

A Tasty History of Minnesota State Fair Food

Food has always been at the heart of the Minnesota State Fair experience, evolving over the decades from simple farm-to-table fare to a vibrant showcase of creativity, culture, and deep-fried delights. Since the first fair in 1859, food has been both a necessity for hungry fairgoers and a celebration of Minnesota's agricultural roots.

In the early years, church dining halls and local farm families served up hearty, home-cooked meals—think roast beef, potatoes, and fresh-baked pie. The Hamline Church Dining Hall, still operating today, opened in 1897 and remains one of the oldest food traditions at the fair.

The post-war era brought new innovations, including the now-iconic Pronto Pup, which made its debut at the Minnesota State Fair in 1947. This corn-battered hot dog on a stick quickly became a staple and is still one of the most popular items on the fairgrounds. As the decades rolled on, the food scene expanded, introducing classics like cheese curds, mini donuts, and, of course, the ever-growing list of foods served on a stick.

By the 2000s, the fair began embracing more adventurous and diverse cuisine, reflecting Minnesota's growing multicultural communities. The annual "New Foods" list became a much-anticipated tradition, with media outlets and fairgoers buzzing over deep-fried novelties, global street food, and outrageous creations like spaghetti on a stick or pickle-flavored lemonade.

Today, the Minnesota State Fair features nearly 500 food options across close to 300 vendors, from long-standing family-run booths to first-time pop-up stands. While the classics remain beloved, the fair's food offerings continue to push boundaries and celebrate both innovation and heritage.

Enjoy a taste of the Minnesota State Fair with classic and fun treats! Join us in the lobby on August 29 at 3 PM.

We have a updated our phone system!

Your number has not changed, but to make a call, you now need to dial 9 first, followed by all 10 digits of the phone number—including the area code. Thanks for adjusting to this update!



As summer stretches on and we prepare to celebrate National Night "Noon" Out on Tuesday, August 5, we're reminded of the simple joys that come from strong, caring communities. This annual event, with a midday twist on the traditional "Night Out", is more than just a gathering. It's a celebration of neighborliness, kindness, and looking out for one another.

Being a good neighbor doesn't require grand gestures. Often, it's the smallest acts of kindness that make the biggest difference. It's a time to reflect on what it truly means to be a good neighbor—not just for one day, but all year long. We are a great community! It is through the warm smiles and friendly greetings that we build trust and connections.

Here are a few reminders of what it means to be a good neighbor:

- Be present, be kind and considerate. Whether it's attending community events or just meeting in the hallway, your presence matters. A little patience and understanding go a long way.
- Listen with compassion. Sometimes all a person needs is someone to talk to.
- Offer help when you can. Even a small favor can make a big impact on someone's day. Invite a neighbor to join you at lunch, a game, or an activity—they might just be waiting for the ask.
- Respect differences. Every neighbor brings something unique to the community; kindness bridges the gaps.
- Focus on the positive. As a caring community, we're here to support one another. While it's okay to voice concerns, constant complaining without looking for solutions can bring everyone down. When we share something that's bothering us, let's try to think about whether we're seeking a solution or simply needing a listening ear. Remember, most people appreciate uplifting conversations more than repeated negativity. Let's work together to keep this a place where people enjoy being.

We invite you, family members and friends to join us for National Night "Noon" Out on Tuesday, August 5th. Let's take this opportunity to enjoy one another's company, and continue building a strong, caring community together.

We hope to see you there, enjoying good food, good conversation, and most of all, good neighbors!

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Activity Highlights

“Enjoy fun, friendship, and fulfillment with activities tailored just for you.”

Friday, August 1

Fitness & Movie: “The Walk in the Woods”

Start your morning with Live 2B Healthy at 10:15AM—an energizing fitness session designed to keep you strong, balanced, and active. Then wind down your day with a 3:00 PM movie-“The Walk in the Woods”- in the Dining Room—grab a comfy seat and enjoy a relaxing film with friends.

Saturday, August 2

Ice Cream Social & Craft Social

Cool off in the afternoon with a sweet treat at our Ice Cream Sandwich Social at 2:00 PM! We’ll follow that with a Craft Social at 3:00 PM, where you can express your creativity. Don’t have a craft of your own- don’t worry we will have craft kits for you to use.

Sunday, August 3

Scavenger Hunt Fun

Kick off the upcoming week with a creative Scavenger Hunt! The scavenger list, available on the Free Table in the dining room, leads you on an adventurous stroll through the building, sparking curiosity, and friendly competition.

Monday, August 4

Resident Council

At 1:30 PM, the monthly Resident Council meets to share updates, raise ideas, and strengthen community collaboration. These meetings ensure every voice is heard and help shape a welcoming, thriving environment for all.

