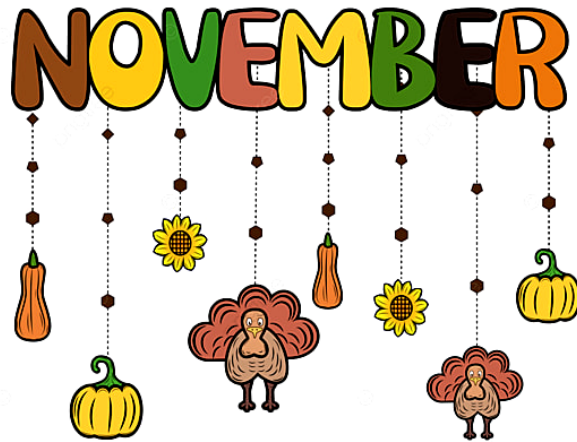


ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
201 N DIVISION AVENUE
POLO, IL 61064
Church Phone: 815-946-2919
Email: stmarkspolo@frontiernet.net
Website: stmarkspolo.com




2024



November 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	2
3 All Saints Day 9:00 Adult Bible Study 10:00 Social Time 10:30 Worship	4 Sort clothes for Second Hand Rose	5 Work Second Hand Rose November 5 th – 9 th	6 7:00pm Church Council meeting at St. Mark's	7 10:00 Prayer Partners	8	9
10 9:00 Adult Bible Study 10:00 Social Time 10:30 Worship	11 5:00-6:30pm Community Meal at FUM St. Mark's serves!	12	13	14 10:00 Prayer Partners Deadline to submit articles for December Newsletter	15	16 5:00-7:00 Fall Supper & Bake Sale 
17 9:00 Adult Bible Study 10:00 Social Time 10:30 Worship	18	19 9:00am Quilters	20 9:30am Worship & Music Meeting	21 10:00 Prayer Partners	22	23
24 Poinsettia Orders Due 9:00 Adult Bible Study 10:00 Social Time 10:30 Worship	25 November 24-30th – Decorate St. Mark's for Advent/ Christmas	26	27	28  No Prayer Partners	29	30
Date	Worship Assistant	Altar Flowers			Tellers: Julie Hoak, Phyllis Dyer, Sharon VanOosten	
November 3	Linda Gall				Altar Guild: Lisa Hinrichs	
November 10	Sandy Stahler				Head Usher: Cindy Schryver	
November 17	Beth Wiegmann	Merla Brooks				
November 24	Julie Hoak	JoDee Bardell				



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LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

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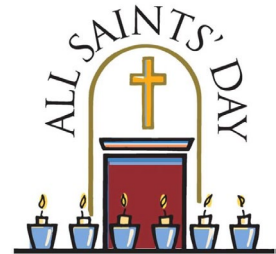
Website: stmarkspolo.com

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.*

All Saints Day November 3rd

On All Saints Sunday, we remember those who have gone on before us. Candles will be lit in memory of our members who have passed in the last year: Larry Hackbarth, Lyle Printz, Lori Jasper, Jessica Kimpel, Lyle Reap and Sibyl Acker. All are invited to come and light a candle for other loved ones as well.



Fall Supper & Bake Sale November 16th, 2024



Dine in or Carry out from 5:00-7:00pm. Menu includes a hearty serving of hamloaf, au gratin potatoes, green beans, roll, tossed salad and pie.

Donations of \$12 for adults and \$8 for kids 12 & under will be collected at the door. No advance tickets needed.



Watch for sign up sheets soon to donate items and help serve.

Donations or meals can be made through our [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly) account by scanning the QR code.



Christmas Basket donations needed

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.



Pastor's thoughts ...

Hello St. Mark's Lutheran Church,

Good morning you amazing people. As I write today it is a crispy autumn morning. And it brings me to thoughts of Thanksgiving. So with no further ado... Thank you Lord for sunshine, mourning doves calls, and warm quilts if the day is just too cold. Thanks you for stars at night, hot coffee, cocoa, and friends and family to hold. Thank you Lord for long walks and backwoods country drives. And thank you Lord, oh thank you Lord, for being with us in our lives. Thank you for the strength and hope to carry us through the bad, and thank you Lord oh thank you Lord for all the good days that we've had. Lord we love you, today and every day. Let us give thanks.

Thanksgiving is a time for gratitude and remembering. Here are some lovely thoughts on gratitude I wanted to share.

