

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

weekly news & updates

September 3, 2026

Upcoming Events

Walk in Love Classes

9/6, 9/13, Sundays

Chrismon Project

9/11, 9/18, 9/25, Fridays

Church Work Week

9/12, Saturday-9/18, Friday

SEEK Youth Group Resumes

9/13, Sunday

Conversations with God

9/14, Monday

40th Anniversary Celebration

9/19, Saturday

Access Plus Ramp Build

9/19, Saturday

Bishop Read's Visit

9/20, Sunday

Middle School Event

9/26, Saturday

Adult Bible Study Resumes

9/27, Sunday



Reflections from the Rector



Jesus had been asked an interesting question: "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" I do not think this was a question about personal fame or status. Rather, it seems to have come from a sincere desire to understand what Jesus was teaching about life in God's kingdom. Jesus took the question seriously and gave a lengthy answer. As he brought that teaching to a close, he addressed one of its most challenging aspects: reconciliation.

We live in a culture that often approaches conflict through legal and adversarial means. People are frequently advised not to admit fault and instead require the other party to prove his or her complaint. Too often, this approach creates relationships marked by suspicion rather than trust, and reconciliation is then understood primarily

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Sunday Worship Service

Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.

as resolving a dispute through some form of compensation.

Jesus offers a different approach. When speaking about conflict within the community of faith, he focuses on restoring relationships and rebuilding trust. Seen through that lens, the process outlined in Matthew's Gospel looks very different from many modern approaches to conflict resolution.

[Click here for the rest of the article.](#)

Visit our website

Pictorial Directory

Sign Up for Your Family Photo for Our Pictorial Directory

**THIS IS THE LAST SUNDAY
Sunday, 9/6, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**



We are working to produce a pictorial directory for our 40th anniversary celebration, and we need everyone's participation. **This Sunday will be the last Sunday available to have your photo taken.**

Please [sign up using this link](#) to have your family photo taken. Several new time slots have been added to the sign-up form to give people more options.

Luke Markert and Britt Thompson will take pictures in the sanctuary beginning at 11:30 a.m. Sign up to reserve your spot.

If you can't use the sign-up form, please call Judy in the office at (361) 994-0285 to reserve a spot.

We know there may be a few of you who haven't had your photo taken yet and who can't make it to the remaining photo opportunity this Sunday. If that is the case for you, please email Judy a photo at judy@stmarkcc.org or text it to her at (361) 425-8249.

Thank you for your help with this project!

Time of Contemplation & Healing Prayer



Time of Contemplation and Healing Prayer Wednesday, 9/9, 5:45 p.m.

If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, this service is for you. The first part of the service includes hearing scripture, listening to worship music, being quiet before the Holy Spirit, and praying for people as a group. The second part is a time for individual prayer with prayer ministers.

The services are scheduled for the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. Please consider joining us for prayers for yourself or someone you know, or to offer your prayers for others.

Church Work Week

Church Work Week Saturday, 9/12, to Friday, 9/18

In preparation for our 40th anniversary celebration and our annual Bishop's visit, a church work week has been planned to spruce up the property. It will begin on Saturday, 9/12, and go through Friday, 9/18.

A list of tasks is available in the fellowship hall. You can click on the link to [view the list](#). If you can't come on Saturday, you can come during the week. Stop by the office to see which tasks still need to be done, pick those you'd like to take care of, and get to work!

We need as many people as possible to help, so please put the dates on your calendar and make plans to come help. If you can come and you have some supplies and/or equipment that would make the work easier, please consider bringing them.



40th Anniversary Celebration



*40 Years of
Bringing Faith
to Life!*

Save the Date!
40th Anniversary
Saturday, 9/19
at 6:00 p.m.

Mark your calendars for
Saturday, September 19th, for
our 40th anniversary

celebration and make plans to come. Bishop David Read and his lovely wife, Jacqui, will join us for the party!

Invitations went out in the mail today, so check your mailboxes for yours. There is a QR code on the invitation that can be used to R.S.V.P. for the celebration. It is also included below. You can also sign up on the back of the Connection Card that will be in your bulletin this Sunday, or you can call Judy in the office at (361) 994-0285 to R.S.V.P. We need to know whether you will need childcare, and if so, the names and ages of the children. Please R.S.V.P. by 9/11.

Here is the menu for the dinner:

Brisket
Turkey
Potato Salad
Beans
Rolls
Hot Dogs (for the kids)
Desserts
Drinks
Beer and Wine (one per person)

We are asking everyone to consider bringing a dessert to share at the celebration. There is a place on the Connection Card to indicate what you'd like to bring, or call Judy in the office to let her know.

