

He's still here!

"Behold the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel (which means, God with us)."

Matthew 1:23

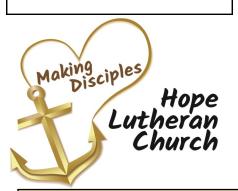
January 2023

Inside This Issue:	
Pastor's Letter	1
Scripture Reading	2
Prayer List	3
Birthdays/Anniversaries	4
Stewardship	5
Hope Happenings	7-15
Calendar	16
Serving the Lord	17

Special Points of Interest:

Advent Services
Christmas Services
Youth bible Study
Cookie/Pie Sale
Holiday Meals Donations
Blessing Bench Needs
Manna/RAISERIGHT
Faithful Families
FMSC

Pastor's Israel Presentation
Hope Christmas Tree Decrating
Planning Ahead
Poinsettia Plants



Matthew begins his Gospel with the account of Jesus' birth and the fulfillment of God's promise through the prophet Isaiah. Jesus, the earthly name of our Savior, would also be known as Immanuel, God with us. He truly is God with us. He is the almighty God who came in the flesh. How much more "with us" could he be?

Matthew's Gospel concludes with these words from Jesus: "And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Even though our Lord is not with us in the same way he was with Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem 2000 years ago, he is truly with us – always.

We are still in the afterglow of Christmas. We have just celebrated the birth of Immanuel and the promise that holds for us. As the baptized children of God, we have Christ's solemn promise that he will be with us every day. He will never leave us nor forsake us. He will protect us, provide for us, and give us peace. He always loves, always forgives, always blesses.

Soon the glow of Christmas will fade and we'll be back to "everyday life." When we say everyday life, we often mean jobs, bills, chores, routine and running around. And that's exactly when we need Jesus to be Immanuel. That's when we need to be reminded and hear his promises. It's one thing to hear good news of great joy at a time when you can set aside the worries of everyday life and be with family, but it's especially needed when we're bombarded with bad news and struggles.

I'm so glad to see so many of you at Christmas time. You are always welcome in your church home. But I fear that too many of you only hear the message of Immanuel at Christmas or a few times a year. The promise of the Christ child is not a once or twice a year promise. It's an everyday promise. It's a promise that began at your baptism and will continue always, even to the end of the age.

I want to encourage every member of Hope to take a next step in their worship life. Remember, worship is not about what we give to God, but what God gives to us.

(Continued on page 6)

The cross symbolizes the hope Christians have in Christ and the firm faith which keeps Christians steady in the storms of life. These ideas are based on Hebrews 6:19 which reads: "We have this hope, a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters the inner shrine behind the curtain." (NRSV).

Through the Bible in a Year



1	Gen 1-3
2	Gen 4-7
3	Gen 8-11
4	Job 1-5
5	Job 6-9
6	Job 10-13
7	Job 14-16
8	Job 17-20
9	Job 21-23
10	Job 24-28

11	Job 29-31
12	Job 32-34
13	Job 35-37
14	Job 38-39
15	Job 40-42
16	Gen 12-15
17	Gen 16-18
18	Gen 19-21
19	Gen 22-24
20	Gen 25-26

21	Gen 27-29
22	Gen 30-31
23	Gen 32-34
24	Gen 35-37
25	Gen 38-40
26	Gen 41-42
27	Gen 43-45
28	Gen 46-47
29	Gen 48-50
30	Ex 1-3
31	Ex 4-6

Tips on Reading the Bible

- 1. Start today There is no better time, and there's no reason to wait.
- 2. Set aside a specific time each day. Set your schedule, and then stick to it. Mornings are great, but feel free to use any time that works consistently for you.
- 3. Read for the sake of learning, not simply to accomplish your next reading. Say a short prayer to God before you begin, asking for Him to give you wisdom and understanding, then be refreshed by the words you read!



