

Weekly Update

June 23, 2022

"Settled" meeting – Sunday, June 26

Thank you to everyone who came to the informational meeting on *Settled* at Woodland Hills Church on May 24. Whether you missed that visit or not, please join us in considering next steps regarding St. Mark's involvement with this group that is working to alleviate homelessness in St. Paul (<u>settled.org/sacred_settlement/what-are-they/</u>). Following worship on Sunday, June 26, we will meet (Fireside Room). Bring your coffee, your questions, and your ideas! ~ *Eric Gustafson, Intern Pastor*

Pop-Up Choir - Sunday, June 26

Join us on Sunday, June 26 in a pop-up choir. We'll meet Sunday morning at 8:45 am in the choir room and sing in the service at 9:30. We'll sing something beautiful in its simplicity and therefore no experience is required. People of all ages are welcome and this would be a great family activity.

Free Coffee for St. Mark's Youth Group – June 27 (3:30–5:00 pm)



I'll be posting up at Starbucks on White Bear Ave and County Rd B on June 27 (Monday) from 3:30-5:00 pm. Any Middle-or High-Schooler from St. Mark's is invited to stop in and enjoy a free beverage. Well, almost free: it'll cost you a conversation. The conversation could be short or long, serious or casual but that'll be the price of a beverage. My hope is stay connected, and to check in and see how life is going for you. I hope you'll join me. Feel free to bring a friend or two. "Pastor David"

July Saturday Stewards cancelled

Due to the 4th of July holiday weekend, Saturday Stewards has been cancelled for July. See you August 6. If you are looking to help out....the Garden Team could use more hands on Thursday mornings (see next page).

Outdoor Worship Service & Picnic – July 10 and August 14

We have dedicated two dates this summer to hold worship outdoors (followed by a church picnic). That second date is Intern Pastor Eric's last Sunday at St. Mark's. Let's hope the weather cooperates. Watch the Update for more information.

Special Congregational Meeting - July 10

Council President Mike Ericson and Pastor David Bjorklund have called a special congregational meeting to be held on July 10, 2022 following morning worship. The purpose of this meeting is to approve the Mission Investment Fund loan for our parking lot renovation, and to approve expenditures to replace the sanctuary HVAC system. Both of these projects have been reviewed and approved by the Property and Finance Committees, and the Church Council. These will be the only items on the agenda for this special meeting. A quorum of 100 members is required for the meeting. July 10th is also the morning of our outdoor worship service and picnic. We'll have a lively service with communion and two baptisms. Immediately after the service we'll have our brief congregational meeting and afterwards we'll break out the food to feast and have some fun!

In sympathy...

- We pray for peace and comfort for the family and friends of **Phyllis Peasley**. A service will be held at St. Mark's on **Wednesday, June 29**. Visitation at 10 am and service at 11 am.
- We extend prayers of comfort to the family and friends of **Bob Neumann**, who passed away this week. His funeral will be in the coming weeks.

May all who mourn the loss of loved ones find comfort in the promise of the resurrection.

Mark Your Calendars

The Wurst Ride Ever – July 16 at 1:00 pm

While the Gasthaus closed this past December their Biergarten will be open weekends during the summer. That means the Wurst Ride Ever is back...so mark your calendars and tune up those bikes!

The St. Paul Area Synodical Women's Convention – July 16

"Strength and Dignity without Fear" will be held on Saturday, July 16, 2022. The host church is Bethesda Lutheran Church, 2855-47th Street E. Inver Grove Heights, MN. This is a one day convention with registration at 8 am and closing worship at 4 pm. Cost is \$35.00. This annual gathering includes Bible study, learning sessions, luncheon speaker, worship with communion, great food and fellowship. Bishop Patricia Lull will be leading us. We will be collecting new men's, women's and children's socks and underwear for a foster care and a shelter. Please leave your contributions in the Collection Cupboard in Rees Hall.

Sign up and registration forms are on the women's board. Please register by July 1. All women are welcome and encouraged to attend. Please call Virginia Coller at 651-777-0584 with any questions.



Have you visited our website lately?

It's easy to find. You can use this link to go right to the St. Mark's Foundation at www.stmarksnspfoundation.com.

If you are on the St. Mark's Church website, check out the "ministries" tab and you will find the Foundation. Click on "Foundation" and that will bring you to information to view the Foundation website. On the Foundation website, you will find facts about the Foundation, board of trustee members, what grant requests are about and how to fill one out, how to contact board members with questions, news items and the Foundation's annual reports. If you wish to donate to the Foundation, you can easily do that through the St. Mark's Church website under "donations." The Foundation looks forward to hearing from you!

Volunteer Opportunities

Free! Pop-Up Produce Giveaway July 25, August 22, September 26

Volunteers needed

On the 4th Monday of the month, a variety of seasonal produce items are available to pick up from 4-6 pm at St. Mark's. 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.* We need a crew of volunteers to help sort, bag, and distribute the food. If you are interested in helping out, please contact the church office at 651-777-7451 or email stmarks@stmarks-nsp.org. We'll start compiling a list for July. If you are interested in coordinating the volunteers for the Pop-Up, let us know.

