

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

Join us for online Worship  
Sunday mornings at 9:00am!

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**April 4<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>st</sup>**

**Indoor Worship**

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April 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
after indoor worship

**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**

  
**HE IS RISEN**

# **April 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**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
				<b>1</b> 10:00 Prayer Partners  <b>Maundy Thursday            Worship Online 4:00pm</b>	<b>2</b> <b>Good Friday Worship</b> 4:00pm Online 6:00pm Indoor Service	<b>3</b> 9am-Noon Decorate Church
<b>4</b> <b>Easter Resurrection Service</b> <b>9:00 Online Facebook worship</b>  <b>8:30am Indoor Worship</b> <b>10:30am Indoor Worship</b>	<b>5</b> Pastor's Sabbath  9:00am Sort clothes for Second Hand Rose	<b>6</b> Pastor Text Study	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 10:00 Prayer Partners  7:00pm Zoom Church Council meeting	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> <b>9:00 Online Facebook worship</b>  No indoor worship	<b>12</b> Pastor's Sabbath	<b>13</b> Pastor Text Study	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 10:00 Prayer Partners  <b>Deadline to submit            articles for May            Newsletter</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> <b>9:00 Online Facebook worship</b>  <b>10:30 Indoor Worship</b> <b>11:30 Annual Meeting after            Worship</b>	<b>19</b> Pastor's Sabbath	<b>20</b> Pastor Text Study  9:00am Quilters  <b>Work Second Hand Rose            April 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 10:00 Prayer Partners	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> <b>9:00 Online Facebook worship</b>  <b>10:30 Indoor Worship</b>  2:00pm Central Conference Mtg online	<b>26</b> Pastor's Sabbath	<b>27</b> Pastor Text Study	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 10:00 Prayer Partners	<b>30</b> 7-10:00pm Ignite Your Faith – Zoom Youth Gathering	
<b>April Tellers:</b> Nancy Parke, Lorin & Joyce Gatz	<b>April Altar Guild:</b> Tracey Anders					



# 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.*



### Maundy Thursday

Holy Communion on-line Thursday, April 1<sup>st</sup> after 4:00pm

### Good Friday

April 2<sup>nd</sup> - On-line after 4:00pm or  
6:00pm in person worship

### Easter Resurrection Service

On-line Easter morning at 9:00am or  
In person at 8:30am or 10:30am

### **Indoor Worship guidelines:**

Masks worn over the nose are mandatory and social distancing still applies. Please enter through the parking lot door. Reservations are appreciated but not required. Communion will be offered. **Please call 815-946-2919 or email [stmarkspolo@frontiernet.net](mailto:stmarkspolo@frontiernet.net) to reserve your place so we can make appropriate accommodations.**

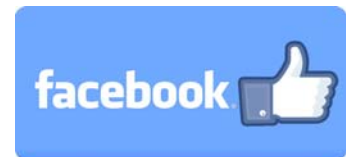
### **Join us for Worship on Facebook!**

#### **Sunday mornings at 9:00am**

All you need to do is log on to St. Mark's Lutheran Church Polo Illinois Facebook page [www.facebook.com/stmarkspolo](http://www.facebook.com/stmarkspolo). The website is open to the public.

Pastor Terrie will be doing a shortened message with a short sermon and then **offering communion for the community the first Sunday of the month only**. Have a piece of bread or a cracker handy along with juice or wine and we will share the Lord's Supper together virtually.

**Pastor will continue to email worship on Saturday evening for Worship at home.**



April 18<sup>th</sup> 11:30am after Worship  
St. Mark's Annual Congregational Meeting

Pastor's thoughts....

***Resurrection Easter Sunday is here! After the trial, and often death like grip on our usual patterns of life, resurrection is even more meaningful.***

**John 20.1-18 <sup>1</sup> Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb.**

These are the first words from the Gospel of John that we shall hear on Easter Morning from St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church. This one verse tells so us so much about the Resurrection story.

Burial customs in the time of Jesus were important. The Israelites referred to Deuteronomy regarding burial. It was believed that it was a curse to leave the dead unburied. *"Thy carcasses shall be food unto all fowls of the air, and unto the beasts of the earth"* ([Deut. 28:26](#)). Because the ground is all rock and sand in area of Jesus burial, it was customary to use a cave or chamber cut out of the soft rock. Often many people were buried there together. The wealthy and the patriarchs purchased family tombs. In these times cremation was considered an outrage. The New Testament sheds some light on Jewish burial practices of the first century C.E. Jesus' disciples took his body, bought a great quantity of myrrh and aloes, "and wound it in linen clothes with the spices, as the manner of the Jews is to bury" (John 19:40).

It was the first day of the week which was Sunday. Saturday was the Sabbath Day according to Genesis when the Lord rested. Sunday begins a new week. Christians adopted Sunday as a day of worship in the First Century.

