



CALL UPDATE: There will be an update on Calling the next full time resident Pastor for Open Arms on Sunday, May 5th following the service. **The Call Meeting is scheduled for May 19th** after the service. Continue to pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance. Information about the Pastors is available in the church office.

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS AND SERVICES

- Call Update after service, May 5th
- Mother's Day and Confirmation Sunday, May 12
- May 19th, Deadline for Veterans "Take Out Tuesday" gift cards
- Call Meeting, May 19th

YOUTH CONFIRMATION is Sunday, May 12th. Emma Bower, Creighton Buckalew, Zah Layah Pape, and Colin O'Kelley will make a public confession of their Christian faith that day. Please keep these young people in your prayers as they prepare for this important step forward in their faith. Plan to join them and their families for a cake reception after the service.

IT'S "TAKE OUT TUESDAY" TIME. Open Arms is collecting VISA gift cards for Veterans between now and May 19th so they can use them to order food for "Take Out Tuesdays." The cards will be given to the Veterans before Memorial Day, May 27th. Please bring VISA Gift Cards to Open Arms so they can be taken to the Wayne County Veterans Hospital.

WORSHIP AREA UPGRADES. We are seeking monetary donations to help with upgrades to our shared Big Room & Sanctuary space. This room is vital to all aspects of our ministries: church and daycare as well as special gatherings and events. Planned work includes installation of replacement projectors, LED lighting upgrades, new ceiling fans, specialized equipment rental and skilled labor for certain aspects. It's anticipated to total around \$8,000-\$10,000. If you are able to direct extra giving for this, simply write "Sanctuary" on your check or online donation's memo line or 'notes' field. Your gifts will help maximize the usefulness of this room to bless those we serve.

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK is May 6th – 10th. Make some time to thank our Day Care Director Greta and her staff for the great job they do teaching the children at Open Arms.

OPEN ARMS WELCOMES Debra Hazey as our newest member. If you have questions about the Christian Faith or Open Arms, or if you are interested in becoming a member, please talk with Pastor Larry. If there is enough interest, he may offer a series of classes covering the basics of the Christian Faith in June.

THRIVENT ACTION GRANTS can be used to support ministries and special events at Open Arms. If you are Thrivent member, please consider using one of your two yearly action grants for one of these upcoming events:

	The Team Tigers project for Tyler School children
Any of the Upcoming MEAL times	Vacation Bible School July 29 – August 1

TEAM TIGERS. Open Arms is teaming up with Tyler Elementary School to provide backpacks of food every weekend for those students who come from low-income families. The kids often have very little food on the weekend and rely heavily on the food they get for breakfast and lunch at Tyler Elementary. During the summer months, many of these students go without breakfast and lunch since they are not in school, and their families cannot afford it. Our plan is to help bridge the gap starting with summer school students this summer. Dana and Brandon Underwood are coordinating this project for Open Arms.

THE MICHIGAN DISTRICT CHURCH EXTENSION FUND seeks qualified candidates for the position of IT Administrator. This position performs a range of network and workstation duties for a combined office of 30-35 on-site and remote users. The position assists in three main areas: network management, cyber-security management, and software administration.

A complete position description is available on CEF's website: mi-cef.org/news.

Applicants should mail or email a cover letter and resume no later than May 31, 2024 to: Ms. Kris Nowak – Executive Assistant, Church Extension Fund, 3773 Geddes Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48105, kris.nowak@mi-cef.org. Interviews and hiring expected in June.

DO YOU HAVE EMPTY SHOE BOXES? Brandon Underwood, Kindergarten Teacher at Tyler School, is collecting empty shoe boxes for a project with his students. You can drop them off at Open Arms for Brandon to pick up.

Open Arms Lutheran Church & Day Care	7865 Belleville Rd	(734) 699-5000
Pastor Larry Courson	pastorlarry@openarmscenter.com	(734) 395-0974
Daycare Director Greta Bower	gbower@openarmscenter.com	