

Upcoming Events @ St. Mark's

MAY 31, 2026

VBS Registration is now open!

Vacation Bible School will be July 7, 8, 9. All children ages 4 and up are invited to join us for Vacation Bible School from 9am-12 noon where we will be exploring the theme Saints and Holy Helpers. Our sessions will be filled with a variety of activities that dive into our theme, including storytelling, games, crafts, and snacks! There is no charge for VBS. Kids in grade 6 and above are welcome to register to be youth helpers! Use the QR code to sign up.



Saturday Stewards volunteer group – June 6

Join us on the first Saturday of the month to work on a variety of projects in and around the church. There is something for everyone. We start at about 9am and would love to see you there - many hands make light work! Contact Mark McKenzie at kiltboarder@gmail.com if you are curious about getting involved...or just stop by on Saturday.

Outdoor Worship & Church Picnic – June 14

All are invited to the first outdoor worship service and picnic of the summer. On the menu: grilled hamburgers, potato salad, chips, fruit, dessert, and lemonade. If the weather doesn't cooperate, worship and picnic will be inside.

May is National Mental Health Awareness Month

Mental Health Tip of the Week: Stay Connected

"It is not good that the man should be alone." Gen 2:18

Relationships are vitally important for us as human beings. God knows we need companionship and friendship, and that it is not good for any of us to be alone. When it comes to mental health, loneliness and isolation can make matters worse. Connecting with others and tending to relationships are an important part of self care and is important for our mental well-being. **Stay connected with the people that are important to you.** Tend to the friendships in your life and work to build new ones. You're never too old to make a new friend and it's never too late to reach out to an old one. That phone call, letter, or lunch date just might be the thing someone needs to know they are not alone and that someone out there cares for them.

Free Summer Concerts: 2026 Lutheran Summer Music Festival Season

Lutheran Summer Music is thrilled to announce its 2026 season, featuring over 40 free concerts, recitals, and worship services open to the public. Hosted at St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN from June 21 to July 19, this season offers a vibrant lineup of musical experiences, also shared online via Live from LSM—bringing this summer's transformational work to audiences around the world. Highlights this season include a guest appearance by Cantus, a series of events dedicated to the music of J.S. Bach—including the St. Matthew Passion—and music celebrating the United States Semiquincentennial. View all events and reserve free tickets at LSMacademy.org/calendar.

Lawn care volunteers needed

If you are interested in helping out with grass cutting at St. Mark's this summer, please contact Doug at ronsbergd@gmail.com or call the church office at 651-777-7451. Cutting days are flexible.

Help distribute free produce to local families this Summer

St. Mark's is once again hosting three free produce giveaways (July 27, Aug 24, Sept 28) in partnership with Second Harvest Heartland. This is a great way to meet some of our neighbors and provide good food for families. We need a crew of volunteers to help distribute the food from 4-6 pm outside the church. Volunteers should plan to show up at 3:30pm to help sort and set up. If you are interested, contact Julie at urbanja@comcast.net.

New (old) Liturgy

Last Sunday we began singing a new/old liturgy for the season of Pentecost: Setting 3, ELW p. 138-146. It is both old and new since it also appears in the LBW (the green book.) I strongly encourage you to pull out the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship book from underneath the pew in front of you to sing the Kyrie (In Peace, Let Us Pray), the Hymn of Praise (Glory to God in the Highest), and The Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) in addition to the hymns today and for the next couple of Sundays. The liturgy may not be new or difficult, but we have not sung it in a while, and we all could use a refresher course, including me!

~Tom Paulson

Next Week's Ushering Schedule

June 7: Team 1: Capt. Mike Ericson

Music Notes

Tom Paulson, Director of Music & Worship

Worship is an important force for good in our lives, even during our lovely Minnesota summers, when we all love to be outside, at the lake, or on the golf course. And summer is an appropriate time for our Choir of St. Mark's and Handbell Choir to have their "off-season." This confluence is an opportunity for us to be led in worship by different kinds of music – solos, ensembles, guests, and in different ways. In the last couple of years we have established a great tradition of special music throughout the summer, and 2026 is no different. Scan the list and be sure to be in worship – in person or online – to hear and support your friends and favorite guests. Your spirit will be glad you did.

May 31	Corinna Petersen, <i>clarinet</i>
June 7	Handbell Choir
June 14	Outdoors – Worship Band
June 21	Anna Bjorklund & Lindsay Samelian, <i>soloists</i> Jennifer Arsenault, <i>flute</i>
June 28	Billy Johnson, <i>singer/songwriter</i>
July 12	Zach Spirov, <i>singer/songwriter</i>
July 19	Outdoors – Worship Band
July 26	Tom Michel, <i>tenor</i>
Aug 2	Mackenzie, Lenora & Viola Lyon, <i>soloists</i>
Aug 9	Coda Duo (Scott Dorf, <i>saxophone</i> ; Malcolm Anderson, <i>keyboards</i>)
Aug 16	Outdoors – Worship Band
Aug 23	Shari Durden, <i>marimba & xylophone</i>
Aug 30	Lauren Lammers, <i>soprano</i>
Sept 6	Rachel Wyffels, <i>violin & soloist</i>

Special thanks to **Sandy Leach!** Over the last two weeks or so, she has given about 10 volunteer hours sorting, filing, and cataloging choir, handbell choir, worship band, brass ensemble, and other assorted music used for worship over the past year.

Council Corner - May 21, 2026

- **Children, Youth and Family:** Vacation Bible School will be held July 7-9. Registration is now open; youth in 6th grade and older are encouraged to participate as helpers.
- **Finance:** Year-to-date income and expenses are both less than budgeted. While a negative budget was approved at the Annual Meeting in January, congregation members should prayerfully consider how they can assist, either by increasing monthly giving or by catching up on their pledges.
- **Hospitality and Outreach:** Outdoor worship services, followed by picnics, will be held on June 14, July 19, and August 16. In the event of bad weather, the services and picnics will be moved indoors.
- **Property:** A motion to authorize the expenditure of up to \$50,000 to refurbish the chapel, upstairs hallway, and reception area in the office was approved. Improvements will include new carpeting and an improved sound system in the chapel. Other improvements, such as fresh paint, will also be included, budget permitting. The money will be disbursed from the building maintenance fund.
- **Stewardship:** The committee will soon meet to begin planning for the upcoming giving campaign. New committee members are needed, due to the departure of 2 previous members.

The complete meeting minutes are available in the church office after they are approved at the following meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for June 25.

Mark your calendar

- **July 7,8,9:** Vacation Bible School (9am to noon)
- **Jun.14, Jul.19, Aug.16:** Outdoor worship & picnic
- **Jul 27, Aug 24, Sept 28:** free produce giveaway

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, May 31

9:30 am Worship Service, SC

Monday, June 1

No ministry events

Tuesday, June 2

9:00 am Morning Bible Study, FS
6:30 pm St. Mark's Strummers, SC
7:00 pm Foundation Exec. Mtg, LB

Wednesday, June 3

No ministry events

Thursday, June 4

8:30 am Breakfast & Bible Study, offsite

Friday, June 5 – Office Closed

Saturday, June 6 – Office Closed

9:00 am Saturday Stewards

Sunday, June 7

9:30 am Worship Service, SC



GIVE ONLINE

Ministry Staff

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

Kate Bentley, *Deacon*
deaconkateb@stmarks-nsp.org

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

Office Hours

Mon –Thurs: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Ph: 651-777-7451

Weekly Worship

Sundays: 9:30 am

Guest WiFi

P3@nutButt3r