Mary Magdalene comes to the tomb while it was still dark. Why? So that she would not be seen? Was she fearful? Maybe she was grieving? Maybe she could not sleep?

Mary Magdalene sees the large stone at the entrance has been removed. Most of these stones were estimated to weigh 2000-4000 pounds. Most of these stones were round or square and flat so they could be rolled in place. Sealing the door to the tombs were meant to kept grave robbers and wild animals out.

In this first verse there is much to think about. The Stone symbolized a barrier between the Living & Dead. Now that Jesus Had Risen, "Death Had Been Conquered!"

Do we have barriers like stones that keep us from being resurrected? Barriers that keep us from visiting with Jesus and the angels? Barriers of self-concern, fear, anxiety, irritation, frustration, or any manner of sin that keeps us from worshipping the Risen Christ?

A lot happens after verse 1. Jesus appears behind locked doors. Some believe he has risen, and some do not. For Christians, we believe by our baptism that there is new life in Jesus. That we can be reborn in this world and the next! Everyday there is a new beginning for Christians! We are fed and forgiven children of God!

As we move into Spring, we give thanks for the Resurrection and anticipate a resurrection of health and wellness for God's people and a Resurrection for the church in the world!

Easter Blessings, Pastor Terrie

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

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February Finance Report

Income	Expenses	Net Income
5,893	7,745	-1,852

**Dear Northern Illinois Synod congregation members and rostered ministers:**

The Thirty-Third Annual Northern Illinois Synod Assembly will be held on Zoom, which is a digital platform, on Friday, June 18 and Saturday, June 19, 2021. The June 18 session will begin with admission to the assembly at 5:30 p.m. for check-in with credentialing and viewing displays. Plenary Session One will begin at 6:30 p.m. and recess at 9:30 p.m. The June 19 session will resume with admission to the assembly at 7:30 a.m. for check-in with credentialing and viewing displays. Worship will begin at 8:30 a.m. We encourage you to check-in very early to avoid delays in entering the assembly. We also encourage you on each day to not 'leave' the Zoom meeting while on breaks and lunch so you will not have to re-sign in and be credentialed. We anticipate that the assembly will close at approximately 3:30 p.m.

Registration for voting members for the assembly will open on March 1, 2021 and close the evening of April 14, 2021. **Registrations will not be accepted after the April 14 deadline.**

2021 Northern Illinois Synod Assembly Fee The non-refundable registration fee: \$65.00

Lay Voting Members: Congregations are responsible for all expenses.

Visitors: The Synod Assembly will be livestreamed to our website and visitors are encouraged to watch. You do not need to register for the assembly. You may access the free livestream of the assembly at any time while the assembly is in session at this link: <https://nisynod.org/assembly>.

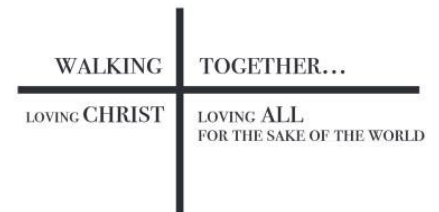
***Assembly Forums***

Voting members are encouraged to attend an **Orientation Forum** on **Monday, June 14** at 7:00 p.m. with check-in beginning at 6:00 p.m. This will be an opportunity to practice entering the digital Assembly Hall, navigating in Zoom, and voting. Please be intentional about entering the forum early to allow for credentialing.

Voting members are also invited to attend a **Constitution Forum** on **Tuesday, June 15** at 7:00 p.m. with the Zoom meeting opening at 6:30 p.m. This will be an opportunity to learn about the proposed revisions to the Northern Illinois Synod Constitution and to answer any questions.

Voting members are invited to attend a **Resolutions Forum** on **Wednesday, June 16** at 7:00 p.m. with the Zoom meeting opening at 6:30 p.m. This will be an opportunity to discuss the resolutions that will be before the assembly.

Voting members are invited to attend a **Budget Forum** on **Thursday, June 17** at 7:00 p.m. with the Zoom meeting opening at 6:30 p.m. This will be an opportunity to discuss the 2022 budget that will be before the assembly.



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*Ignite Your Faith – Zoom Youth Gathering*

**Friday, April 30th  
7-10 pm, Grades 9-12**

This Zoom gathering will consist of worship time, small group bible studies, a sermon from Bishop Clements, and even a family feud style trivia game! This will be an opportunity to grow in our faith, get to know one another, and have a lot of fun in the process! Invite your friends and people in your church! It's sure to be a great time! We very much hope to see you all there!

Here's how to get more information and to register: go to <https://nisynod.org/events/ignite> which is the Ignite Your Faith page on the Synod website. The deadline to register is April 12 at 11:59 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person and includes a t-shirt!

