

APRIL 2026

ourcathedral.org

SAINT MARK'S CATHEDRAL

MONTHLY CONNECTOR



APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

These are in addition to our **Sunday Worship services at 8:00am, 10:30am and 5:00pm**

April, Jil Evans, Oil Paintings, Art Gallery

April 1, Wednesday, Service of Tenebrae, 7:30 pm

April 2, Thursday, Maundy Thursday gathering and meal, beginning at 6:00 pm

April 2, Thursday, Maundy Thursday worship, 7:30 pm

April 3, Friday, Liturgy for Good Friday, 12:00 pm

April 3, Friday, Music for Good Friday: The Crucifixion – John Stainer, 7:30 pm

April 4, Saturday, Easter Vigil, 8:30 pm

April 5, Easter Sunday, 8:00 am Rite 1, 10:30 am Choral Eucharist, 5:00 pm Choral Evensong

April 6, Monday – Holiday, Cathedral is closed

April 7, Tuesday - Campus Closed – roof repair

April 8, Wednesday – Saages Gathering, 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

April 9, Thursday – Women's Ministry, 6 – 7:30, Library. Bring a simple food to share.

April 10, Friday – Gospel-based Discipleship, 12:15 – 12:45, every Friday, via zoom

April 12, Sunday - Second Sunday Supper, 4:15 pm for volunteers, 5 pm for meal, at Plymouth Congregational Church

April 19, Sunday – Day to serve at First Nations Kitchen

April 19, Sunday – Music Series presents Lux String Quartet, 2:30 pm

April 21, Tuesday – Campus Closed – roof repair

April 22, Wednesday - Voices of Reconciliation, 7:00 pm; Presenter Doe Hoyer from Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery discusses their work and ways to impact ecological and social justice, on Earth Day 2026

April 23, Thursday – Sound Journey, 6:00 pm, Nave

April 24, Friday – Campus Closed – roof repair

April 25, Saturday – Men's Ministry, 9:00 am, Library

April 25, Saturday – ECMN Confirmation, Reaffirmation of vows, 10:00 am, Nave

April 28, Tuesday – Fresh Start at Great River Landing, 12:00 pm



In the Art Gallery: Jil Evans - Abstract Artist

April 1st - June 5th

I am a visual artist working in abstraction rooted in observation. Using paint to explore the intimate and often inseparable bond between touch and emotion, collapse and recovery, my work examines sensual and perceptual relationships that reflect our longing for connection - to place, to the natural world, to each other, and to oneself.

Several years ago, walking through a city park in Oxford, England, I paused on the path beneath a beech tree whose branches formed a canopy overhead. I experienced an immediate bodily shift that left me acutely aware of a sense of oneness and coherence in that time and place, a sense of protection combined with strength. The tree's branches formed an enclosure that co-existed with full peripheral awareness. This moment prompted a sustained and enduring investigation into how spatial and atmospheric conditions affect feelings of connection or disconnection within an environment. Since then, I have been developing an abstract visual language probing the relationship between the inner life, often mysteriously elusive and difficult to articulate, and the physical realities of the natural world, particularly light and space. I believe that this interior project is valuable today as we search for what we believe to be soulful rather than merely reactive or rhetorical.

My new compositions from the series Shadowbloom incorporate the shapes of shadows I have photographed over the past two decades. My aim is to hold two powerful and opposing forces simultaneously. The shadows interplay, obscuring or framing vibrant organic shapes and colors from the natural world. The shadows are large graphic shapes, meant to exert a pressure on the picture plane. This creates tension between the shadow shapes and the areas of saturated color. My goal is to introduce a suggestion of the ominous, an ambivalence as to whether the shadow shapes are taking over or passing through. With color, movement, texture, and weight, I am engaging the perceptual realities of the external world to give form to the dynamic exchange we navigate in the inner world of the psyche. This exchange can be overwhelming, but it affirms the depth of our agency to imagine and create the world we want to inhabit.



Saint Mark's Music Series Presents

LUX STRING QUARTET

Lux String Quartet is a Twin-Cities based ensemble that brings a dynamic edge to performance and education. The group is committed to performing 20th and 21st-century repertoire and works by living composers, including Twin Cities' David Evan Thomas and the Dean of Music at The Juilliard School, David Ludwig.

In the 24/25 season, the quartet premiered the first work written for and dedicated to Lux, *Confessions of a Pangolin* by Australian composer, Nicholas Vines.