To help commemorate our 40th anniversary, the committee decided on a project that will benefit many people for years to come. The project is to add benches to our beautiful courtyard so that we will have more seating in that area to enjoy God's creation. There is currently only one bench. The committee members found HDPE outdoor weatherproof benches to purchase that would work nicely. Amazon currently has them on sale for \$140.00 each. You can either sponsor a bench or donate a smaller amount to help cover the cost of a bench. If you would like to sponsor a bench, you can put your donation in the offering basket on Sunday, give through our eGiving app, or mail in a check. Please indicate on your gift that the money is for a bench. As of today, we've had four benches donated!



Access Plus Ramp Build

Access Plus Ramp Build Saturday, 9/19, at 8:00 a.m. 421 Troy Dr.

The September ramp build is for a lady named Leanna. She and her family are looking forward to having better access to her home.

If you are interested in helping with this ministry but are concerned you may not have the skills needed, please don't let that stop you. Doug Wayland and his team would be happy to train you. If you'd like more information about the ramp ministry, please contact Doug at (361) 813-1781.



Come Make Chrismons



Come Help Make Chrismons for Our Trees for Advent Fridays in September

Chrismons are white and gold ornaments that are symbols of Christ and the meaning of Advent. They will be used for decorating our sanctuary trees for Advent. "Chrismon" means Christ Monogram.

We want them to be lovely and durable, so we are using materials that will last for many years. If you like to embroider, needlepoint, do beadwork, paint on wood, or otherwise craft with long-lasting materials, please consider joining us.

We have some patterns and a variety of materials/supplies for this project, but you are welcome to use others as you wish.

We will meet on three Fridays in September in the fellowship hall.

- **September 11th, 18th, and 25th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

There is no requirement to attend all sessions. Come as you are able. We will have more get-togethers later, dates and times to be determined.

For questions, contact Paula Baen by calling her at (832) 289-9842 or emailing her at paularupp57@gmail.com.

Youth Group

Youth Group Information

Youth group will resume meeting after the service on **Sunday, September 13**. Can't wait to see everyone there!

Middle School Event--The diocese is offering an event for middle school youth hosted by three different churches. Trinity by the Sea Episcopal Church in Port Aransas is one of the hosts. Use this [link to register](#) and get more information. The event is scheduled for Saturday, 9/26 from 10:00 am to 2:00 p.m.



Cimarron Senior Apartments Ministry



**Ministry to the Residents at
Cimarron Senior
Apartments
2802 Cimarron Blvd.**

Conversations with God

**Monday, 9/14, 11:00 a.m. (Moved from the 7th since it is
Labor Day)**

Conversations with God Bible Study on the First Monday of Every Month at 11:00 a.m.
Once a month, John deMontel, Fr. Doug Wasinger, and others provide snacks and a Bible study they call "Conversations with God" for the residents. It generally lasts an hour. If you'd like to help with this ministry, please contact John at (361) 815-9498.

Food Delivery to Residents on the Third Monday of Every Month at 11:15 a.m.
The Coastal Bend Food Bank delivers food to the Cimarron Senior Apartments once a month. A team of dedicated St. Mark's volunteers helps distribute the food to residents. If you have an hour or so to give, please consider helping with the monthly food distribution.

Bishop's Visit

**The Rt. Rev. Bishop David Read
Annual Bishop's Visit
Sunday, 9/20**

After spending an evening celebrating our 40th anniversary, Bishop David Read will be with us for our annual bishop's visit on Sunday, September 20th. He will confirm and receive those who would like to join the Episcopal Church. He will also be available to those who would like to reaffirm their faith. The weekend will be full of celebrations!



Volunteer Hours App

MyTimeTithe

Track Your Volunteer Hours. Celebrate Your Service.

A simple app for St. Mark's volunteers to log hours and stay connected with your church community.

Scan the QR Code to Sign Up!

MyTimeTithe.org/stmarkscs

Created by Jeremy Wilkey

MyTimeTithe App to Track Volunteer Hours

The time we serve in ministry at St. Mark's, in the community, or in any other capacity matters and has economic value. Wouldn't it be interesting to know how much time we serve? Jeremy Wilkey developed an app for us to use to log those hours. You can [click on this link](#) or scan the QR code to get started.

Enter your name in the space provided. If it's your first time, click "Don't see your name? Add yourself" to enter your name. Then fill in the page that opens up. You will select the date, the number of hours you served, which ministry the hours were for, and you may add a note about your service if you'd like.

Christian Formation Summer Break

Adult Bible Study Class Resumes September 27th

The Adult Bible Study class will resume meeting on Sunday, 9/27, after the service. The group will begin a study of the book of Romans. All are welcome to join!



