

March 2023

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For the Sake of the Kingdom

"The kingdom of God is in the midst of you."

Luke 17:21

In the Lord's Prayer, Jesus teaches us to pray, "thy kingdom come." We pray those words every weekend and perhaps several other times throughout the week in personal devotions. But what is God's Kingdom and how does it come? Our Lord often taught about his kingdom. When he started his ministry, he called people to repent because the kingdom of God was at hand. (Matthew 4:17) To Pharisees who asked him when the kingdom of God would come, he answered, "The Kingdom of God is not coming with signs to be observed, nor will they say, 'Look, here it is!' or 'There!' for the Kingdom of God is in the midst of you." (Luke 17:20-21) Most of Jesus' parables are about the Kingdom of God and the King who acts in gracious and unexpected ways, most notably in the way the father welcomes his prodigal son home. (Luke15:22-24) Just before his crucifixion Jesus told Pontius Pilate, "My kingdom is not of this world," (John 18:36)

Yes, the Bible has a lot to say about the Kingdom of God. Martin Luther is helpful to us in explaining it in a simple way. In his Small Catechism, he shows us from God's word that "the kingdom of God certainly comes by itself, without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may come to us also." In other words, the coming of God's kingdom does not depend on our prayers. God causes his kingdom to grow and expand even when people don't pray for it. But as God's people, we pray that God's kingdom would come to us.

How does God's kingdom come? Martin Luther summarizes that for us too. God's kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by his grace we believe His holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity. (Luther's Small Catechism, Explanation of the Second Petition of the Lord's Prayer)

God's kingdom is wherever Jesus our King is present and graciously ruling over our lives for our present and eternal good. He comes among us by his Word and Sacraments to forgive our sins, assure us of his love and keep us in faith to life everlasting. We are God's kingdom!

And our heavenly Father is working to bring others into his kingdom as well. He is out there working even when we aren't praying for it. But as we pray that God's kingdom would come among us, we also pray that it will come to our neighbors as well. He places us exactly where he want us as living examples of what his kingdom looks like so that others can see his gracious rule in our lives. Through us, Jesus extends his forgiveness and love to the world and draws them to put their faith in him.

(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	Num 14-15; Ps 90
2	Num 16-17
3	Num 18-20
4	Num 21-22
5	Num 23-25
6	Num 26-27
7	Num 28-30
8	Num 31-32
9	Num 33-34
10	Num 35-36

11	Deut 1-2
12	Deut 3-4
13	Deut 5-7
14	Deut 8-10
15	Deut 11-13
16	Deut 14-16
17	Deut 17-20
18	Deut 21-23
19	Deut 24-27
20	Deut 28-29

Deut 30-31
Deut 32-34; Ps 91
Josh 1-4
Josh 5-8
Josh 9-11
Josh 12-15
Josh 16-18
Josh 19-21
Josh 22-24
Jud 1-2
Jud 3-5

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

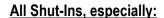
Sam Berg (nephew of Steve & Stephanie Fuller) US Navy

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



Barb Biller - at home

Linda Stone - at home

Jean Hildebrant - at home
Ruth Roch - at Aperion Care

Dolores Kucera - Burr Ridge Sr Living

Erna Schultz - at Aperion Care



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!

Harold Dolgner- prayers for healing

Alan Checca - in hospice care

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

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

Pam Rosenbach - successful surgery , now in rehab (2/13)

Mark, son of Ruth Coppens (Timbers) - stabilization of his cancer (2/13)

Jean Hildebrandt - recovering at Alden (2/13)

Phyllis Neugebauer - released to go home - prayers for healing (2/23)

Jayme Rieuf (daughter of Mike & Kari) diagnosed with Lupus, upcoming kidney biopsy

Dean O (BIL Barb Miller) had brain surgery - doing well (2/28)

Sharon & Bob (family of Sue Kiefer) several medical issues (2/28)

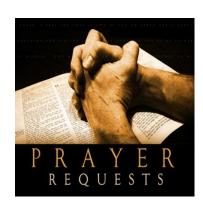
Dorothy (mother of Sue Kiefer)) prayers for healing and rehab (2/28)

Kathy (niece of Dolgner's) prayers for healing (2/28)

Dawn Deufel (niece Mary Dolgner) - cancer treatments(2/28)

Mary Daemicke (mother of Cathy Wernli) in ICU w/severe infection (2/28)

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. . .

