



Serving People! Sharing Jesus! Sending Servants!

OCTOBER 31ST TO NOVEMBER 6TH: A BUSY WEEK AT OPEN ARMS.

- Tuesday, Nov. 1st, Dave, Mandy, Jack and Dandy Maier were baptized
- Saturday, Nov. 5th, Funeral Service for David Hebert at 11. Visitation at 10 am.
- Sunday, Nov. 6th, Ayo Adebajo and Joshua Garcia confirm their faith.

NOVEMBER: A MONTH OF THANKSGIVING service themes

- “Rejoice and Give Thanks” November 6th
- “Remember and Give Thanks” November 13th
- “Return and Give Thanks” November 20th
- “Restoring Hope” November 27th

OPEN ARMS PRIORITY CHALLENGES REPORT. The people attending the worship service on October 23rd were given the opportunity to participate in discussion groups on what Open Arms can do to meet the four challenges we have identified earlier this year. Each group was asked to identify three initial ideas. See the brief summaries from each group that follows.

Talking about the Christian Faith

- Offer a workshop in talking about the Christian faith (by end of year)
- Offer Sunday morning Bible class opportunities (by end of first quarter)
- Offer affinity group events (such as quilting)

Engaging the Community

- Write an article for the Belleville Independent about Open Arms
- Participate in the Belleville Light Parade December 3rd
- Re-engage High School Youth and Members with the Belleville Community

Expanding Fellowship

- Hanging of the Greens (Christmas Tree and Decorations) Nov. 27th
- The 252 youth decorate the church lobby for Christmas
- Secret Santa gift exchange and party Dec. 11th

Recognizing and Using our Gifts

- Research and plan surveys and personality tests
- Research and plan classes
- Build and create classes

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE at Open Arms will begin at either 4:30 or 6:00 pm. Please let us know your preference at <https://forms.gle/pG7xyTaMhoJuAcdE7> **by Nov. 13th**. Thanks

OPEN ARMS IS COLLECTING items for our Veterans in the VA Hospital Nursing Home and also for Homeless VETS now through November 13th. Items needed are Sweatshirt and Sweatpants (Medium, Large and X-Large), Socks, Gloves, Hats, Coats, and Blankets. Items may be brought to Open Arms during the week or on Sunday mornings. Veterans Day is November 11th. This is one way we can thank and serve our nation's Veterans.

THE OPEN ARMS ANNUAL MEETING is Sunday, November 20th, after the service. This is an important time for the Open Arms Family to come together to elect leaders, approve the 2023 budget and look at where we were, where we are, and where we hope to be with God's help.

A QUICK LOOK AT UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Dave Hebert Funeral, Nov. 5 @ 11:00 am. Visitation at 10.
- Ayo Adebajo and Josh Garcia Confirmations, Nov. 6th
- Tina and Hunter Horner farewell, Nov. 6th
- Secret Santa signup, Nov. 13th. Party Nov. 20th
- Annual Meeting, Nov. 20th
- Hanging of the Greens & Decorating Christmas Tree, Nov. 27th
- Thanksgiving Meal-Time & Advent Service, Nov. 30th
- Belleville Light Parade, Dec. 3rd
- Daycare Christmas Program, Dec. 8th

NOVEMBER 30TH MEALTIME & ADVENT SERVICE. The annual Day Care "Thanksgiving Meal" will also be our last Wednesday of the month Mealtime on Nov. 30th. It is also the 1st Wednesday in Advent. Mealtime begins at 5:00 PM. We are looking for people to cook turkeys, provide desserts and side dishes. A short and simple Advent Service will follow at 6:30 or Day Care and Church families to kick off the Christmas / Advent Season.

PASTOR LARRY will be at a family celebration in his home town of Danville, Illinois the weekend of November 11th – 13th. A special thanks to Pastor Rob Kasper for leading the worship service on the 13th. The confirmation class will not meet on the 13th.

PLEASE SCAN if you want to contact the church, update your information, or leave a message for Pastor Larry. Thanks

