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 (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
<b>Month:</b> March 2026 Worship Service: 54 Online Service: 19 Bible Studies: 33	<b>Month:</b> March 2026 Total = \$442.00  UMCOR Sunday	<b>Month:</b> Feb. 2026 Income: \$17,576.80 Expenses: \$26,718.85  <b>Months:</b> Jan. - Feb. 2026 Income: \$48,198.43 Expenses: \$45,252.56

# St. Mark Events



## April 2026

*"I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."*

**-John 11:25-26 (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](http://www.stmarkumcmcallen.org)

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St. Mark UMC (McAllen, TX)

# Events this Month!

# April 2026

**Saturday, April 18th 11:00am**

**St. Mark FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY**

**Items Needed:**  
Beans, Rice, Crackers, Tomato Sauce, Canned Fruit, Canned Vegetables, Canned Soup

**AVAILABLE TODAY**

INSIDE NARTHEX ENTRANCE

ENGLISH SPANISH LARGE PRINT

**UPPER ROOM MARCH - APRIL**

**One Board Meeting**

Tuesday, April 14th @ 7pm

**Faith Sharing Group**

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

**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.

**EARTH DAY**

April 22nd

**ST. MARK KIDS**

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

**YOUTH GROUP**

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

**Administrative Professionals Day!**

Thank you! April 22nd 2026

**PROJECT TRANSFORMATION UP, UP & AWAY! 2026 SUMMER CAMP**

ONLINE REGISTRATION OPENS APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup>

Summer Camp is an eight week (June-July) camp for Children entering 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall of 2026. Children enjoy their days filled with art, games, faith time, and reading.

**Young Adult Bible Study**

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

**St. Mark UMC Preschool**

We will be CLOSED on Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, for Good Friday! Happy Easter!

**Holy Thursday**

Service 6:30pm

**Good Friday**

Service 6:30pm

**St. Mark UMC Preschool CHAPEL**

Every Wednesday at 9:30am in the Sanctuary

**EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE**

Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 7am

**Easter Breakfast**

8am-9am April 5<sup>th</sup>

Please join us Easter morning in the Gym between the Sunrise Service and the 10:45am Worship Service for some good food and friendship as we celebrate that **Christ Has Risen!**

**Staff Meeting**

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

**Children & Youth Easter Egg Hunt**

Sunday Morning, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am

**Church Office Closed!**

St. Mark UMC Office will be CLOSED on Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, in observance of Easter Monday!

**Holy communion**

Every Sunday

**Happy Birthday PASTOR JOE!**

April 11th

**Happy Birthday Hollie!**

April 25th

**Happy Birthday Drucilla!**

April 22nd

**POTLUCK Breakfast**

You are invited to join us after Sunrise Service & before Easter Service on Sunday, **April 26th** in the gym for a brunch. 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

St. Mark UMC  
301 Pecan Blvd.  
McAllen, TX 78501



## United Methodist Campus Ministries Bible Study Meal

St. Mark UMC will be providing a Bible Study meal for the UMCM on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month. Food will need to arrive at the Campus Ministries building in Edinburg at 6pm. If you are interested, please contact Nancy Murray or the church office. Those who provide a meal are encouraged to stay and share the meal with the college students.

## A Vigil of Lament & Hope

Each month, all are welcome to join together at Jackson Ranch Church (904 W. Doffin Rd., San Juan, TX 78589) for a vigil of lament & hope at the border. We meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 5:30pm.



## Cultos Unidos Ministerio Hispano

United Worship - Hispanic Ministry

All are invited to join the united services that are held the last Sunday of each month from 6pm to 7:30pm. Location changes each month so be sure to check the bulletin or call the church office for this month's location.



## Holy Week Services & Events

Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>

10:45am Palm Sunday Worship Service

Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>

6:30pm Maundy (Holy) Thursday Service

Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>

6:30pm Good Friday Service

Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>

7:00am Easter Sunrise Service

8:00am Easter Breakfast Potluck

9:00am Children & Youth Easter Egg Hunt

10:45am Easter Worship Service

## Up, Up & Away! Summer Camp



ART

GAMES

READING

FAITH TIME

COLLEGE ROLE MODELS

June - July

Monday Thru Thursday  
9am to 3pm

One-Time Registration  
\$25 Per Child

\$50 Family Maximum  
Scholarship Available

Children Entering 1st-6th

Priority given to children who  
qualify for free or reduced lunch



St. Mark UMC

301 Pecan Blvd.  
McAllen, TX 785011

Registration  
Opens April 3!



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## Pastor Musings

Thoughts and Advice from Pastor Joe, St. Mark UMC, April 2026

### THE MEANING OF HOLY COMMUNION

“For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.”—1 Corinthians 11:26, NRSV

Given that our first worship service in April is Maundy Thursday, when we remember the Last Supper, I thought it would be helpful to share what United Methodists believe about Holy Communion. The following are excerpts from pages 8 & 9 of the official United Methodist position paper on Holy Communion, *This Holy Mystery: A United Methodist Understanding of Holy Communion*, which was adopted by the 2004 General Conference of the UMC.

In the New Testament, at least six major ideas about Holy Communion are present: thanksgiving, fellowship, remembrance, sacrifice, action of the Holy Spirit, and eschatology. A brief look at each of these will help us better comprehend the meaning of the sacrament.

Holy Communion is Eucharist, an act of thanksgiving. The early Christians “broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people” (Acts 2:46-47a, NIV). As we commune, we express joyful thanks for God’s mighty acts throughout history—for creation, covenant, redemption, sanctification.

Holy Communion is the communion of the church—the gathered community of the faithful, both local and universal. While deeply meaningful to the individuals participating, the sacrament is much more than a personal event. The first person pronouns throughout the ritual are consistently plural—“we,” “us,” “our.” First Corinthians 10:17 explains that “because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.”

Holy Communion is remembrance, commemoration, and memorial, but this remembrance is much more than simply intellectual recalling...Christ is risen and is alive here and now, not just remembered for what was done in the past.

Holy Communion is a type of sacrifice. It is a re-presentation, not a repetition, of the sacrifice of Christ. Hebrews 9:26 makes clear that “he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself.” Christ’s atoning life, death, and resurrection make divine grace available to us. We also present ourselves as sacrifice in union with Christ (Romans 12:1; 1 Peter 2:5) to be used by God in the work of redemption, reconciliation, and justice.

Holy Communion is a vehicle of God’s grace through the action of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8)...The church asks God to “make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world . . .” (UMH; page 10).

Holy Communion is eschatological, meaning that it has to do with the end of history, the outcome of God’s purpose for the world...Christ himself looked forward to this occasion and promised the disciples, “I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom” (Matthew 26:29; Mark 14:25; Luke 22:18)...We are anticipating the heavenly banquet celebrating God’s victory over sin, evil, and death (Matthew 22:1-14; Revelation 19:9; 21:1-7).<sup>1</sup> In the midst of the personal and systemic brokenness in which we live, we yearn for everlasting fellowship with Christ and ultimate fulfillment of the divine plan. Nourished by sacramental grace, we strive to be formed into the image of Christ and to be made instruments for transformation in the world.

<sup>1</sup> Pastor Joe promises that the citation of two passages of Revelation are literal quotes from *This Holy Mystery*, not things he added just because he loves Revelation so much.

