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St. Mark UMC McAllen, TX



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www.stmarkumcmcallen.org



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St. Mark UMC
(McAllen, TX)

Regular Church Schedule

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

ATTENDANCE AVERAGE	COMMUNION RAIL OFFERING	FINANCIAL REPORT
Month: December 2025 Worship Service: 69 Online Service: 16 Bible Studies: 33	Month: December 2025 Total = \$215.00 \$107.50 for Methodist Children's Home & \$107.50 for Lydia Patterson Institute	Month: Nov. 2025 Income: \$17,449.64 Expenses: \$19,213.17 Months: Jan. - Nov. 2025 Income: \$251,749.34 Expenses: \$225,423.62

St. Mark Events



January 2026

*A new heart I will give you, and a
new spirit I will put within you;
and I will remove from your body
the heart of stone and give you a
heart of flesh.*

Ezekiel 36:26 (NIV)



Happy New Year 2026!



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!

January



**Saturday,
January 17th
11:00am**

Items Needed:

Rice, Beans, Tomato Sauce, Canned Fruit, Canned Vegetables, Crackers

YOUTH GROUP

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

ST. MARK KIDS

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



UPWARD BASKETBALL & CHEER

Join us for basketball and cheerleading in a positive, Christian basketball league. Teams will learn teamwork, values, and skills. PreK 4 - 10th Grade (Cheer: K5-5th Grade)

St. Mark UMC
Registration Is Open Now
First Practice 1/5/2026
First Game 1/17/2026

Cost is \$100.00 registration. Practices every Monday Evenings 5:30pm-8:30pm and Games every Saturday Morning 9am-12pm.

Register at <https://registration.upward.org/UPW89790>
For more information contact Jessica @ (956) 534-7880

FACE TO FACE ENCOUNTER

**FEBRUARY 9TH, 10TH, 11TH, & 12TH
9:00AM TO 3:30PM**

Face to Face is an experience in the tradition of The Walk to Emmaus that is designed for persons 40 years old and older. This event is open to Christians of all denominations who want to strengthen their spiritual lives. There will be no overnight stays and is open to both men and women of all Christian denominations. This event will take place at First UMC in McAllen. Applications can be found online at <https://valleyemmaus.com/face-to-face> or in the Narthex.

Prayer Time

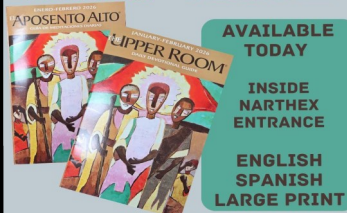
ALL are Welcome!

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

YOUTH MIDWINTER RETREAT 2026

**January 9th (7pm)
to
January 11th (10:15am)
at T Bar M Camp in
New Braunfels, TX**

UPPER ROOM JANUARY - FEBRUARY



St. Mark UMC Preschool CHAPEL

Every Wednesday at 9:30am in the Sanctuary

One Board Meeting

**Tuesday,
January 13th
@ 7pm**

Staff Meeting

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

The Christmas Card mailbox is back!
You will find the mailbox in the Narthex along with the list of St. Mark UMC friends & families names, if you wish to use it.

Merry Christmas
Last Day of the Christmas Mailbox is Monday, January 5th!



January 2026



St. Mark UMC Office will be **CLOSED** Thursday, January 1st, for the New Year. St. Mark UMC PreSchool will be **CLOSED** Thursday, Jan. 1st & Friday, Jan. 2nd for the New Year.

SAVE THE DATE

Affair of the Heart
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH 2026

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.

POTLUCK Luncheon

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

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

Meet the St. Mark UMC Preschool Staff

Hello! My name is Ms. Evelyn I am the St. Mark UMC Preschool Director. I have worked in Early Childhood for over 30 years and I still love coming in to work everyday.

About Me: When I am not working I love to travel. I especially love to go to places with interesting history.

Some of my favorite things are: Color-Blue, Flower-Peony, Drink-Apple Juice, Food-Asian, Movie-Tombstone, Book-Count of Monte Cristo by Alexandre Dumas & Auguste Maquet, Place to Visit-Anywhere Historical, Number-7, Hobby-Reading & Gardening, Candy-Toffee, and Shape-Pyramid.

One of my favorite memories at St. Mark UMC Preschool is taking the children on field trips during the summer months. We would go to the Zoo, beach, swimming, movies, and other fun places.

