

ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
201 N DIVISION AVENUE
POLO, IL 61064
Church Phone: 815-946-2919
Email: stmarkspolo@frontiernet.net
Website: stmarkspolo.com

 **OCTOBER**
2024



October 2024 St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Polo, Illinois (815) 946-2919

E-mail: stmarkspolo@frontiernet.net Website: stmarkspolo.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Work Second Hand Rose October 1 st -5 th	2	3 10:00 Prayer Partners	4	5
6 9:00 Adult Bible Study 10:00 Social Time 10:30 Worship	7	8	9 7:00pm Church Council meeting at St. Mark's	10 10:00 Prayer Partners	11	12 LOMC Autumn Fest
13 9:00 Adult Bible Study 10:00 Social Time 10:30 Worship 11:30-1:00 Confirmation	14 5:00-6:30pm Community Meal at FUM	15 9:00am Quilters	16	17 10:00 Prayer Partners Deadline to submit articles for November Newsletter	18	19
20 9:00 Adult Bible Study 10:00 Social Time 10:30 Worship	21	22	23	24 10:00 Prayer Partners	25	26
27 Reformation Sunday 9:00 Adult Bible Study 10:00 Social Time 10:30 Worship/ Youth Confirmed at worship	28	29	30	31 10:00 Prayer Partners		

<u>Date</u>	<u>Worship Assistant</u>	<u>Altar Flowers</u>		<u>Tellers:</u> Evelyn Meyer, Linda Shank, Mark & Sandy Stahler
October 6	Hailey Walker	Joan Rienstra		
October 13	Kent Anders			<u>Altar Guild:</u> Marilyn Nelson
October 20	Julie Hoak			<u>Head Usher:</u> Marilyn Nelson
October 27	Trish Patterson			



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LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

201 N. Division Avenue, Polo, IL 61064

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Pastor Scott Ralston

Mission statement: *St. Mark's ELCA is a community of believers who gather to hear God's Word in Christ; worshipping, serving, and proclaiming God's love for all people and the world.*

October 6th 10:30am
Joint Worship in Polo



Reformation Sunday & Confirmation - October 27th 10:30am

Our St. Mark's students will be confirmed during the 10:30am worship on Sunday, October 27th, 2024.

The Faith Lutheran students will be confirmed during the 9:00am worship in Forreston the same day. We invite anyone to also join at that worship to support their students too!

Please invite your family and friends to join us in supporting these young adults. We will have light refreshments after worship.

If you wish to congratulate them with cards, our Polo students are Samantha, Kendall, Britt, Reese, Dominic, Tian, Kaci, Lexi, Eli, and Cooper, and the Forreston students are Leighton and Cooper.



Saturday, October 12th
Autumn Fest & 50th Anniversary Celebration at LOMC

Visit lomc.org for more information or to sign up.



Hello St. Mark's Lutheran,

Here we are deep into September. Football has begun in earnest. Elyse and I have gone to our first apple orchard, picked some beauties, and sampled some cider. It was truly fantastic, even if it was 90 degrees. But if we look around we can see the beginnings of that startling autumn transformation as the trees green leaves become gold, orange, and red in preparation for winter's embrace. What a beautiful time of year in God's great creation. I hope you get out and enjoy that, and then share stories of your adventures with family and friends.

In my devotions this week I came across a passage that really spoke to me. It comes from 1 Peter 3:15-16, "but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence."

This is something I touch on often in sermons... that we should know our faith well in our hearts. If that means being ready if someone would question us about our faith... fantastic. It is important for all of us to learn and study and be in worship, the ultimate goal of all of that is to know God more. Building our relationship with Christ means spending time in study and conversation. Talking with our beloved church members and talking about what we are learning and experiencing, sharing our stories of faith is a great way to grow in our faith and keeps us grounded.

Talking to people about my faith is something I love to do. Showing my faith through the way I live, speak, and walk in the world might be even better. So I encourage you, spend time getting to know God and God's plan for you more. Spend time reading your bible, doing devotions, worshipping, and working out those things you are learning in your life with friends and family alike.

