

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

weekly news & updates

September 10, 2026

Upcoming Events

Chrismon Project

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

Church Work Week

9/12, Saturday-9/18, Friday

Walk in Love Classes

9/13, Sunday

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



I admire a good story. What makes a story compelling for me is its ability to reveal something true about human nature. The best books I have read, movies I have watched, and streaming series I have followed often shine a light on our strengths, weaknesses, and motivations. They do not always offer solutions, but they help us see ourselves differently. Sometimes those insights are uncomfortable. Other times they are playful. Most often, I come away with a deeper understanding of who I am and what I am doing. Stories can be powerful that way.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells a story about a vineyard owner who goes to the marketplace looking for laborers. Early in the morning, he settles with a group of workers on a fair daily wage. Later in the

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Sunday Worship Service

Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.

day, he returns and hires more workers, promising to pay them what is right. He does this several times, even bringing in laborers late in the afternoon. The surprise comes when it is time to pay everyone. Those who worked only an hour receive a full day's wage. The workers who labored all day think that they should receive more, but they are paid exactly what was agreed upon. Suddenly, what had seemed fair no longer feels fair. The owner's response brings the heart of the story into focus: "Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" If we are honest, the answer to both questions is yes.

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

Visit our website

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 THIS 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.



Thank you for helping with this project!

Pictorial Directory



Pictorial Directory

If you were not able to come to one of the Sunday photo opportunities and would like to be included in the photo directory, you may send a photo of your family to Judy at judy@stmarksgc.org or text it to her at (361) 425-8249. Please send them by Monday, September 14.

Thank you for your help with this project!

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.



40th Anniversary Celebration



*40 Years of
Bringing Faith
to Life!*

**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!

You can scan the QR code below to R.S.V.P. and indicate what type of dessert you'd like to bring. You can also sign up on the back of the Connection Card that will be in your bulletin this Sunday, or you can phone Judy in the office at (361) 994-0285 or email her at judy@stmarksgcc.org to R.S.V.P. We need to know if you will need childcare and, if so, the names and ages of the children. Please R.S.V.P. by THIS SUNDAY, 9/13.

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)

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. 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 eight benches donated!

Thank you to everyone who donated a bench!



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.



Youth Group



Youth Group Information

Youth group will resume meeting after the service **THIS 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.



EPISCOPAL DIOCESE
of West Texas



Diocesan Middle School Event

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 10AM-2PM
REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

OPEN TO STUDENTS IN GRADES 6-8

FOOD, GAMES, BIBLE STUDY, AND OUTREACH

LOCATIONS:
TRINITY-BY-THE-SEA, PORT ARANSAS

ST. DAVID'S, SAN ANTONIO

ST. PETER'S, KERRVILLE



DWTX.ORG/EVENTS

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 which was
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!

Healing Prayer

Time of Contemplation and Healing Prayer Wednesday, 9/23, 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 for others you know.



Personal Prayer Sessions

If you would ever like personal prayer, just let Judy know; prayer ministers can be available to pray with you individually. They usually pray in pairs. Just call the office at (361) 994-0285 to set up a time. If you can't set up a time, just come into the office, where Judy and Fr.

Doug would be happy to pray with you.

Volunteer Hours App

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](#) 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.

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/stmarksc

Created by Jeremy Wilkey

Adult Bible Study



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

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 13 - Sunday

- 10:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist--Sanctuary
- 11:30 a.m. - Coffee & Conversation--Fellowship Hall
- 11:30 a.m. - SEEK Youth Group--Fellowship Hall Youth Room
- 11:30 a.m. - Walk in Love--Fellowship Hall Library

September 14- Monday

- 9:30 a.m. - Staff Meeting--Fellowship Hall Library
- 11:00 a.m. - Conversations with God--Cimarron Senior Apartments, 2802 Cimarron Blvd.

September 15 - Tuesday

- 8:00 a.m. - Women's Reunion Group--Corner Bakery Restaurant, 4928 S. Staples St.

September 16 - Wednesday

- 11:30 a.m. - Lunch with the Old Guys--Work Day--Fellowship Hall
- 12:00 p.m. - Prayer Group--Fellowship Hall Library
- 6:30 p.m. - Men's Reunion Group--Nolan's Restaurant, 7426 S. Staples St.

September 18 - Friday

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

September 19 - Saturday

- 8:00 a.m. - Access Plus Ramp Build--421 Troy
- 6:00 p.m. - 40th Anniversary Celebration--Fellowship Hall

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](#)

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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