



Such A Big Book

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path"

Psalm 119:105

September 2023

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Have you ever read Tolstoy's War and Peace or Anna Karenina? Could you make it through all seven books of the Harry Potter series, or Tolkien's The Lord of the Rings and The Hobbit? Perhaps in your younger years you conquered all 160 books in the Boxcar Children series. In any case, that's a lot of reading. I would guess that most people don't have the time nor inclination to do that much reading.

No wonder the Bible is such an intimidating book. It's a library of 66 individual books comprising 1,189 chapters and countless verses. It was written over a period of 1,500 years in three different languages by various authors who lived in different times and places. I suspect that all of us have at least one in our homes, maybe more. But like the literary examples above, the Bible can be a very intimidating book because of its sheer size. Add to that the unfamiliar names, places, times and customs. It can be a very difficult book to get through let alone understand. Have you read the whole Bible?

It might not be an easy read. It's certainly not a "Dick and Jane" book. However, it is a worthwhile and even necessary read. This is the Word of God to his people of every time and every place. It tells of his perfect creation and how that creation was corrupted by sin. It tells of a Savior, our Lord Jesus Christ, who took away the penalty for our sin and promised us new and eternal life in his new creation. It is the only book that has the power to save us. What greater motivation could anyone have to read a book that to come to know their heavenly Father's love, to learn to trust in the Lord Jesus Christ and to live by faith through the power of the Holy Spirit? The Bible is a must-read!

I want to encourage you to read through your Bible this year. There are many reading plans out there. We publish one in our monthly newsletter. You can just pick up where it begins this September. You can find one online and start from the beginning. You can come up with your own plan. You could even start in the New Testament and then read the Old Testament. Wherever you start and however much you read each day, I want to encourage you to read your Bible this year. My family will be starting our journey through the Bible this month. Won't you join 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	Ezek 18-19
2	Ezek 20-21
3	Ezek 22-23
4	Ezek 24-27
5	Ezek 28-31
6	Ezek 32-34
7	Ezek 35-37
8	Ezek 38-39
9	Ezek 40-41
10	Ezek 42-43

11	Ezek 44-45
12	Ezek 46-48
13	Joel
14	Dan 1-3
15	Dan 4-6
16	Dan 7-9
17	Dan 10-12
18	Ezra 1-3
19	Ezra 4-6; Ps137
20	Haggai 1-2

21	Zech 1-7
22	Zech 8-14
23	Est 1-5
24	Est 6-10
25	Ezra 7-10
26	Neh 1-5
27	Neh 6-7
28	Neh 8-10
29	Neh 11-13; Ps 126
30	Malachi 1-4

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

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
Lance Corporal Trevor Zukauskas - US Marine
Petty Officer Joey Sheppard - US Navy
Jeremy Visnevac - US Marine

All Shut-Ins, especially:

Jean Hildebrant - at home
Ruth Roch - at Aperion Care
Allen Checca - in hospice care
Dolores Kucera - Burr Ridge Sr Living
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
Diane Kettelson - prayers for healing
Shari Schulz- prayers for healing
Greg Stytz - prayers for healing
Phyllis Neugebauer - for courage and peace through PT
Ray & Jo Gast - Thanks and praise to God for another day!
Barbara Roseen (mother - Karen Rousculp) for courage and peace through PT
Terry Miller (Barb's husband) prayers for healing
Tom Wolf (Brenda's husband) prayers for healing
Aaron Smith and family (Jon/Wendy Forsberg friend) diagnosed with ALS
Gilbert Schleef (Uncle of Beth Hauser) in hospice care
Vivian Cloninger (cousin Dorothy Sieber) cancer diagnosis
Reegan Hart (niece of Kim & Pastor Ryden) for courage and peace through PT
Robert Ryden (Uncle of Pastor Ryden) treatment for multiple blood clots
Bill Ryden (father of Pastor Ryden) Praise God, he is cancer free (8/1)
Alejandra (neighbor of Barb Miller) - chemo/ kidneys (8/2)
Tom (friend of Carol Yeager) back surgery (8/8)
Mary Paonessa (sister of Beth Hauser) Praise God, she is cancer free (8/18)
Kim Ryden - prayers for healing of her foot (8/21)
Dave Jans (BIL Darlene Fagan) prayers for recovery (8/25)

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
his weakness and
have confidence in
your loving care;
through Jesus Christ
our Lord. *Amen.*

We have been so grateful for all of the donations and gift cards. They have truly been so helpful to us. We are praying that Phyllis is home in the next 2-3 weeks.