Our seasons change, and in our gospel we see Jesus beginning his movement toward the cross; in this time of movement and transition think about who Jesus is, also consider for a moment that in the lives of the people around us (loved ones, co-workers, friends, and acquaintances) we might be the only Christ they come to know. Beloved, Christ calls us to love one another as He has loved us. This is not only good for us, but good for our neighbors.

Autumn is a beautiful time to experience God's blessings and glory in the changing of the leaves, but perhaps the biggest blessings and changes of the season won't only be in the beautiful creation surrounding us, but will be in the lives of those we serve and love, and in us as well.

Peace and Blessings to you and yours,
Pastor Scott



Polo Community Meal

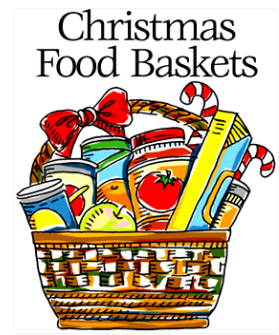
The next community meal will be held October 14th at Faith United Methodist 5:00-6:30pm.

Polo Lifeline Food Pantry Needs:

Sugar, soap, toilet paper, any frozen food, and cash donations.

Christmas Baskets

The Polo Council of Churches is trying something new this year for the Food Pantry Christmas baskets. Instead of having each church collect a certain item, they are asking for monetary donations to purchase the complete meals for community members in need. A \$20 donation will purchase a box of food to feed an entire family. Any donations for more or less are welcome. Money will be collected and the food pantry will purchase the food because they can get better prices for the items. Any extra money raised will be donated to the food pantry. Mark your envelope "Christmas Basket". Make any checks out to St. Mark's and we will send it all in together.



St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Council Minutes

Sept 11th, 2024 7pm

Members: Cindy Schryver, Renee Boyle, Trish Patterson, Pastor Scott

Attendance and Quorum: Yes

Opening Prayer – Pastor Scott

Secretary's Report – Renee makes a motion to approve. Trish 2nd.

Treasurer's Report – \$2,000 was transferred from savings to checking. Trish makes a motion that it comes out of the parsonage fund. Cindy 2nd.

Renee makes a motion to approve the treasurers report. Cindy 2nd.

Old Business: Council member needed

New Business: Painting around Church windows and trim. Steve is getting a quote. Estimate from Tennison Painting... would be done next year. Fire Marshal recommends some updates to boiler. Replace water lines.

Trish P would like to have her CASA meeting here at the church on Thursday, Oct 10th at 6:00 PM - Pastor makes a motion to approve CASA meeting here on Oct 10th. Renee 2nd.

Committee Reports:

Pastor – PLC conference in Wisconsin at the end of Sept 30th – Oct 3rd. Central conference meeting was today in Amboy. Visits are going well. Confirmation will be done the same day at Forreston and Polo, Oct 27th.

Finance: Renee – At the end of Oct/Nov work on budget for next year.

Worship N Music: Trish – They met in August. Next meeting is Nov 20th at 9:30 am.

Hospitality: Hailey – Renee asked about fall supper. She will have Lori contact Lisa.

Fellowship – nothing to report

Education: Renee – Save the date for the confirmation went out to all of the families. Adult bible study? Order a cake for confirmation. Church to give the confirmation kids a gift.

Memorial: Cindy- nothing to report

Property: Steve – nothing else to report

Polo Council of Churches – nothing to report

Liaison: Trish - next meeting will be on Nov 17th.

Closing prayer – Pastor Scott

Next Meeting: Wednesday Oct 9th, 2024 at 7pm

Vote to Adjourn Meeting: Trish moves to adjourn. Renee 2nd. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

August Finance Report

Income	Expenses	Net Income
7,085	8,839	-1,754

Polo Council of Churches July 2024 Minutes

President Jeff Davidson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm on July 23, 2024 at Faith Discovery Church. Those in attendance were: Sharon Miller, Marilyn Schwartz, David Poole, Marla Buskohl, Merla Brooks and Calvin.

Pastor Jeff led devotions relating to VBS observations of seeing unity for all in our lives. The gospel of Jesus can bring us all together in this world.

No minutes due to absence of secretary.