CONTACTING PASTOR RYDEN

Church: 815-741-2428

Cell Phone: 815-351-2922

E-Mail: pastorryden@shorewoodhopelutheran.org

In Our Prayers

Pastor & Mrs. Tessaro - LBT missionaries in Nigeria

All of the service men and women, especially:

Zachary Klima - US Air Force

Sgt. First Class Jason Wilck (grandson of Hannelore Wilck) US Army Lt. Col. Scott Meskimen (cousin of Tom & Melanie Mikuta) - US Air Force

Lt. William Shanahan (son of Mike & Kim Shanahan)- US Marine

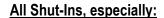
Sam Berg (nephew of Steve & Stephanie Fuller) US Navy

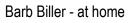
Lance Corporal Trevor Zukauskas - US Marine

Petty Officer Joey Sheppard - US Navy

Jeremy Visnevac - US Marine

Ashley Kristofer (George & Pat Kristofer's granddaughter) US Marine



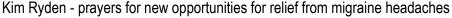


Linda Stone - at home Jean Hildebrant - at home Dolores Kucera - Burr Ridge Sr Living

Ruth Roch - at Aperion Care

Erna Schultz - at Aperion Care

Shirley Jacksa - at Rock Run Place



J.R. Behymer - prayers for healing

Vickie Lapka - prayers for healing

Joanne Ramey - prayers for healing

Diane Kettelson - prayers for healing

Shari Schulz- prayers for healing

Ray & Jo Gast - Thanks and praise to God for another day!

Harold Dolgner- prayers for healing

Aaron Smith and family (Jon/Wendy Forsberg friend) diagnosed with ALS

Gilbert Schleef (Uncle of Beth Hauser) in hospice care

Mary Paonessa - (sister of Beth Hauser) - cancer treatments

Jim (Kelly Stytz's Dad) - in home hospice

Terry Miller (husband of Barb) - prayers for healing

Tom Wolf (Brenda's husband) - prayers for healing

Dawn Deufel (niece Mary Dolgner) - cancer has returned

Bruce Batten (BIL Jon and Wendy Forsberg) having major health issues (11/29)Greg

Stytz - prayer for successful upcoming surgery on 1/23 (12/5)

Lee Maloney - prayers for healing - eye surgery on 12/8 (12/5)

Reegan Hart (niece of Kim & Pastor Ryden) for courage and peace through

physical therapy

Mary Daemicke (mother of Cathy Wernli) tested positive for covid (12/12)Mary Therese

(friend of Jo Gast) in the hospital with Covid pneumonia (12/14)

Sarah Wernli & family at the death of her maternal Grandmother, Eleanor Wrath,

from Bethlehem Lutheran Church (12/16)

Sharon & Bob (family of Sue Kiefer) several medical issues (12/20)

Eddie C (Barb Miller's friend's brother) ---- started chemo treatments (12/22)

Pam Rosenbach - medical issues (12/28)

Phyllis Neugebauer - successful surgery, prayers for healing (12/29)

We pray for all of the families who benefitted from the Holiday Donations collected in combination with the Jewel/Osco, Shorewood, and thank God for all of the generous patrons.

We pray for the success of the Faithful Families Ministry in our congregation.



Heavenly Father. giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your servant and give your power of healing to those who minister to his needs, that he may be strengthened in weakness and his have confidence in loving your care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Birthday Wishes to...

Tabitha	Ryden	1/1
Susan	Steinhauer	1/1
Brie	Plowman	1/2
Kim	Fisher	1/3
Jameson	Hemphill	1/5
Regina	Scott	1/5
Ryan	Norman	1/6
Noah	Adolphson- Rodriguez	1/8
Felicity	Hegarty	1/8
Felicity	Hegarty	1/8

Pamela	Rosenbach	1/10
Darlene	Fagan	1/14
Dylan	Wason	1/14
Donald	Hegarty	1/16
Michael	Johnston	1/16
Andrew	Hargreave	1/18
Jacob	Klima	1/19
Mari	Rozanski	1/20
Peggy	Turnell	1/20
Ashley	Brandon	1/22

