



OPEN ARMS HAS IDENTIFIED MINISTRY PRIORITIES that we have been working on since the Fall. We plan to take time during the worship service this Sunday, April 30th to continue working on these goals. The priorities are Engage the Community, Expand Fellowship, Talking About the Christian Faith, Recognizing and Using our Gifts, and Youth Ministry. We need everyone to be part of these important planning conversations.

CONFIRMED MEMBERS of Open Arms may nominate an LCMS Rostered Pastor that they personally know. Nomination Forms are available at the Welcome Center. Nominations may also be submitted at <https://forms.gle/pYrW23Xzo1b9z4Sh9>. The deadline to submit nominations is after the service on Sunday, May 7th. Please give your nomination to President Tim Manthei or drop them off at the church office.

UPCOMING EVENTS at Open Arms

- Ministry Priority Planning, April 30th
- Vacation Bible School meeting, May 1st
- National Day of Prayer, May 4th
- New Member Welcome, May 7th
- Senior High Youth at St. Michael's, May 7th
- Mother's Day, May 14th
- Fundraiser Luncheon for Open Arms student Washington D.C. trip, May 21st
- Final Day for donations to be dropped off for V.A. hospital patients, May 28th

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER IS MAY 4TH. Open Arms will be hosting a brief prayer service at Noon that day at Van Buren Fire Station II to pray for our First Responders. You are encouraged to join us. Please invite any First Responders you know to join us. Lunch will be provided for the First Responders after the prayers.

REFLECTION ON DAILY READINGS: Email your thoughts or questions about the readings to Dave Ferber for Sunday services. Dave's email is ferber_david@yahoo.com

DAILY NEW TESTAMENT READINGS April 27th – May 4th

April 27 th Luke 23:13-43	May 1 st John 1:29-51
April 28 th Luke 23:44-24:12	May 2 nd John 2:1-25
April 29 th Luke 24:13-53	May 3 rd John 3:1-21
April 30 th John 1:1-28	May 4 th John 3:22-4:3

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL is July 30th to August 3rd. Open Arms needs your help to make this a successful VBS. The first planning meeting is Monday, May 1st at 7:00 PM. There are many ways to help from using your creativity in decorating or helping with crafts, music, games, snacks, or taking the hand of a child and sharing God's Word as a group leader or class helper. Whatever gifts or talents you have, we would love for you to join us this year. Contact Noel Gee for more information. Noel.granger16@gail.com

OPEN ARMS PLANS TO WELCOMES Philip and Theresa Maassen, Lora Barron, and Mary Askew and their children as members on Sunday, May 7th. Plan to join us for reception to welcome them following the service.

OPEN ARMS HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH are invited to the next youth event at St. Michael's on Sunday, May 7 at 12 pm. They will have a pizza lunch, fellowship, and devotion.

IT IS TIME TO PUT YOUR THRIVENT ACTION GRANTS TO WORK. Consider using one of your two \$250 grants for one of these special events at Open Arms. Application for grants have to be submitted at least 2 weeks before the event.

- Student DC trip fund raiser May 21st (Contact Melva Coleman)
- Teacher Appreciation Week in May
- MEAL time May 31st
- Food and clothing for collection for Veterans between now and Memorial Day
- Summer Camp Bibles for each of the campers & supplies

OPEN ARMS ELDERS have recently revised the members on their "Care List." Members are assigned alphabetically. Check her to see who your assigned Elder is. Feel free to talk with yours or any other Elder is you have concerns, questions, prayer requests, etc.

- Bayo Adebanjo 734-560-2835 A to Essell
- Marty Moro 734-756-1626 Everard to Jones
- Ted Bower 734-516-4708 K to Parker
- Tom Griffin 734-231-5040 Pape to Z

DONATIONS FOR OUR VETERANS will be collected between now and Memorial Day weekend, May 28th. Watch for a detailed list of suggested donations.

DC TRIP FUNDRAISER. Some of the Open Arms members that attend St. Michael's Lutheran School have an opportunity to go to Washington D.C. in October of 2023. Students will have a great educational opportunity to explore the Nation's iconic events from past to present, visit historical memorials, and walk the halls of renowned museums. We certainly want to support this educational opportunity for our children. Therefore, on Sunday, May 21st, we're having a luncheon to support our kids who are planning to attend this educational experience. The luncheon will be immediately following church service.

A BIG THANK YOU to Tom Griffin for leading 252 for elementary youth and to Deacon Dave Ferber for leading the New Member classes.

Open Arms Lutheran Church & Day Care 7865 Belleville Rd (734) 699-5000

Pastor Larry Courson pastorlarry@openarmscenter.com (734) 395-0974

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

