Upcoming Events @ St. Mark's

NOVEMBER 1, 2026

Curious About Becoming a Member of St. Mark's?

Pastor David will be hosting a series of information sessions for those interested in becoming members of St. Mark's. If you are interested or would simply like to learn more about our congregation attend **one** of the sessions below. No registration necessary. *Sessions are held in Room 103 just off of Rees Hall.*
New Member Information Sessions:
TODAY at 11am *or* **Wed. Nov. 11 at 6pm**

Holden Evening Prayer Service – Tonight at 6pm

St. Mark's Music Ministry will lead Marty Haugen's beloved Holden Evening Prayer to celebrate All Saints, and remember and honor those who have gone before us, especially since last All Saints. The service includes poetry, prayer, psalms and anthems sung by The Choir of St. Mark's. A coffee and cookies reception will follow.

EMSO Concert at St. Mark's – Today at 3pm

The East Metro Symphony Orchestra will present their fall concert at St. Mark's in the Sanctuary. Admission is free! Freewill donations accepted. More at emsorch.org.

Winter is coming – Join our on-call snow removal team – meet on Nov. 7 at 9:30 am in Rees Hall

Volunteers sign up to clear sidewalks as needed on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings, and in the event of excessive snow totals. We'll have an introductory meeting during the Saturday Stewards time on Nov. 7. For more information or to sign up, contact Kurt Biedermann at kurtb@stmarks-nsp.org.

Sunday Night Youth Group

We're trying something new this year for our 7th-12th graders. In addition to Wednesday nights we are hosting Sunday Night Youth Group from 6:30pm-8:00pm on the **2nd and 4th Sundays** of each month. We normally meet in the Youth Room on the second floor of Rees Hall and friends are welcome. Next gatherings on Nov 8 & 22.

Wednesday Community Meals – 5-6pm

Join us for a homemade meal on Wednesday nights in Rees Hall from **5-6pm** during the school year. There is no set charge for the meal, however freewill donations are always appreciated.
Nov 4: enchilada bake, Nov 11: lasagna,
Nov 18: Italian, Nov 25: No Dinner

Gift Goes On – Holiday Giving Program

St. Mark's will be sponsoring families this holiday season through our *Gift Goes On* program. If you are a member of St. Mark's and could use assistance at Christmas, please contact Pastor David or Intern Rachel **by November 8**.

Soup Sunday – Sun. Nov. 22

Join us for delicious homemade soup and bread after worship. Free will offering. Proceeds go toward grocery gift cards for those in need during the holidays. Take out is also available.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship & Pie Social Wed. Nov. 25 at 6:30 pm

All are invited to gather at St. Mark's on Thanksgiving Eve to celebrate God's goodness, bounty, and mercy. Bring a pie to share if you wish, and stick around after worship for the social hour. **No dinner, education, or choir rehearsal.*

Global Mission Craft Fair – Dec. 5, 9am-3pm

Head to St. Mark's from 9am to 3pm for this fun day of shopping and supporting local crafters and home businesses. Ten percent of all profits benefit our sister congregations in Tanzania. Expect a good selection of vendors - candy, jewelry, toys, ornaments, blankets, bags, signs, and more!

Annual Progressive Dinner – Sun. Dec. 13

All are invited! Appetizers at 4pm at host homes, dinner at 5:15pm at church, followed by 6:30pm dessert. *Bend in the River Big Band* will provide the entertainment. Cost is $20/person. **Sign up begins on November 22.** You may also sign up to be an appetizer host!

Trunk-or-Treat Recap

Thanks to all who showed up on a wet afternoon to decorate and hand out candy. We had over 700 kiddos (and their families)! Congratulations to the Lamers family and friends for their winning trunk design! Their apple orchard theme was very popular. Thanks to the girl scouts for providing free hot dogs and s'mores around a fire pit; to Suzanne Ericson for organizing the event; to Sherry Berry for using a Thrivent grant to provide LOTS of extra candy; and to everyone who donated bags of candy. Thank you for helping to make this a great community event!