Lois	Minor	1/22
Jacob	Sandei	1/22
Coraline	Tomala	1/22
Ryan	Nagel	1/27
Karen	Ziech	1/27
Kim	Pankiewicz	1/28
Olivia	Peck	1/28
Bill	Ryden	1/28
Aaron	Boyd	1/31
Brenda	Wolf	1/31

Birthday Prayer - Father in heaven we come to you today thanking you for (insert name). We are glad that you have brought us together and allowed us to know (insert name). On this day we ask for your special blessing and a day filled with hope, joy and optimism. We pray that this coming year might be one that will bring personal success and fulfillment and accomplishment for (insert name). Father we know that you delight in blessing your children and so we ask for this. May we all be grateful for your goodness. This we ask in the name of our loving Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

HappyAnntversary

Frank & Sherri	Bianchetta	1/9
Hansel & Ruth	Howard	1/8
Robert & Susan	Kiefer	1/1
Arthur & Francine	Martens	1/1
Ronald & Cheryl	Schehr	Jan 31

May God continue to Bless these Marriages!

If your Birthday or Anniversary is not listed, please let us know at office@shorewoodhopelutheran.org or

Drop a note in the mailbox in the Admin corridor or

Call the office at 815-741-2428.

We would love to include you!

Your Past Does Not Define Your Future



New Year's is a celebration of the past and the future. We take stock of the past with thanksgiving and sometimes even relief (that it's over), and we look to the future in hope and anticipation, and perhaps with some worry, for what it holds.

The point is that New Year's celebrations remind us of who we are as opposed to who we would like to be, what we have done in comparison to what we want to do. It reminds us of our accomplishments, but mostly it reminds us of our failures. What we've lost. Who we've lost.

New Year's is our own version of Charles Dickens' classic, *A Christmas Carol*. And we all play Scrooge. We are visited by the ghosts of our pasts, presents and futures.

St. Paul writes: "The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. As it is written, 'He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.' He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for all your generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God" (2 Cor. 9:6–15).

St. Paul tells us that the Lord will both supply and increase what we need to give to the church for its work in the world. He tells us that this work God does in us will enrich and bless us in every way, and through this, will produce thanksgiving to God. With this in mind, here is some practical advice to help you take stock of your giving in years past and change what needs to be adjusted, improved, or done away with altogether.

First, attend the Divine Service to receive God's gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. If you've not been faithful in attending worship to hear the preaching of God's Word, to receive forgiveness and feast on the rich food of our Lord's body and blood for the eternal benefit of your body and soul, then repent and come to receive the gifts God freely gives. God doesn't want your money. He wants you — all of you (Matt. 22:20–22).

Second, pray for the Lord's help. Your right as a Christian is to speak with your Father, the King of all creation, freely through His Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. Go to the throne of grace and ask for strength and wisdom to follow His bidding faithfully (John 15:1–16).

Third, consider what the church is and what the church does. The church is a place of mercy. It inhales the mercy of the Father by the death, resurrection and ascension of His Son through the preaching of the Gospel and the Sacraments. It exhales this mercy in love toward neighbors. You are a member of the church, of God's family. Thus, you are not only a recipient of God's mercy, but a bearer of that mercy for the life of the world. You spread that mercy through the generous giving of your income to support the work of the church in the world, as the Israelites did in the Old Testament (Lev. 27:1–34).

Fourth, take stock of your current giving in light of the New Testament's teaching on supporting the work of the church. Are you giving of your first fruits, taking it out of your paycheck first, or does God get what's left over? Are you giving voluntarily and cheerfully? Are you giving proportionally and generously? The Old Testament required a tithe, or ten percent. The New Testament gives freedom to be generous, to give more for the Church's work. Are you relying on God's promise to provide and increase what you need to do His work? If your answer is no to any of these, repent. If God gave you His only Son, will He not provide for you all things, even physical things? Trust Him, His Word, and heed it.

