

**ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**201 N DIVISION AVENUE**  
**POLO, IL 61064**  
Address Service Requested

***November 13<sup>th</sup>***  
***Fall Supper & Bake Sale***



***November 6<sup>th</sup>***  
***All Saints Day***

**St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Church Phone: 815-946-2919**  
**Email: [stmarkspolo@frontiernet.net](mailto:stmarkspolo@frontiernet.net)**  
**Website: [stmarkspolo.com](http://stmarkspolo.com)**  
**Reverend Terrie Wilder**  
**Pastor's Phone: 815-677-3443**  
**Email: [tfwilder@gmail.com](mailto:tfwilder@gmail.com)**



**2021**

# **November 2021 St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Polo, Illinois 815/946-2919**

**E-mail: [stmarkspolo@frontiernet.net](mailto:stmarkspolo@frontiernet.net) Pastor Terrie Wilder: 815/677-3443 Website: [stmarkspolo.com](http://stmarkspolo.com)**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
	<b>1</b> Pastor's Sabbath 9:00am Sort clothes for Second Hand Rose	<b>2</b> Pastor Text Study	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 9:00 Worship & Hospitality Meeting 10:00 Prayer Partners	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> <b>All Saints Day</b> 9:00am Sunday School for Children and Adults 9:00am Confirmation 10:00 Social Time 10:30am Worship	<b>8</b> Pastor's Sabbath	<b>9</b> Pastor Text Study	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 10:00 Prayer Partners  7:00pm Zoom Church Council meeting	<b>12</b> AA Meeting	<b>13</b> Fall Supper & Bake Sale at St. Mark's
<b>14</b> 9:00am Sunday School for Children and Adults 9:00am Confirmation 10:00 Social Time 10:30am Worship	<b>15</b> Pastor's Sabbath	<b>16</b> Pastor Text Study  9:00am Quilters  <b>Work Second Hand Rose November 16-20th</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 10:00 Prayer Partners	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> <b>Christ the King Sunday</b> 9:00am Sunday School for Children and Adults 9:00am Confirmation 10:00 Social Time 10:30am Worship	<b>22</b> Pastor's Sabbath	<b>23</b> Pastor Text Study	<b>24</b> <b>Deadline to submit articles for December Newsletter</b>	<b>25</b> No Prayer Partners  <b>Happy Thanksgiving!</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> <b>Advent 1</b> 9:00am Sunday School for Children and Adults 9:00am Confirmation 10:00 Social Time 10:30am Worship	<b>29</b> Pastor's Sabbath	<b>30</b> Pastor Text Study  9:00am Decorate St. Mark's for Advent/Christmas				

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Worship Assistant</u></b>	<b><u>Altar Flowers</u></b>	<b><u>November Tellers:</u></b> Barb Grobe, Kathy Mitchell, Joan Rienstra	<b><u>Altar Guild:</u></b> Tracey Anders
<b>November 7</b>	Amanda Carroll	Merla Brooks		
<b>November 14</b>	Julie Hoak			<b><u>Head Usher</u> – Terry Jenkins</b>
<b>November 21</b>	Beth Wiegmann	JoDee Bardell		
<b>November 28</b>	Cliff Bardell			



## ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL

### LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

201 N. Division Avenue, Polo, IL 61064

Email: [stmarkspolo@frontiernet.net](mailto:stmarkspolo@frontiernet.net)

Church office for a message: 815-946-2919

Pastor Terrie Wilder: 815-677-3443

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.*

## St. Mark's Fall Supper & Bake Sale

**Saturday, November 13<sup>th</sup>**

Ham Loaf and more!

Dine in or carry out starting at 5:00pm

Bake sale and raffles (no bazaar this year)

*Tickets are on sale now!*

See Lisa Hinrichs or a council member to get yours.

Sign up sheets for donations are at the back of the church.