# HANDMADE SCARF DRIVE

**Handmade scarves of any kind needed!**

**Join us in helping Vicki Sauter collect handmade scarves for Romania!**

***Drop scarves off at St. Mark's and we will deliver them.***

**134** SCARVES FOR ROMANIA



- Handmade
- Crocheted
- Knitted
- Sewn
- Winter Fabric
- Neutral Colors

Drop off at:  
ACF Mission Office  
416 E. Dover Rd.  
Princeton, IL 61356  
Tim: 815-303-1725  
Pastor Vicki: 815-973-2819

**Benefits**

THE KIDS & STAFF  
AT POINT OF HOPE

#SHARETHEWARMTH 



## **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.





## Council Highlights from the March Church Council Meeting

**Correspondence:** Pastor received a thank you note from Homeward Bound for our gift of \$50 as a memorial for Reverend Tetzloff. Homeward Bound helps those dealing with homelessness.

**Treasurer's Report:** Income for the month of February was \$5,893 with expenses \$7,745 with a deficit balance of \$1,852 for the month

**Pastor's Report:** Oran and Pastor were blessed to have received their 2<sup>nd</sup> Covid vaccine 2 weeks ago. Pastor is glad to see the February blizzard weather being over as it was a challenging month with weather affecting the internet along with her computer crashing. Kent Anders was able to get some church reports for pastor. Microsoft 365 was purchased for the computer in order to do bulletins, worship and teaching material. The cost to the church was about \$75 for the year. Pastor looks forward to being able to see other fully vaccinated shut-ins soon.

**Worship Plans:** On March 7<sup>th</sup> we had indoor worship with 26 in attendance. It was a 45-minute service and Cheryl provided beautiful music. Assistants, ushers, flowers, soloists are needed going forward. Pastor hopes to have some confirmation students to assist. Pastor continues to do worship on-line. The organ and piano are scheduled to be tuned next week. Good Friday service is scheduled for in person at 6 pm on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Registrations to attend Easter worship are already coming in. There will be a pause on in person church on April 11<sup>th</sup>, and then in person worship will resume weekly on April 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Polo Council of Churches:** The next meeting is Tuesday March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm.

**Hospitality:** The hospitality committee will decorate the church for Easter on April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Education:** Pastor is meeting with confirmation class both individually and in small groups of 2-3. We are completing reviews and making plans.

**Property:** The heat pump has been ordered for the furnace. The parsonage had a clogged drain.

**Old Business:** The annual meeting has been set for April 18<sup>th</sup> immediately following in person service. A nomination committee for church council vacancies needs to be formed. Merla will be reaching out to prospective committee members and Amanda will assist with the nomination committee. We need 2 nominees for 3 year terms and 1 nominee for a 1 year term.

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### **Polo Community Council of Churches Zoom meeting held on Tuesday, January 26, 2021.**

President, David Poole called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Those attending included Bill/Betty Hare, Marla Buskohl, Don Hay, Pastor Charlotte Hoppe, Marilyn Schwartz, Suzanne Sorenson and Pastor Terrie Wilder. Pastor Charlotte led devotions.

- Minutes of the previous PCCC meeting were approved.  
- Treasurer's report was read stating a \$1310.00 check was issued to Jan Martin for Christmas basket expenses. The current balance is \$2764.56 The report was approved.

PCCC is needing a person to fill the Treasurer's position.

- Marla Buskohl is working on updating the yearly Pledge sheets that are needed from each congregation. Please get addresses to her as to where the papers should be sent.

#### **Reports:**

- Polo Food Pantry is currently well stocked but they will keep us informed of upcoming needs.
- VBS- Patricia Stauffer plans to promote a Bible School sometime this summer. More information will be coming.
- Second Hand Rose- Slow sales—Current balance in the account is \$3970. The Polo grant money is included in this balance on hand.
- Honduras-Bill Hare reported the country has been locked down due to COVID 19. The Brethren Church is offering help and relief as best they can.
- Vespers and Community meals are postponed until further notice.
- Next meeting: Tuesday, March 23 at 7:00 Watch for an email with details.

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)
- 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



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2021 offering envelopes are available for pickup. Lori is usually in the office on Thursdays, but please call before making a special trip to pick yours up. If you need your offering envelope box delivered to you, please call Pastor (815-677-3443) or Lori (815-440-0561).

If you are interested in signing up for electronic giving in 2021 or adjusting your current donation amount, please contact Lori.

*Thank you to those who have continued to mail your donations!!*

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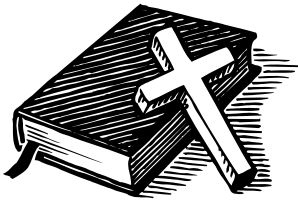
We would love to have everyone on our email list for faster communication. If you need to be added or have changed your email please call the church office and leave a message or email the church at [stmarkspolo@frontiernet.net](mailto:stmarkspolo@frontiernet.net)

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*Thank you*

- ~ Thank you to everyone who has given prayers and offerings for the continued mission of St. Mark's.
- ~ Thank you to Joey and Cliff Bardell and friends who did some cleaning around the church!
- ~ Thank you to Merla Brooks for all the property oversight at the parsonage and the church building.
- ~ Thank you to all who plowed, salted and shoveled snow!