So, don't let your past define your future. Rather, commit for the year a generous proportion of your income, which is God's gift to you for this body and life.

- LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/stewardship

Online Giving! With Vanco Mobile App. (Continued from Cover)

And what he gives, we need every day, every week. So if you have not been back to worship since before the pandemic, it's time to return. If you have only worshipped on major Church holidays, come once a month. If you only attend occasionally, make it regularly. If it's a couple of times a month, make it every week. Christmas may be over, but Jesus is Immanuel. He was in Bethlehem. He was on the day of his ascension. He was on Christmas, and he is today. He is always your Immanuel and

He's still here!

Your servant in Christ, Pastor Bill Ryden



Here are Three ways to view Worship Services:

- On our website: shorewoodhope.org.
 Go to Resources Tab/Worship at Home
- 2. On Facebook: Shorewood Hope Lutheran Church
- 3. On YouTube: Shorewood Hope Lutheran Church



Fleece Blanket Making Event

Our Savior Lutheran Women's Fellowship will be hosting a fleece blanket making event on

Saturday, January 21st from 9 until noon.

A continental breakfast will be provided, and brief business and devotion will be presented.

All persons are invited to cut and tie the material available to create fleece blankets that will be given to the Joliet Police Department to disperse to people in need while on their beat.

If you can bring a set of fleece fabric yourself, it is appreciated.

Fleece sizes are 2 yards long by 45" wide. Normally, one piece of fleece will have a design and the other piece will be a solid color that coordinates well.

Please watch for sales at JoAnne Fabric or Hobby Lobby.

Please bring a pair of good scissors with you to our event, if you have them.

Questions: contact

Kathy Harringer at 815-725-0518

or Karla Kuse-Jessen at 815-823-3124



New Year, New Life with Amazing Grace

Did you know The beloved hymn "Amazing Grace" was written by John Newton in late December 1772 as he was preparing for a New Year's Day sermon for 1773? When John Newton, a former sea captain, wrote the lyrics of "Amazing Grace," he could see the "prodigal son" in his early life. His own father tried on several occasions to help him, but Newton was a hardened prodigal, a self-confessed "wretch" (a word he borrowed from Romans 7:24), distant from the heart of his father as well as the heart of God. Still, Newton discovered that God in Christ's deep and abiding love does not give up on anyone.





If you are a designer at heart and wish to seasonally decorate our outdoor planters by the front entrance, please see Cathy.

Blessing

Bench Current Needs

Canned: soups and fruit

Oatmeal

Boxed cereal

Grab & go nutritious snacks

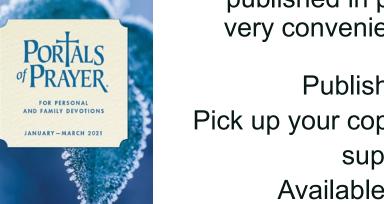
Paper towels



Portals of Prayer has been a favorite of generations of readers, a timeless daily source of strength and comfort since 1937.

Each daily devotion includes a Bible reading, meditation

and prayer to apply to your daily life, published in pocket-size books — very convenient and easy to use.



Published quarterly.

Pick up your copy in the Narthex while supplies last.

Available online as well.

Manna is now



Select from 750+ popular brands, with options for eGift cards (available immediately), physical gift cards, and reloadable gift cards.

Order using the Raise Right app, raiseright.com or email your order to: hopemanna@gmail.com

