

February 2023

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Words Written for You.

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth ad sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it."

Isaiah 55:10-11

"Pastor, thank you for that sermon. I needed to hear that." "Pastor, I think you wrote that sermon for me." "That sermon really hit home, Pastor." From time to time I have heard comments like these as I greet people after the worship service. (I'm sure there are times when people leave and don't feel that way too, but are too nice to say anything.) I have always been of the opinion that the Holy Spirit is more than able to take my humble words and make connections in people's hearts and minds. After all it is his Word that does the work, not mine. His Law shines light upon our dark sinful nature. His Gospel declares us forgiven of sin and freed from guilt. He is the preacher, not me. And he knows exactly what we need to hear.

But recently I have found myself saying those words. This may come as a shock to you, but when I am preaching to the congregation, I am also preaching to myself. I am a sinner who needs to be convicted by God's Law. I am a child of God who needs to hear the Gospel. The Holy Spirit must work through his word in my heart too.

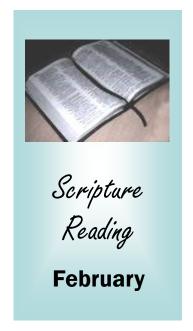
Lately we have had a lot of Old Testament readings from the book of Isaiah. In fact, I think the Old Testament reading has been from the book of Isaiah every weekend since the beginning of December except for this past weekend. In a way, Isaiah has become the pastor who is preaching to me. Actually, it is the Holy Spirit speaking through the words of the prophet who is preaching to me. Time and again, his words have hit home. They have challenged me and comforted me. They have torn me down and lifted me up. King Solomon's words are so true: "there is nothing new under the sun." We are just like those people who lived in the 8th century B.C. We, like them, constantly need to hear God's Law. We, like them, need to hear the Gospel.

My point is this: God's word does things. It works. It convicts of sin. It kills. It gives faith. It makes alive. It transforms. It saves. It pierces like a two-edged sword. It is the power of God unto salvation for all who believe. And the Holy Spirit uses that word to do exactly what needs to be done every time we encounter his word.

(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	Ex 7-9
2	Ex 10-12
3	Ex 13-15
4	Ex 16-18
5	Ex 19-21
6	Ex 22-24
7	Ex 25-27
8	Ex 28-29
9	Ex 30-32

10	Ex 33-35
11	Ex 36-38
12	Ex 39-40
13	Lev 1-4
14	Lev 5-7
15	Lev 8-10
16	Lev 11-13
17	Lev 14-15
18	Lev 16-18
19	Lev 19-21

20	Lev 22-23
21	Lev 24-25
22	Lev 26-27
23	Num 1-2
24	Num 3-4
25	Num 5-6
26	Num 7
27	Num 8-10
28	Num 11-13

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

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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

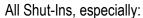
Sam Berg (nephew of Steve & Stephanie Fuller) US Navy

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



Barb Biller - at home Linda Stone - at home

Jean Hildebrant - at home

Dolores Kucera - Burr Ridge Sr Living Shirley Jacksa - at Rock Run Place Ruth Roch - at Aperion Care Erna Schultz - at Aperion Care



Kim Ryden - prayers for new opportunities for relief from migraine headaches

J.R. Behymer - prayers for healing

Vickie Lapka - prayers for healing and rehab

Diane Kettelson - prayers for healing

Shari Schulz- prayers for healing

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

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

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

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

Phyllis Neugebauer - in rehab - prayers for healing (1/4)

Nadine Klima - prayers for healing (1/5)

Kathy (niece of Dolgner's) prayers for healing (1/6)

Martha Klima - hip surgery on 1/11 (1/6)

Harold Dolgner- undergoing testing (1/11)

Dawn Deufel (niece Mary Dolgner) - cancer treatments(1/11)

Sharon & Bob (family of Sue Kiefer) several medical issues (1/24)

Pam Rosenbach - hip replacement surgery on 1/31 and quick recovery (1/25)

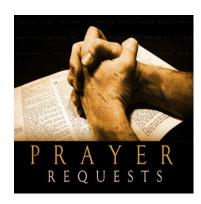
Alan Checca - in hospice care (1/25)

Greg Stytz - surgery was successful, doing well (1/31)

Phil Dettmering - thanksgiving for successful pacemaker implant (1/31)

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

1/31/23 During our session at Feed My Starving Children meals were packed on to feed 28 children for an entire year. Please keep them in your prayers.



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...

Brooklyn	Carroll	2/2
Sandy	Peterson	2/2
Robbie	Bourgeois	2/2
Ashley	Gleim	2/4
Sandra	Affarano	2/4
Sonjia	Brandon	2/4
Robert	Poland	2/5
Dave	Bourgeois	2/6
Alayna	Thompson	2/8
Hector	Ortiz	2/9

Shirley	Jacksa	2/9
Wyatt	Schmitt	2/10
John	Neugebauer	2/11
Jonathan	Stytz	2/12
Frank	Bianchetta	2/13
Brooke	Park	2/13
Matthew	Ryden	2/14
Maggie	Schoener	2/14
Angelique	Plowman	2/15
Lisa	Hemphill	2/16

Joseph	Hegarty	2/18
Janet	Ruchala	2/18
Chris	Mikkelsen	2/19
Gloria	Boyd	2/20
Michael	Savage	2/22
Thomas	Sorensen	2/22
Brant	Plowman	2/22
Caleb	Pankiewicz	2/23
Sammy	Norman	2/23
Penelope	O'Malley	2/26
Arthur	Martens	2/27
Pat	Kristofer	2/27

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

Happy Anniversary

Dwight & Cherie	Sieger	2/3
Jeffrey & Brandi	Petrilla	2/8
Brian & Tammy	Cook	2/14

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!

