

Upcoming Events @ St. Mark's

WEEK OF JULY 13, 2025

Church Picnic Today - All are Welcome!

Join us after worship today for a picnic: brats, hotdogs, homemade coleslaw, chips, fruit, and dessert. Hope to see you there! Special thanks to the Hospitality Team for organizing the event.

Registration is open!

Vacation Bible School – August 5, 6, and 7

Children ages 4 and up are invited to join us for Vacation Bible School from 9am-Noon where we will be exploring the theme *At the Table*.

Our sessions will be filled with a variety of activities that dive into our theme, including storytelling, games, crafts, and snacks! Kids in grade 6 and above are welcome to sign up to be helpers! Scan the QR code to sign up. It's free!



VBS 2025 Reg

Women's Summer Bible Study – Sat. July 26, 10am

We are happy to have Emily Ronsberg, a daughter of St. Mark's, lead us in our Bible Study on Saturday, July 26 at 10:00am in Fellowship Hall. Emily is a recent graduate of Wartburg Theological Seminary and is currently working as a chaplain. Registration will be from 9:30-10:00am followed by Bible Study at 10am and lunch at 12 noon. The lessons are in the June/July/August *Gather* magazine, and copies will be available at registration on Sundays, July 13 & 20 in Rees Hall. Cost is \$15.00. Call Virginia Collier at 651-777-0584 for more information or to register. All women are welcome and please bring a friend!

Thank You to our Worship Assistants:

Worship Band: Mark Ebner, Missy Lillie, Andy McKenzie, Diane Sell, Tyler Ronsberg, vocalists; Steve Feltowski, bass; Russ Payne, drums

Usher Team 2: Carl Hurtgen, Terri Borowick, Sharon Sporcic, Robin Graham, Miland Meek, Steve Linder

Communion: Joe & Diane Danko

Welcome Center: Suzanne Ericson

Altar Care: Joanne Wegwerth, Diane Leonhardt

Greeter: Beth Hoppe

Multimedia: Gary Martin, Josh Hirman

Summer Sunday Worship & Music Schedule

- July 20** Zach Spirov & Friends;
Amy Reddy (gospel storyteller)
July 28 Mackenzie Lyon (mezzo soprano)
Aug 3 Lauren Lammers (soprano)
Aug 10 Coda – Scott Dorf (saxophones) and
Malcolm Anderson (keyboards)
Aug 17 Outdoor Worship & Picnic with
St. Mark's Worship Band
Aug 24 Tom Michel (tenor);
Diane Sell (gospel storyteller)
Aug 31 Miranda Hirsch (saxophone)

Wednesday Summer Campfire Services

July 23, Aug 13 & 27

Join us on the second and fourth Wednesday for worship at 6:30pm. This is a casual (30-45 minute), faith-filled evening around the campfire (outside, behind the chapel). Singer/songwriter Zach Spirov provides guitar music all summer! Bring your own chairs and invite your friends. *If the weather doesn't cooperate, we'll gather in the chapel.*

Free Produce Giveaway – Mon. July 28, 4-6pm

Be sure to stop by St. Mark's for free produce! We set up outside the chapel on the corner across from North High. Grab a variety of produce items. No income requirements – just good food shared with neighbors. Thanks to the North St. Paul Food Shelf and Second Harvest for providing the produce. Future dates include Mon. Aug 25 and Sept 22. If you would like to volunteer to help distribute for one of the events, contact Julie at urbanja@comcast.net.

St. Mark's Caregiver Support Group is off for the summer

The group that meets monthly on the 2nd Sunday is taking a break for the rest of the summer and will resume meeting this fall. For more information contact Pastor David at prdavidb@stmarks-nsp.org.

Mark your calendar for these fall events

Wednesday Dinner/Education Kickoff: Sept. 10

God's Work, Our Hands: Sept. 14

North St. Paul Fall Parade: Sept. 18

Red Cross Blood Drive at St. Mark's: Oct. 6

KidsFest: Oct. 10, 4-6pm

Trunk-or-Treat: Oct. 26, 4-6pm

Music Notes

Tom Paulson, Director of Music & Worship

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart
and with all your soul
and with all your strength and with all your mind
and your neighbor as yourself." (Luke 10:27)

I love this gospel verse! Along with Micah 6:8 and 1 John 4:16, it is one of my foundational verses. Seeing how key it is to the St. Mark's community is one of the things that drew me here. However, as the old saying goes, the devil is in the details. Indeed, in the very next verse the man speaking to Jesus asks, "And who is my neighbor?" He is either jumping into the details right away, or falling into Jesus' carefully laid trap. I tend to think the latter because Jesus then tells him the story of the Good Samaritan, which defines neighbor in a way the man probably didn't like.

Our Prelude, *Love the Lord Your God*, is a fun, energetic setting of this verse, and a bit of a tongue twister. The words go by very quickly for the singers, and the spirit of the song really makes me smile! As we learned it though, we realized something a little disturbing. Lincoln Brewster, the composer, writes about heart, soul, mind and strength, but never gets around to the last part, neighbor. That seems like kind of a big oversight, a weakness on his part. So we're changing a few of the words to be sure to include our neighbor. We are, after all, the church where everybody's welcome!

Next Week's Ushering Schedule

July 20: Team 3 Capt: Bob Engwer

Blood Drive at Church of St. Peter – Wed. Aug 6

The drive will be from 1-7pm in O'Reilly Hall (2600 Margaret St N, North St. Paul). Call 1-800-733-2767 (1-800-RED CROSS) to schedule an appointment or visit RedCrossBlood.org and search North St Paul Churches. You may also scan the QR code here. Special promotion going on during the drive. \$15 e gift card & successful donations get A1C testing. Terms of offer at: rcblood.org/Test



News from the Foundation...

Share your talents! The St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church Foundation is planning for 2026 and inviting congregation members to share their talents by becoming a Board of Trustees participant. The Foundation operates with the support of 3 sub-committees: Communications & Development; Finance & Investments; and Grants & Disbursements. The full board meets 5 times per year, with sub-committees meeting as needed averaging 2-4 hours per month. Currently, the Communications Committee is seeking to welcome several new members to join this volunteer group. Do you have skills and interests that could be used to promote the activities and work of the Foundation? Tasks may include working with various media; contributing to the newsletter or website; brain-storming creative ideas; writing reports or announcements; or promoting donor opportunities. Keeping relevant communication flowing ensures the church and community remain informed. Feel free to chat with a Board member or visit the website at www.stmarksnspfoundation.com for further resources. Every bit of talent shared helps the Foundation continue to grow.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, July 13

9:30 am Outdoor Worship Service & Picnic

Monday, July 14

7:00 pm Stewardship for All Seasons, office

Tuesday, July 15

9:00 am Morning Bible Study, FS
6:30 pm Drama Ministry Mtg, FS

Wednesday, July 16

No ministry events scheduled

Thursday, July 17

8:30 am Breakfast and Bible Study, offsite
6:30 pm Church Council Mtg, #203/Zoom

Friday, July 18 – Office Closed

Saturday, July 19 – Office Closed

Sunday, July 20

9:30 am Worship Service, SC



GIVE ONLINE

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