

Upcoming Events @ St. Mark's

OCTOBER 25, 2026

Trunk-or-Treat is TODAY from 4-6pm

Come to hand out candy from your decorated vehicle, or bring your kiddos to do some Trunk-or-Treating (or both) —as Pastor David says “maximum candy, minimum effort!” Those handing out candy should arrive by 3:30 to set up their trunks. All are welcome at this fun family event in the West parking lot. Invite your friends and family!

Sunday Night Youth Group – Oct. 25

We're trying something new this year for our 7th-12th graders. In addition to Wednesday nights we are hosting Sunday Night Youth Group from 6:30pm-8:00pm on the **2nd and 4th Sundays** of each month. We normally meet in the Youth Room on the second floor of Rees Hall and friends are welcome.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study – Canceled Oct. 27

The Tuesday Bible study will not meet this week. See you on Nov. 3!

Wednesday Community Meals – 5-6pm

Join us for a homemade meal on Wednesday nights in Rees Hall from **5-6pm** during the school year. There is no set charge for the meal, however freewill donations are always appreciated.

Oct 28: chicken dinner, Nov 4: enchilada bake

Curious About Becoming a Member of St. Mark's?

Pastor David will be hosting a series of information sessions for those interested in becoming members of St. Mark's. If you are interested or would simply like to learn more about our congregation please RSVP for **one** of the sessions below by contacting the church office. *Sessions will be held in Room 103 just off of Rees Hall.* New Member Information Sessions: Sun. **Nov. 1** –11am or Wed. **Nov. 11** – 6pm

Holden Evening Prayer Service – Sun. Nov. 1, 6pm

St. Mark's Music Ministry will lead Marty Haugen's Holden Evening Prayer to celebrate All Saints Sunday, and remember and honor those who have gone before us, especially since last All Saints. If you have recently lost someone this is a good way to honor their memory, and give thanks for the life you shared. The service will include poetry, prayer, candle lighting, psalms and anthems. Features the Choir of St. Mark's and Jennifer Arsenault (flute). Coffee and cookies reception to follow.

EMSO Concert at St. Mark's – Sun. Nov. 1, 3pm

The East Metro Symphony Orchestra will present Beethoven's Symphony No. 8 plus Copland's Lincoln Portrait, Barber's Adagio for Strings, and Copland's Fanfare for the Common Man for their fall concert at St. Mark's in the Sanctuary. Admission is free! Freewill donations accepted. More at emsorch.org.

Winter is coming – Join our on-call snow removal team – meeting on Nov. 7 at 9:30 am in Rees Hall

Volunteers sign up to clear sidewalks as needed on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings, and in the event of excessive snow totals. We'll have an introductory meeting during the Saturday Stewards time on Nov. 7. For more information or to sign up, contact Kurt Biedermann at kurtb@stmarks-nsp.org.

Soup Sunday – Sun. Nov. 22

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

Thanksgiving Eve Worship & Pie Social Wed. Nov. 25 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, or choir rehearsal.*

Global Mission Craft Fair – Dec. 5, 9am-3pm

Head to St. Mark's from 9am to 3pm for this fun day of shopping and supporting local crafters and home businesses. Ten percent of all profits benefit our sister congregations in Tanzania. Expect a good selection of vendors - candy, jewelry, toys, ornaments, blankets, bags, signs, and more!

Annual Progressive Dinner – Sun. Dec. 13

All are invited! Appetizers at 4pm at host homes, dinner at 5:15pm at church, followed by 6:30pm dessert. *Bend in the River Big Band* will provide the entertainment. Cost is \$20/person. **Sign up begins on November 22.** You may also sign up to be an appetizer host!

Music Notes

Tom Paulson, Director of Music & Worship

*We resist, we refuse to let hatred in.
We rise up, we won't back down!
We're in it to the end. (Mark A. Miller)*

From our position 400 years in the future and a continent away, it is difficult to fully appreciate the seismic changes brought about by the Reformation. We know about Martin Luther nailing his 95 Theses to the door of Wittenberg Cathedral, but the ideals spread throughout Germany so quickly partly because the dukes and princes of the many duchies realized if they declared themselves to be ProTESTants, they didn't have to pay taxes to the pope. Furthermore, these were the days before the separation of church and state; if your ruler declared your kingdom protestant, you were protestant!

Likewise in England. Henry VIII declared himself Head of the Church, so he could divorce his wife. And woe to anyone who disagreed with him. Wars were fought over the reformation, and hundreds of people executed, the reason his daughter Mary is known as "Bloody Mary." Arguably, the best thing Henry's other daughter, Elizabeth I, ever did was to end the official policy of persecution, and allow Catholics to practice their faith. Her reign is remembered as a golden age in England.

Today, the Choir of St. Mark's is singing a passionate protest song – quoted above. One choir member, I think rightly, compared it to something from the crowd scenes of the musical and movie *Le Mis*. It is a intense call to not only resist evil, but to do the good Jesus calls us to do - to "Pray for your enemies! Welcome the stranger! Show love for your neighbor! We're in this to the end." May the passion of this protest song reaffirm for us proTESTants, our commitment to God above all else.

Upcoming in Worship

Nov 1 Choir of St. Mark's and Ringers of St. Mark's

Nov 1, 6pm All Saints Holden Prayer Service in the Chapel, with music from the Choir of St. Mark's and Jennifer Arsenault, flute

Nov 8: Worship Band

Mark your calendar

- **Oct 25:** Trunk-or-Treat, 4-6 pm (W. parking lot)
- **Nov 1, 3pm:** EMSO Fall Concert at St. Mark's, SC
- **Nov 1, 6pm:** All Saints Holden Prayer Service, LC
- **Nov 22:** Soup Sunday after worship
- **Nov 25 (Wed) 6:30pm:** Thanksgiving Eve Worship & Pie Social
- **Dec 5:** Global Missions Craft Fair, 9am-3pm
- **Dec. 13:** Progressive Dinner

Thank you to our Worship Assistants

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

Reader: Diane Danko

Altar Care: Marsha Hoyer

Greeter: Sherry Berry

Multimedia: Gary Martin, Josh Hirman

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 could use assistance at Christmas, please contact Pastor David or Intern Rachel by November 8.

Next Week's Ushering Schedule

Nov 1 Team 1: Capt: Mike Ericson

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, Oct. 25 – Reformation Sunday

9:30 am Worship Service, SC
9:30 am Sunday School
4:00 pm Trunk-or-Treat, W. Parking Lot

Monday, Oct. 26

1:00 pm Women's Board Mtg, RH
6:30 pm Monday Night Bible Study, Zoom
7:00 pm Marksmen

Tuesday, Oct. 27

9:00 am Morning Bible Study-canceled
6:30 pm Prayer Shawl Meeting, FS

Wednesday, Oct. 28

5:00 pm Community Meal, RH
5:45 pm St. Mark's Ringers, SC

6:00 pm Education Hour

6:45 pm Communion Service, LC

7:15 pm Choir of St. Mark's, LC

Thursday, Oct. 29

8:30 am Breakfast & Bible Study, offsite
12:30 pm Archives Committee, FS

Friday, Oct. 30 – Office Closed

Saturday, Oct. 31 – Office Closed

Sunday, Nov. 1 – All Saints Sunday

9:30 am Worship Service, SC
9:30 am Sunday School
11:00 am New Member Info Mtg, #103
3:00 pm EMSO Concert, SC
6:00 pm Holden Evening Prayer Service for All Saints Sunday, Chapel

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: 651-777-7451

Weekly Worship

Sundays: 9:30 am
Wednesdays: 6:45 pm