FREE ADMISSION



APR 19 | 2:30 PM

VOICES OF RECONCILIATION SPEAKER SERIES

Join us for our next Voices of Reconciliation conversation. Doe Hoyer will talk about reconciling with the earth through participating in Land Back and in ongoing repentance of the Doctrine of Discovery

Doe Hoyer is the Organizing Director and a song leader with the Coalition to Dismantle the Doctrine of Discovery, coordinating cultural and structural change campaigns with the [Repair Network](#). They have lived on Dakota homelands for most of their life, and are involved locally with the Twin Cities Repair Community for [Makoce Ikikcupi](#) (Dakota land recovery). Doe graduated with a Master of Arts in Leadership in Social Transformation from United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities.



APRIL 22, 2026
7:00PM

FEATURING DOE HOYER

Be a Neighbor

The Lenten small group I was in met for the last time the other night. We finished up our discussions of a pertinent book called, *For Such a Time as This: An Emergency Devotional* by Hanna Reichel. It's a short book but has 28 Chapters filled with succinct and meaningful suggestions for living in community and being a neighbor. This is one particular gem of advice:

"Be mindful of who never enters your space or your vision—kept from becoming your neighbor by walls, highways and school districts; kept from becoming your neighbor by different timetables, routines, and patterns of movement; kept from becoming your neighbor by divisions between urban centers, suburban towns, and rural areas...Be attentive. Be present. Be kind. Listen. Extend assistance in mundane and everyday matters. Share some of their burdens even if you cannot take them away." (pgs. 115-116)

When members of St. Mark's take a couple hours of their Sunday timetable and routines to serve at First Nations Kitchen in South Minneapolis, they are being neighbors. Dozens of nearby residents and even houseless folk stop by between 4-5pm at All Saints Indian Mission, 3044 Longfellow Ave. They receive a grocery bag of organic produce and then choose a portion of a hot vegan or meat entrée. A brief encounter occurs between 2 human beings, who in that moment become neighbors.

On Sunday, April 19th, St. Mark's folk are invited to serve at First Nations Kitchen. Come early and help to cook the warm meals, come between 12:30-3 to help bag up fruit and veggies or be there between 3:30-5:30pm to assist with the give-away.

You can sign up using this QR code



First Nations
Kitchen

Visit firstnationskitchen.org to learn more. One can be a neighbor by contributing to their wishlist—items that are needed to keep the operation moving, things like garbage and recycling compost bags. Or you can bring to St. Mark's paper bags from your own grocery shopping trips. Look for the collection box at the Visitors Center.

Thank you!

Betsy Lee betsylee108@gmail.com



Fresh Start—A partnership between Saint Mark's Cathedral and Great River Landing

Great River Landing is a supportive housing development in Minneapolis focused on providing homes for men exiting incarceration. They are partnered with 180 degrees, an experienced social services agency, as their onsite service provider.

At Great River Landing in Minneapolis, a 72-unit apartment complex for recently incarcerated men, 180 Degrees provides meals, social opportunities, employment readiness and placement support, among other services. At present, it offers two reentry programs prioritizing safe housing and case management for ex-offenders.

Saint Mark's began Fresh Start at Great River Landing in 2024 and the partnership continues to grow in so many ways. From speakers to storytelling, establishing a library, computer room, and bedding drive, to breaking bread together, listening and learning---- we are building community together!

In a recent message from our Provost, we were invited to pray and listen to "where God might be calling you to bring hope, compassion, and courage into the world." A wonderful example of what this looks like is our partnership with Fresh Start at Great River Landing. From speakers to storytelling, establishing a library, computer room, and bedding drive, to breaking bread together, listening and learning---- we are building community together!

The top priority for April is to connect the residents with employers who support workforce reintegration. The February and March meetings were buzzing with ideas and opportunities, and April promises the same and even more opportunities.

Date: Tuesday April 28

Time: 12:00- 1:30PM

Gather for lunch with your fellow St Markans, Fresh Start Staff, and residents.

Community Room at
Great River Landing
813 N 5th St. (North Loop), Mpls.

For more information, contact Linda Brandt: brandt.linda@gmail.com



SAAGES "Continue the Easter Joy"

Wednesday, April 8, 10:30AM

St. Mark's Community Room

ENJOY - Coffee and Treats (Treats to share are always welcome)

SING - Hymns of Easter Joy and Hope

BRING - A book for the "Swap Table"

CONNECT - Through table conversations

SHARE - Opportunities to be involved in serving others

Hope to see you there!