What I love about being at St. Mark UMC Preschool is walking into a classroom and just watching the children interacting with one another. They have such funny views of life.



Christmas at St. Mark UMC

Christmas is a busy time of year for St. Mark UMC. It feels like we just decorated the church for Christmas and now we are saying goodbye to 2025 and hello to 2026. I would like to reflect on how blessed we were this Christmas season at St. Mark UMC.

Advent Bible Study- We had a lovely small group for the Advent Bible Study that was on Tuesday afternoons. This Bible study was "The Christmas Letters" by Magrey deVega that explores the New Testament epistles. We read letters from Romans, 1 John, Philippians, and Colossians which gave us a new way to understand the birth of Jesus.

Christmas Pageant- The St. Mark UMC children & youth did an amazing job with the Christmas pageant. Getting to see the young people of St. Mark tell the story of Jesus birth is a blessing. This year's pageant was "The Christmas Story. Jesus Christ Is the Same-Yesterday, Today, and Forever!". If you did not get a chance to see it, you can still view the pageant (Recorded Dec. 14th) on the St. Mark UMC YouTube page (St. Mark UMC (McAllen, TX) or Facebook page (St. Mark UMC McAllen, TX).

Hidalgo Festival of Lights- The evening of December 14th, St. Mark UMC headed to the Hidalgo Festival of Lights. With around 40 people in our group we had a wonderful evening. We rode the train to see all the amazing light displays while singing Christmas carols. Checkout the photo below of all the children getting their yearly picture with Santa!

Preschool Christmas Program- St. Mark UMC Preschool had their yearly Christmas program on December 19th. The little ones performed for their parents and families dancing and singing Christmas songs. Then after everyone enjoyed some delicious Christmas cookies and fellowship in the narthex.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service- Was a beautiful service getting to hear the lessons of Christmas and singing Christmas hymns.



2026 St. Mark UMC Communion Rail Offerings

January—Human Relations Ministries (1/2, Advance #354)

Also Jan.-Manos Juntas, Mexico (border) (1/2, Advance #6129, “Willie” Berman)

February—Project Transformation Rio Texas (Rio Texas Advance #2037)

March—UMCOR Sunday (Advance #351)

April—Native American Ministries UMC (1/2) (Advance #356)

Also April— Peace with Justice UMC (1/2) (Advance #355)

May—Miracle Sunday (<https://www.ngumc.org/eventdetail/miracle-sunday-enominatio-wide-special-offering-19501355>)

June— Emily’s Meals (**Our Lady of Sorrows c/o Emily’s Meals, 1108 W Hackberry Ave., 78501**)

July— Practice Mercy Foundation (<https://practicemercy.org/>)

August— Good Neighbor Settlement House (Rio Texas Advance #1426)

September— UTRGV Campus Ministries (123 N. Sugar Rd, Edinburg, TX 78541)

October—World Communion Sunday (Advance #352)

November—United Methodist Student Ministries (Advance #353)

December— Methodist Children’s Home (Advance #502)

2026 St. Mark UMC Communion Rail Offerings

Happy New Year! St. Mark UMC will continue to have a Communion Rail offering every Sunday during communion time in the new year. St. Mark UMC family and friends gave over \$2,700.00 in 2025 to various ministries who serve to those in our community, United States, Mexico, and around our world. Thank you!

You will find this year’s Communion Rail Offerings to the left of this page. Also, below you will find the UMC Special Sundays and what their ministry does to help those in need. We look forward to another year supporting those in need beyond the St. Mark community.

United Methodist Church Special Sundays (from resourceumc.org)

Human Relations Day strengthens United Methodist outreach to communities in the United States and Puerto Rico, encouraging social justice and work with at-risk families.

UMCOR Sunday Previously known as One Great Hour Of Sharing, this Sunday enables the United Methodist Committee on Relief to reach out through worldwide ministries of food, shelter, health and peace.

Native American Ministries Sunday nurtures mission with Native Americans and provides scholarships for United Methodist Native American seminarians.

Peace with Justice Sunday enables The United Methodist Church to have a voice in advocating for peace and justice through a broad spectrum of global programs.

World Communion Sunday provides scholarships for U.S. racial- and ethnic-minority students and international students, on both undergraduate and graduate levels.

United Methodist Student Day (last Sunday of November) furnishes scholarships and loans for students attending United Methodist-related and other accredited colleges and universities.

Miracle Sunday (May 17, 2026) a one-time denominational offering to expand opportunities for pastoral education outside of the United States.