel play beautiful music on her violin. We are so grateful for these amazing people who pour their energy and passion into students everyday. This event is made possible with food donations, volunteers, and a Thrivent grant.

Mental Health Event

Take full advantage of our relationship with the Mental Health Connect collaborative and attend an event. Go to www.mhconnect.org/find-mhc for more details:

- **Chronic Procrastination & Its Toll on Mental Well-Being**, Tues. Sept. 8, 7– 8:30 pm at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Minneapolis and also via Zoom.

Next Week's Ushering Schedule

Sept 6 Team 1: Capt: Mike Ericson

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, August 30

9:30 am Worship Service, SC

Monday, August 31

No ministry events scheduled

Tuesday, September 1

9:00 am Morning Bible Study, FS

Wednesday, September 2

4:15 pm Anniversary Committee, FS

Thursday, September 3

8:30 am Breakfast & Bible Study, offsite

Friday, September 4 – Office Closed

Saturday, September 5 – Office Closed

Sunday, September 6

9:30 am Worship Service, SC

Monday, September 7 – Office Closed

Labor Day Holiday



GIVE ONLINE

Ministry Staff

Rev. David Bjorklund, Lead Pastor
prdavidb@stmarks-nsp.org

Kate Bentley, Deacon
deaconkateb@stmarks-nsp.org

Rachel Wyffels, Pastoral Intern
rachelw@stmarks-nsp.org

Tom Paulson, Dir. of Music & Worship
tomp@stmarks-nsp.org

Office Hours

Mon –Thurs: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Ph: 51-777-7451

Weekly Worship

Sundays: 9:30 am