

Upcoming Events @ St. Mark's

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

Produce Giveaways a huge success!

Thanks to all the families who stopped by this week (243 of them) and the 12 volunteers who help make these events possible. We had a great season this summer, serving a total of 526 families a variety of fresh produce at no cost to them! This is a partnership with Second Harvest and the North St. Paul Food Shelf. See you again next July!

Saturday Stewards – Oct. 4

The Saturday Stewards Group will meet at 9am. There are tasks to suit anyone who shows up. Contact Mark McKenzie at kiltboarder@gmail.com or just stop by.

Women's Synodical Cluster Meeting – Oct. 7, 6pm

This event is hosted by Bethlehem Lutheran Church – Bayport, MN and the cost is \$5.00

The speaker will be Kate Swenson who gives insight into the world of her son's autism. Her book "Forever Boy" is about their family's journey. We will collect a monetary offering for her organization, and material offerings for our local food shelves. Sign up on the bulletin board in Rees Hall. We will carpool from St. Mark's. Call Virginia Collier at 651-777-0584 with questions or to register. All women are invited to attend this event.

Free! KidsFest – Oct. 10, 4-6pm

Free community event! Bring your kids and invite some friends for a fun afterschool event with face painting, balloon animals, bounce house, bubble artist and treats! A great way to kick-off the weekend! We will set up in the North parking lot at St. Mark's. Come for as long as you'd like.

Red Cross Blood Drive – Oct. 13, 12-6pm

St. Mark's will host another blood drive in Rees Hall. An estimated 38 percent of Americans are eligible to give blood or platelets, but less than 10 percent actually donate. If you are healthy and eligible, please come out to donate. Book your appointment and become a part of the lifesaving mission of the Red Cross. Sign up at RedCrossBlood.org using code: NorthStPaulChurchesMN or scan here:



Wednesday Night Schedule

5-6pm – Community Dinner, Rees Hall
6-7pm – Faith Formation for all ages
7-7:30pm – Prayer & Praise service, Chapel

Wednesday Community Dinners

All are welcomed to the table for this homemade meal offered Wednesdays during the school year. Freewill offering gladly accepted. Oct 1: Italian meal
Oct 8: meatloaf, Oct 15: tater tot hotdish

It's not too early to start thinking about Trunk-or-Treat – Sun. Oct. 26, 4-6pm

The chilly weather reminds us that fall events will soon be here. Start planning your theme, trunk décor, or costumes for Trunk-or-Treat – we have very creative folks here at St. Mark's! Last year we had 24 trunks and over 500 costumed kiddos visit our event. If you've participated in previous years or you're a newbie, join us this year! Another way to participate is to make a monetary donation (note Trunk/Treat in memo line) or donate candy to the cause. Drop off bags of peanut-free candy in the church office.

Winter is coming – Be part of our on-call snow removal team

Volunteers are needed to clear sidewalks as needed on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings, and in the event of excessive snow totals. For more information or to sign up, contact Kurt Biedermann at kurtb@stmarks-nsp.org.

Thanks to everyone who participated in the North St. Paul Fall Parade last Thursday

We had 20 people walking/riding along with the St. Mark's parade float—troopers despite the rain! Candy and can coozies were distributed along with a little flyer advertising our fall community events. And for all those families in the community who showed up in the rain to cheer us on, thank you!

Next Week's Ushering Schedule

Oct 5 : Team 1 Capt: Mike Ericson

Music Notes

Tom Paulson, Director of Music & Worship

Proper prior preparation prevents poor performance.
(David Kallman)

Mr. Kallman was my first band teacher, and this was his mantra to the many children he taught to play instruments. Sometimes "practice" was substituted for "preparation" but the idea is the same. Little did I know as a beginning French Horn player that I would still be hearing these words in my head 50 years later, and often repeating them to the choirs I lead. But they are so true, ask any choir member.

Last Sunday, September 21, we began practicing a new liturgy, Setting 6, pages (not hymn number) 165-174, before worship. We began by practicing the just Hymn of Praise. We did really well with a long song; kudos to us! Our goal was to learn just the refrain.

Today our goal is begin learning the verses. The choir knows them well, so if you are unsure, listen to them. Keep in mind, participation is much more important than perfection, and you'll have many more Sundays to get it right. We'll take our time this fall learning the various songs: *Glory to God* now, *Lamb of God* in October, and *Lord, Have Mercy* in November. When in doubt, refer back to Mr. Kallman.

After making music almost my entire life, it still amazes me how much practice it takes to do it well. It's like learning to follow in the ways of Jesus, it takes lots of practice, sometimes an entire lifetime, as Pastor David reminded us last week. So today, let us give thanks for people like Mr. Kallman, who teach us what it is to practice.

Coming up in Worship...

- Oct 5** – Foundation Week: *Choir of St. Mark's, St. Mark's Foundation soloist, Jubilee Handbell Choir*
- Oct 12** – Healing Service: *Anna Bjorklund, Susie Lenz, Missy Lillie, Diane Sell & Worship Band*
- Oct 19** – Global Mission Sunday: *Choir of St. Mark's, Jubilee Handbell Choir*
- Oct 26** – Reformation and Confirmation Sunday: *Choir of St. Mark's*

Mark your calendar for these upcoming events:

- **KidsFest:** Oct.10, 4-6pm
- **Red Cross Blood Drive at St. Mark's:** Oct.13
- **Global Mission Sunday:** Oct. 19
- **Trunk-or-Treat:** Oct.26, 4-6pm
- **All Saints Evening Service:** Nov. 2, 6pm, Chapel
- **EMSO Concert:** Nov. 2, 3pm, Sanctuary
- **Soup Sunday:** Nov. 23
- **Thanksgiving Eve Service & Pie Social:** Nov. 26
- **Global Mission Craft Sale:** Dec. 6
- **Progressive Dinner:** Dec. 7

News from The St. Mark's Foundation...

It's Time to Celebrate 40 Years of Your Generosity! Did you know The Foundation began 40 years ago in 1985? Much has been accomplished by dedicated volunteers and generous donors enabling The Foundation to grow into what it is today. Visit the website at stmarksnspfoundation.com to read about the history through the years. *Foundation Week will be celebrated on October 5 and 8.*

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, September 28

9:30 am Worship Service, SC
9:30 am Sunday School
10:45 am Christmas Pageant Mtg, FS

Monday, September 29

6:30 pm Monday Night Bible Study, zoom

Tuesday, September 30

9:00 am Morning Bible Study, FS
6:30 pm Ukulele Group, #102

Wednesday, October 1

5:00 pm Wednesday Dinner, RH
5:45 pm Jubilee Handbell Choir, SC
6:00 pm All Ages Faith Formation
7:00 pm Prayer and Praise Service, LC
7:15 pm Choir of St. Mark's, SC

Thursday, October 2

8:30 am Breakfast and Bible Study, offsite

Friday, October 3 – Office Closed

Saturday, October 4 – Office Closed

9:00 am Saturday Stewards

Sunday, October 5

Foundation Week
9:30 am Worship Service, SC
9:30 am Sunday School

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