Other Gathering Groups

As a way to connect and to grow as disciples of Jesus, Saint Mark's has a variety of groups based on interest, affinity, or time.

Women's group: Second Thursday of the month, 6:00 pm, in the Library.

Men's Ministry: Fourth Saturday of the month, 9:00 am, in the Library.

Knitting Ministry, First and third Tuesday of the month from 10:30am

Gospel-Based Discipleship, Fridays, 12:15pm, online via Zoom

Saturday

5:30 p.m. Santa Misa en Español (Worship Service in Spanish)

Sunday

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I (Traditional Language)

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II (Contemporary Language)

5:00 p.m. Choral Evensong (September through May)

Wednesday

12:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Thursday

9 a.m. Contemplative Prayer

Saint Mark's Pollinator Garden

*"But ask the animals, and they will teach you, the birds of the air, and they will tell you; ask the plants of the earth, and they will teach you, and the fish of the sea will declare to you."
(Job 12:7-8)*

The St. Mark's pollinator garden began as a project of the Climate Justice Ministry in 2022. The garden is a practical, hands on, way for us to affect climate justice in a corner of our world. The garden is a collaboration between the Climate Justice Ministry and the U of M Extension Hennepin County Master Gardeners. By design the garden has plants that bloom from early spring to late fall. The blooms are pleasing to our eyes and provide needed nectar to pollinators. The plants are also food for insect larvae; the larvae are in turn food for birds.

Our pollinator gardening season will begin before the snow is gone as we plan activities for this year. We welcome volunteers interested in learning about pollinator gardening and those willing to share their experience. For more information contact Dana Dickson at smecpollinategarden@gmail.com.



Historical Remembrances

The back wall of the Nave has long had names carved in memory of former Rectors and Deans. During Covid, the last three Deans, Frederick Morris, Henry Hancock and H. Douglas Fontaine were added. Along with their names and dates, their chosen scripture verse is carved. The carver is Janey Westin. At about the same time, we acquired a marble carving of a St. Mark's lion in very bad condition. Janey beautifully restored this lion and these two works will be dedicated on **April 26** at the 10:30 service. The following week, **May 3**, Janey will speak on the very interesting process of both carving and restoration at the 9:30 hour. Please mark your calendars for both.

And then: Watch for news about the opening of the All New Archives which has moved from 3rd floor to an all-new space. This will occur in late May.

Legacy Giving at St. Mark's

The Foundation of the Cathedral Church of St. Mark manages the church's endowment. For over a century, generous parishioners have recognized the importance of financial gifts, during their lifetimes or through their estate plans, to support ongoing and long-term church needs.

21st century donors continue that tradition. The endowment includes unrestricted funds as well as funds dedicated to a specific purpose, for example, music or the Fontaine Speakers Series. The endowment board, who are St. Mark's members, invests endowment assets through a professional financial manager and oversees funding for long term needs. Each year the endowment board pays earnings on the endowment to the Cathedral. The Vestry decides how best to use earnings on unrestricted endowment funds in the Cathedral's operating budget. Earnings on dedicated endowment funds must be used as the donor specified.

Those who decide to make legacy gifts to St. Mark's become members of the Canon Bill Donovan Legacy Circle, formerly known as Generations. If donors allow, we honor those who give now, or promise future gifts, on the Canon Bill Donovan Legacy Circle plaque, in the Art Gallery.

Canon Donovan served St. Mark's for 45 years and led the Meditation for Good Friday, a gift to the Cathedral and wider community, for 25 years. His teachings, filled with life experiences, theology, humor, and even cartoons, were legendary.

Canon Donovan believed writing a will shows responsibility for one's family, including one's church family: St. Mark's was "the one family I can always go back to. My home may change, my children may move away, but St. Mark's is always there." Leading by example, he left an endowed fund for the Fontaine Speakers Series.

St. Mark's endowment continues to support our mission and our ministries. By building up our endowment, we can secure St. Mark's future, serving both current and future generations.

For any questions concerning including St. Mark's in your estate planning, please be in touch with Richard Helling at rhelling1957@gmail.com.

Written by Ellen Archibald and Richard Helling, both serving on the Board of Directors of The Foundation of the Cathedral Church of Saint Mark's.

