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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:	August '24
Sunday School:	6
Worship Service:	57
Online Service:	9
Bible Studies:	28

Communion Rail Offering

Month:	August '24
Total = \$61.00	
\$30.50 to Manos Juntas	
Mission, Mexico	
\$30.50 to Open Heart	
Ministries, West Virginia	

FINANCIAL REPORT

Month -	July 2024
Income:	\$12,258.44
Expenses:	\$20,480.70
Year to Date -	Jan. - July 2024
Income:	\$131,455.77
Expenses:	\$167,717.27

St. Mark Events

September 2024



*The grass withers, the
 flower fades; but the word of
 our God will stand forever.*

-Isaiah 40:8 (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

Website
www.stmarkumcmcallen.org

Email
stmark.umc.mcallen@gmail.com

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Events this Month!

September 2024

Saturday Sept. 21st 11 a.m.

St. Mark FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY

Food Pantry Needs

ITEMS NEEDED:
 CRACKERS
 JELLY
 CANNED VEGGIES
 CANNED FRUIT
 TOMATO SAUCE
 PEANUT BUTTER

Holy Communion
 Every Sunday

Gather up your Coins
Noisy Offering
 Sunday, September 29th

One Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 10th at 7pm

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!

El Valle District YOUTH Event
 McAllen First United Methodist Church
September 7, 2024 4:30-7:30pm.
 Fellowship | Fun | Gaga Ball | Volleyball | Art Table
 Dinner | Worship led by EBP Band
 Message by Pastor Jon Heron
 \$5 per student, wear your casual athletic attire
 For more information
 Contact: Wayne Johnson 956-607-5566

UPPER ROOM SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER

AVAILABLE TODAY

INSIDE NARTHEX ENTRANCE

ENGLISH SPANISH LARGE PRINT

Mexico Independence Day
 September 16, 2024

1st Day of Autumn!
 September 23rd, 2024

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

Happy Birthday!
Jessica!
 September 29th

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.

Patriot Day
 9★11
 Never Forget

POTLUCK Luncheon!

You are invited to join us after service on Sunday, **September 29th** in the gym for a luncheon. Please see side list on what to bring if you like!

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

Happy Labor Day!
 St. Mark UMC Office and Preschool will be closed **Monday, September 2nd, 2024** in observance of Labor Day.

St. Mark UMC Preschool Open House
 Thursday, September 12th 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Happy Grandparents Day!
 September 8th, 2024

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

Happy Rene Birthday!
 September 3rd!

Pumpkins are Coming!
SAVE THE DATE!
 Saturday, September 28th at 9:00 am. Help us unload and get the patch set up! Contact the Church Office or Jessica Flores for more info

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

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

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.

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

VOLLEYBALL
 6th to 12th Graders
 1st Practice October 28th
 1st Game November 2nd
 Practices (by age groups) will be Mondays between 5:30pm-8:30pm
 Games (by age groups) will be Saturdays between 9am-1pm
<https://registration.upward.org/UPW86990>
 Contact: Moises Linan - 210-426-4941 or Jessica Flores - 956-534-7880

Upward Soccer
 Register online at registration.upward.org/UPW86366
 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

St. Mark UMC Pumpkin Patch

Every year around the end of September/beginning of October we receive a full truck load of these beautiful, bright orange pumpkins for our pumpkin patch. These beautiful pumpkins come from a Navajo Indian Reservation in New Mexico. All of our pumpkins in the pumpkin patch are FOR SALE unlike some of the other pumpkin patches in our area! We have special tape measures that measure the circumference of the pumpkins to give us their price. At the end of October we send the Navajo Indian Reservation a percentage of what we collected in sales of the pumpkins and the rest is divided into different ministries at our church.

This year's pumpkin patch will run from September 29th to October 31st (or until all pumpkins are sold out before). Our hours are Monday to Thursday from 2pm - 7pm and Friday to Sunday from 1pm - 8pm. There is an entrance fee of \$3.00 for anyone ages 6 years old and older. We also have some events in the patch for some businesses along with field trips for area schools, preschools, and adult day cares.