Treasurer’s report: \$3716.01 is the current balance with no outstanding bills.

Second Hand Rose: Sharon Miller reported that all is going well and she is thankful for the many volunteers each month.

Lifeline Food Pantry: The mobile food truck was at the food pantry and 75 families utilized the giveaway of food. Donations are needed for the food pantry.

VBS report: Jeff Davidson gave a report that 11 volunteers with Courtney Stauffer as director. There was a nice turnout of approximately 46 children within the three day span. This years theme was “Outback Rock”. Crafts and snacks were enjoyed by all. Thanks to all volunteers and COB.

Our Table: numbers are increasing each month. Upcoming dates are September 9 and October 14. It was discussed and passed by a majority vote that PCCC reimburse Marla Buskohl for purchasing serving supplies for future meals.

Pennies From Heaven: donations are needed from area churches as this program of assistance is a needed mission for our community. All requests from community should be advised to call Kathy Wragg at the Senior Community Center. 946-3818.

Next meeting will be at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church on Tuesday, September 24 at 6:00 pm.

Secretary, Marla Buskohl

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**If you would like a Devotional book for October, November, December
please let the office know. One will be sent or dropped off at your home.**

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*If you are missing a pan or dish that you brought food to St. Mark’s in, there are several in the
basement small kitchen. Help us find their owners!*

Thank you!

~ Thank you to Kim Printz and Renee Boyle for volunteering for September Altar Guild.

~ Thank you to all who participated in the CROP Walk last week and thank you to anyone who donated to help stop hunger. St. Mark's raised over \$500!

“Trish, Carly, Mallory & I would like to thank our wonderful Church Family for the love, support & prayers at Lyle's passing. Special thanks to Pastor Scott for the beautiful service & the luncheon ladies for the delicious meal. Your prayers are helping us to cope with this great loss.” Melody Reap.

Please let us know if someone needs a thank you.



Prayers for those in need of healing: Sibyl Acker, Kent Anders, Ron Bardell, Darlene Barnhart, Shelby Hose, Tommy Knipple, Pat McPherson, Beulah Nelson, Mary Ann Olson, Laurel Smith and Beth Wiegmann. **Those in care facilities:** Tammy Karrow, Trudy Karrow and Marian Schnulle. **Those in Military service:** Dustin Knapp, Brad Reigle, Travis Roop and Nathaniel Yingling.

October Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

1 Maycie Powell
3 Betty Hook
4 Brenner Bushman
Miles Bushman
Lexi Christen
Aubrey Richardson
5 Lydia Kelly
Marcia Printz
Randal Gabaldon II
6 Cassandra Hinrichs
7 Brad Long
Julie Merdian
10 Michelle Gunder
11 Pam White
12 Renae Shrader
Karen Reap
Marian Schnulle
Westley Bauling
Sarah Wiegmann
14 Trevin Woodin
Barret Clothier

15 Richard Hose
16 Kortney Heckman
17 Carolyn Altenburg
18 Don Nelson
20 Michael Hecathorn
22 Shirley Clayton
Karen Olsen
Andy Hinrichs
Chloe Bartelt
23 Mason Peterson
24 Jeff Meyer
Suzanne Sorenson
Ian Slager
25 Melanie Wyatt
26 Margery Immel
27 Samantha Hinrichs
Tracey Anders
Jonathan Heath
28 Colten Meyer
Shauna Gipe
29 Julie Albrecht
Kimberly Barnhart

Anniversaries

6 Lorin & Joyce Gatz
11 John & Pam White
12 Joe & Amy Merdian
20 Ed & Karen Olsen
23 Ryan & Robyn Nelson
26 Amanda & John Carroll
27 Oran & Terrie Wilder

Harvest prayer

A time for reflection during 'Harvest festival' celebrations

Dear God,

**Each season brings something new for
us to see and enjoy,**

**With sunny days and rainy days,
our crops grow larger,**

Fruit and vegetables ripen, ready for us to harvest.

Thank you for all of the food we have to eat,

**Let us remember people who may
not have enough.**

**Help us to be kind to others in our thoughts,
words and deeds.**

Amen

