

Upcoming Events @ St. Mark's

AUGUST 16, 2026

Church Picnic after Worship

All are invited to join us in Rees Hall following the service today. On the menu: BBQ chicken, baked beans, chips, fruit and desserts.

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.

Produce Giveaways – Aug 24 & Sept 28, 4-6pm

St. Mark's provides free produce on the fourth Monday of the month in July, August and September. We always need volunteers to help carry boxes to set up; distribute food to our guests; and help move produce inside after the event. Invite your friends and neighbors to one of the next events...there's always PLENTY. We're also collecting plastic and paper bags. Bring them to the Rees Hall collection cabinet.

Summer Music Schedule

Aug 23	Shari Durden, <i>marimba & xylophone</i>
Aug 30	Lauren Lammers, <i>soprano</i> ; St. Mark's Strummers
Sept 6	Rachel Wyffels, <i>violin & soloist</i>

North High Staff Appreciation Breakfast

Wed. Aug 26, 8-9:30 am

St. Mark's hosts this breakfast each year in Rees Hall to honor the staff at North High and welcome them back for the school year. Lots of helping hands are needed to pull this off. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Julie at urbanja@comcast.net. A donation list is at the Welcome Center for those who wish to donate food items.

St. Mark's 140th Anniversary Celebration "Rooted in Faith, Growing in Grace"

St. Mark's Church will be celebrating its 140th anniversary April 11, 2027 and the anniversary committee is looking for people who have been members or have grown up in the church for 50 years or more to share their memories about St. Mark's, its people and faith through the years. Contact Karyn Mikel at karynmikel@comcast.net or Barb Michel at barbmichel2014@gmail.com if interested in sharing your St. Mark's memories, or leave your contact information with the church office and we will get back to you. Thank you, the 140th Anniversary Committee

Mark your calendar

- **Aug 24, Sept 28:** Free produce giveaways
- **Sept 13:** Sunday School Kickoff
- **Sept 16:** Wednesday Night Kickoff

Thank you to our worship assistants

Worship Band: Anna Bjorklund, Tyler Ronsberg, Lindsey Samelian & Diane Sell, vocalists; Missy Lillie, keyboard; Ken Indrelie, guitar; Steve Feltowski, bass; Russ Payne, drums

Usher Team 3: Bob Engwer, Ron Barber, Dick Newell, Art Arsenault, Christopher Barber

Communion: Toni Christoffersen, Betty Beane, Marge Koniar, Diane Danko

Welcome Center: Terri Borowick

Altar Care: Kathy Hanon

Greeters: Sue Fletcher

Multimedia: Gary Martin, Josh Hirman

Next Week's Ushering Schedule

Aug 23: Team 4: Capt: Bonnie Meyers

Music Notes

Tom Paulson, Director of Music & Worship

Great is thy faithfulness, O God, my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee...
Great is thy faithfulness...morning by morning new
mercies I see. (Thomas Chisholm, ELW 733)

"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1). God is creator. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (John 1:1). God is Word. "God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them" (1 John 4:16). God is love. Creator, Word, and love are three metaphors, three ways to understand who and what God is.

In our opening song this morning, *Great is Thy Faithfulness*, we encounter another metaphor for God, God as parent, in this case father. In singing, we praise the Father for his faithfulness, his constancy, "thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not: as thou hast been, thou forever will be." And through the Father's faithfulness we have all we need, "Pardon for sin, and a peace that endureth... strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow."

While it is worth emphasizing the Father's changelessness, it is also worth emphasizing that our understanding of God can and does change and evolve throughout our lives. Chisholm writes, "morning by morning new mercies I see," and Paul writes "When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways." (2 Corinthians 13:11). Let me encourage you to look for the metaphors in our scripture and songs today. It is a good way to grow in the grace and love of God.

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.

Music Opportunity for Children

The National Lutheran Children's Choir is seeking new singers, ages 7-14, this fall. Part of the National Lutheran Choir based here in the Twin Cities, NLCC is a place where young singers can grow musically, develop healthy vocal technique, music literacy, and ensemble skills, and build confidence and community. No prior experience is required. See NLCA.com or Tom Paulson, Director of Worship and Music for more information. The NLC celebrates, invigorates and expands sacred choral music, bringing inspiration and meaning to people of diverse faiths and backgrounds.

News from the Foundation

Gifts donated to the St. Mark's Foundation are carefully invested to provide long-term financial strength and stability, allowing the principal gifts to continue growing while the investment income is used to fund grants and ministry opportunities. Through this thoughtful stewardship, each donation becomes a lasting legacy that supports outreach programs, community needs, educational opportunities, and ministries that share compassion, hope, and the message of God's love. In this way, the generosity of today continues carrying forward God's Word and serving future generations in meaningful and lasting ways. Learn more at:
www.stmarksnspfoundation.com

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, August 16

9:30 am Worship Service, SC
10:30 am Church Picnic, RH

Monday, August 17

No ministry events scheduled

Tuesday, August 18

9:00 am Morning Bible Study, FS
6:30 pm St. Mark's Strummers, LC

Wednesday, August 19

No ministry events scheduled

Thursday, August 20

8:30 am Breakfast & Bible Study, offsite
6:30 pm Anne Bible Study, FS

Friday, August 21 – Office Closed

Saturday, August 22 – Office Closed

Sunday, August 23

9:30 am Worship Service



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