St. Mark UMC Pumpkin Patch is well known and is a blessing to our community. We have so many people who have been coming to our pumpkin patch since they were little and now they bring their kids. Being a volunteer and helping to work shifts in the patch is a joy and a blessing.

You hear people from the community tell their stories about the pumpkin patch and how they have enjoyed coming year after year. You also get to know other church members a little bit better seeing them outside of worship time. It is a great way to help the church, the Navajo Indians, and our community in volunteering. If you are interested in volunteering, look for the sign-up book in the Narthex or contact Jessica F. or Hollie L.



Pastor Musings

From Pastor Joe, St. Mark UMC, September 2024

Prayer Campaign

"The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective."

—James 5:15-16

Two months ago, my newsletter article focused on the need for prayer. I want to circle back to that theme as I announce an upcoming 8-day Prayer Campaign for St. Mark UMC, coordinated by Fernando Garza and I, from September 28th - October 5th. During this campaign, there will be opportunities to lament, celebrate, and seek provision for St. Mark UMC, alongside personal and community needs. We have so much to be thankful for as the church. God has been good to St. Mark UMC, allowing us to continue to worship and serve God and neighbor year after year. As our C3 team discerned this Spring, we are indeed an authentic, caring, discipline family seeking to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

But we also face challenges that cannot be overlooked: our Preschool is struggling financially. We have a strong spirit of volunteerism and Bible study participation, but the number of active members and worshipers has stalled. Church finances have improved modestly, but we are still stuck in a pattern of depending upon the St. Mark Foundation for loans that we don't pay back. Finally, both the church and Preschool have severely underpaid staff, and the church and Preschool have moral obligations to increase their pay as we are able to do so.

In facing these needs, we remember that our first and final need is for connection with and faithfulness to God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. While there might be tangible things you can do to address the issues raised in this article, the main thing we need to remember is our dependence upon our Lord. So please, believe in the power of prayer, and when the specific times and resources for this Prayer Campaign details are offered, I encourage everyone to engage in prayers of lament, celebration, and petition for what God has in store for St. Mark UMC.

What I'm reading: Bible, CSB translation (Genesis & Matthew)
Abuelita Theology by Kat Armas (just finished),
Misión Integral by C. René Padilla,
Accidental Herod by David McNitzky



St. Mark UMC Preschool
by: Evelyn Callaway, Preschool Director

Hooray for Fall! The semester began August 19th and it was a joy to have everyone back for the new school year. We welcomed in four new families that heard about our Preschool through friends and co workers. How nice to have such a good reputation among our families! The first couple of weeks we will spend time getting to know our friends and teachers. We will learn classroom rules and begin to get used to the flow of the day.

Everyone is looking forward to our Open House on September 12th from 6:30pm-7:30pm. The children are busy working on their projects to show off to mom and dad. We are so blessed to have such a loving environment here at St. Mark UMC Preschool. Looking forward to a great year!

PRESCHOOL
2024 
2025



St. Mark UMC Children & Youth
by: Jessica Flores, Children & Youth Director

Happy Fall St. Mark Family! School has started and with it we are in full Fall swing. Children's Church is continuing our learning on Sunday morning with Sunday School at 9:30am and Children's Church at 10:45am. Our children learn the same Bible passages our adult family is learning but in a child friendly way through games, stories, discussion, experiments, songs, and crafts. Our teen family extends our learning on Wednesday evenings from 6:30pm - 7:45pm with Youth Bible Study. We are currently learning with The Chosen Bible Study.

Pumpkin patch is on its way! Pumpkins arrive Saturday, September 28th. There will be many opportunities to serve. We need volunteers to unload and work in the patch, volunteers to bake goods, and even donate cases of water bottles. If you are interested in helping please see the Pumpkin Patch sign-up book in the Narthex or see Jessica F. or Hollie L. I encourage you to get to know new faces by working a shift in the pumpkin patch together.

Please be in prayer for our youth, children, and volunteers during this very busy Fall season. To those in this busy season, please remember to take some time for devotion and rest when you can.

Bless up friends,
Jessica