Altar Care: We need about 5 volunteers to set up communion before worship and take it down afterwards. You can sign up for a monthly rotation or as a substitute on an as-needed basis. Training provided. Contact Barbara McNeely (brmcneely4@comcast.net or 651-777-5711) if you are interested or if you have questions.

Garden helpers: The Garden Team needs help taking care of the many gardens at St. Mark's on **Thursday mornings at 9:00 am**. We meet on the Rees Hall side of the building and work for about two hours. If another day and time works better, you would be interested in adopting a garden or two, or perhaps connecting the sprinkler hoses, give Sherry Berry a call. We are flexible and open to other options and really need extra help. Contact Sherry Berry at 651-777-6704 or Wanda Hurtgen at 651-770-1905 with questions.

Snack donations requested for NSP Police & Fire Departments

St. Mark's continues to provide portable snacks and water for the North St. Paul Police Department when they need to take a break during evening and overnight shifts. They are so appreciative of our hospitality! Currently, our stockpile is getting low. We are asking for donations of individually packaged snacks and bottles of water.

Donations may be dropped off (labeled NSP PD) in the Fellowship Hall kitchen or in the church office.



If you like to use Instagram, please give us a follow @stmarksnsp. We've been adding more content lately.

Anything you would like to see more of? Contact annm@stmarks-nsp.org.



Vacation Bible School August 9-11 (9 am to 12 pm)

St. Mark's is hosting River of Life,

ELCA World Hunger's VBS program for pre-K to 5th graders. Together we 'll journey down the river to learn about God's gracious gift of water. From the waters of baptism to the waters that sustain farms and gardens, water is life.

Kids will learn about the importance of water and have a lot of fun with games, crafts and more! Free of charge. Sign up by Aug. 8 at www.stmarks-nsp.org or scan the QR code here:



VBS Volunteers Needed

VBS is right around the corner and we want to be ready to offer a great experience for the kids...and we need great volunteers to make it happen! Youth volunteers (6-12th graders) are needed to help run games, assist with crafts and music, and act in skits. Adult volunteers are needed to help organize and run the different activities and to shepherd the kids to their rotations. We also need adults to help out with food prep and service. Please sign up to volunteer by using the VBS registration link at www.stmarks-nsp.org or scan the QR code (shown above.)

Next Week's Calendar

Sunday, June 26

9:30 am Worship Service, SC

10:30 am Settled interest meeting, FS

Monday, June 27

10:30 am Caring Ministries Team, FS3:30 pm Youth Coffee Convos,

Starbucks (WB Ave and Cty Rd B

Tuesday, June 28

9:00 am Tuesday Bible Study, 203/4

Wednesday, June 29

No ministry activities

Thursday, June 30

8:30 am Denny's Breakfast & Bible, offsite 1:00 pm Elizabeth Bible Study, offsite

Friday, July 1 – Office Closed Saturday, July 2 – Office Closed

Sunday, July 3

9:30 am Worship Service, SC

Around the Neighborhood

Oakdale Summerfest Celebration – June 24 & 25 Walton Park, 1584 Hadley Ave N

Collect candy at the parade, dance to live music at the bandshell, feast at the food trucks, activities for kids, hunt for the medallion, and fireworks at the end! Details at https://www.ci.oakdale.mn.us/377/Summerfest

Wreaths Across America Mobile Education – June 30

The Nathan Hale Chapter Daughters of the America Revolution (DAR) and the North St. Paul Veterans Park welcomes this mobile education exhibit. It will be at the North St. Paul Veterans Park on Thursday, June 30 from 9 am to 3 pm, with a 10 am Ceremonial Wreath-Laying and a Welcome Home Vietnam Vets tribute at 1 pm. The exhibit serves as a mobile museum, educating visitors about the service and sacrifice of our nation's heroes and serves as an official "welcome home" station for our nation's Vietnam Veterans. Free and open to the public. Learn about this nonprofit and the year-round work its volunteers do to support our heroes and their communities.

Light it Up Maplewood – July 4, 4-10 pm Hazelwood Park (1663 Cty Rd C) Come for family games/activities, inflatables, food trucks, adult beverages, music from *Good for Gary*, fireworks at 10 pm. Details at https://maplewoodmn.gov/885/July-4th

Music at Casey Lake – July 21, 7-8:30 pm

Bring a lawn chair and head to Casey Lake Park to enjoy the acoustic duo Matt & Laurel. Listen to their covers on songs from Prince, Ed Sheeran, Elvis, Mumford and Sons, Adele and many more.



Coffee this Sunday...

is sponsored by Wayne Lehmann, in memory of his sister-in-law Clarice Olson.

Next Week's Daily Lectionary Readings

 Monday, June 27
 Wednesday, June 29
 Friday, July 1

 Psalm 140
 Psalm 140
 Psalm 66:1-9

 Gen.24:34-41, 50-67
 Jeremiah 23:16-22
 Jeremiah 51:47-58

 1 John 2:7-11
 Matthew 10:16-25
 2 Corinthians 8:1-7

 Tuesday, June 28,
 Thursday, June 30

 Psalm 140
 Psalm 66:1-9

 Jeremiah 3:15-18
 2 Kings 21:1-15

 Ephesians 5:6-20
 Romans 7:14-25