## **Nov 7<sup>th</sup> All Saints Day**

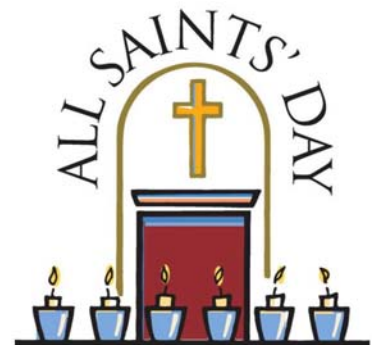
Candles will be lit for November 2019 – November 2021

**2019** 11/3 Brittney Long, 11/12 Ruby Isley, 11/24 Ron Greenawalt

**2020** 3/17 Terry Pontnak

**2021** 1/8 Gary Parke, 2/23 Barbara Bowen, 4/1 Edward Schnulle,  
4/28 Kenneth Obendorf, 10/6 Lois Garman

Candles will be available for the congregation to offer prayer.



## November is Food Pantry month

Current needs: Paper towels, toilet paper or any food items.

Items can be dropped off at St. Mark's. There is a grocery cart in the fellowship hall.

Christmas  
Food Baskets



Christmas Basket program is under way,  
hosted by the Polo Community Council of Churches.  
St. Mark's has been asked to gather 200 boxes of Au Gratin Potatoes this year.  
Donations can be dropped off in the fellowship hall.

Pastor's thoughts....  
Siblings in Christ,

Thanks to the Pilgrims and the Indians, our country has given us a holiday by law. As you know, we call the last Thursday of November "Thanksgiving."

As a Christian, I find Thanksgiving day both pleasing and irritating, Pleasing because it reminds people in our country to remember their blessings from God, the creator, gather with family and friends and give a prayer of thanks. Irritated because many people gather and gorge on food, while many in the world go hungry, and prayer is never spoken at the table. For many it's a day off to watch football and go shopping. This indulgence seems to go against most of what Jesus preaches, you know the "love you neighbor as yourself" stuff. Many people would call me a real buzz kill on a day when we have our family reunions and eat our favorite things, making great memories and.....really pastor, some of us DO pray.

Isaiah 12:4-5

*<sup>4</sup>And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name;  
make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted.*

*<sup>5</sup>Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth.*

For a Christian, a follower of Christ, EVERYDAY is full of Thanksgiving.

I am thankful for mercy and hope in the teachings of Jesus. I am thankful for the family of St. Mark's. I am thankful for my biological family and for the abundance of health, wealth, and well-being in this country I live in. I am thankful for the beauty of the earth and the magnificence of the plants and animals. I am thankful for prayer. What are you thankful for?

I saw a woman on one of the television religious programs walking through every room of her fabulous home thanking God for the curtains, the Kleenex, and the coffee table. I do not think that is what the scriptures mean in thanksgiving and praise.

We are to be thankful for God the Creator of all that is, God the Son who directs us how to live a life pleasing to God and the Holy Spirit of God that works in us, directing us. We are directed to be thankful for what we have, and we are directed to help those who have needs.

So, my favorite food in the Thanksgiving meal is the stuffing. This year while I give thanks, I am going to ask God to help "stuff" me full of the spirit of "helping and giving" to those in need.

In this season of Thanksgiving remember Isaiah: "*Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name;*"

Remember what Jesus said to his disciples, "*The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few;*<sup>38</sup> *therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.*" Matthew 9:35-38

Commit to being a worker for a harvest of a different kind, Autumn blessings, Pastor Terrie

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**Pastor is currently seeking all who would like the gifts of baptism, first communion, confirmation and new member information!**

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

## September Finance Report

Income	Expenses	Net Income
6,387	9,573	-3,186

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The new Constitution Committee has been formed. It is recommended that the church's constitution be updated every 5 years. St. Mark's has not done this for many decades. Please pray for this committee.



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## **CROP Walk Report**

Lots of folks gathered from St Mark's to walk a mile/or five, starting from the Methodist Church in Oregon. It was a bright, sunny day for the walkers, Brian Lopez and Hailey Walker both chose the five-mile route. Bravo for them!!!! The human participants were accompanied by a variety of canine persuasions: Roxi, a poodle/shih tzu mix belonging to Florence braved the walk, as did Sammy the australian sheepdog, belonging to Pastor and Oran, Mindy the poodle/katon de tullear and Wilson, a male karin, both owned by Merla, and Cindy's dog, Taylor, possibly a boston terrier, but it's a guess. Walkers had candy bars, bottled water, etc, at the halfway point of the 5-mile, and a sack lunch was provided to walkers when they finished their trek.....it was a great day to walk!!!! Many thanks to all the walkers and those who donated to this very worthy cause. St Mark's collected over \$1,000, totaling \$5700 for our area, with donations still coming in !!!! See you next year!!!