Dan	Brandon	3/5
Rhonda	Kovel	3/5
Sherrie	Klima	3/6
Zachary	Michalek	3/6
Deborah	Rozanski	3/7
Jo	Gast	3/7
Rita	Governale	3/7
Bill	Johnson	3/7
Anthony	Giese	3/7
Avram	Savage	3/9
Katie	O'Connell	3/9
Kayla	Michalek	3/12

Annamarie	Baker	3/15
Cody	Gleim	3/16
Jeremy	Visnevac	3/17
Gregory	Johnston	3/17
Sydney	Ruchala	3/17
Alexis	Schuldt	3/17
Robert	Bennett Jr	3/18
Ron	Krabbe	3/18
Casey	O'Connell	3/18
Gordon	Davis	3/19
Rose	Kettelson	3/20
Dee	Middleton	3/20

Lizzie	Giese	3/21
Tyler	Gleim	3/21
Susan	Kiefer	3/21
Marlee	Rozanski	3/23
Jeanette	Sandei	3/23
Carla	Ripsch	3/24
Jackson	Michalek	3/25
Miriam	Neugebauer	3/26
Kyle	Johnson	3/27
Dean	Nestor	3/27
Arlene	Sorensen	3/27
Richard	Olson Jr.	3/28
Lorrie	Markley	3/29

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

Phil & Martha	Klima-Gamble	3/1
Bob & Sandy	Cagann	3/4
Dan & Sonjia	Brandon	3/5
Leroy & Pamela	Rosenbach	3/9
Dale & Karen	O'Connell	3/16
Richard & Sheila	Olson Jr.	3/27

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!

Lenten Discipline: Denying the Self

We are at the beginning of Lent.



During the Lenten season, the church calls to our attention the sufficiency of what God gives. It points to the sufficiency of God's grace in the atoning work of Jesus. It shows us the sufficiency of faith in Jesus' work for us. It makes known the sufficiency of God's Word in faith and life.

But Lent doesn't just remind us of the sufficiency of God's spiritual gifts — the gifts that pertain to our redemption and salvation. Lent also reminds us of the sufficiency of the physical, temporal gifts of God which pertain to this body and life. In other words, it reminds us of the importance of godly contentment and of outward discipline and training of the body.

This outward training of the body teaches us not to give in to every desire of our flesh, but to learn to say no to them. And it does this in such a way that if you fail, it is no sin. It is a way to practice without putting yourself into a compromising situation.

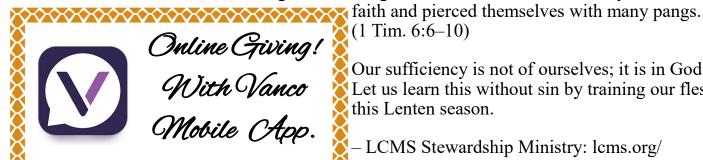
Fasting is a good example of this outward training. When you fast, you are practicing saying no to the desires of your body. But if you fail in this, if you break your fast, you have not sinned. But you have learned something about how your flesh works, how difficult it is to fight against it, and how you need help from above to discipline the desires of your body.

Another example is alms giving. An increase in giving to the church and its mission during Lent is also a form of outward training. We all know that our flesh finds security in money and stuff. By committing to give more to the church, you are training your flesh. You are, by this outward discipline, training yourself to be content with what God gives. You are practicing saying "no" to your desires. Again, if you fail, you have not sinned. But you've learned just how powerful your flesh is — it leads you instead of you leading it. You've learned how you need help from above in being content with what God gives.

This is why St. Paul instructs young Pastor Timothy in this way:

But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a onat some naith and pierce (1 Tim. 6:6–10)

Our suff root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the



Our sufficiency is not of ourselves; it is in God. Let us learn this without sin by training our flesh this Lenten season.

LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/

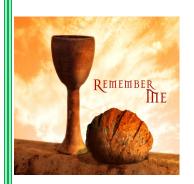
(Continued from Cover)

If all that is true, then a good question for us to ask is what is Jesus calling me to do for the sake of the kingdom. How has he graciously included me and my family and my church in his great mission to bring his kingdom to the world? That's a question that I have been meditating on recently. I invite you to join me in praying about that. What is my Lord calling me/us to do for the sake of the kingdom?

We pray it so often: thy kingdom come. Grant, dear Lord that it may come to us, and through us, to others.

Your servant in Christ, Pastor Bill Ryden

This is the Feast: Preparing for the Lord's Supper 2023 Class Schedule



Classes begin at 2:30 PM Saturday, March 4th thru March 29th. Makeup date: Saturday, April 1st

First Communion on Maundy Thursday, April 6th at 7:00 PM

Here are Three ways to view Worship Services:

- 1. 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

Message from the Board President

Wow! I cannot believe it's already March. Spring is not too far behind, I hope. Most of us look forward to warmer and brighter days. For those who don't know me, my name is Dwight Sieger and I have been a member of Hope for 25 years. My wife, Cherie, and I were married in 2001 at Hope. Over the last 25 years I have been on various boards and volunteered for other projects. You will can usually catch me at the 8:00am service or at church activities.

One of the things that members have expressed to me and Cherie over the years is the desire to be informed. So as Board President one of my goals is to keep the congregation informed; from what the Board is discussing, the building needs, and the mission of the church.

To get you up to speed, the new board and I have met the last two months and have gotten acquainted with the new policy based governance that the church has adopted. On Saturday March 4th, the board will have a retreat at church. Among the following topics we will be discussing are:

Figuring out the 2023 Budget Policy Review Where is Hope Church at now Voter Meetings

Next month, I will go into more detail of what happened at our retreat.

So, besides keeping you informed, I also want to keep listening to you as I have the last 25 years.

If you want to talk to me, you can catch me at church at 8:00 am, leave a note in my church mailbox, email me at **cds5764@gmail.com,** or text or call me at **815-474-7485** before 9pm. If you are up early, I am on the road at 4:50am for an hour, we can talk then!

Your servant in Christ,

Dwight Sieger President, Hope Lutheran Church Board President



Please join us!
Family and Friends
are Welcome!

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

Wednesday Lenten Worship Services

Mar 1 Lent 2	11:30 a
Mar 8 Lent 3	11:30 a
Mar 15 Lent 4	11:30 a
Mar 22 Lent 5	11:30 a
Mar 29 Lent 6	11:30 a

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday Sat 5p

Sun 8a & 10:30a

Maundy Thursday 11:30a & 7p Good Friday

11:30a & 7p



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

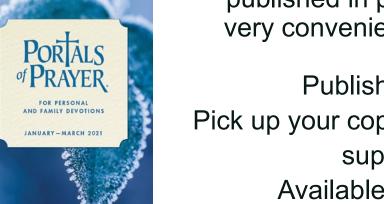
Paper towels



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

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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





Men's Bible Group Saturday 8am in café https://



initial deposit of \$500.00!

For a short video tour, go to: (ctrl/click)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?



Feed My Starving Children in Aurora Dates are scheduled for March 2, 7, 14, 21, 28 (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

Prayer, Shawl Ministry

of loved one, promotion, etc)?
If so, please contact Cathy Wernli
by phone: 815-741-2428,
or email:
office@shorewoodhopelutheran.org

Easter Sunday 8:45 -10:15 a.m.



April 9th

Men's Group
will be
serving their
famous
Easter
Breakfast.
All are invited
to attend.

We continue to accept donations for the replacement of our roof last fall.

Please prayerfully consider contributing to this project.