Don't Replace "And" with "Or"



We've all heard that stewardship means giving to the church of our time, talents and treasure. This alliterative trinity helps us see that giving is not just about money, but about our whole lives. As we confess in the Small Catechism's explanation of the First Article of the Apostle's Creed, God gives us everything we have and enjoy. First we confess that God gives us "our body and soul, our eyes, ears, and all our members, our reason and all our senses" (SC II). Then we confess that He gives us material things. The time, talents, and treasure trinity places before our eyes the fact that we are to give something of all three of these things toward the mission of the church in thanksgiving for what God has provided. For everything we have, and indeed, everything we are, comes from God's fatherly, divine goodness and mercy.

The problem with this alliterative trinity comes when we replace one little word with another little word — when we replace the word and with the word or. It is always written with the and, but when we read it, we read it with the or. Thus this quite helpful trinity, which extolls that everything that we have and are is a gift from God, to be given back in service of His church, turns into a trinity that we can pick and choose from when we serve God. The giving of our time, talents and treasure turns into the giving of our time, talents or treasure.

Then the question arises: Can we give of our time and talents instead of our treasure? Or perhaps it is the other way round: Can we give of our treasure and not of our time and talents? But these are the wrong questions. The right question is, can we give of our time and talents in addition to our treasure? Yes, indeed, we are called to give of all three. The things that God gives us are not to be pitted against one another. Rather, they are given to us, and we are to press them all into God's service for benefit of His church and our neighbors in need.

Thus, we give all three. We give our treasure in the form of a generous, first-fruits proportion of our income. We give of our time in generosity for the benefit of Christ's holy church. We give of our talents in the same manner. Since God gave us all these things, we are called to give generously of all these things in faith toward Him and in fervent love to our neighbors.

For God has provided all these things for us. Out of His fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, He gives us each time, talents *AND* treasure as a means to bless those around us. We serve our neighbors with these things, blessing them with the blessings with which God has blessed us. We give of our time, talents and treasure to our families, our society, our church and our local congregations. And we do this because we know that we are not our own. Rather, we belong to God. We have been bought with a price: the holy, precious blood and innocent suffering and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. He gave everything — His time, His talents and

Online Giving! With Vanco Mobile App. His treasure — to have us as His own and to live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness. We have these things as gifts and blessings from God. Let us then press them all into service for the sake of His love — time, talents and treasure together.

LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/stewardship

(Continued from Cover)

I'm glad when people share with me that a sermon was meaningful to them. But what's most important to me is that people leave worship reflecting on what the Holy Spirit was doing and is doing in their lives through the word that was preached. What sin was revealed? What comfort was given? What change is being prompted? How was Christ pointed to?

God has been working on me through my study of the book of Isaiah. As pastor and author Greg Finke would say, "God is messing with me." How has God been messing with you? What words of Scripture have you needed to hear? What message of the Holy Spirit has hit home? Reflect on this and then you can say, "Thank you Holy Spirit. You must have written that for me."

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



Wednesday Lenten Worship Services

Feb 22 Ash Wednesday

11:30a & 7p

Mar 1 Lent 1 11:30a Mar 8 Lent 2 11:30a Mar 15 Lent 3 11:30a Mar 22 Lent 4 11:30a Mar 29 Lent 5 11:30a

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday

Sat 5p

Sun 8a & 10:30a

Maundy Thursday 11:30a & 7p Good Friday

11:30a & 7p



Bible Studies with Pastor Ryden:

Sunday 2/12 9:00a - 10:15a

Introduction to Ministry at Hope

"Welcome to Hope"

Event for all interested

members!

Tuesday 2/14 - 5/2 6:30p - 8:00p

Basics of Christian Faith

New Member Discipleship Class
12 Week Course
All are welcome to attend!

Wednesday 3/1 - 3/29
7:00p - 8:30p
"The Stones Cry Out!"
Lenten Lessons from Archaeolgy
Open to all!

Wednesday Lenten Opportunities

The Worship Service will be held at 11:30am.

The Lenten Lesson from Archaeology study

will be held at 7pm 3/1 - 3/29

The Worship Service will use an archaeological discovery connected with the suffering, death and resurrection of Our Lord as an object lesson to help us better understand what Scripture tells us about these blessed events.

The evening Bible Study will "dig" a little deeper into the significance of the archaeological find and the Scriptures connected with that discovery so that we may apply the teachings of God's word to our lives today.

Please join us for one or both opportunities.