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*December 4<sup>th</sup> 4-6pm a String Orchestra will be at St. Mark's as part of the Polo Christmas Festival.*

### **Polo Lifeline Food Pantry Needs:**

Paper towels, toilet paper

Items can be dropped off at St. Mark's. There is a grocery cart in the fellowship hall.

### **St. Mark's Needs:**

Paper towels, kitchen garbage bags

## Property needs of St. Mark's:

Gutter put on out front  
Electrical needs upstairs and downstairs  
Upstairs choir loft cleaned  
Radiators repainted  
Light bulbs installed upstairs and downstairs  
Basement ceiling tiles replaced after leak is found

See Merla Brooks if you are able to help with any of these projects.

## **Sunday school continues and prepares for Christmas program**



It is not too late to join us! All children Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade are invited. Parents are welcome to attend as helpers. We have new curriculum this year and a new Children's Bell Choir. Come join the fun as we prepare for our Christmas program.

## Ways to Help Polo and Beyond:

- 1) Sending a check directly to the Polo Food Pantry 115 North Green Avenue .
- 2) Mailing cards to residents of care facilities is always a good idea:  
Polo Rehab 703 E. Buffalo, Polo 61064 (Linda Scholl and Jessica Kimpel)  
Provena Center 1372 Woodside Dr., Freeport 61032 ( Hazel Pontnak)  
Regency Healthcare 612 West. St. Sterling 61081 (Tammy Karrow and Trudy Karrow)  
Wesley Willows Rockford 61103 (Sibyl Acker)  
The Meadows of Franklin Grove (Marian Schnulle)  
510 N. State St., Franklin Grove, IL 60131
- 3) Make checks payable to Lutheran Disaster Response (if designated to a specific disaster, please indicate in the memo line):  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
ELCA Gift Processing Center  
P.O. Box 1809 Merrifield, VA 22116-8009  
Give by phone Call 800-638-3522 to make a donation with a credit card. Operators are ready to assist you Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Central Time.
- 4) Continue sending offerings to St. Mark's by mail or dropping in the mail slot at the north front door.  
THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ARE SENDING OFFERINGS



We would love to have everyone on our email list for faster communication. If you need to be added to have changed your email please call the church office and leave a message or email the church at [stmarkspolo@frontiernet.net](mailto:stmarkspolo@frontiernet.net)

## **Council Highlights from the October Church Council Meeting**

**Treasurer's report:** The roast beef supper realized a profit of \$1624.37. \$427 will be donated to the Crop walk, a refrigerator/freezer will also be purchased, any remaining funds will be put into the General fund, Terry made the motion to approve, Tracey seconded. Motion carried.

**Pastor's report:** Keeping on top of all the activities including the planning of the 150<sup>th</sup> event on October 31<sup>st</sup> is keeping me busy. Visiting all the shut ins is on my agenda again. Hoping for new member introductions soon as first communions. Rev. Michelle Knight is transferred out to her new church. The Garman funeral is this Friday. September 30<sup>th</sup>, I officiated a nonmember funeral. There were a large number of surgery events and hospitalizations this month.

**Worship:** Rededication and 150<sup>th</sup> event October 31st is planned. Pictures, special events, and lunch are planned! The television screen will be on that day for everyone to follow along.

**Hospitality:** Looking for small gifts for the residents at Polo Rehab, Polo Council of Churches will reimburse our cost. Visitations are not being allowed in the nursing facilities. After the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, shut-ins will receive a copy of the stained glass window book, photographs, and a short letter to include them in our celebration!

**Education:** Hand bells are going well, as is the new educational material. New Confirmation material is working well also. Adults would like more students, however, there are a few former confirmation students attending.

**Global Mission:** St. Mark's collected \$573 as had 16 walkers and 5 dogs. A great turnout!

**Property:** The repair of the archway and painting of the belltower has been completed. The doors need to be kept open to allow circulation of the air to the bell tower. There were a few moist spots above the archway ceiling and roof needs to be checked. Boss roofing has already been contacted. Awnings are being looked at being replaced in the spring. The furnaces have been turned on. The temperature needs to maintain 60 degrees for the organ. Bowman's electric is looking at replacing light fixtures, they are also checking in to the state/ComEd for monetary assistance. Marilyn finished mulching the flower beds. Lori is touching up paint on the names on the stained glass windows. Oran and Kent will help change light bulbs. Sara is going to help look for a kitchen door. We will have a church clean up day, October 30<sup>th</sup>. Caulking and painting front porch of parsonage is still ongoing. We need more people to be on the Property committee. Merla is the only person, and the constitution says we need to have at least 3 people on the committee.

