

Dear Friends,

One of the Ministry Initiatives for 2021 identified during our stewardship campaign last fall, was a focus on intentional outreach to our community, especially in light of the expanding home building and improvements in North St. Paul. Now that we are emerging from a time of pandemic imposed isolation, we are seeking out opportunities to contact and connect with our neighbors in a spirit of Christian love and invitation.

One such opportunity in the very near future is the **Pop-Up Produce Stand** that will once again be held in our parking lot on the 4th Mondays of July, August and September. Many of you volunteered to set up tables, bag and distribute produce, and provide a friendly greeting and smile to our neighbors last summer. The first Pop-Up this summer, is Monday, July 26. **Volunteers are needed** at 3:00 pm to prepare for distribution. Food will be distributed from 4 to 6 pm or until it runs out. Please contact Pastor Mary if you can help.

Below, you will find an invitation from Mike Ericson to be a part of a team committed to this intentional outreach effort. Please consider joining in this important undertaking.

It is good to be coming together again!

God's Peace,  
Pastor Mary  
Email: [primaryf@stmarks-nsp.org](mailto:primaryf@stmarks-nsp.org)  
Ph: 651-777-7451, ext. 222

**The air conditioner has been temporarily repaired. See you in the Sanctuary this Sunday!**

### **Interested in serving on a new Community Outreach Committee?**

Community outreach was identified and one of the three initiatives for St. Mark's Lutheran Church and its Stewardship for All Seasons for 2021. More specifically, an effort by volunteer members of the church to go door to door with the dozens of new homes in North St. Paul and share marketing and promotional materials inviting the new residents to visit our church. The Church Council agreed to form the committee after the school year and it is time to solicit volunteers to serve and develop a marketing plan including a budget. If you are interested in serving on the committee please contact Mike Ericson who will serve as chair. He can be reached at [mericson@yahoo.com](mailto:mericson@yahoo.com) or call 612-790-5166 (cell) or 651-704-0397 (home/office). We likely will meet as a committee after the Sunday church service on July 25 or August 1. Please contact Mike if you have questions and/or want to serve. Thank you for your interest.

### **FREE Pop-Up Produce Stand—July 26, August 23, September 27**



No registration or income requirements—just good food shared with neighbors. Pickup is available from 4-6 pm in the St. Mark's parking lot (on the sanctuary side). On the 4th Monday of the month, a variety of seasonal produce items are available to pick up. Please bring your own bags. Tell your friends and neighbors about this EASY way to get free, delicious fresh produce. Provided in partnership with the North Saint Paul Food Shelf and Second Harvest.

## Phased return to in-person worship has begun!

- **Sundays July 18, 25 and August 8, 15, 22, 29, and September 5** we will have **in-person** worship at 9 am. Masks encouraged.
- **Sunday, August 1** we will have an **outdoor** parking lot service at 9 am. You may bring lawn chairs or remain in your car and listen to the service over our FM transmitter.
- **Sunday, September 12** will be Rally Day and we anticipate a return to a full schedule of worship, education, and fellowship.

## Online worship

Although we are back to worshipping in person, we are also committed to maintaining an online presence for folks who can't make it to the church. Online services will be available by 3:00 pm at [www.stmarks-nsp.org](http://www.stmarks-nsp.org), via Facebook, or simply use the email link sent to you.

## Wednesday Hymn Time at 7 pm

On Wednesdays this summer, join pianist Trevor Wolter Ternez in person in the church sanctuary as he continues our journey through all the hymns in our hymnal, the Evangelical Lutheran Worship. This will be an ongoing series throughout the summer on the **second and fourth Wednesdays** of the month.

## Church Office Hours

There will be a volunteer at the reception desk Monday thru Thursday from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. However, since staff hours vary, it is best to call ahead if you need to speak with a specific staff member.

June FINANCIALS		
	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Income	\$286,813	\$293,452
Expense	\$236,750	\$291,514
Net difference	\$50,063	\$1,938
<i>Thank you for supporting St. Mark's Ministry!</i>		



## School Tools Drive July 4 through August 1

This year we are partnering with Interfaith Action to help students from families with low-income start school with the essential tools for success. The supplies are distributed through ten different programs in the Greater Saint Paul. *Watch for school supply sales that will start in July so you can get "more bang for your buck."*

**Drop off:** Collection tubs are located in the narthex and Rees Hall. Donations can also be dropped off on Thursday mornings in the Rees Hall parking lot from 9 – 11 am, weather permitting. Donations accepted through Aug. 1.

### Supplies needed:

- Backpacks
- 3-ring binders, loose-leaf paper and folders
- Calculators
- Spiral and composition notebooks
- Pencils, pens, markers, colored pencils, crayons, erasers, highlighters, pencil sharpeners
- Glue sticks & bottles
- Scissors & rulers
- Facial tissue
- School boxes
- Hand sanitizer
- Reusable masks

***\*Pick up a flyer at the Welcome Center to keep handy when shopping.***

**Monetary donations are also welcome.** Checks may be made payable to Interfaith Action with "school tools" in the memo line.

## Interested in ushering?

If you are interested in ushering, please contact Dan Colberg at [drcolberg@comcast.net](mailto:drcolberg@comcast.net) or call 612-716-5969.

## Upcoming Usher Team Schedule

**July 18–Team 3**  
 Bob Engwer-Capt.  
 Ron Barber  
 Steve Jensen  
 Dick Newell

**July 25–Team 3**  
 Larry Dent-Capt.  
 Al Pearson  
 Howie Drager  
 Mel Schewe  
 Karl & Sue Trusinsky