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

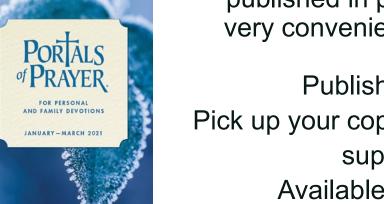
Paper towels



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.



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Youth
Discipleship
Class
Sunday
9:15am

Women's
Bible Study
Wednesday at
10:00am

Bible Study Wednesday 7pm in café

Men's
Bible Group
Saturday
8am in café





Please join us! Family and Friends are Welcome!

Sunday February 19th Worship 10:30a Lunch Noon Faith Building for Entire Family 12:30p





Feed My Starving Children in Aurora Dates are scheduled for February 8, 16 & 21 (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!
2023 Chart Available
Openings in Feb & Mar

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.

2023 Chart Available



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

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

A Big Thanks

to all Those
Who Baked Cookies,
Helped with the Cookie Sale,
or Donated Money
\$838.00 was donated
to the Church Roof Fund

Planning Ahead

- 2/12 Intro to Ministry at Hope 9a 10a
- 2/12 Board Meeting @ 11:30a
- 2/14 Basics of Christian Faith 6:30-8p
- 2/19 Faithful Families 11:30a
- 2/22 Ash Wednesday Service 11:30am & 7pm
- 3/01 Wed. Worship 11:30am, Lenten Lesson 7pm



February Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10am - Women's Bible Study 7:30pm - Bible Study	2 6pm - Lay Ministry Captains Mtg	3 6pm - AA Meeting	4 Mite Box Collection 8 am - Men's Group 10 am - Toy Show 5 pm - Worship Service
5 Mite Box Collection 8 am - Worship Service 9:15 am - Sunday Moming Ministries 10:30 am - Worship Service	5:30pm - Boy/Girl scouts #256 7pm - Al-Anon	7 6pm - AA Meeting	8 8:15am FMSC 10am - Women's Bible Study 7:30pm - Bible Study	9	10 10am - Quilt tying 6pm - AA Meeting	11 8am - Men's Group 10:30am - Timbers 5pm - Worship Service
12 8am - Worship Service 9:15am - Sunday Moming Ministries & Intro to Ministry at Hope 10:30am - Worship Service 11:30am - Board Mtg	13 5:30pm - Boy/Girl scouts #256 7pm - Al-Anon	14 5:30pm - Brownie Troop #75638 6pm - AA Meeting 6:30pm - Basics of Christian Faith	15 10am - Women's Bible Study 7:30pm - Bible Study	16 8:15am FMSC 6pm - Bereaved Parents of Will Cty	17 11:30am - Ivy League Kids 6pm - AA Meeting	18 8am - Men's Group 5pm - Worship Service
19 8am - Worship Service 9:15am - Sunday Moming Ministries 10:30am - Worship Service 11:30am - Faithful Families	20 6am - Ivy League Kids 5:30pm - Boy/Girl scouts #256 7pm - Al-Anon	21 8:15am FMSC 6pm - AA Meeting 6:30pm - Basics of Christian Faith	22 10am - Women's Bible Study 11:30am - Ash Wednesday Service 7 pm - Ash Wednesday Service 7:30pm - Bible Study	23	24 10am - Quilt tying 6pm - AA Meeting	25 8am - Men's Group 5pm - Worship Service
26 8am - Worship Service 9:15am - Sunday Moming Ministries 10:30am - Worship Service	5:30pm - Boy/Girl scouts #256 7pm - Al-Anon	5:30pm - Brownie Troop #75638 6pm - AA Meeting 6:30pm - Basics of Christian Faith			SC CO	9

Serving The Lord

			_					
	DATE	LAY MINISTER	READER	GREETERS	ALTAR DUTY	STEWARDSHIP	FLOWERS	MEDIA
2/4	5PM	Bennett	Kerwin	Gura	Fagan/Gura			
2/5	8AM	Sieger	Hauser	Sieger	Sieber	Remus	Remus	
	10:30AM	Wolf	Hargreave	Boyd	Talkington			
2/11	5PM	Fuller	Fuller	Dolgner	Herrington			
2/12	8AM	Wernli	Wernli	Sieber/Rasokat	Wernli	Sieber	Open	
	10:30AM	Hargreave	Wolf	Yeager/Newland	Miller			
2/18	5PM	DePratt	Kerwin	O'Connell	Kerwin/O'Connell		Dorothy Sieber	
2/19	8AM	Bianchetta	Branz	Branz	Branz	Yeager	imo Richard's	
	10:30AM	Wolf	Hargreave	Lapka	Ripsch		Birthday	
2/25	5PM	Petrilla	Fuller	Kerwin/Kerwin	Fagan/Gura			
2/26	8AM	Rousculp	Steinhauer	Bergman/Markley	Bergman	Gura	Open	Wernli
	10:30AM	Hargreave	Wolf	Boyd	Turnell			

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



MEMORY VERSE

YOU SHALL NOT take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but YOU SHALL love your neighbor as yourself: I AM THE LORD.

LEVITICUS 19:18





lcms.org