“Gratitude is a divine emotion: it fills the heart.” Charlotte Brontë

“As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.” John F. Kennedy

“Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy, and change ordinary opportunities into blessings.” William Arthur Ward

“To be grateful is to recognize the Love of God in everything.” Thomas Merton

As we approach November, Halloween is still ahead and All Saints Day too. And I hope those occasions are good ones for you and your family. But I have to admit...what I'm looking forward to is Thanksgiving. And, I lament that it seems more and more that Thanksgiving Day is better known as the day the Black Friday sales start. Because in my heart it will always be a time for family... a time for festive feasting and fond remembering, a time to give thanks. And not just thanks for family and friends, but thanks that we have a God who loves us so much, that we have been redeemed and saved by God through the Life, Death and Resurrection of Jesus.

I want to close out today with a quote from the great UCLA basketball coach John Wooden “be true to yourself, help others, make each day a masterpiece, make friendship a fine art, drink deeply from good books -especially the Bible, build a shelter against a rainy day, give thanks for your blessings and pray for guidance every day.”

Beloved, as we approach Advent this year, let us be thankful, as we await and remember, the greatest gift of love the world has ever known, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord!

Peace and Blessings to you and yours,
Pastor Scott

Polo Community Meal

The next community meal will be held
November 11th at Faith United Methodist
5:00-6:30pm.

St. Mark's Serves!

There is a sign up sheet at the church for
salad and dessert donations.

Polo Lifeline Food Pantry Needs:

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



Decorating St. Mark's for Christmas

It's almost time to decorate for Advent/ Christmas! We will be putting out a list of all things to decorate so people can sign up for the tasks they would like. The church can be decorated between November 24th-30th. Mark the task you would like and complete it when it works for you during that week. We appreciate ALL help!!



September Finance Report

Income	Expenses	Net Income
9,754	7,343	2,410



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



Congratulations to our Confirmation students!

The following St. Mark's and Faith Lutheran kids were confirmed on October. Samantha Gray, Kendall Boyle, Britt Thorngren, Reese Mekeel, Dominic Escobar, Tian Escobar, Kaci Hall, Lexi Christen, Eli Lotz, and Cooper Dawson, and the Forreston students are Leighton Byers and Cooper Johnson.



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!

Congratulations to Amanda & John Carroll on the birth of their daughter, Noelle Lynn Carroll.

Congratulations to Andy & Sydney Bartelt on the birth of their son, Charlie Bartelt.

Sympathies to the family and friends of Sibyl Acker who passed away October 19th. Services were held at St. Mark's. Thank you to all who helped with services and the luncheon.

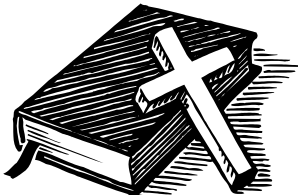
Thank you!

~ Thank you to Betty Obendorf's daughter, Krista, for donating all the greeting cards! If you need a card for someone, check the table in the fellowship room. There are many to choose from!

~ Thank you to our Quilters! They have sent 12 quilts to Hope of Ogle County, some will be going to Focus House and 24 have been sent to Kentucky and will be distributed to disaster areas.

~ Thank you to all who walked and/or donated to the CROP Walk this year! St. Mark's alone collected over \$500 and Ogle County collected a total of \$5387 to help stop hunger! Great job! Thank you to Tracey Anders for organizing everything on behalf of St. Mark's.

Please let us know if someone needs a thank you.



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

November Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

- 2 Carol Garkey
Stacy Morrison
- 4 Julie Acker
Lucas Bender
Joyce Gatz
- 5 Gracie Bailey
- 7 William Hoak
Mary Jane Wagner
- 9 Dan Nelson
Logan Albrecht

Anniversaries

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

Christmas Poinsettia Orders

Anyone wishing to have a poinsettia in the church in memory of a loved one or wishing to present a poinsettia to the church for Christmas, please fill out the form below. Please mail or bring to the church office by Sunday, November 24th. The cost of the poinsettia is \$20.00. If you are planning on buying a poinsettia elsewhere, please still fill out the information and return it to the church office. Thank you.

Message for church bulletin:

“Presented to the church to the Glory of God by

OR

“Presented in loving memory of

Your name _____

Are you ordering through the church? YES / NO

Please make checks payable to “St. Mark’s”





NOVEMBER

16

SATURDAY

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

HAMLOAF DINNER

AND
BAKE SALE

Menu:

Hearty Serving of Hamloaf
Au Gratin Potatoes
Green Beans
Roll
Tossed Salad
Pie

DATE: SATURDAY NOVEMBER 16, 2024

TIME: 5 - 7 PM

DINE-IN OR CARRY OUT

COST: \$12 ADULTS

\$8 AGE 12 & UNDER



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Reservations not required but appreciated. Reserve your meal by calling the church or Venmo using QR Code above.