Spiritual Growth Resources



Spiritual growth RESOURCES

Tools for Spiritual Disciplines

Here are some online resources to use for spiritual growth. Each one also has an app that you can download on your phone. Just search your app store to find them. Most of them are free; two have subscription fees, which are noted below.

YouVersion Holy Bible--Here's a [link to it online](#). You'll have access to the Bible in several different versions. There are Bible reading plans available. You can also search for a specific subject, such as prayer, and receive reading plans that span several weeks.

Forward Movement Day by Day Devotionals--Here's a [link to it online](#). Once you're on the site, you'll see many resources that you might enjoy.

The Daily Office--Here's a [link to it online](#). If you enjoy the Daily Office, this app makes it easy to access each day.

Centering Prayer--Here's a [link to it online](#). If you enjoy centering prayer, this app offers various ways to participate, including chimes and other sounds, that help you get to a place of inner peace and quiet.

Abide--Here's a [link to it online](#). This site includes meditations set to music, which are especially helpful to use before bed. There is a subscription fee for this one.

She Reads Truth--Here's a [link to it online](#). This one is specifically for women. There is a subscription fee for this one too.

Diocesan Events

Diocesan News



Cursillo Weekends-- There are two Cursillos planned for the fall: one at Mustang Island Conference Center, October 8-11, and a Spanish Cursillo at Camp Capers, November 5-8. [Here is a link for more information.](#)

Diocesan ENews--To stay informed on what is happening in our Diocese, you may sign up for the [Diocese of West Texas ENews](#) by clicking the link. Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on a white button that has "Let's Connect" written on it.

Ways to Support God's Kingdom through St. Mark's

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SUPPORT ST. MARK'S CHURCH!



Thank You for Your Generosity

Is the Lord blessing you? Are you grateful for what He has done in your life? Remember His Church. We have ministries to support and salaries and bills to pay. Give out of faith, thanksgiving, and generosity, and never out of guilt. If you are blessed to be able to give, here are several ways to do that:

- Online through our website. There is a blue "Giving" button at the bottom of each page. Just click on that, and it will take you to our online EGiving page. You will need to set up a user profile, and then you can set up a one-time gift or recurring gifts. You can also give through the ["Donate to St. Mark's"](#) link.
- Through your cell phone using the app, **Vanco Mobile**. To get the app, go to the app store and search for "Vanco Mobile". The icon background is dark purple with a white circle and a purple letter "V" in the center. Download the app and follow the prompts. You can use it to set up a one-time gift or recurring gifts.
- You may also use the QR code below.
- Mail in your check to: St. Mark's Church, 2727 Airline Rd, CC, TX 78414. We have a drop-in mailbox that is locked at all times. We check the mail every day, so your check will be secure.
- Drop your check off at the church. Just put it in the locked mailbox to the left of the red doors at the fellowship hall.
- Bequest giving is another way to give to St. Mark's with a gift through your estate. Simply list St. Mark's in your will.

THANK YOU for helping spread the Kingdom
through your continuing support
of St. Mark's Church.



Weekly Calendar

Calendar & Ministry Schedule

Here is the link to our [September ministry schedule](#). Click here for the [September church calendar](#).

September 6 - Sunday

10:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist--Sanctuary
11:30 a.m. - Coffee & Conversation--Fellowship Hall
11:30 a.m. - Pictorial Directory Family Photos--Sanctuary
11:30 a.m. - Walk in Love--Fellowship Hall Library

September 7- Monday

OFFICE CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY

September 8 - Tuesday

8:00 a.m. - Women's Reunion Group--Corner Bakery Restaurant, 4928 S. Staples St.
2:00 p.m. - Staff Meeting--Fellowship Hall Library

September 9 - Wednesday

12:00 p.m. - Prayer Group--Fellowship Hall Library
5:45 p.m. - Time of Contemplation and Healing Prayer--Sanctuary Chapel
6:30 p.m. - Men's Reunion Group--Nolan's Restaurant, 7426 S. Staples St.

September 11 - Friday

1:00 p.m. - Chrismon Project--Fellowship Hall

September 12 - Saturday

8:00 a.m. - Church Work Week Begins

**Below you will find several links to websites or
Facebook Pages that you might find helpful.**

[St. Mark's Episcopal Church](#)

[Donate to St. Mark's Church](#)

[St. Mark's Church Facebook Page](#)

[Diocese of West Texas](#)

[Diocesan Newsletter and Reflection Magazine](#)

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2727 Airline Rd
(361) 994-0285
www.stmarksc.org



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