

Upcoming Events @ St. Mark's

JUNE 23, 2024

Vacation Bible School/Day Camp – August 5-9

Bring your children, grandchildren, cousins, and friends! This will be the best of Vacation Bible School and summer camp all rolled into one great week! The full-day program (9am-3pm) also has 1/2 day options. **Register online today using the QR code or use the link at www.stmarks-nsp.org.**



VBS Reg 2024

Women's Summer Bible Study – Sat. July 13

This Bible study *After Certainty*, from the Gather magazine, focuses on what it means to live in faith after a worldwide pandemic, climate change, political turmoil and a changing religious landscape. It may feel like the days of predictability and stability are behind us. What will the future hold? This study will be held in Fellowship Hall with registration from 9:30-10:00am. We are happy to have Deacon Kate Lindberg leading us. The Bible Study will begin at **10:00am** followed by lunch at 12 noon. The lessons are in the June, July/August Gather magazine, and copies will be available at registration on Sundays June 23, 30 and July 7 in Rees Hall. Cost is \$13.00. Call Virginia Collier 651-777-0584 to register or for more information. *All women are welcome and please bring a friend!*

Godspell Spring of 2025 at St. Mark's!

St. Mark's has a long history of providing drama opportunities for children, youth and adults. It is a chance for members and community friends to use the gifts God has given them and grow in friendship and faith with each other. I am happy to announce that Mandy Papenguth and I will be directing *Godspell* in 2025. This will be a multi-generational show and although there are only 10 principal characters we will be adding roles for children and older adults. Look for more details on auditions that will be held early in December with rehearsals beginning after the new year. Performance dates will be April 10-13th. We may also add another weekend of performances. Along with actors, we are looking for a choreographer, stage manager, and those willing to help build our set. If you have any interest please reach out to me (Diane Sell) at 303-489-2923 or Mandy at 612-298-2246.

Summer Sunday Worship Music Schedule

When our choirs are on summer break, like much of Minnesota, it is a good opportunity for us to think outside the box each Sunday and experience music and worship in new and different ways. Peruse the list here, and plan to be here as often as possible.

- June 23** Corinna Petersen (clarinet), Jennifer Arsenault (flute)
- June 30** St. Paul Civic Symphony Orchestra cello section with Betty Wolf
- July 7** Zach Spirov (singer/songwriter)
- July 14** Outdoor Worship with St. Mark's Worship Band & Church Picnic
- July 21** Anna Bjorklund, Susie Lenz & Missy Lillie and the music of the Wailin' Jennys
- July 28** Suzanne Benson (flute) & Frankie Benson, (flute/oboe/English horn)
- Aug 4** Billy Johnson (singer/songwriter)
- Aug 11** Lauren Lammers (soprano); Miranda Hirsch (saxophone); and Nick Hirsch (trumpet)
- Aug 18** Outdoor Worship with St. Mark's Worship Band and Church Picnic
- Aug 25** East Metro Symphony Orchestra Brass Quintet (Jeff Hodgson)
- Sept 1** Matthias Baese (horn) from the St. Olaf College Orchestra

Wednesday Summer Campfire Services

June 12 & 26, July 10 & 24, Aug 14 & 28

We will have Wednesday night worship in June, July, and August, at 6:30 on the second and fourth week of each month. Join us for a casual (30-45 minute), faith-filled evening around the campfire. Singer/songwriter Zach Spirov is providing guitar music for these services all summer! Communion available. Bring your own chair/blanket and invite your friends.

Youth Fundraising Update

Thank you SO MUCH to all of our generous donors who have contributed to the Youth Gathering fundraiser! After this week's bingo event we are now at \$10,000! It is so amazing to see the congregation investing in our youth to support them on such a formative faith experience! We are one month away and just \$3,000 shy of our goal!

Next Week's Ushering Schedule

Sunday, June 30

Team 5: Capt: Dan Colberg

Music Notes

Tom Paulson, Director of Worship & Music

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide. The darkness deepens, Lord, with me abide. (ELW 629)

I have usually thought of this hymn for evening services, especially Ash Wednesday and Wednesdays during Lent, because of "fast falls the eventide" from the title, and "Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;" from verse 2. So it surprised me to see it in ELW's Hope, Assurance section, and caused me to see it in a different light. The quoted words can, and probably should, be taken metaphorically, especially in light of verse 4, and its reference to 1 Corinthians.

*I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory? I
triumph still, if thou abide with me. (ELW 626, vs. 4)*

So maybe hearing this tune, and singing these words, at least in our heads, is a good way to come to communion. Both are ways we are reminded of the presence of God in our lives, the God who is with us through the hardest of times.

Help! Gardeners Needed

We are still looking for volunteers to care for the gardens at St. Mark's. After this season, we are losing our two key gardeners – Sherry and Wanda. Now is a good time to take advantage of their knowledge. It takes a couple of hours per week. Ask a friend or two to participate with you. Leave your name with Pastor David, Deacon Kate or the church office or just show up on Thursday mornings and let us know.

Council Corner – May 23, 2024

Council met in May to discuss the following:

- Children, Youth and Family: Fundraisers for the youth trip to New Orleans in July include Bingo Night on May 21 when \$630 was raised and drop-in babysitting was held on June 1.
- Finance: Council approved concrete work on the west side of the church entrance and work to shore up the baffles outside the west side of the sanctuary. Total cost for the two projects is \$13,800 and will be paid for out of the BMI fund.
- Property: New stoves have been installed in the kitchen. Some gas and electrical work is still in progress.
- Hospitality/Outreach: Intergenerational Prom was held on Saturday, May 18. Outdoor worship service and picnic was held on June 9. Upcoming outdoor services/picnics will be held on July 14 and August 25.
- Nominating: Two possible candidates have been identified for open council positions next January.
- Players and Planners: *Godspell* has been chosen as the first production in 2025. Auditions will be held in December with rehearsals to start in January. Performances will be held before Holy Week.

Weekly Thursday Garden Time – 9 to 11 am

Join us every Thursday morning (or as often as you can) to care for St. Mark's gardens. We meet outside Rees Hall and the Sanctuary. You don't need garden experience to pull weeds, water or do other gardening. We will guide you. If you would like to help on a different day or time that works better for you, let us know. Contact Sherry Berry at 651-777-6704 or Wanda Hurtgen at 651-770-1905.

Calendar

Sunday, June 23

9:30 am Worship Service, RH

Monday, June 24

No ministry events scheduled

Tuesday, June 25

9:00 am Morning Bible Study, #203

Wednesday, June 26

6:30 pm Campfire Worship Service

Thursday, June 27

8:00 am Breakfast & Bible Study, Perkins

9:00 am Garden Team, outside

6:30 pm Anne Bible Study, FS

Friday, June 28 – Office Closed

Saturday, June 29 – Office Closed

Sunday, June 30

9:30 am Worship Service, RH

Follow us



@stmarksnsp

Ministry Staff

Rev. David Bjorklund, Lead Pastor
prdavidb@stmarks-nsp.org

Kate Lindberg, Deacon
katel@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

Website: www.stmarks-nsp.org