Pastor John & Miriam

We extend our Christian sympathies to the Wise and Cook families
at the passing of Margaret Wise-Hudgins on 8/12/23.

*

We Extend our Christian Sympathies to the family and friends of
Frances Loucks (MIL's sister - Dorothy Sieber), who passed away on 8/14/23

*

We extend our Christian sympathies to the family and friends
of Barb Biller, who passed away on Tuesday, 8/15/23.

Birthday Wishes to . . .

Sofia	Petrilla	9/3
Ken	Wernli	9/3
LeighAnn	Hargreave	9/4
Rebekah	Ryden	9/6
Bradley	Sorensen Jr	9/6
Sherri	Bianchetta	9/6
Declan	Fisher	9/7
Hansel	Howard	9/8
Rich	Newland	9/9
Ella	Rasokat	9/10

Samantha	Giese	9/12
Christopher	Koch	9/12
Angie	Aegerter	9/12
Phyllis	Neugebauer	9/12
Riley	Bryll	9/13
Caleb	Bourgeois	9/15
Kylie	Wissel	9/15
Adrianna	Koepke	9/16
Karen	Jensen	9/16
Dominic	Peck	9/18

Toni	Lindstrom	9/18
Glen	Schieberl	9/18
Jace	Ratazak	9/19
Megan	Johnson	9/21
Zachary	Rodriguez	9/24
Kyle	Ripsch	9/24
Joshua	Gautschy	9/28
Edward	Visnevac	9/30
Hannah	Kovel	9/30
Monica	Williamson	9/30

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



Doug & Nikki	Skedel	9/1
Rich & Belinda	Newland	9/4
Dave & Vicki	Bourgeois	9/5
Craig & Kim	Pankiewicz	9/5
Shawn & Nicole	Thompson	9/5
Tim & Dee	Middleton	9/10
Cliff & Amy	DePratt	9/20
Jeff & Debbie	Rozanski	9/20
Keith & Rose	Kettelson	9/27
Derek & Lisa	Gunier	9/30

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 !

Define Your Life by How You Give



Winston Churchill reportedly said that “we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” According to Churchill, our lives are defined not by what we have gotten, but by what we give away.

Our Lord’s life is defined in this way. He gave completely of Himself for us. He became man for us. He taught the truth of God’s Word. He healed those with many and various diseases. He died the death that we deserved for our sins. He gave of Himself in order to save us from sin, death and hell. And so it is that by giving completely of Himself, He got for Himself us, making us citizens of His eternal kingdom by grace.

As it was for Jesus, so it also is for us. We get more from giving than we do from simply getting. For giving softens our hearts and frees us from the grip which the worries of this world and making a living has on us. For when we are singularly focused on making a living, we are singularly focused on what we get. That mindset begins to bleed into all areas of our lives — our relationships with friends and family, with neighbors and coworkers, and with the Lord. It shifts our focus from asking the question, “How can I be a friend, family member, neighbor and servant to others,” to asking the question, “What have they done for me lately?” We become more selfish instead of selfless.

But when we give, we do not have less, we do not become less; rather, we have more and be-come more. When we give, we join in the bond of friendship and family, the bond of service to those around us out of love for them. And love is the fulfillment of the Law. It is the nature of God Himself, for God is Love. Thus, we are participating in the divine nature. As Jesus said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35).



LCMS Stewardship Ministry:
lcms.org/stewardship

(Continued from Cover)

And if you're still a little intimidated by all those books and names and concepts, please join me on Wednesday evenings starting September 20th at 6:00 PM for a Bible study on how to read, study and understand your Bible. I'll break it down for you, answer your questions and give you the tools that will help you get the most out of your Bible reading. As the saying goes, "how do you eat a whole elephant? One bite at a time."

