

Upcoming Events @ St. Mark's

WEEK OF JULY 6, 2025

Outdoor Worship & Picnic – Next Sunday, July 13

Let's try this again! Weather permitting we will have an outdoor service and picnic. On the menu: brats, hotdogs, homemade coleslaw, chips, fruit, and dessert. All are welcome – invite your friends! *If weather doesn't cooperate, we'll bring it all inside.*

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

MN Twins outing cancelled

Due to rising costs, we have decided to cancel the Twins outing this year. We hope you'll find another opportunity to head to the ballpark for outdoor baseball this summer.

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:

Usher Team 1: Mike Ericson, Mike Clasen, Marlene Moreno, Suzanne Ericson, Andy Petersen, Corinna Petersen

Reader: Joanie Henriksen

Communion: Shirley Pickett, Marge Koniar

Welcome Center: Sherry Berry

Altar Care: Joanne Wegwerth, Diane Leonhardt

Greeters: Diane & Joe Danko

Multimedia: Gary Martin, Josh Hirman

Welcome Guest Musicians

Jennifer Arsenault recently started playing flute again after taking a break for several years, and plays with the Seward Concert Band. She also plays regularly for worship here at St. Mark's (graciously at Tom's many requests) and with the Jubilee Handbell Choir.

Suzanne Benson, flautist, has been involved with music ministry at St. Mark's for over 30 years! She also plays widely in the community – with the Woodbury Chorus and Orchestra, the Minnesota State Band, the Century College Band, the St. Anthony Park Band and the Hopewell Flute Choir.

Karin Holmberg Kimble is a retired string teacher, and cello section leader and board co-president with the Dakota Valley Symphony Orchestra. A very active performer, she plays in wedding ensembles, theater pit orchestras, the St Croix Valley Symphony in River Falls, the Gilbert and Sullivan Very Light Opera Company in Minneapolis, and the Austin Symphony Orchestra, Austin, MN.

Summer Sunday Worship & Music Schedule

- July 13** Outdoor Worship & Picnic with St. Mark's Worship Band
- 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 9 & 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.*

Music Notes

Tom Paulson, Director of Music & Worship

Female composers of classical music seem to be few and far between; I only remember studying the music of one in college or grad school. Is this because there were no women composers, or were the opportunities available to men composers not available to women? I tend to think the latter.

So it was very fun to come across the music of Elizabeth-Claude Jacquet de la Guerre (1664-1729); she composed the music Suzanne, Jennifer, Karin and I are playing today for worship. She was born about 20 years before J.S. Bach, and wrote and performed music for the Sun King, Louis IV of France. She was considered one of the great artists of her time, one whose feats as a composer and performer surely merited enduring recognition. However, since her death she has been mostly forgotten, until the last 10 years or so.

In 1977 St. Mark's called our first female pastor, Joy Bussert. I remember how trailblazing that was for my home congregation, in 1984! So kudos to St. Mark's. In today's reading from Galatians, Paul writes "... let us not grow weary in doing what is right ... let us work for the good of all." St. Mark's surely did what was right in 1977, working for the good of all, and continues to try to do so today. In fact it is the heart of our mission to love God, and love our neighbor.

I think we are doing what is right by learning the music of this great woman, and bringing it back to life and into worship. She merits enduring recognition. I pray that she is an encouragement to each of us to be the person God created us to be. As Paul writes in Romans, don't let the world squeeze you into its mold, let God remake you from within.

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.

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



Red Cross

Are you interested in the ukulele?

We hope to form a ukulele group to play for fun, and occasionally play and sing in worship. If you already play the ukulele, or are interested in learning to play this happy little instrument, please contact Susan Borowick (sborowick@msn.com) or Tom Paulson (tomp@stmarks-nsp.org). All ages, levels of ability and experience (including none!) are welcome!



Sunday Coffee Hour is sponsored by Bill & Shirley Pickett.

Next Week's Ushering Schedule

July 13: Team 2 Capts: Carl Hurtgen, Terri Borowick

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, July 6

9:30 am Worship Service

Monday, July 7

No ministry events scheduled

Tuesday, July 8

5:30 pm Finance Mtg, Zoom

6:30 pm Personnel Mtg, LB

Wednesday, July 9

11:00 am Polar Ridge Service, offsite

6:30 pm Campfire Worship Service, outside

Thursday, July 10

8:30 am Breakfast and Bible Study, offsite

Friday, July 11 – Office Closed

Saturday, July 12 – Office Closed

Sunday, July 13

9:30 am Outdoor Worship Service & Picnic



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