

# Upcoming Events @ St. Mark's

APRIL 26, 2026

## God's Work, Our Hands – Today after worship

Today we're participating in God's Work, Our Hands (GWOH) – a spring clean-up event. There are inside and outside projects here at the church, but our main focus will be to spread out to the local parks and trails to clean up trash that has built up over the winter. GWOH is a great way to serve our community and represent our congregation. Stop by and find a project that's right of you!

## 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.*

Apr. 29: sandwiches, May 6: tacos. May 13: leftovers. *May 13 is the final dinner night of the season.*

## Derby Day Party – Sat. May 2, 4:30 to 7pm

Join us for the most exciting TWO Minutes in sports! Do you love red roses, hats, fascinators, mint juleps, fancy clothes and horses? Dress in your favorite derby attire, build a fancy hat and watch the race in Rees Hall! We will provide supplies to build hats from our retired costume stock. If you have craft supplies that you would like to donate to the event please bring them in! Prizes awarded for the best hat, race games, Derby themed appetizers and beverages. Freewill offering to offset costs is appreciated.

## Calling all seniors for a special Spring Luncheon on May 7, 11am-1pm

All seniors, plus a guest, are invited to the Caring Ministries' Senior Spring Luncheon on May 7 at St. Mark's from 11am to 1pm. It includes a worship service in the sanctuary, followed by lunch in Rees Hall and entertainment/sing-a-long by the "Strummers" - St. Mark's new ukulele group. This is an opportunity for all **homebound members and their caregiver/guest** to gather with longtime friends for food and fellowship. In addition, **all seniors from St. Mark's** are invited to join the fun. Signups available in Rees Hall after church on Sun. April 19 and April 26. No cost but reservations are requested so enough food can be prepared. You may also call the church office at 651-777-7451 to make a reservation. Please contact Pastor David, Barb Michel (651-777-4305), or any Caring Ministry member for additional information.

## Women/Girls Spring Fling – Sat. May 9, 11am

All women and girls are invited to this intergenerational Spring event hosted by the Girl Scouts of District 622 and the Women of St. Mark's. This will be a three course "light tea" and will include activities and a speaker. A time to interact with younger and older ladies of all generations while enjoying food, fellowship and fun! Sign up on Sundays—April 19, 26 and May 3 in Rees Hall. Cost is \$10.00. Contact Virginia Collier 651-777-0584 with questions or to sign up. Come join us in the joyful season of Spring.

## Elaine Ader's 100th Birthday – May 10

All are welcome to celebrate this milestone in Elaine's life. Elaine has been a member of St. Mark's since 1961 and mother to Kathy Ader. Gather in Rees Hall after worship for treats and coffee as you stop to wish her a happy birthday. If you can't make it, can stop by to see her sometime at Polar Ridge, Apt. 418 or give her a call during her birthday month at 651-777-1576.

## Mental Health Sunday at St. Mark's – May 17

The Mental Health Ministry team will have a temple talk after the announcements and an information table set up in Rees Hall after worship.

## 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.



VBS 2026

## 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.

## Next Week's Ushering Schedule

May 3 Team 1: Capt. Mike Ericson

## Music Notes

Tom Paulson, Director of Music & Worship

*Bless, God, our hands as we work  
in your name, sharing the good news of  
your gospel. – Wayne Wold*

Have you ever noticed that it is a lot easier to destroy than to build? You drive by an old building one day, and the next it is gone. But it takes a year or more for a new one to take its place. The same is true with people: it's a lot easier to criticize someone and tear them down than it is to encourage them and build them up. (A mentor of mine used to tell me, "Five compliments for every one criticism.") Or in our society: it's easier to criticize churches, schools, government, businesses, etc., than it is to build them up. Not that we should ignore problems, we certainly should not, but naming is a lot easier than solving.

God seems to understand this. It is personified in Jesus' life, death and resurrection. "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly" (John 10:10). Society decided it was easier to tear down than to build up.

We have a great chance today to demonstrate this to the world with *God's Work, Our Hands* day of service. Take good note of the words to our closing hymn. "God's work, our hands: working TOGETHER, BUILDING a future, REPAIRING the world." (The emphasis is mine.) Maybe our projects aren't earth shattering, but they will leave the world a better place, and we will all have participated in building up instead of tearing down. And given the choice between "kill and destroy" and "abundant life," I'll try to take abundant life every time.

## Upcoming in Worship

**May 3** – Choir of St. Mark's

**May 10** – Jubilee Handbell Choir

## EMSO Concert at St. Mark's – Sun. May 17, 3pm

East Metro Symphony Orchestra (EMSO) is pleased to present Brahms' Symphony No. 4, along with other compositions. Admission to this concert is free. Donations in support of the orchestra's work in the community are always appreciated. This is the fourth and final concert in EMSO's 2025-2026 concert season. For more information, visit EMSO's website at [www.emsorch.org](http://www.emsorch.org).

## Updating contact information for next directory

Please contact the church office to update any contact information that has changed since last May. If you have moved or changed phone numbers we need to know. Be sure to let us know if you have removed a landline. You can check the church phone directory to see what we had last year. Call 651-777-7451 or email [terrib@stmarks-nsp.org](mailto:terrib@stmarks-nsp.org) with changes.

## Mark your calendar

Watch for more information about these upcoming events in the weekly email newsletter and announcements.

- **May 2:** Derby Day Party (Saturday)
- **May 7:** Senior Spring Luncheon (Thursday)
- **May 9:** Women's Spring Fling (Saturday)
- **May 17:** Mental Health Day at St. Mark's
- **Jun. 14, Jul. 19, Aug. 16:** Outdoor worship & picnic

## Thank you to our worship assistants:

**Ministry Assistant:** Corinna Petersen

**Usher Team 4:** Bonnie Meyers, Joe Danko,  
Diane Danko, Matthias Engh

**Reader:** Joanie Henriksen

**Communion Assistants:** Julie Urban, Jim Allen

**Welcome Center:** Julie Urban

**Altar Care:** Marsha Hoyer, Barbara McNeely

**Greeters:** Suzanne Ericson, Sherry Berry

**Multimedia:** Gary Martin, Josh Hirman

### Weekly Calendar

#### **Sunday, April 26**

9:30 am Worship Service, SC  
9:30 am Sunday School  
10:30 am God's Work Our Hands

#### **Monday, April 27**

10:30 am Caring Ministries Mtg, FS  
1:00 pm Women's Board Mtg, FS  
6:30 pm Monday Bible Study, Zoom  
7:00 pm Marksmen, LC

#### **Tuesday, April 28**

9:00 am Morning Bible Study, FS  
6:30 pm Girl Scout Leader Mtg, #203  
6:30 pm St. Mark's Strummers, SC

#### **Wednesday, April 29**

5:00 pm Community Meal, RH  
5:45 pm Jubilee Handbell Choir, SC  
6:00 pm All-Ages Faith Formation  
7:00 pm Prayer & Praise Service, LC  
7:15 pm Choir of St. Mark's, SC

#### **Thursday, April 30**

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

**Friday, May 1** – Office Closed

**Saturday, May 2** – Office Closed

4:30 pm Derby Day Party, RH

#### **Sunday, May 3**

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

### Ministry Staff

Rev. David Bjorklund, *Lead Pastor*  
[prdavidb@stmarks-nsp.org](mailto:prdavidb@stmarks-nsp.org)

Kate Bentley, *Deacon*  
[deaconkateb@stmarks-nsp.org](mailto:deaconkateb@stmarks-nsp.org)

Tom Paulson, *Dir. of Music & Worship*  
[tomp@stmarks-nsp.org](mailto: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