Don't let the fact that the Bible is such a big book keep you from the love and joy and peace that its message offers those who read it.

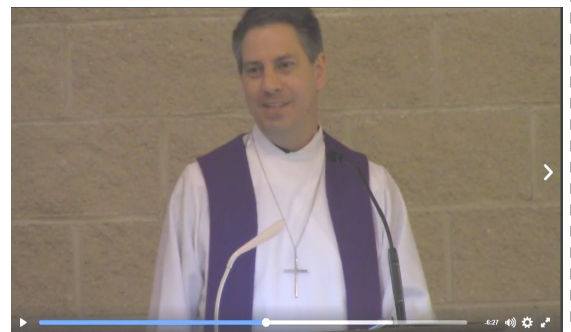
Your servant in Christ,
Pastor Bill Ryden

Resume Sunday Worship Schedule

**Saturday, September 9th, we will resume
our 3 services schedule for
weekend Worship.**

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





Experience the **HOLY LAND**

10 DAY TOUR OF ISRAEL
APRIL 8-17, 2024

Hosted by
**PASTOR BILL RYDEN
& JUDY WIERMAN**

✈ Departures
\$4,547 FROM CHICAGO, IL

Price includes:
\$595 US & Intl. departure taxes/fuel & \$150 gratuities
Additional departure cities available upon request

**Early bird savings with your
initial deposit of \$500.00!**

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

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

Message from the Board President

Cherie and I are probably in the minority when I say we love ALL the four Seasons– Spring, Summer, Fall and Yes for the most part–Winter. Each one has its own characteristics and changes. Fall for us is watching the leaves change colors, eating honey crisp apples and cooler, shorter days.

So as Summer bids its final farewell for this year, another season at Hope begins! Lots of changes are happening: Starting September 10 th , we go back to two services again and Sunday School starts up for another year. The parking lot is going to be resurfaced in some areas, patched and black topped shortly. For the last couple of weeks now, if you been to church, the organ is once again playing its joyous notes! We have been blessed to find an organist, who plays at River of Life Lutheran Church in Channahon, to come in once a week and record the liturgy and the hymns. Over a period of time, all the hymns, liturgies, and anything else we need will be recorded in the organ. She also will be available to be in person for weddings and funerals. For those have asked me, yes, we are still looking for an organist, but finding one will not be easy. All churches are looking for an organist. So If you have any leads on an organist please let me know.

As I have said before, Hope will be participating by the end of September in one of the LCMS re:Vitality resources called CADD. It stands for Congregational Assessment of Development/Decline Status. This 95 question survey, in which the whole congregation participates, designed to objectively answer the question: “Where are we...really? This will help the board and pastor figure out where we are now and what direction to go in the future. All surveys will be kept confidential. The information goes directly to LCMS which then analyzes the surveys and returns it to Hope. There is no right or wrong answers. More information how to take the survey will be coming in mid-September! Until then enjoy the last days of Summer and look forward to Fall.

As usual, If you want to talk to me you can catch me at church, 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



Thanks to all the sponsors, donors, and participants in this year's Golf Outing. \$2,450 was raised to help support Hope's mission.

Congratulations to Karen O'Connell who won the gas grill.

Circle of Friendship News

On August 20, 25 women met to discuss and make decisions regarding the \$8000 in funds in the Circle Account.

Suggested missions to support included:

- ♦ The Roof Fund here at Hope
- ♦ Continuing the Greeting Card Ministry at Hope
- ♦ Swaddling Clothes (info at rolchannahon.org)
- ♦ Children's backpack ministry (info from Cherie Sieger)
- ♦ Providing cases for foster kids (instead of trash bags)
- ♦ Maternity House

Votes taken and approved:

1. Contribute \$4000 to the roof fund
2. Continue the greeting card Ministry (Thank you Barb Miller for sending all the Birthday/Anniversary Cards)
3. Placing Diane Kettelson as President of Circle.

As we collect more information on other missions, we will narrow the choices by voting at a later date.