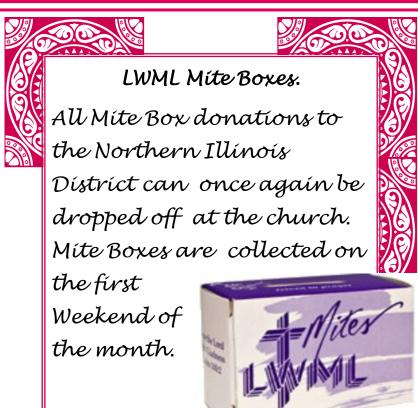
Youth Discipleship Class Sunday 9:15am

Bible Study Wednesday 7pm in café

Men's Bible Group Saturday

> Women's Bible Study Wednesday at 10:00am

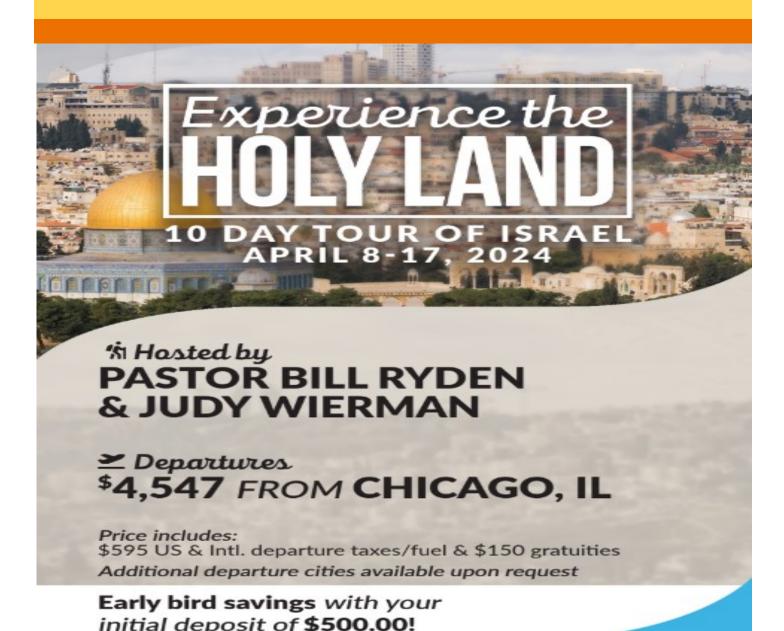
8am in café





Please join us! Family and Friends are Welcome!

Look for the January Date in the announcement folder!





Feed My Starving Children in Aurora

Dates are scheduled for January 5, 10, 17, 24, 31

(8:15am until 11:30am)

Please meet at Hope at 8:15am Always looking for people to help!

Please contact Kari (815) 355-4673 to join us.



Be a part of Something Greater!

ALTAR FLOWERS

The calendar is posted in the Narthex so don't miss out on getting your special occasion listed.

Your name and occasion will be printed in the Announcement Loop.

Every week the Altar flowers are delivered fresh. The cost is \$40 for the weekend.

Please place a separate check or cash in your weekly offering envelope and mark it "Altar Flowers" or simply place the check/cash in a separate envelope.

Thank you for helping to decorate the Altar!

New 2023 Chart Available

Church Cleaning Sponsorships Available

There are opportunities for individuals and families to sponsor a week of cleaning during the year.

If interested, please sign up for an open week on the chart in the narthex, put your \$20 donation into an envelope marked "Church Cleaning for the Week of ___", include your name and place it in the offering plate.

Thank you for supporting this effort to keep our church clean.

New 2023 Chart Available



You can make an impact while you shop. Simply shop at

smile.amazon.com/ch/36-4553457 and

AmazonSmile will donate .5% to Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church, at no cost to you. We have been gifted over \$331.25 to date.

Prayer Shawls

Do you need a prayer shawl for someone who is homebound, recovering from illness/surgery or experiencing a major event (wedding, birth, loss of loved one, promotion, etc)?

If so, please contact Cathy Wernli by phone: 815-741-2428, or email: office@shorewoodhopelutheran.org

Thank you for Poinsettias

Family Name Family Name

Branz

Fagan Ryden

Gast Sieger

Gura Sterling

Hauser Talkington

Kettelson Wernli



We continue to collect Pop & Beer Tabs for Ronald McDonald House!

