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 St. Mark UMC McAllen, TX



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www.stmarkumcmcallen.org



YouTube
 St. Mark UMC
 (McAllen, TX)

Regular Church Schedule

Sunday:	Sunday School	09:30 am
	Worship Service	10:45 am
	Live Stream (via Facebook)	10:45 am
Wednesday:	Prayer Time	11:30 am
	Youth & Young Adult Bible Study	06:30 pm
	Faith Sharing Group	06:30 pm

ATTENDANCE AVERAGE

Month:	July '24
Sunday School:	7
Worship Service:	64
Online Service:	15
Bible Studies:	18

Communion Rail

Month:	July '24
Offering	Total = \$163.00
	\$81.50 to El Valle
	Border Ministries
	\$81.50 to Good
	Neighbor Settlement
	House

FINANCIAL REPORT

Month -	June 2024
Income:	\$17,522.38
Expenses:	\$13,822.31
Year to Date -	Jan. - June 2024
Income:	\$119,197.33
Expenses:	\$147,236.57

St. Mark Events

August 2024



*I can do all things
 through him who
 strengthens me.*
 ~Philippians 4:13 (NRSV)



Pastor
Rev. Joe Tognetti
210.380.4821

301 W Pecan Blvd
 McAllen, TX 78501

Church Office (956) 682-1481
 Office Hours
 Monday to Friday
 8am to 12pm & 1pm to 3pm

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Website
www.stmarkumcmcallen.org

Email
stmark.umc.mcallen@gmail.com

Events this Month!

August 2024

Saturday August 17th 11 a.m.



ITEMS NEEDED:
 CEREAL
 RICE & BEANS
 CANNED FRUIT
 CANNED VEGGIES
 CANNED MEAT
 TOMATO SAUCE





St. Mark UMC Sunday School
 Sunday School groups meet at 9:30am to 10:30am. We have Sunday School for children, youth, young adults, and adults!

Blessing of the Backpacks



Sunday August 18th
 All who will attend school in the fall are welcome to bring their backpacks during worship service to bless them for the new school year!

Blessing of the Teachers
 Sunday August 11th



SENIOR SOCIAL
 2nd & 4th Thursday every month we will get together at 5:30pm at a place decided ahead of time.
 If you are interested, there is a signup sheet in Narthex or call the church office.

Senior Social
 Thursday, August 8th at 5:30pm at Cracker Barrel
 @ 3817 W. Expy 83, McAllen, TX 78503
 For more information contact the church office.



Holy communion
 Every Sunday



Prayer Time
 ALL are Welcome!
 Pastor Joe will be leading a brief prayer service in the Narthex. Prayer Time is every Wednesday at 11:30am.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS now available




You can pick up an Application this Sunday. They will be available in the narthex
Deadline is August 31st, but please submit your application ASAP to avoid any delays

Senior Social
 Thursday, August 22nd at 5:30pm at Luby's
 @ 4901 N. 10th St., McAllen, TX 78504
 For more information contact the church office.

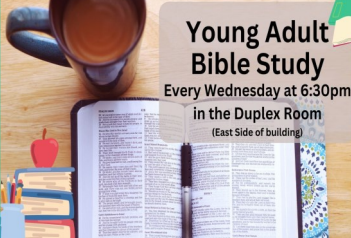


Back to School
 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.
 -Proverbs 3:5-6 (NRSV)


YOUTH GROUP
 Wednesdays @ 6:30pm
 St. Mark UMC Youth Room



Young Adult Bible Study
 Every Wednesday at 6:30pm in the Duplex Room (East Side of building)



Faith Sharing Group
 Join us in the Narthex at 6:30pm Wednesday night for a light meal followed by faith sharing time at 7pm.



St. Mark UMC Preschool CHAPEL
 Every Wednesday at 9:30am in the Sanctuary



Upward Soccer
 First Practice: August 5th
 First Game: August 17th
 Practices (by age groups) will be Mondays between 5:30pm-8:30pm
 Games (by age groups) will be Saturdays between 9am-1pm
Contact:
 Moises Linan - 210-426-4941
 Jessica Flores - 956-534-7880



Staff Meeting
 Staff meeting with Pastor Joe 1st & 3rd Wednesday each month following Prayer Time in Narthex.

One Board Meeting
 Tuesday, August 13th at 7pm



BACK TO SCHOOL



POTLUCK Luncheon

You are invited to join us after service on Sunday, **August 25th** in the gym for a luncheon. Please see side list on what to bring if you like!

- A-E ----- Dessert
- F-J ----- Clean Up
- K-O ----- Main Dish
- P-R ----- Side Dish
- S-Z ----- Salad



Project Transformation 2024

by: Hollie Landis

Project Transformation (PT) 2024 Summer has come to an end. This year we had about 25 kids who participated in the Summer Reading Camp and 4 amazing Interns. It has been a summer of growing and learning.

There are two stories (of course there are so many more) I would like to share that has happened this summer at PT.

Story one, on July 18th the PT kids had a bake sale. All week they learned about serving others by giving generously in their Talk About God (TAG) time. With learning this and learning about the story of Zacchaeus they decided to have a bake sale. One of the Interns made two dozen cupcakes for the PT kids to decorate for the bake sale. The day of the bake sale a few kids brought in more items to sale and others made posters. Their goal was to get \$20 to give to St. Mark UMC. They opened their bake sale about an hour before parents started coming to pickup. They sold their items for \$0.50 each to church staff, preschool staff & kids, and their parents. These kids did an amazing job and collected a total of \$50!!! Seeing the joy and excitement they had collecting more than their goal was priceless.