Tuesday, August 5

National Noon Out Celebration

starts at 11:30 AM

Enjoy a delicious lunch, lively Bingo, and toe-tapping music from The Dave Carpenter Band while meeting your neighbors. Don’t forget to invite your family to join you!

Wednesday, August 6

Board Games at Camp Park Ridge

A relaxing afternoon of classic board games brings friends together for some brain-teasing fun.

Thursday, August 7

Trishaw Rides & \$5 Bingo

The day begins with a breezy Trishaw bike ride at 9:30, offering fresh air and scenic views. Later, you can test your luck at \$5 Bingo at 2PM, capping off a perfect Thursday with cheers and prize-winning smiles.

“And it Continues!”

Friday, August 22

Picnic & Backwoods Happy Hour

The day begins at 11AM with fresh air and food for a lovely Picnic by the River , followed by a resident-favorite: Backwoods Happy Hour at 3PM with cold drinks, great company, and backwoods themed treat.

Saturday, August 23

Coffee & Crafting

Saturday is simple and sweet. Catch up during the cozy Coffee Social at 9:30 AM and then get creative during the Craft Social at 3PM, where glue, glitter, and imagination come together in colorful harmony.

Sunday, August 24

Color Hour and Reflection

Start your Sunday with a peaceful Lutheran Church service in the morning at 10:30 AM. In the afternoon, let your creativity flow during Color Hour, where calming music and colored pencils helped set the tone for a restful and reflective day.

Monday, August 25

Duck Hunt & Hamburger Social

Join us for a fun filled duck hunting event at 2PM. Whether you are a seasoned pro or just

along for an adventure, it’s a fantastic way to enjoy some shared laughter. We will wrap up the day with a \$5 Hamburger supper with all the fixings. Sign up with activities for the \$5 supper by August 18.

Tuesday, August 26

Community Connections

We are excited to have the owner of the Today Magazine here for our Augusts Community Happening. She will share with us how the magazine got started, how they pick their stories, plus so much more. Don’t miss this amazing presentation.

Wednesday, August 27

Axe Throwing

Join us for a unique twist in the day—Axe Throwing at 3PM! (Don’t worry—it will be safe and a fun indoor version!) Laughter and surprise skills will be the talk of the day.

Thursday, August 28

Bingo and Poker

\$5 Log Cabin Bingo at 2PM where you have the chance to win cabin themed prizes. Plus, don’t forget to invite a friend or two! Then on to evening Poker at 6PM where a little strategy might go a long way.

“Even more fun, friendship and fulfillment”

Friday, August 15

Golden Kernels & Good Company

Get your bodies moving with Live 2B Healthy at 10:15AM, then gather for the heartwarming “Golden Kernels & Good Company” social at 3PM where you can enjoy some locally grown sweet corn on the cob.

Saturday, August 16

Coffee & Crafts

Saturday brings a cozy start with the Coffee Social at 9:30AM, where you can chat over hot coffee and pastries. In the afternoon, you’re invited to bring your own crafts to the Craft Social at 3PM, sharing personal projects and creative ideas in a relaxed and inspiring setting.

Sunday, August 17

Medallion Hunt Begins!

Excitement fills the air as our much-anticipated Medallion Hunt kicks off today! Tune in to Channel 5 for the first clue and begin the hunt for hidden treasure. It’s the perfect mix of mystery, movement, and fun—let the games begin!

Monday, August 18

City Hall Tour & Sunflower Crafts

Have a chance to explore local history and civic pride during the Pioneer Room & City Hall Tour; bus leaves at 12:30PM. In the afternoon, get your creativity blooming with a cheerful Sunflower Craft, where bright petals and happy hearts take shape side by side.

Tuesday, August 19

Walmart & Music

It’s a full and lively Tuesday! The day begins with a Walmart outing at 10AM, followed by a heartwarming performance of live music by Tony Garry, bringing rhythm, joy, and some dancing feet to the room at 3pm.

Wednesday, August 20

Birthday Celebration

Join us in the afternoon for the Birthday Celebration at 3PM, complete with cake, laughter, and cheers for all those marking another year of wonderful memories.

Thursday, August 21

Boating & Book Club Bliss

You can take to the water for a peaceful boating trip, soaking in the views. Love to read join the Book Club for another rich discussion at 1PMon “If Not for You”—sharing ideas, stories, and connections through reading.

“More fun, friendship and fulfillment”

Friday, August 8

Pioneer Popcorn Social

With fresh-popped kernels and lively chatter, this sweet gathering gives everyone a chance to unwind and enjoy the simple pleasures of community life. Also, don’t miss line dancing at 1PM.

