

Upcoming Events @ St. Mark's

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 2, 2025

All Saints Service to Remember & Honor Sun. Nov. 2 at 6pm in Lundquist Chapel

Join us for this special service dedicated to remembering those who have died in the last year. However this service is for everyone who has lost a loved one. It will include music, prayers, scripture, candle lighting, and poetry. The Choir of St. Mark's will lead the music. All are welcome. Coffee and cookies following.

East Metro Symphony Concert (EMSO)— Sun. Nov. 2 at 3pm at St. Mark's

Spooky vibes abound for EMSO's fall concert as they present *Symphonie Fantastique*. Hector Berlioz's *Symphonie Fantastique*, is a dark and dreamy five-movement symphony about a composer's obsession with a beautiful actress and terrifying visions. Other selections include Mussorgsky's chaotic and ominous classic *Night on Bald Mountain* and Grieg's *Peer Gynt Suite No. 1*. Admission to this concert is free.

GIFT GOES ON – Holiday Giving Program

St. Mark's will be sponsoring families this holiday season through our GIFT GOES ON program. If you are a member of St. Mark's and are in need, please contact Pastor David or Deacon Kate by Nov 9.

New Member Info Sessions – Nov. 9 or Nov. 12

St. Mark's will be welcoming new members into the congregation on Sunday, November 23 during morning worship. If you are looking for a congregation to call home we would love for you to share in our life as church together. A New Member Class will be held on Sunday, Nov. 9 after worship in the Fireside Room and Wednesday, Nov. 12 after dinner (6pm) in the library. *Choose a time that works for you!* Contact Pastor David at prdavidb@stmarks-nsp.org or 651-777-7451, ext 222 for more information.

Woodbury Chorus and Orchestra Concert – Sun. Nov. 16 at 4pm

Rhythm of Life is a concert of familiar choral and orchestral music and hosted at St. Mark's. The performance includes *Festival Gloria*, *Seven Bridges Road*, *Hosanna*, *Glow*, *You Raise Me Up* with *Be Still My Soul* and much more. The concert is free, and no tickets are required. A free-will offering will be taken, with 100% of the proceeds going to benefit the North St. Paul Area Food Shelf.

Soup Sunday – Sun. Nov. 23

Join us for delicious homemade soup and bread after Sunday worship. Free will offering. Proceeds go toward grocery gift cards for those in need during the holidays. Take out is also available.

Thanksgiving Eve Service & Pie Social – Wed. Nov. 26 at 6:30 pm

All are invited to gather at St. Mark's on Thanksgiving Eve to celebrate God's goodness, bounty, and mercy. Bring a pie to share if you wish, and stick around after worship for the social hour. *No dinner, education hour, or choir rehearsal.

Wednesday Community Dinners

All are welcomed to the table for this homemade meal offered Wednesdays during the school year. Freewill offering gladly accepted. Nov 5: tacos, Nov 12: chicken dinner, Nov 19: pulled pork, Nov 26: no dinner (Thanksgiving Eve)

Annual Progressive Dinner – Sun. December 7

All are invited! Appetizers at 4pm at host homes, dinner at 5:15pm at church, followed by 6:30pm dessert. Bend in the River Band will once again provide the entertainment. Cost is \$20/person. **Sign up begins on November 16.** You may also sign up to be an appetizer host!

New phone directory

You should be receiving the new phone directory this week. Please check your information to be certain it is correct. Often phone numbers change but we don't know unless you tell us. Contact the church office with updates: email stmarks@stmarks-nsp.org or call 651-777-7451.

Another great Trunk-or-Treat in the books

We had 24 trunks and more than 600 kids visiting on a perfect autumn day! It was a great partnership with the Girl Scouts sponsoring s'mores and St. Mark's providing hot dogs. The winning trunk was chosen because of its fun interactive way to get the candy. Thanks to everyone who hosted a trunk, visited the event and supported the community outreach efforts by donating candy. If you haven't already, check out more pictures of all the trunks on St. Mark's Facebook page facebook.com/stmarksnsp.

