

# Upcoming Events @ St. Mark's

APRIL 12, 2026

## Church Potluck – Sun. April 19

The hospitality team is hosting a church-wide potluck after worship on April 19 – gather together for good food and good fellowship. Bring your appetite and your favorite dish to share! If your last name is A-J please bring a hot food item; K-S a cold item; and T-Z a dessert. Spots will be available to plug in your crock pots to keep food warm.

## 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. 15: baked potato bar, Apr. 22: hamburgers, Apr. 29: sandwiches, May 6: tacos. May 13: leftovers. *May 13 is the final dinner night of the season.*

## 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.

## Mark your calendar

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

- **Apr. 19:** Church Potluck after worship
- **Apr. 26:** *God's Work, Our Hands* day of service
- **May 2:** Derby Day Party
- **May 7:** Senior Spring Luncheon
- **May 9:** Women's Intergenerational Spring Fling
- **Jun. 14, Jul. 19, Aug. 16:** Outdoor worship & picnic

## St. Paul Area Synodical Convention – Sat. April 25 St. Mark Lutheran Church (Circle Pines) 8am-4pm

All women are welcome to experience worship, speakers, learning sessions, Bible study with Bishop Patricia Lull, business meeting, and great food and fellowship with other women. The keynote speaker is Marcie Rendon, author of *Where They Last Saw Her* about missing and murdered indigenous women. Feminine and hygiene products will be collected for MN Indian Women's Resource Center (list on the bulletin board in Rees Hall.) A monetary collection will be taken for Second Harvest Heartland and a refugee house. A quilt will go to Safe House for homeless teens. Registration information is on the bulletin board – **due April 16**. Cost is \$50. We will carpool from church. Contact Virginia Collier for more information at 651-777-0584.

## 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.

### Next Week's Ushering Schedule

April 19 Team 3: Capt. Bob Engwer

## Music Notes

Tom Paulson, Director of Music & Worship

*Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!  
Our triumphant, holy day, Alleluia!* (ELW 365)

After Pastor David saw that I had chosen this hymn to open worship the Sunday after Easter Sunday, he gave me a good natured ribbing, "Jesus Christ is risen LAST WEEK" and we had a good laugh. I then realized that this hymn is too good, too beloved, and too significant to be relegated to only one Sunday a year. We need to sing it more than that, especially because after six weeks of Lenten alleluia famine, we get to sing "Alleluia" a lot!

*That Easter day with joy was bright;  
the sun shone out with fairer light,  
When to their longing eyes restored,  
the apostles saw their risen Lord.* (ELW 384)

We close worship with a hymn that also references Easter day, only in the past, rather than present, tense. It maybe doesn't evoke the sense of Easter in the same way, but it should. It has a gentle swing or lilt to it that makes it fun to sing. And the tune feels like something we could dance to or maybe, in a very different context, drink beer to. Either way, it is definitely a celebration! Finally, consider the last quoted line, the apostles see Jesus again, and their sight is restored. And perhaps that is the lesson of Easter for us today, seeing Jesus where once we had been blinded.

## Upcoming in Worship

**Sat. Apr. 18** – Emily Ronsberg ordination, Choir of St. Mark's

**Sun. Apr. 19** – Worship Band, Anna Bjorkland, Susie Lenz, Missy Lilly and Diane Sell

**Sun. Apr. 26** – Choir of St. Mark's; Handbell Choir

## Upcoming Mental Health Events

Take full advantage of our relationship with the Mental Health Connect collaborative and attend one or more of the following events. Go to [www.mhconnect.org/find-mhc](http://www.mhconnect.org/find-mhc) for more details:

- **Nature as Therapy** – Tues. April 14, 7–8:30pm., Bethlehem Lutheran Church and via Zoom.
- **Choosing Hope: Five Practices for Living Fully** – Tues. April 21, 6–8pm, Bethlehem Lutheran Church.
- **2026 Stores of Hope Breakfast Fundraiser** – Thurs. May 7, 8am – 9am, doors open at 7am. Mount Olivet Lutheran Church. Registration required.

Some events may require registration and/or a fee. See the Mental Health Connect site for details.

## News from the Foundation: Planting Seeds

When you donate to St. Mark's Foundation, you are planting seeds of giving that will flourish far beyond the present moment. Your contribution helps nurture lasting change, offering hope and support to those in need while ensuring your gift continues to grow and benefit future generations. By supporting the Foundation, you become part of a legacy of generosity that shapes our community for years to come. Visit [stmarksnspfoundation.com](http://stmarksnspfoundation.com) to learn more about the mission of the Foundation.

### Weekly Calendar

#### Sunday, April 12

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

#### Monday, April 13

6:30 pm Monday Bible Study, offsite  
7:00 pm The Marksmen, LC

#### Tuesday, April 14

9:00 am Morning Bible Study, FS  
5:30 pm Finance mtg, zoom  
6:00 pm Property mtg, FS  
6:30 pm Personnel mtg, LB  
6:30 pm St. Mark's Strummers, SC  
7:00 pm Foundation Board mtg, #203

#### Wednesday, April 15

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 16

8:30 am Breakfast & Bible Study, offsite  
1:00 pm Elizabeth Bible Study, FS

**Friday, April 17** – Office Closed

**Saturday, April 18** – Office Closed  
1:00 pm Emily Ronsberg Ordination, SC

#### Sunday, April 19

9:30 am Worship Service, SC  
9:30 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Church Potluck, RH

### 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