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St. Mark UMC McAllen, TX



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WEBSITE

www.stmarkumcmcallen.org



YouTube
St. Mark UMC
(McAllen, TX)

Regular Church Schedule

Sunday:	Worship Service	10:45 am
	Live Stream (via Facebook)	10:45 am
Tuesday:	Youth Group	06:30 pm
Wednesday:	Prayer Time	11:30 am
	St. Mark Kids	06:30 pm
	Young Adult Bible Study	06:30 pm
	Faith Sharing Group	06:30 pm

ATTENDANCE AVERAGE

Month:
October 2025
Worship Service:
58

Online Service:
9

Bible Studies:
33

COMMUNION RAIL OFFERING

Month:
October 2025
Total = \$78.00

**World
Communion
Sunday**

FINANCIAL REPORT

Month:
Sept. 2025
Income:
\$39,523.99
Expenses:
\$21,753.20

Months:
Jan. - Sept 2025
Income:
\$218,003.61
Expenses:
\$188,216.39

St. Mark Events

November 2025



*Rejoice always, pray
without ceasing, give thanks
in all circumstances; for this
is the will of God in Christ
Jesus for you.*

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (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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St. Mark UMC (McAllen, TX)

Events this Month!

POTLUCK



There will **NOT** be a November Potluck. May God bless you and your families this Thanksgiving Season!



Charge Conference
Sunday, November 2nd
5:00pm at Pharr - La Trinidad

105 E. Warren St. Pharr, TX 78577

UMCM Bible Study Meals



St. Mark UMC will be providing meals for UTRGV Campus Ministry on Thursday, October 9th and Thursday, November 13th. Drop off or share a meal with the students between 6:30pm-6:45pm. Please let Nancy Murray know if you are interested. We will also be collecting snacks for the students. There is a basket in the Narthex.

November 11th

No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.
—John 15:13 (NRSV)



Veterans

Christmas Poinsettias

Orders BEGIN
Sunday, November 23rd
All orders & payment due
Sunday, December 14th
Order forms can be found in the bulletins or on the information table in the Narthex

One Board Meeting

Tuesday, November 11th at 7pm

Gather up your Coins
Noisy Offering
Sunday, November 30th

Staff Meeting

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

FOOD PANTRY THANKSGIVING MEAL

Saturday, November 15th at 11:00am
St. Mark UMC will be providing a hot Thanksgiving Meal to the 30+ food pantry families we bless throughout the year. If you are interested in volunteering or would like to donate food please contact the church office.

Happy Thanksgiving



November 2025



Saturday
November 15th
11 a.m.

St. Mark FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY



ITEMS NEEDED:
TOMATO SAUCE
STUFFING
CANNED:
SWEET POTATOES
GREEN BEANS
CORN
CRANBERRY SAUCE

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.

All Saints Day
November 2nd 2025



HANGING OF THE GREENS



Come and Worship with us
Sunday, November 30th 2025

Happy Thanksgiving

Church Office will be closed
November 27th & 28th

Daylight Saving Time Ends
November 2nd
MOVE ALL YOUR CLOCKS 1 HOUR BACK

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

St. Mark UMC Prayer & Hospitality Ministry



New ministry to connect the families of the sports groups who rent our gym during the week. We will have prayer volunteers to welcome and greet the families and offer a time of prayer for those who might need it. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for volunteers. We will provide this ministry Tuesday through Thursday from 5pm to 7pm. If you have questions or are interested, please contact Pastor Joe.

