



AUGUST MESSAGES will focus on readings from the Gospel of Matthew
20th Matthew 15:21-28 Faith of Canaanite woman “Would You Eat Dog Food?”
27th Matthew 16:13-20 Peter’s Confession of Faith Deacon Dave Preaching

OPEN ARMS CALL UPDATE:

- The second Pastor was interviewed last week
- The Call Committee will report on the process to select the two Pastors for interview after service on August 20th.
- The Call Committee and Board of Directors will review the information from the interviews on August 21st.
- The Call Committee will give a detailed report on the Pastors interviewed August 27th.
- September 10th is *“Back to Church Sunday.”* This is the perfect Sunday to come back to Open Arms and participate in the Calling of the next Pastor.
- **The Voters Call Meeting has been moved to September 10th following the service.**
- All confirmed members of Open Arms 18 and older are encouraged to attend, participate, and vote.
- Everyone else interested is invited to attend, listen, participate, and pray for the selection of the Pastor to be Called to Open Arms
- President Tim Manthei and Pastor Larry will lead the Call meeting.
- The most important thing to do between now and September 10th is to pray for the Holy Spirit to give us wisdom and to guide Open Arms in Calling the next full-time pastor.

A COPY OF THE CALL LIST INFORMATION on the top two candidates is available in the church office to look at and pray over. The information may not be taken out of the church.

DO NOT EMAIL OR POST the names of the Pastors on our Call list. These men are currently serving a church and have not asked to be put on our Call. Please respect their privacy and their current ministry.

THE INFORMATION SESSION & CALL MEETING will not be available online.

OPEN ARMS YOUTH are planning on going to the Concordia University Football Game on September the 16th. The youth will be able to sit in on part of the Pep Band practice, take a tour of the campus, have lunch with the Pep Band and attend the football game as guest of Concordia. Contact Tom Griffin for more information.

SOME THOUGHTS FROM PASTOR LARRY about Calling a Pastor for Open Arms

- Joan and I have enjoyed getting to know the people of Open Arms (members, staff, leaders, Day Care staff, children, families) and serving with you.
- The Holy Spirit has breathed new life into Open Arms and is doing some amazing things at and through Open Arms. Open Arms is healthy and strong enough to Call her next Pastor. Praise God for that.
- God is the Lord of the Church. He is in charge whether the first Pastor called by Open Arms decides to accept the Call or to continue serving at his current church.
- Some of you have expressed apprehensions about Calling a new Pastor. My prayer is that you will live up to your name and Open your Arms to the next Pastor and his family when they come, welcome them, and be ready to serve and grow with them. Apprehensions are a form of fear. But God's perfect love overcomes fears.
- Because I am a transitional vacancy Pastor, I cannot help Open Arms make decisions about future ministry focus. Those decisions need to be made with your next Pastor.
- Open Arms has amazing potential to serve and continue to grow. This may require that the people of Open Arms are willing to face their fears about the future, trust God and step out of their comfort zones.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT OPEN ARMS:

- Call list report after service, August 20th
- Call Committee & Directors Meeting, August 21st
- Report on Pastor Interviews August 27th
- Summer MEALTIME August 30th
- Kick Off the Fall, September 3rd
- **Back to Church Sunday**, September 10th
- **Call Meeting** after service, September 10th
- Youth at Concordia Football Game, September 16th
- **Invite a Friend Sunday** September 17th

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, August 17th – 26th

Aug. 17 th 1 Cor. 11:2-16	Aug. 22 nd 1 Cor. 14:20-24
Aug. 18 th 1 Cor. 11:17-34	Aug. 23 rd 1 Cor. 15:1-28
Aug. 19 th 1 Cor. 12:1-26	Aug. 24 th 1 Cor. 15:29-58
Aug. 20 th 1 Cor. 12:27-13:13	Aug. 25 th 1 Cor. 16:1-24
Aug. 21 st 1 Cor. 14:1-19	Aug. 26 th 2 Cor. 1:1-11

WE ALL LIKE REFRESHMENTS. Sign up at the welcome center on Sunday to help provide them. Contact Nola Heatlie for more information.

CONTACT BRENDA BUCHOLZ to help serve as an usher or greeter on Sundays.

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