Planning Ahead

1/8 - Sunday Morning Ministries opens

1/11 - New Bible Study Wed. 10am
The Messiah:
Revealing Jesus in the Old Testament

Sall the fe

1/21 - Fleece Blanket Making Event at Our Savior

January Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:30am - New Year's Day Worship Service	5:30pm - Boy/Girl scouts #256 7pm - Al-Anon	3 5:30pm - Brownie Troop #75638 6pm - AA Meeting	4 10am - Women's Bible Study 7:30pm - Bible Study	5 8:15am FMSC	6 6pm - AA Meeting	7 Mite Box Collection 8 am - Men's Group 5 pm - Worship Service
8 Mite Box Collection 8 am - Worship Service 9:15 am - Sunday Moming Ministries 10:30 am - Worship Service	9 5:30pm - Boy/Girl scouts #256 7pm - Al-Anon	10 8:15am FMSC 6pm - AA Meeting	11 10am - Women's Bible Study 7:30pm - Bible Study	12	13 10am - Quilt tying 6pm - AA Meeting	14 3am - Men's Group 10am - Toy Show 10:30am - Timbers 5pm - Worship Service
15 8am - Worship Service 9:15am - Sunday Moming Ministries 10:30am - Worship Service 4pm - Gym Rental	16 5:30pm - Boy/Girl scouts #256 7pm - Al-Anon	17 8:15am FMSC 5:30pm - Brownie Troop #75638 6pm - AA Meeting	18 10am - Women's Bible Study 7:30pm - Bible Study	6pm - Bereaved Parents of Will Cty	20 6pm - AA Meeting	21 8am - Men's Group 5pm - Worship Service
22 8am - Worship Service 9:15am - Sunday Moming Ministries 10:30am - Worship Service	23 5:30pm - Boy/Girl scouts #256 7pm - Al-Anon	24 8:15am FMSC 5:30pm - Brownie Troop #75638 6pm - AA Meeting	25 10am - Women's Bible Study 7:30pm - Bible Study	26	27 10am - Quilt tying 6pm - AA Meeting	28 8am - Men's Group 5pm - Worship Service
29 8am - Worship Service 9:15am - Sunday Moming Ministries 10:30am - Worship Service	30 5:30pm - Boy/Girl scouts #256 7pm - Al-Anon	31 8:15am FMSC 5:30pm - Brownie Troop #75638 6pm - AA Meeting				

Serving The Lord

January

ı	DATE	LAY MINISTER	READER	GREETERS	ALTAR DUTY	STEWARDSHIP	FLOWERS	MEDIA
1/7	5PM	Bennett	Kerwin	Dolgner	Kerwin/O'Connell		Rieuf Family	
1/8	8AM	Sieger	Hauser	Sieger	Sieber	Sieber	Praise and thanks to God for all his	
	10:30AM	Stytz	Hargreave	Lapka	Miller		blessings	
1/14	5PM	Fuller	Fuller	Checca	Fagan/Gura		Kerwin,McGrath, O'Connell	
1/15	8AM	Wernli	Wernli	Krabbe	Wernli	Yeager	Heavenly Birthday	
	10:30AM	Hargreave	Wolf	Boyd	Ripsch		Margarat & John Kerwin	
1/21	5PM	DePratt	Fuller	O'Connell	Herrington			
1/22	8AM	Bianchetta	Branz	Bergman/Markley	Bergman	Gura	OPEN	
	10:30AM	Wolf	Hargreave	Yeager/Newland	Turnell			
1/28	5PM	Petrilla	Kerwin	Kerwin/Kerwin	Kerwin/O'Connell			
1/29	8AM	Rousculp	Steinhauer	Steinhauer	Branz	Kristopher	OPEN	Wernli
	10:30AM	Hargreave	Wolf	Lapka	Hargreave			

Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church

305 East Black Road Shorewood, IL 60404 Phone: 815-741-2428

Email: office@shorewoodhopelutheran.org

Website: www.shorewoodhope.org

WE'RE ON FACEBOOK: Shorewood Hope Lutheran Church Have you moved?

New phone number?

Let us know.

office@shorewoodhopelutheran.org