ST. MARK KIDS

Wednesdays @ 6:30pm
St. Mark UMC
Children's Room

Young Adult Bible Study

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

Holy Communion
Every Sunday

YOUTH GROUP

Tuesdays @ 6:30pm
St. Mark UMC
Youth Room

Faith Sharing Group

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

AVAILABLE TODAY
INSIDE NARTHEX ENTRANCE
ENGLISH
SPANISH
LARGE PRINT
UPPER ROOM
NOVEMBER - DECEMBER

Meet the St. Mark UMC Preschool Staff

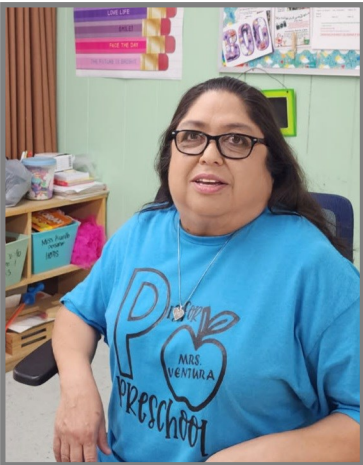
Hello! My name is Ms. Ventura I am the St. Mark UMC Preschool Cook. I prepare and cook breakfast and lunches each day for the preschool children.

About Me: When I am not working I like to spend my time with my family and reading. I enjoy cooking breakfast for my family on Saturdays and Sundays.

Some of my favorite things are: Color-Gray, Flower-Rose, Drink-Coke, Food-Homemade Mexican Food, Movie-Through the Window, Book-Twilight Saga by Stephenie Meyer, Place to Visit-California, Number-34, Hobby-Reading, Candy-Reese's, and Shape-Triangle.

One of my favorite memories at St. Mark UMC Preschool is when we had the end of the school year celebration. All the families were asked to bring a side dish and the preschool would provide the main dish. And then the children would perform in the courtyard.

What I love about being at St. Mark UMC Preschool is all the children I have known throughout my 32 years working here along with all my bosses I have had. When I started working at St. Mark UMC Preschool, I was in the Infant Classroom for 9 years. After that I transferred to the Kitchen for 23 years. Two of those years I was in the PreK-1 Classroom then back to the kitchen. I enjoy being in the classroom and kitchen. I will continue as long as God gives me the will to work.



Pastor Musings

Thoughts and Advice from Pastor Joe, St. Mark UMC, November 2025

Reformation Day & Seeking God’s Truth

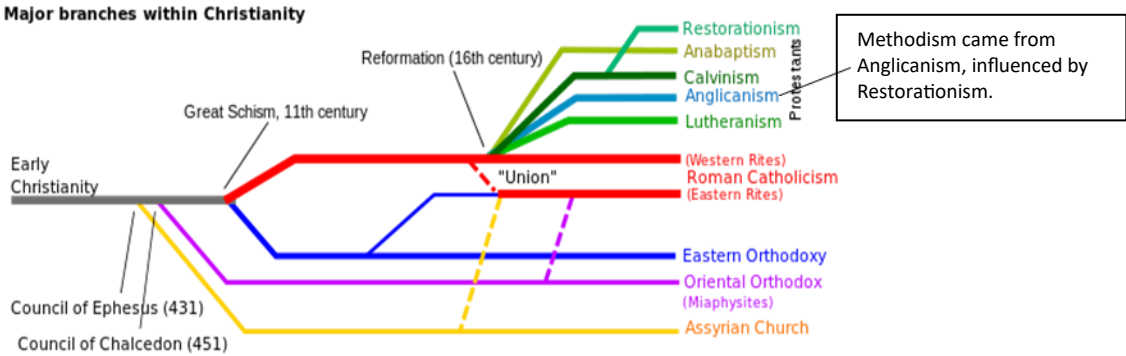
“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God--what is good and acceptable and perfect.” --Romans 12:2 (NRSV)

October 31st is Halloween—or, more classically, All Hallow’s Eve. In the life of the church, the following day, November 1st, is All Saints’ Day, the day in the life of the universal church where we remember, grieve, and celebrate the lives of loved ones who have “finished the race...kept the faith,” to quote 2 Timothy 4:7. Yet this season also includes a significant day for Christians in the Protestant tradition: on October 31, 1517, then-Catholic priest & theology professor Martin Luther nailed his “95 Theses” to the wall of a major church in Germany.