**Council of Churches:** September 28<sup>th</sup> meeting was held. Suzanne, Merla, and Pastor attended. Secondhand Rose received \$9500 in grants. Lifeline pantry needs promoting in the city as many people do not know where it is. A new council president is needed. Both the Brethren and Pine Crick Christian churches have new pastors. The next meeting is November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm at Crossroads Church. St. Mark's is asked to provide 200 boxes of Au Gratin potatoes for the Christmas baskets this year.

**Constitution Committee:** Met on 10/11/21, went over 9 chapters. Many questions and Merla will contact the Synod to see if it applies to our smaller congregation. Next meeting is October 27<sup>th</sup> at 3pm.

**Old Business:** A Thrivent grant was secured for the fall supper; it will be used for supplies. A portion of the proceeds will go to hunger. It will be decided on exact amount once proceeds are counted.

**New Business:** A letter will be written from the St. Mark's Council to the City of Polo about the proposal of Route 26 parking that we need to retain our parking spaces out front.

**Other Business:** Terry will get information from Lori on the budget, Craig and Lisa will also join the committee to form a 2022 budget to present. Sara will be on the nomination committee as the outgoing member. Terry Jenkins offered to be head usher for November. Lisa will be November Custodian. December 4<sup>th</sup> 4-6pm String Orchestra will be at St. Mark's, Kent made a motion to approve, Sara seconded, motion approved. Craig made a motion to approve Lori to put Tythe.ly on our website for additional ways to donate, and Linda advertise on our Facebook, Sara made a second, motion approved.

### **Special Celebrations from October**

Happy 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to Lorin & Joyce Gatz on October 6<sup>th</sup>

Happy 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to Ed and Karen Olsen on October 20<sup>th</sup>

Dear Friends,

We received the lovely card from all of you commemorating our wedding anniversary. Thank you for thinking of us. Bob and Tracy are taking us to an Italian restaurant to celebrate.

We are settling into life here at The Springs. It is very different from our life in Polo, but often things change in our lives and, with God's help, we adjust.

We have met many people here who have endured similar, or even worse, circumstances that brought them to live here. Life goes on.

God Bless Each One of You,  
Ed and Karen Olsen  
822 Golf View Drive #101  
Medford OR 97504  
541-245-6301

"To my church family- thanks bunches for the thoughts, prayers, and cards after my recent hip surgery....but most especially, many thanks for the food!!!! love you much, Tracey Anders"

~ Thank you everyone who helped make our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Re-dedication a success!

*Please let us know if someone needs a thank you.*



**Prayers for those in need of healing:** Carson Bardell, Angela, Shelby Hose, Richard Hose, Kate Marschang and Brad Shippert **Those in care facilities:** Sibyl Acker, Tammy Karrow, Trudy Karrow, Jessica Kimpel, Hazel Pontnak, Jeanne Scholl, Linda Scholl, and Marian Schnulle. **Those in Military service:** Logan Albrecht, Bryan Connell, Dustin Knapp, Brad Reigle and Travis Roop.

### November Birthdays & Anniversaries

#### Birthdays

2 Carol Garkey  
Stacy Morrison  
3 Hazel Pontnak  
4 Julie Acker  
Lucas Bender  
Joyce Gatz  
7 William Hoak  
Mary Jane Wagner  
9 Dan Nelson  
Logan Albrecht

11 Paige Peterson  
12 Michael Ambeau  
13 Darlene Barnhart  
15 Andrea Mullens  
20 Scott Thorngren  
23 Hurley Boothe  
25 JoDee Bardell  
29 Kent Sorenson  
30 ReAnne Kurschner  
Parker Wolber

#### Anniversaries

8 Randy & Dawn Mitchell  
22 Aaron & Melissa Johnson  
23 Ken & Jennifer Yingling  
26 Richard & Shelby Jean Hose  
Michael & Cindy Sullivan