Upcoming Events:

Sept 13, Women's Wed AM Bible Study-10 am at church

Sept 20 Women's Wed PM Bible Study-7pm (see Karen Rousculp for location)

Sept 29 & 30, 2023 Fall Gathering-Trinity Lutheran, Lombard
(info on Circle Bulletin Bd)



PICNIC THANK YOU!
Sonjia Brandon
Men's Group
Our Members
and Visiting Groups
We had a lovely day!

Blessing

Bench Current Needs

Canned: soups and fruit

● Oatmeal

● Boxed cereal

● Grab & go nutritious snacks

Paper towels



Beyond Church Walls Meal Ministry

“He was recognized by them in the breaking of the bread.”

Luke 24: 35b

Do you know an individual or family in our congregation in need of a meal due to health issues, hospitalization, family crisis, birth of a baby, in mourning or just simply needs a break? Are you or your family in need of a meal? Making someone a meal is faith in action, it's loving, it's helpful, it's healing and it reaches beyond our church walls. . .

What does a “meal” look like?

- ☐ **Homemade**
- ☐ **Take out**
- ☐ **Gift cards**
- ☐ **Freezer Meal**
- ☐ **Breakfast casserole**

If you would like to request a meal, please feel free to contact Judy Wierman. She will collect all the pertinent information; including allergies, time of drop off, etc. Her contact information is 815-922-2482 or jawierman@yahoo.com Once a request has been received, an email will be generated by Cathy Wernli to sign up through the website Take Them aMeal. No worries if you do not have access to the website—you can contact Judy to be added to the list of those bringing a meal!

Any questions, please feel free to connect with Judy.

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:
hopenanna@gmail.com**

**Youth
Discipleship
Class
Begins
Sept 10th**

**Men's Group
Bible Study
8am in café
Begins 9/9**

**Women's
Bible Study
Wednesday
At 10am
Begins 9/13**

**Bible Study
Wednesday
at 7pm
Begins 9/20**

LWML Mite Boxes.

All Mite Box donations to the Northern Illinois District can once again be dropped off at the church. Mite Boxes are collected on the first Weekend of the month.





Feed My Starving Children
in Aurora
Dates are scheduled for
September 5, 12, 21 & 26

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

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

Using our God Given Talents

Hope Lutheran Church functions efficiently because of our leadership and our volunteers, many of whom volunteer for multiple tasks – and have done so for many years.

This is a challenge for EVERY MEMBER to use his or her God given talents to meet a need here at Hope. Most opportunities are on a once per month basis or less, for a few extra minutes. The more people involved, the less often each person will be called to serve. “Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.” 1 Peter 4:10

Right now, we are urgently in need of help to serve God in Worship for both the Saturday 5pm and Sunday 10:30 am services:

- Greeters** – welcoming each person as they enter
- Readers** – reading the Introit, Old Testament and Epistle lessons
- Media** – running the PowerPoint presentation (just clicking thru)
- Organ** – running the playback (no musical talent required)
- Altar Guild** – setting up or taking down communion

Please pray for God’s guidance as you consider how you might share His gifts to you with the congregation. “There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.” 1Corinthians 12:4-6

As the Spirit moves you to volunteer, please contact Pastor or Cathy. Your info will be added to our Volunteer Chart under the category you select. Training will be available. “For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.” Psalm 100:5

God’s blessings on you!

See Something - Say Something!

THANK YOU!

**To:
George Shimek
and
Steve Fuller
for steam
cleaning the
carpets.**



2023-2024 Bible Study Schedule Wednesday @ 6pm

FROM	TO	TOPIC
9/20	11/29	How to Study and Understand the Bible
12/6		The Holy Trinity - Father
12/13		The Holy Trinity - Son
12/20		The Holy Trinity - Spirit
1/10	3/27	Mysteries of the Faith (Adult Instruction)
4/24		Catechism Review - Ten Commandments
5/1		Catechism Review - Apostles' Creed
5/8		Catechism Review - Lord's Prayer
5/15		Catechism Review - The Means of Grace
5/22		Catechism Review - Confessing the Faith

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!
Openings in Oct * Nov * Dec**



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

Are you interested in attending a class: Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University?

- How to pay off debt-
- The truth about credit cards-
- About debt consolidation-

If so, please contact Judy Wierman

815-922-2482

A class might be forming near you!