Music Notes

Tom Paulson, Director of Music & Worship

*Listen, listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,
Offering forgiveness, comfort and joy.
(ELW 513)*

Last week we sang "A Mighty Fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing." Was the last time you used the word "bulwark" last Reformation Sunday, a year ago? This week we sing "For all the Saints who from their labors rest; who thee, by faith, before the world confessed thy name" Both the language and the tune of these hymns feel dated in 2025, but I'm not sure I mind so much. Lutherans, and other denominations, have been singing "Ein Feste Burg", a.k.a. "A Mighty Fortress" in various translations since Martin Luther wrote it, in German, in the early 1500's. "For All the Saints" is only about 100 years old, but its Victorian English has a timelessness much like the King James Version of the bible. Timelessness and eternity seem appropriate when we are singing about those who, across the ages, have set an example for us by their faith. Their example is certainly not bound by time.

When we sing music and language that feels dated, it may be a way for us to have communion and fellowship with the many followers in the way of Jesus, known and unknown, who have gone before us, and will come after us. It helps us think in the big picture; it's not all about us and our time. Hebrews 12.1 talks about us being "surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses" that we should "run with perseverance the race that is set before us." Good words for us, both in the fall of the year, and as we prepare for 2025.

Next Week's Ushering Schedule

Nov 9: Team 2 Capts: Terri Borowick & Carl Hurtgen

Sing the Marvelous Music of Christmas

If you sang in choir in high school or college and now miss it, or maybe are just missing the joy of singing, join the Choir of St. Mark's for the Christmas season. Come to a couple of Wednesday rehearsals - 12/3, 12/10 & 12/17, 7:15 to 8:30 – then sing for our two biggest services: Christmas Festival Sunday Dec. 14 at 9:30 am, and Christmas Eve Wed. Dec. 24 at 10pm. You'll be glad you did! Contact Tom Paulson at tomp@stmarks-nsp.org.

Coming up in Worship...

Sun. Nov. 2 (6:00pm) – All Saints Day Service of Remembrance in the chapel with the Choir of St. Mark's; Anna Bjorklund, Susie Lenz & Maureen Schnitzer (trio)

Sun. Nov. 9 – Jubilee Handbell Choir

Sun. Nov. 16 – Choir of St. Mark's; Lenora & Viola Lyon, soloists

Mark your calendar for these upcoming events:

- **Woodbury Chorus & Orch. Concert:** Nov. 16, 4pm
- **Soup Sunday:** Nov. 23
- **Thanksgiving Eve Service & Pie Social:** Nov. 26
- **Global Mission Craft Sale:** Dec. 6
- **Progressive Dinner:** Dec. 7
- **Christmas Festival Sunday:** Dec. 14
- **Christmas Eve Services:** Wed. Dec. 24 – 3 & 10pm
- **Christmas Day Service:** Thurs. Dec. 25 – 9:30am
- **Annual Meeting:** Sun. Jan. 25, 2026

News from the Foundation...

The next Foundation Board meeting is on Tuesday, **November 11**. Grant request forms and guidelines are available on the Foundation website at stmarksnspfoundation.com and should be submitted online or in the church office before this date.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, November 2

9:30 am Worship Service, SC
9:30 am Sunday School
3:00 pm EMSO concert, RH
6:00 pm All Saints Remembrance Service, Lundquist Chapel

Monday, November 3

6:30 pm Monday Night Bible Study, Zoom

Tuesday, November 4

9:00 am Morning Bible Study, FS
6:30 pm Ukulele Group, #102

Wednesday, November 5

5:00 pm Wednesday Dinner, RH
5:45 pm Jubilee Handbell Choir, SC
6:00 pm All Ages Faith Formation

7:00 pm Prayer and Praise Service, LC
7:15 pm Choir of St. Mark's, SC

Thursday, November 6

8:30 am Breakfast and Bible Study, offsite

Friday, November 7 – Office Closed

Saturday, November 8 – Office Closed

Sunday, November 9

9:30 am Worship Service, SC
9:30 am Sunday School
10:45 am New Member Info Session, FS



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