Luther’s original intent was to invite debate around his numerous concerns he had about Roman Catholic practices at the time. However, within four years, he was forced out of the Catholic Church, and began his own church, what became the Lutheran Church. This spawned a series of new churches throughout Europe, creating a loose collection of churches that have come to be known as “Protestant.”

You might ask, what is a “Protestant?” As you see from the visual below, a Protestant Christian is any Christian who is neither Roman Catholic nor Eastern Orthodox. Thus, United Methodists are Protestant, and so are Baptists, Presbyterians, Lutherans, Episcopalians, members of the various non-denominational Christian churches. If you are Christian, but are not Roman Catholic or Eastern Orthodox, you are part of the Protestant tradition, and thus, the start of the particular tradition of Christianity you are part of is, in one way or another, Reformation Day, on October 31, 1517.

The core of the Protestant tradition within Christianity encompasses two phrases: “Sola Scriptura” (Scripture Alone), and “Sola Gracia” (Grace Alone). Essentially, Christians in the Protestant tradition believe that we are saved by God’s grace through our faith in Jesus Christ, and that the final authority on how to be faithful to Jesus is the Bible. Yet, over 500 years later, I wonder if many Protestant Christians truly believe in Grace Alone and Scripture Alone. Increasingly, while Protestant Christians continue to nominally consider human authority as beneath biblical authority, a multitude of Christians depend increasingly on pastors with the largest media platforms to tell us how to think, how to act, how to vote, who to love, who to hate, etc. As we remember the Saints who have come before us, especially Martin Luther and those in the Protestant tradition, I would encourage all of us to re-ignite habits of reading Scripture and critical thinking, that enable us to truly proclaim our faith in God’s Grace alone, and submitting to the authority of Scripture alone as our final authority as to what God’s desires of us.



St. Mark UMC Preschool

by: Evelyn Callaway - Preschool Director

It's time again, time to start thinking about end of the year fun! Of course, we have to begin with the pumpkin patch in October. Our preschool children are so lucky to be able to look out of their classroom windows and get such a beautiful view every year. This month we have a special Character Parade scheduled for October 31st. Families will be invited to come by and watch the children parade around in their favorite costumes. After some time in the patch, parents will have a chance to take their child around to the classrooms and offices for a little trick-or-treating. Then we are off to the gym for a picnic style lunch and a little more playtime.

Then November rolls around and we learn about the first Thanksgiving and about friendship and sharing. We plan a Thanksgiving luncheon that usually happens about a week before the holiday, because the center will be closed November 26th-28th so that our staff can spend some time with friends and family. The children love making decorations for the tables and wearing their special turkey headbands. There will be plenty of pictures on Facebook so be sure to look out for those on our page at [St. Mark Preschool-McAllen](#).

The holidays would not be complete without our Christmas program in December. We try to make things interesting every year and so far we are still working out details but we are going to have a great time and we are going to put on a nice performance for everyone. Who knows maybe Santa will make a special



2025 Pumpkin Patch

"Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." - Philippians 4:6.

WE DID IT!!! It has been another wonderful season at the St. Mark UMC Pumpkin Patch. This year started out slow with some rainy days. Then we moved into some crazy hot and humid days. Now we are closing out the patch with some amazing cooler weather! Every year in September we tend to worry about how many volunteers we will have to help set-up the patch, unload pumpkins when they arrive, or work 2 hour shifts in the patch. Having a huge fundraiser for a whole month is a lot of work. But every year at the end of October, St. Mark UMC has blessed so many families, schools and businesses who have come to spend their time in our Pumpkin Patch. God always provides the right volunteers when we need them.

We had over 40 amazing volunteers who helped with 2 hour shifts in the pumpkin patch all of October. We are so grateful for each and every one of you who spent some time out in our pumpkin patch.

Thank you