Saturday, August 9

Women’s Breakfast

Join us for our Women’s Breakfast Social at 9:30AM, a warm and welcoming morning gathering where the coffee is hot, the conversation is cheerful, and the breakfast is delicious.

Sunday, August 10

Bird Watching & S’mores

Enjoy a peaceful afternoon of bird watching, spotting feathered friends and soaking in the summer sun. End the day on a sweet note with s’mores on the patio at 6PM hosted by Doug & Anna- complete with marshmallows, stores and smiles.

Monday, August 11

Cabin Trivia & Manicures

Test your knowledge with Cabin Trivia at 2PM,

Tuesday, August 12

Farmers Market & Nature Outing

Kick off your morning with a fresh-air trip to the Farmers Market at 9:30AM, where you can pick up local goodies. Sign up to be a part of the outing to Carpenter Nature Center where we’ll get a presentation on wildlife by Jes.

August 13

Public Library Day & Mobile Library Visit

Books will take center stage in the lobby for the Mobile Library where you can check items out such as books, magazines, and books on tape. Later in the day, feel free to attend an Ecumenical Service at 2PM given by our new pastor Kate, followed by blood pressure checks at 3PM, to round out a balanced and meaningful day.

Thursday, August 14

Boating

Sign up for a refreshing boating trip on the river at 12:15 PM, offering a breeze-filled morning full of sunshine and serenity.

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August Birthdays

Apt. 222	Kathy Zak	August 19
Apt. 207	Harriet Wiederholt	August 21
	Anna	August 26

Welcome To Our Community

Carl Woxland Apartment 202

Welcome New Staff

Knight T
Edna M

Please remember to slow down when driving into our community. We have many residents, staff, and visitors walking in the area, and your caution helps keep everyone safe. Thank you for driving carefully and looking out for others!



Cherished Memories Made at the Cabin

For many Minnesotans, the cabin is more than just a getaway—it's a place where lifelong memories are made and traditions are passed down through generations. Whether nestled deep in the woods or perched beside a sparkling lake, the cabin holds a special kind of magic that brings families closer and slows down the pace of life.

The memories made there are simple but unforgettable: early morning coffee on the porch, fishing off the dock, campfires crackling under starry skies, and the laughter of kids running barefoot through the grass. It's where stories are told, board games stretch long into the night, and the world feels a little smaller and a lot more connected.

Rainy days bring cozy puzzles and warm mugs of cocoa, while sunny afternoons mean boat rides, swimming, and the unmistakable smell of burgers on the grill. Over time, cabins become filled not just with furniture and photos, but with echoes of joy, comfort, and a sense of belonging.

In a fast-moving world, the cabin remains a timeless reminder of what matters most—family, nature, and the quiet moments in between.

Chaplains Corner



Greetings in God's love!

Hello! My name is Kate Kennedy, and I am so happy to be here serving as your chaplain! It is an honor to be part of this vibrant and welcoming community.

I recently graduated from Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa, in May of 2025. My journey to becoming a pastor has been anything but traditional. Before seminary, I was a full-time at-home parent for eleven years to my wonderful children—Ivy, Josephine, and Magnus. Even earlier in life, I worked as an actor in Minneapolis and as an early childhood educator. It's been quite the adventure so far, and I feel grateful for the wide variety of experiences that have shaped me.

Although I usually live in St. Paul near the Cathedral, this summer I'm on a special adventure—living on a houseboat in Point Douglas Marina with my partner Shaun and our little dog, Jessica Fetcher. (My kids are often with us, too!) Life on the water has added a unique chapter to my story, and I would love to hear the stories that make up yours.

As your chaplain, I am here for you—whether you would like to talk about faith, pray together, receive a blessing or communion, or simply sit and share what is on your heart. You do not need to be religious or even spiritual to reach out. While I am a Lutheran pastor, I welcome people of all faiths—or none. Sometimes, the greatest gift is simply having someone to listen. I will have office hours at Park ridge on Mondays from 10-12 in the prayer room on third floor and I will be offering a second ecumenical service the 4th Wednesday of the month.

I look forward to getting to know each of you. Do not hesitate to say hello or invite me in for a visit. I am just a call or knock away!

With warmth, Chaplain Kate

Religious Offerings

Catholic Mass

Father Dave
Thursday, August 7
Mass 10:30AM—DR

Ecumenical Service

Pastor Kate
Wednesday, August 13- 2PM
Wednesday, August 22- 2PM

Prayer Group

Thursdays at 11 AM
in the library

Our Saviors Lutheran Online Church Service

Sundays at 10:30 AM

Chaplain Hours

Mondays 10-12
3rd Floor Prayer Room