Planning Ahead

3/01-3/29 - Wed - Lenten Services - 11:30am Lenten Lesson in Archaeology - 7pm

3/04-3/29 - Sat First Communion Class - 2:30pm

3/05-3/26 - Sun Open Adult Basketball 7pm

3/12 - Daylight Savings Time begins

3/12 - Easter Flower ordering cutoff

3/19 - Faithful Families 10:30am



March Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10am - Women's Bible Study 11:30am - Worship Service 7:00pm - Stones Cry Out Bible Study	2 8:15am FMSC	3 6am -Ivy League Kids 6pm - AA Meeting	4 Mite Box Collection 8am - Men's Group 10am - Toy Show 2:30pm - First Communion Class 5pm - Worship Service
5 Mite Box Collection 8 am - Worship Service 9:15 am - Sunday Moming Ministries 10:30 am - Worship Service Noon - gym rental 7 pm - Adult Open Basketball	6 6am -Ivy League 5:30pm - Boy/Girl scouts #256 7pm - Al-Anon	7 8:15am FMSC 6pm - AA Meeting	8 10am - Women's Bible Study 11:30am - Worship Service :00pm - Stones Cry Out Bible Study	9	10 10am - Quilt tying 6pm - AA Meeting	11 8am - Men's Group 10:30am - Timbers Noon - gym rental 2:30pm - First Communion Class 5pm - Worship Service
12 8am - Worship Service 9:15am - Sunday Moming Ministries 10:30am - Worship Service 11:30am - Board Mtg 7pm - Adult Open Basketball	13 5:30pm - Boy/Girl scouts #256 7pm - Al-Anon	14 8:15am FMSC 5:30pm - Brownie Troop #75638 6pm - AA Meeting	15 10am - Women's Bible Study 11:30am - Worship Service 7:00pm - Stones Cry Out Bible Study	16 6pm - Bereaved Parents of Will Cty	17 6pm - AA Meeting	18 8am - Men's Group 2:30pm - First Communion Class 5pm - Worship Service
19 8am - Worship Service 9:15am - Sunday Moming Ministries 10:30am - Worship Service 11:30am - Faithful Families 7pm - Adult Open Basketball	5:30pm - Boy/Girl scouts #256 7pm - Al-Anon	21 8:15am FMSC 6pm - AA Meeting	22 10am - Women's Bible Study 11:30am - Worship Service 7:00pm - Stones Cry Out Bible Study	23	24 10am - Quilt tying 6pm - AA Meeting	25 8am - Men's Group 8:30am - Circuit Leadership Workshop 2:30pm - First Communion Class 5pm - Worship Service
26	27	28	29	30	31	
8am - Worship Service 9:15am - Sunday Morning			Ivy League Kids			
Ministries 10:30am - Worship Service 7pm - Adult Open Basketball	5:30pm - Boy/Girl scouts #256 7pm - Al-Anon	8:15am FMSC 5:30pm - Brownie Troop #75638 6pm - AA Meeting	10am - Women's Bible Study 11:30am - Worship Service 7:00pm - Stones Cry Out Bible Study		6pm - AA Meeting	

Serving The Lord



	DATE	LAY MINISTER	READER	GREETERS	ALTAR DUTY	STEWARDSHIP	FLOWERS	MEDIA
V/1	11:30AM	Fuller	Hauser		Х	X	Х	
3/4	5PM	Fuller	Fuller	Dolgner	Herrington			
3/5	8AM	Sieger	Hauser	Hauser	Sieber	Kristofer	Remus	
	10:30AM	Wolf		Yeager/Newland	Talkington			
/8	11:30AM		Kerwin		X	Х	Х	
3/11	5PM	Bennett	Kerwin	O'Connell	Kerwin/O'Connell		Krabbe	
3/12	8AM	Wernli	Wernli	Krabbe	Wernli	Remus	imo	
	10:30AM	Hargreave	Hargreave	Lapka	Hargreave		Nancy Krabbe	
8/15	11:30AM		Steinhauer		Х	X	Х	
3/18	5PM	DePratt	Fuller	Gura	Fagan/Gura			
3/19	8AM	Bianchetta	Branz	Branz	Branz	Sieber	Krabbe	
	10:30AM	Wolf		Boyd	Miller			
3/22	11:30AM	Fuller	Kerwin		X	X	Х	
3/25	5PM	Petrilla	Kerwin	Kerwn/Kerwin	Herrington		O'Connell	
3/26	8AM	Rousculp	Steinhauer	Martens	Bergman	Yeager	iho Birthday	Wernli
	10:30AM	Hargreeave	Hargreeave	Yeager/Newland	Ripsch		E;lizabeth Giese	
3/29	11:30AN	Fuller	Hauser		X	X	Х	X

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



Open
Adult Basketball
Sundays at 7pm
Bring a friend!