Vestry Updates

Your Saint Mark's Vestry meets monthly, working together to oversee the operation of the Cathedral in several areas. These include finance, governance, care and maintenance of our buildings and grounds, and support for our Gather, Transform and Send Commissions that do important work within our congregation and in the community outside our doors that we seek to serve.

At our most recent meeting, the Vestry voted for specific members to take on these roles in partnership with our Executive Team:

- Finance Committee Chair: Jacob Buchen
- Governance Chair: Brandon Lorge
- Property Committee Chair: Joe Ward
- Liaison to the Cathedral Foundation: Paul Anton
- Vivien Smith: Member at Large

As Junior Warden, Rachel Babbitt will work closely with our Gather, Transform and Send lay ministers along with the associated clergy leadership to ensure those commissions have the support they need from the Vestry to do their important work.

And a quick note about finances: the year is off to a good start, with donations and pledges through February a bit ahead of schedule. As we look to manage our expenses month to month, we're so grateful for your support. If you have any questions about how to make your 2026 pledge, please let us know. Send any questions to mypledge@ourcathedral.org and we'll get right back to you with the answers you need. Thanks for your financial support!

Join Us!

The Vestry has an exciting year planned, particularly as we look ahead to welcoming a new Dean. If you're looking to get more involved at Saint Mark's, I hope you will consider joining the Vestry, or become a member of one of its committees. To learn more, send an email to seniorwarden@ourcathedral.org.

In the months ahead, we'll provide regular updates about your Vestry's work, including finance, governance and property updates, and more. Thank you for putting your trust in us!

Mike Shepherd
Senior Warden

Rachel Babbitt
Junior Warden

Roof Replacement & Campus Safety Updates

Construction on the slate roof has begun with work now occurring dawn to dusk, Monday–Saturday (paused during Holy Week).

Campus Closure - April 7, 21, 24

For safety precautions around the roof work the full Cathedral campus will be closed on these dates:

April 7 - 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

April 21 - 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

April 24 - 8:00 am - 5:00 pm



Because safety conditions change daily, the campus may be closed without notice. Please make an appointment before coming so we can ensure someone is available to greet you. Sign in and out at the Welcome Center each time you visit.

Entering the Cathedral

For everyone's safety, enter and exit only through the Welcome Center. The Carriage and Narthex doors are for emergency exit only and will not be used for entrance until construction is complete. Please follow all marked pathways and do not move or go around any fences, barriers, or posted signs.

Parking

Parking remains limited. Accessible parking is available on Sundays. The Vue parking is not available for Saint Mark's parking.

However, we have secured additional parking, every Sunday through May, at Alliance, a design/architecture firm located at 400 Clifton Ave. Clifton is a one-way street running south to north. Alliance is near the end of the block, on the east side of the street.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we move through this important project together!

Sunday: 7:30 am - 6:00 pm

Monday: By appointment

Tuesday: By appointment

Wednesday: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Thursday: By appointment

Friday: Closed

Saturday: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

**BUILDING
SCHEDULE**

More about Saint Mark's

Connect with Us

If you are new, please fill out our Connect cards that are in the pews. Or scan this QR Code to fill it out electronically. The email you provide will add you to the e-news list to help you connect in this community.



Every Sunday

Nursery. Available from 10 am – 12 pm, the nursery is located next to the library on the second floor of the building. This space is best suited for children between 6 months and 6 years.

Family Space. In the front of the Nave, near the Lectern which is on the left side as you face the altar, is a soft and accessible area for families with children. There are soft toys available, and it is a great place for children to be able to observe the actions of the service.

Docent Tours. Every Sunday, there is a docent-led tour of the Nave after the 10:30 service. To learn about the history and art of this cathedral, meet the leader under the Pulpit, which is where the Homily/sermon is offered.

Fellowship. Every Sunday, after both morning services, coffee and treats are offered in the Community Room, on the first floor. Lively conversation is always included with fellowship.

Restrooms. In the Art Gallery hallway is an accessible space available for everyone. Additional restrooms are in the library hallway, as well as down the stairs in the Parlor area.

Hearing Assist. Our sound system is compatible with T-coil hearing aids. Hearing assist devices are at each door; ask an usher for assistance. Users of hearing aids need only touch the "telephone" setting on their hearing aid to clearly hear the spoken word.

Ways to Give. As an expression of gratitude for God's generosity, please consider a financial gift today and place it in the offering plate. We are greatly appreciative of your generosity.



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