

Upcoming Events @ St. Mark's

MARCH 1, 2026

Lenten Theme for 2026: The Least of These

Join us during the season of Lent when we will be focusing on God's concern for *The Least of These*. Inspired by Jesus' words in the Beatitudes and in Matthew 25, we will hear how God cares for the brokenhearted, the neglected, the poor, and the suffering. On Sundays we'll focus our attention on those "lesser" figures in the Bible that are overshadowed by the "greater" figures around them. During our Wednesday midweek services we'll focus on those raised up in Matthew 25 and will be collecting special offerings to support the least of these in our community. **Schedule Note: During Lent, Wednesday services will begin at 6:15pm in the Sanctuary.**

Wednesday Community Dinners – 5-6pm

All are welcomed to the table for this homemade meal offered Wednesdays during the school year. Freewill offering gladly accepted. Mar 4: lasagna, Mar 11: burrito bake, Mar 18: mac and cheese bar

Graduation Scrapbooks

St. Mark's scrapbookers will again make a personal memory book for your high school graduates. We invite each grad/parent/grandparent to provide \$15 for basic materials, up to 15 photos, and memories to go with the photos. Please contact Karyn Mikel at karynmikel@comcast.net or 612-414-2317 to obtain the form. Pictures and form are due by May 17; preferred by April 17.

Red Cross Blood Drive – Mon. March 30, 1-7pm Christ Lutheran Church (NSP)

Call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter NorthStPaulChurchesMN to schedule an appointment. Christ Lutheran is located at 2475 E 17th Ave, North St. Paul.

Drama costumes looking for new homes & Mar 1 (Sun) and Feb 25 & Mar 4 (Wed)

We are clearing out drama costumes that are ready for their next act. There are a variety of pieces, with assorted styles and sizes. This is a great opportunity to pick up some treasures. Available **free of charge, with a free will offering graciously accepted**. All offerings will go directly toward supporting our Children, Youth and Family Ministry.

Palm Sunday Action

ISAIAH's Black Church Power Project and ISAIAH's Mainline Protestant Congregations are organizing a Palm Sunday afternoon Procession and Worship at the State Capitol in St. Paul starting at 2pm. Our goal is more than 10,000 Christians joining together to highlight our call to love the neighbor, heal the sick, feed the hungry, and welcome the stranger in this critical moment in our nation's history. The church in Minnesota has been powerfully proclaiming that loving the neighbor should be at the center of our public life, and we will continue to lead! If you'd like more information please contact Pastor David.

St. Mark's Church 140th Anniversary

During 2027, St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church will be celebrating its 140th anniversary. The cornerstone for the original church at 14th and Margaret Street, was laid in September 1887. That cornerstone can be found at the bottom of the staircase going down to Fellowship Hall. If you are interested in helping with planning the celebration for the church's 140th anniversary during 2027, **an initial meeting will be held on Sunday, March 8**, following the church service. If you cannot attend but would like to participate, please contact Barb Michel, barbmichel2014@gmail.com, or another member of the archive committee or leave your name and contact info in the church office. Committee members are Joe Danko, Karyn Mikel, Karey Strandquist, Derrick Stolen, and Betty Wolf.

Mark your calendars!

Watch for more details about these events in your weekly announcements and eNews:

- **Feb. 22: Chili Cookoff** after worship
- **March 15: Pizza "Pi" and Puzzles** after worship
- **March 29: Palm Sunday** Pancake Breakfast
- **April 2: Maundy Thursday** Living Last Supper, 7pm
- **April 3: Good Friday** Tenebrae Service, 7pm
- **April 5: Easter Sunday Services**
6:37am Sunrise Service, 9:00 & 10:30am
- **April 19: Church-wide Potluck** after worship

Congrats to Sunday's chili cook off winners

3rd place: Joe Danko

2nd place: Steve Linder

1st place: Tim Reddy

Music Notes

Tom Paulson, Director of Music & Worship

March is Women's History Month, honoring the contributions, achievements, and culture of women in arts, science, politics, and beyond. As we worship, we'll incorporate readings from women theologians, poets, leaders, and composers to help us all more deeply understand their contributions. We did much the same in February, Black History Month.

Cathy Moklebust wrote *Pendeneni* (Swahili for "Love One another") for our friends up the road at Centennial United Methodist. A prolific and popular composer, she has nearly 400 compositions and arrangements in print. Her music is pure joy to ring and listen to, and has been heard on "Today," "Good Morning, America," public television, public radio, and SiriusXM satellite radio.

Roberta Rowland-Raybold, who wrote our prelude, was an insurance agent who simultaneously served as a director of music for Lutheran, Baptist, Episcopal and Presbyterian churches. I like her music because she never directly quotes the hymn directly, but rather uses its rhythms and harmonies to create something new.

Rachel Held Evans (1981-2019) was a New York Times best-selling author whose books include *Faith Unraveled* (2010), *A Year of Biblical Womanhood* (2012), *Searching for Sunday* (2015), *Inspired* (2018). Hailing from Dayton, Tennessee - home of the famous Scopes Monkey Trial of 1925 - she wrote about faith, doubt and life in the Bible Belt.

Upcoming in Worship Music

Mar 1: Jubilee Handbell Choir; Jennifer Arsenault, flute

Mar 8: Choir of St. Mark's; Mackenzie Lyon & Lauren Lammers, soloists

Mar 15: Worship Band

East Metro Symphony Orchestra (EMSO) concert at St. Mark's - March 15, 3pm

In honor of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States, music celebrating the unique and diverse influences of America will be the focus of the concert. Pieces include Gershwin's vibrant and genre blending *Rhapsody in Blue*; Dvorák's *Symphony No. 9*; and José Moncayo's folk and dance music inspired *Huapango*. Admission to this concert is free. Donations are always appreciated.

Fun with Ukuleles!

Have you noticed our ukulele group, the St. Mark's Strummers, and wished that you could get in on the fun? We'd love to have you join our merry band; no experience is necessary. We will teach you how to play. We can even provide a loaner ukulele if you just want to check us out. Contact Susan Borowick (sborowick@msn.com) for details, or just show up and play! Tuesdays at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary.

Marksmen Men's Group, 2nd and 4th Mondays

The Marksmen will continue meeting twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Monday at 7pm in Lundquist Chapel. The Marksmen is open to all men of the congregation. Each month we'll gather for fellowship, conversations about life and faith, as well as Bible and other studies. Contact Pastor David for more info (prdavidb@stmarks-nsp.org).

Next Week's Ushering Schedule

March 8 Team 2, Capts. Carl Hurtgen & Terri Borowick

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, March 1

9:30 am Worship Service, SC
9:30 am Sunday School

Monday, March 2

6:30 pm Monday Bible Study, offsite

Tuesday, March 3

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

Wednesday, March 4

5:00 pm Wednesday Dinner, RH
6:15 pm Lenten Service, SC
6:15 pm Faith Formation
7:15 pm Choir of St. Mark's, SC

Thursday, March 5

8:30 am Breakfast & Bible Study, offsite

Friday, March 6 - Office Closed

Saturday, March 7 - Office Closed

Sunday, March 8

9:30 am Worship Service, SC
9:30 am Sunday School



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