Music Notes

Tom Paulson, Director of Music & Worship

"Jesus didn't just "come to die." Jesus came to live – to teach, to heal, to tell stories, to turn over tables, to touch people who weren't supposed to be touched and eat with people who weren't supposed to be eaten with. To break bread, to pour wine, to wash feet, to face temptation, to tick off the authorities, to fulfill scripture, to announce the start of a brand-new kingdom, to show us what that kingdom is like, to show us what God is like, to love his enemies to the point of death at their hand, and to beat death by rising from the grave." (from *Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again*, by Rachel Held Evans, 1981-2019.)

Today we are celebrating the saints whose example teaches us how to live, and we begin our stewardship campaign, Building a Culture of Generosity. At first glance it may seem an odd combination, but I see them as very closely linked. Both turn our thoughts to what is truly important in our lives, and what we are going to support with our time, our energy and our money. Rachel Held Evans's quote above encapsulates the purpose of Jesus's life, what he was trying to teach his followers, and what we are learning as followers in the ways of Jesus.

We open worship on Sunday/today by singing, "Give thanks for saints whose faith is firm when all around seems bleak" (ELW 428) and close worship by singing you, Christ, were their (saints) rock, their fortress, their one true light (ELW 422). The saints, "that great multitude that no one could count" (Revelations 7:9), now including Evans, and those we name today in worship, testify to the truth and power of the love of God, made know in Jesus Christ. They testify to what is truly important, and what we strive to learn throughout our lives - who we are, whose we are, and what we are called to do and to be in this world.

Upcoming in Worship

Nov 1, 6pm All Saints Holden Prayer Service in the Chapel
Nov 8: Worship Band
Nov 15: Choir of St. Mark's; St. Mark's Ringers; Jennifer Arsenault, flute; Rachel Wyffels, violin; Lauren Lammers, Rachel Wyffels & Mackenzie Lyon, trio

Women of the ELCA Thankoffering Calendars

Thankofferings show gratitude for God's blessings and give us an important and tangible way to express that gratitude. This tradition began over 100 years ago when women would put a few coins in a box or cup every day in support of the church. During the month of November we especially want to give thanks for our many blessings. Use the calendar and the message for each day to think about how we can bless others. Calendars are available at the Welcome Center. Monies collected will go to local needs in our community and to the Women of the ELCA to support their mission. Thank you for your gifts.

Mark your calendar

- **Nov 1, 3pm:** EMSO Fall Concert at St. Mark's, SC
- **Nov 1, 6pm:** All Saints Holden Prayer Service, LC
- **Nov 22:** Soup Sunday after worship
- **Nov 25 (Wed) 6:30pm:** Thanksgiving Eve Worship & Pie Social
- **Dec 5:** Global Missions Craft Fair, 9am-3pm
- **Dec. 13:** Progressive Dinner

Next Week's Ushering Schedule

Nov 8 Team 2: Capt: Steve Linder

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, Nov. 1 – All Saints Sunday
9:30 am Worship Service, SC
9:30 am Sunday School
11:00 am New Member Info Mtg, #103
3:00 pm EMSO Concert, SC
6:00 pm Holden Evening Prayer Service for All Saints Sunday, Chapel

Monday, Nov. 2
10:30 am Caring Ministries Mtg, FS
4:15 pm 140th Committee Mtg, FS
6:30 pm Monday Night Bible Study, Zoom

Tuesday, Nov. 3
9:00 am Morning Bible Study, FS
7:00 pm Foundation Exec. Mtg, LB

Wednesday, Nov. 4
5:00 pm Community Meal, RH
5:45 pm Ringers of St. Mark's, SC
6:00 pm Education Hour
6:45 pm Communion Service, LC
7:15 pm Choir of St. Mark's, LC

Thursday, Nov. 5
8:30 am Breakfast & Bible Study, offsite
6:30 pm Anne Bible Study, FS

Friday, Nov. 6 – *Office Closed*
Saturday, Nov. 7 – *Office Closed*
9:00 am Saturday Stewards
9:30 am Snow removal team Mtg, RH

Sunday, Nov. 8
9:30 am Worship Service, SC
9:30 am Sunday School
6:30 pm Youth Group, YR

Ministry Staff

Rev. David Bjorklund, *Lead Pastor*
prdavidb@stmarks-nsp.org

Kate Bentley, *Deacon*
deaconkateb@stmarks-nsp.org

Rachel Wyffels, *Pastoral Intern*
rachelw@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
Wednesdays: 6:45 pm

Guest WiFi