Story two, I had given each PT Intern a thank you card with some prayer cards inside on their last day. One Intern came up to me and asked me how I picked the prayer cards for each of them. I told her I randomly sorted them out in four piles and was only going to give two prayer cards each but something in me decided they needed three. I did not read what was on any of the prayer cards and I randomly placed each pile in an envelope as I finished writing in each thank you card. This Intern then went on to tell me that the last card in her prayer cards is a bible verse that has followed her all her life. Whenever she is going through something this bible verse will pop up randomly to her to remind her that God is with her. It was a true blessing to know that God was reaching out to the both of us that day and we were able to share our faith with each other.

PT is a lot of preparation and work but it is a real blessing to the families and children attending, the college interns who may have never been to a church before, volunteers who come and help with reading and events, and to our church and those who work and worship here. If you are interested in helping and want to experience this yourself, please contact the church office to join the PT Connect Team.



Pastor Musings

From Pastor Joe, St. Mark UMC, August 2024

Why School?

My child, if you accept my words & treasure up my commandments within you, making your ear attentive to wisdom & inclining your heart to understanding; if you seek it like silver, & search for it as hidden treasures—then you will understand the fear of the Lord & find the knowledge of God.—Proverbs 2:1-5

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good & acceptable and perfect. —Romans 12:2

In less than three weeks, virtually all of us will be impacted by the start of the new school year. You might be a student, teacher, parent, school staff member, grandparent, uncle or aunt, or a close friend of such people. School is full of fun, stress, excitement, anxiety, and...why do we do all of this, again? What is the all consuming education system meant for, anyway?

One answer is to prepare us for necessary life skills, especially as it pertains to jobs and careers. After all, Romans 12:3-8 reminds us that Christ's church is full of people with varying skills that contribute to the thriving of the whole church, and that is also true of our larger communities. Additionally, a focus on educating for life skills reminds us that the education system is not free. Taxpayers, families, and donors pay for an education system that educates any given person for two decades—or more! These costs should tangibly benefit us all, and training us for necessary life skills is a tangible benefit for a school system that costs a lot.

But as much as our school system should prepare us for *what to do* with our lives, the ongoing process of education should also help us discern *what kind of people God calls us to be.* Reading, writing, problem-solving, and even the lessons from extra-curricular activities, teach us not only what to do, but these practices can teach us what we value, what we hope for, and to always, always, always live with a sense of curiosity and wonder at how much we have to learn about the world we live in. Even if you are no longer taking formal classes in a degree-seeking program, may you always seek to be educated, not only with respect to what to do, but with respect to who God call you to be.



St. Mark UMC Custodian

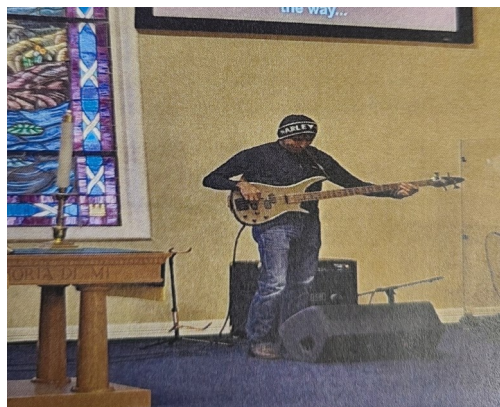
by: Rene Lopez

I have worked at St. Mark United Methodist Church for almost 10 years as a Custodian. I was brought up as a Christian. I enjoy working at this church. I also work part time at El Buen Pastor (EBP) UMC in Edinburg as a Custodian. I also have music in my blood. I use my musical talents playing with the EBP Praise Band in Edinburg and playing in a worldly music group as well. I learned from my Dad (who was a Deacon) that we can play in both worlds as long as God is at the center of our lives.

As you can see in my picture, working for these churches and worshipping God with my musical talents completes me.

I also enjoy riding motorcycles. Spending time with my family and grateful to God for my health and everything he gives me and also for the things he doesn't give me. God knows why.

Thank you!



History of St. Mark Continued...

by: Helen Balsey, Drucilla Vinger - Finance Administrator

In 1979 our church petitioned the conference to be allowed to build a new Sanctuary on a roomy site that had been donated, but they felt it was not the right time to build. If we could not build, it was decided to remodel and enlarge the Sanctuary and the Narthex wall was removed and a temporary entrance hall was built out toward the tower. By putting chairs in what had been the Narthex, we gained some additional seating capacity.

At a church conference held in March 1979, it was voted to extend the Sanctuary 30 feet to the north. A building fund drive was held in late spring. Summer and fall of 1979, the remodeling and redecorating were done. The contractor was Ernest Wood, who did the job at cost, a great saving in expense. During the building-renovation process, Sunday worship services were held in the Fellowship Hall.

On October 28, 1979 we were able to return to the Sanctuary. Besides the extension to the north, the choir area had been enlarged, some changes made in the altar, and chancel rail area, new carpeting, altar backdrop, and seat pads installed of a rich, copper-brown color and we had additional pews and folding chairs.

