

# Upcoming Events @ St. Mark's

MARCH 15, 2026

## Blessing the Quilts

St. Mark's Quilters gathered in January, February and March to assemble, tie and sew more than 80 quilts for needy folks near and far. Many will be sent overseas by Lutheran World Relief. Quilts are also used within our community by Head Start, Hope for the Brave, a Hospice Program and the North St. Paul Police. One thing that all the quilts have in common is that they are a gift of hope made with love by caring hands. St. Mark's is blessed to have a dedicated group of quilters that give of themselves to help others. Quilts are Tied in Peace, Sent in Hope and Wrapped in Love. Please contact Shirley Pickett at 735-0016 or Darlene Dent.777-1657 with questions. Thank You Quilters for making a difference in people's lives.

## Pizza, Pi(e) and Puzzles – Today after worship

While Saturday (3.14) is the official Pi Day, St. Mark's will be celebrating after worship on Sunday with pizza, pie and puzzles in Rees Hall. Fun for the whole family!

## East Metro Symphony Orchestra (EMSO) concert at St. Mark's – Today at 3pm in the Sanctuary

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.

## Mark your calendars!

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

- **Mar. 15: Pizza "Pi" and Puzzles** after worship
- **Mar. 15: EMSO concert** (3pm)
- **Mar. 29: Palm Sunday** Pancake Breakfast
- **Apr. 2: Maundy Thursday** Living Last Supper, 7pm
- **Apr. 3: Good Friday** Tenebrae Service, 7pm
- **Apr. 5: Easter Sunday Services**  
6:37am Sunrise Service, 9:00 & 10:30am
- **Apr. 19: Church-wide Potluck** after worship

## Palm Sunday Path, Informational Meeting – Today after worship in the Sanctuary

Congregations across Minnesota and the country are invited to participate in The Palm Sunday Path, in a nationwide event on Sunday, March 29th.

**Pastor David will be holding an informational session this Sunday following worship in the sanctuary.** A description of the Palm Sunday event is below as well as a link for more info and registration. *"Christians stand for loving our neighbors. We stand for healing the sick, feeding the hungry, and welcoming the stranger. We stand for telling the truth and honoring the dignity and worth of every child of God. On Palm Sunday, March 29th 2026, Christians across the country will stand up to the rise of authoritarianism and white Christian nationalism. We will stand against the politics of greed, cruelty, and oppression by continuing to show the country that our central commandments, to love God and love our neighbors, is our way forward."*  
<https://www.palmsunday2026.com>

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

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

## 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* on Sundays and Wednesdays. 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. **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 18: mac and cheese bar, Mar 25: Swedish meatballs, Apr 1: (Holy Week) no dinner, education or worship, Apr 8: sloppy joes, Apr 15: baked potato bar

### Next Week's Ushering Schedule

March 22 Team 4, Capt. Bonnie Meyers

## 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, much as we did in February, Black History Month.

**Anna Warner** (c. 1820-1915) was a novelist who wrote under a pen name; being a published author would not have been appropriate for a woman of a certain social standing in 19th century USA. Jesus Loves Me, that most popular of Sunday School songs, comes from her thousand page, two volume novel Say and Seal, published in 1860. It is one of 50 or so hymns she wrote.

Brooke Ligertwood, Laura Story, and Darlene Zschech are all big names in popular Christian music.

**Ligertwood** (b. 1983) is a singer/songwriter from New Zealand, and winner of the 2018 Grammy for Best Contemporary Christian Music Performance.

**Story** (b. 1979), is an American Contemporary Christian singer/songwriter who has won a Grammy and six Dove Awards. **Zschech** (b. 1966) is an Australian worship leader and singer. A pioneer in Contemporary Christian music, she is the lead pastor of Hope Unlimited Church in New South Wales.

**Mother Teresa** (1910-1997) was born Anjezë Gonxhe Bojaxhiu. She was an Albanian-Indian Catholic nun who dedicated her life to serving "the poorest of the poor." In 1979 she received the Nobel Peace Prize "for work undertaken in the struggle to overcome poverty and distress, which also constitutes a threat to peace."

## Upcoming in Worship Music

**March 22:** Choir of St. Mark's; Jubilee Handbell Choir; Betty Wolf, cello

**March 29, Palm Sunday:** Choir of St. Mark's; Jubilee Handbell Choir

## Marksman 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).

## 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! Please use QR code to sign up.



VBS 2026

## Thank you to our worship assistants:

**Worship Band:** Mark Ebner, Missy Lillie, Tom Michel, Tyler Ronsberg & Diane Sell, vocalists; Ken Indrelie, guitar; Steve Feltowski, Bass; Russ Payne, drums

**Ministry Assistant:** Diane Danko

**Usher Team 3:** Bob Engwer, Ron Barber, Dick Newell, Art Arsenault, Christopher Barber

**Greeter:** Sue Fletcher

**Communion:** Toni Christoffersen, Diane Danko

**Altar Care:** Kathy Hanon

**Multimedia:** Gary Martin, Josh Hirman

### Weekly Calendar

#### Sunday, March 15

9:30 am Worship Service, SC  
9:30 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Pizza, Pi(e) and Puzzles, RH  
3:00 pm EMSO Concert, RH

#### Monday, March 16

1:00 pm Phoebe Bible Study, FS  
6:30 pm Monday Bible Study, offsite

#### Tuesday, March 17

9:00 am Morning Bible Study, FS  
10:00 am Naomi Bible Study, FS  
6:30 pm Prayer Shawl Meeting, FS  
6:30 pm St. Mark's Strummers, SC

#### Wednesday, March 18

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

#### Thursday, March 19

8:30 am Breakfast & Bible Study, offsite  
1:00 pm Elizabeth Bible Study, FS  
6:30 pm Church Council Mtg, #203/Zoom

**Friday, March 20** – Office Closed

**Saturday, March 21** – Office Closed

#### Sunday, March 22

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

### 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