We continue to accept donations for the replacement of our roof last fall.
Please prayerfully consider contributing to this project.
Thank you to those who have and continue to donate to this project.
Final payment is December 1, 2023.

Planning Ahead

9/09 - Men's Group reconvenes @ 8a

9/10 - Sunday School begins @ 9a

Youth Discipleship Class Begins @ 9a

9/13 - Wed AM Bible Study reconvenes @10:30a

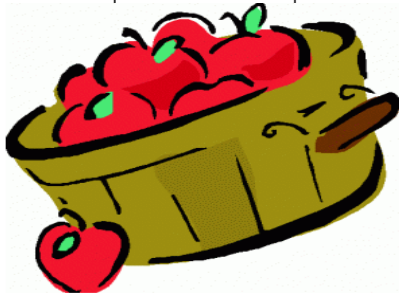
9/17 - Faithful Families @ 10:30a

9/20 - Study/Understand Bible Class - Wed @ 6p

Wed PM Bible Class reconvenes @ 7p

*Save
the
Date*

September Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 6pm - AA Meeting	2 Mite Box Collection 5pm - Worship Service
3 Mite Box Collection 9am - Worship Service				7 6pm - Lay Ministry Meeting	8 10am - Quilt tying 6pm - AA Meeting	9 8am - Men's Group 10am - Toy Show 10:30am - Timbers Service 5pm - Worship Service
10 8am - Worship Service 9:15am - Sunday Morning Ministries 10:30am - Worship Service 11:30am - Board Meeting	11 5:30pm - Boy/Girl scouts #256 7pm - Al-Anon	12 8:15am FMSC 6pm - AA Meeting	13 10am - Women's Bible Study	14	15 6pm - AA Mtg	16 8am - Men's Group 9am - Troy Cross-Country Fundraiser 5pm - Worship Service
17 8am - Worship Service 9:15am - Sunday Morning Ministries 10:30am - Worship Service & Faithful Families	18 5:30pm - Boy/Girl scouts #256 7pm - Al-Anon	19 6pm - AA Meeting	20 10am - Women's Bible Study 6pm - Bible Study 7pm - Bible Study	21 8:15am FMSC 6pm - Bereaved Parents of Will Cty	22 Hope Garage Sale 10am - Quilt tying 6pm - AA Meeting	23 8am - Men's Group 5pm - Worship Service
24 8am - Worship Service 9:15am - Sunday Morning Ministries 10:30am - Worship Service	25 5:30pm - Court of Honor - Scouts #256 7pm - Al-Anon	26 8:15am FMSC 6pm - AA Meeting	27 10am - Women's Bible Study 6pm - Bible Study 7pm - Bible Study	28	29 6pm - AA Mee	30 8am - Men's Group 5pm - Worship Service

Serving The Lord

September

DATE	LAY MINISTER	READER	GREETERS	ALTAR DUTY	STEWARDSHIP	FLOWERS	MEDIA	ORGAN
9/2 5PM	Fuller	Fuller	Kerwin/Kerwin	Herrington		O'Connell		
9/3 9AM	Sieger	Hauser	Hauser	Sieber	Remus	in honor of		
						Samantha Geise's birthday		
9/9 5PM	Bennett	Kerwin	Dolgnor	Kerwin/O'Connell				
9/10 8AM	Wernli	Wernli	Bergman/Markley	Bergman	Sieber	Kiefer		
10:30AM	Hargreave	Hargreave	Yeager/Newland	Hargreave				
9/16 5PM	DePratt	Fuller	Gura	Fagan/Gura		Pastor John Neugebauer		
9/17 8AM	Bianchetta	Branz	Sieger	Branz	Yeager	in honor of	Sieger	
10:30AM	Wolf		Boyd	Talkington		50th Anniversary of Ordination		
9/23 5PM	Petrilla	Kerwin	O'Connell	Herrington		Gast		
9/24 8AM	Rousculp	Steinhauer	Krabbe	Brandon/Wernli	Gura	in memory of	Wernli	
10:30AM	Hargreave	Hargreave	Skedel	Miller		George Williams		

Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church

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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