**Prayers for Healing:** Brad Shippert **Prayers for those in care facilities:** Sibyl Acker, Tammy Karrow, Trudy Karrow, Jessica Kimpel, Hazel Pontnak, Jeanne Scholl, Linda Scholl, Ed and Marian Schnulle. **Prayers for those in military service:** Logan Albrecht, JJ Bardell, Bryan Connell, Dustin Knapp, Brad Reigle and Travis Roop

April Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

Anniversaries

- 1 Amanda O'Brien
- Brayden Hays
- 4 Penny Heckman
- Amie Scholl
- Lindsey O'Brien
- 5 Jerry Schwingel
- 7 Priscilla Schwingel
- 8 Phyllis Dyer
- 9 Alivia Schmidt
- Andrew Albrecht
- 11 Kelsi Bender
- Samantha Gray
- 12 Nevaeh Hall
- 13 Gregor Armstrong
- 14 Logan Nelson

- 15 Justin Brown
- 16 Erica Scholl
- Maddox Peterson
- 17 Tom Hoak
- 19 Charles Bailey
- 21 Tristin Woodin
- 22 Mackenzie Martz
- Mallory McPherson
- 23 Vincent Ambeau
- 26 Sibyl Acker
- 27 Eric Boren
- Dan Powell
- 29 Lyle Printz
- 30 Troy Boothe
- Tian Escobar

- 4 Jerry & Linda Hose
- 11 Larry & Elsie Hackbarth
- 19 Willard & Evelyn Meyer



***The beautiful Lilies decorating our sanctuary this Easter have been given by:***

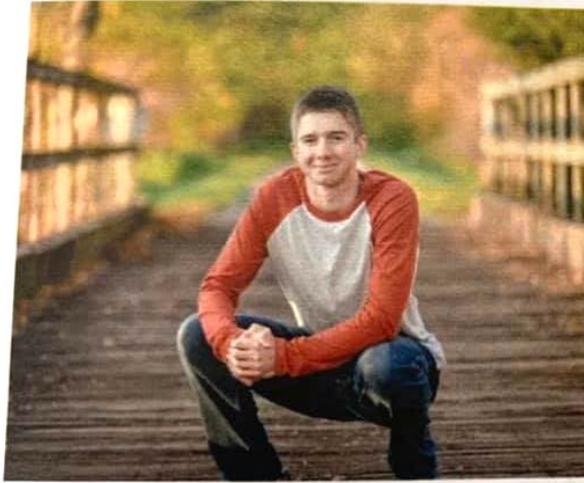
- ~ Given by Craig & Cindy Bauling in memory of Doug Ohlwine.
- ~ Given by Merla Brooks to the glory of the Risen Christ.
- ~ Given by Josh & Lori Christen in honor of our family.
- ~ Given by Phyllis & Robyn Dyer in memory of Maverick Dee Mumford.
- ~ Given by Allison Hickerson and Jay & Andrea Mullens in memory of our mother, Connie Stahler.
- ~ Given by Brittan & Brinley Mullens and Henry & Harper Hickerson in memory of our grandmother, Connie Stahler.
- ~ Given by Kenneth & Betty Obendorf in memory of family members.
- ~ Given by Leo & Joan Rienstra in memory of Dave Mickley, Susie Wade, and Gale & Ruth Rienstra.
- ~ Given by Suzanne & Steven Sorenson in memory of our parents, Frances & Millie Sorenson and Alva Robertson.
- ~ Given by Suzanne & Steven Sorenson in honor of Margaret Robertson who is celebrating her 89<sup>th</sup> birthday this weekend.
- ~ Given by Pastor Terrie & Oran Wilder in honor of the Resurrected Christ.



HE IS RISEN  
*alleluia*

## Polo Marcos Basketball Seniors from St. Mark's

Joey Bardell



Parents- Cliff and Amy Bardell

Future Plans- Go to college to major in either Engineering or Physics

Favorite Memory- Winning the Thanksgiving tournament sophomore year

Mallory Patterson

Parents- Trish Patterson and Bill Patterson

Future Plans- Attend Sauk for 2 years and then transfer to a University to get my teaching degree

Favorite Memory- Playing Newman in Regionals and winning and having 27 points which was my highest scoring game



Parker Wolber

Parents – Ryan and Lori Wolber

Future Plans – Attend a 4 year University to pursue a degree in Marketing

Favorite Memory – Super Nacho incident at the Fulton Tournament

