



Saint Mark's
Evangelical Lutheran Church

Weekly Update

September 17, 2020

Worship In-Person...Outside!

On September 13, we held our first in person worship service in 6 months! It was so good to see one another again!

Thanks to Karen Biedermann for this synopsis of the morning:

Everyone involved was very pleased with the event! We had about 90 parishioners in attendance. About 1/3 stayed in their cars, and 2/3 brought chairs and sat socially distanced in the front parking lot. We had a team set up the parking lot ahead of time to control traffic flow (shout out to the bright orange chairs from Rees Hall that served as great makeshift traffic cones!). As people drove in, two teams welcomed them, directed them where to park, and handed out single serve communion kits. Gary Martin set up an FM transmitter for those staying in their cars, and people that used the radio station through their car radios said the sound quality was great. We had a very nice worship service led by Pastor Mary and Cory, with music from Missy Lillie, Nancy Lacroix and Tom Michel. The group did a great job social distancing and staying masked, and post service people stayed to chat and help clean up.

As part of God's Work, Our Hands Sunday, prayer shawls were available for drop off and pick up, there was a drop off for the food shelf (and the table was full at the end of the morning!), good work was done on the grounds by Rees Hall and the Christian Ed Supply Room was cleaned out!

All in all, it was a wonderful event! For September 27, we will plan on having more spots available for people that want to enjoy the service from their cars.

Join us on Sunday, September 27 at 10:00, for another chance to be together.

God's Peace,

Pastor Mary

Cell: 608-295-5401 or Email: prmaryf@stmarks-nsp.org



God's Work-Our Hands Project

A HUGE thank you to Mike Clasen, Heather Fogelson, Heidi and Mark McKenzie and Mike Peasley who worked on installing the block edging by the Rees Hall entrance. Also, thank you to Carl Hurtgen, Isaac and Rob Thompson and Jim Berry for helping bring the supplies to the church and unloading. Thank you to the Garden Team for funding the project Wanda and Sherry for coordinating everything. The project looks GREAT!



Pop Up Farmers Market – September 28

Our last Pop-Up of the summer is scheduled for Sept. 28 from 4-6 pm. No registration or income requirements—just good food shared with neighbors. The market is outside in the St. Mark's parking lot (on the sanctuary side). This event is contact free: just drive up, pop the trunk or roll down the back seat window, and a volunteer will place the bag inside the car for you. **Tell your friends and neighbors about this SAFE way to get delicious, FREE produce!** ~A partnership with the North Saint Paul Food Shelf and Second Harvest

Red Cross Blood Drive – October 5

St. Mark's is hosting a Red Cross blood drive on Monday, October 5 from 1:00 to 7:00 p.m. To sign up, go to <https://www.redcrossblood.org/>. In the upper right corner is a search box. Type in "north st paul churches". You will be able to schedule your preferred time here.

We also need a few **volunteers** to help during the drive. As the date gets closer, there will be more information available. If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer, please call John Froiland at 608-295-5402.

Update on the Secret Prayer Sisters

We will not be having a Women's Fall Event this year to select new Prayer Sisters. Please continue to send prayers and encouraging wishes to your current sister until we can gather again.

Online Worship every Sunday & Facebook Live Sunday Preludes

Please continue to join us for online worship services every Sunday—available via links on Facebook, the St. Mark's website (www.stmarks-nsp.org) and emailed directly to you. Please join us as often as you are able. Trevor Wolter Ternez goes Live on Facebook on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am to provide prelude music.

Congregational Zoom Check-in: Coffee & Conversation – Fridays at 10:00 am

Check in with Pastor Mary and your other friends from St. Mark's via Zoom each Friday morning at 10:00, for conversation and a quick peek at the upcoming Sunday's sermon texts. *This coming Sunday's texts are **Philippians 1:21-30 and Matthew 20:1-16** in case you want to look ahead and bring your thoughts and ideas.*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81850034128>
Meeting ID: 818 5003 4128

COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan

The preparedness and response plan was developed by the St. Mark's Restoration Team to minimize the spread of COVID-19 at St. Mark's (including a phased reopening plan for in-person worship). The report is informed by CDC guidance in accordance with the Minnesota Department of Health guidelines. **The full report is available in the resources section of St. Mark's website at www.stmarks-nsp.org/resources.**