



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

UPCOMING SERVICES:

Make 2024 “The Year of the Lord” by ...

January 7 th	<u>Worshipping Him</u> like the Wise Men	Matthew 2:1-12
January 14 th	<u>Following Him</u> like the Disciples	John 1:43-51
January 21 st	<u>Believing Him</u>	Mark 1:14-20
January 28 th	<u>Listening to Him</u>	Deut. 18:15-20

UPCOMING EVENTS AT OPEN ARMS

- Introduction to “The Story”, January 7th
- Game Day, January 7th
- Ladies Bible Study, January 9th & 23rd
- New Member Class, “The Story” Chapter 1, Confirmation Class, January 14th
- Youth Group, January 14th & 28th
- Men’s Bible Study, January 16th & 23rd
- Lutheran School Week, January 21st – 27th
- MEAL Time, January 31st

IT'S GAME TIME! On January 7th the fellowship committee will be hosting an afternoon of card and board games. This will take place right after the service until 1:30pm, please feel free to bring your favorite game to share. There will be a pizza lunch provided. Sign up with Will Cantrell at 248-842-9937 or gwcantrell93@gmail.com

252 RETURNS ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17TH, with Greta leading three weeks of cooking sessions with the elementary youth.

CAN YOU HELP? Open Arms had to get a new snow removal company this year. Unfortunately, they are not able to remove snow on Sunday mornings because they already are serving other area churches. This means our parking lot may not always get plowed on Sunday mornings. We may need some help clearing and salting sidewalks for Sunday services. If you can help, please talk with one of the board members or Pastor Larry.

OPEN ARMS CALL UPDATE: The Call Committee plans to begin interviewing pastors on the Call list with the goal of having a Call meeting either late January or early February.

ONE OR TWO PEOPLE are needed to help lead Children's Church one Sunday each month. Children's Church begins after the Children's Message for grade schoolers. The lesson material is provided each week. Talk with Rachel Manthei, Melva Coleman, Katie Essell or Greta Bower if you want more information about Children's Church.

NEW MEMBER CLASSES – For those individuals who are interested in becoming members of Open Arms, the next New Member Classes will begin for 5 consecutive Sundays on January 14, 2024 and conclude on February 11th. The classes will be approximately 45 to 60 minutes in length, and we will be utilizing "Luther's Small Catechism (with explanation)," and a video series. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Larry or Deacon Dave.

READ "THE STORY" starting January 7th. The Story is a continuous reading of selections from the Bible in chronological order. Each of the 31 chapters reveals the God of grace whose love for His people culminated in His sacrifice of Jesus, to pay for the sins of humanity. We will introduce the first chapter on the 7th. There will be a Bible Study on first chapter on the 14th.

The Story is available in print, as an eBook or audio book. We will have a limited number of "The Story" and "The Story for Kids" books available on January 7th. You are encouraged to read one chapter a week. If you have younger children, you might consider reading one chapter of "The Story for Kids" with them each week.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY: The 2024 sessions begin on Tuesday, January 16th at 6:30 pm, in the Upper Room. The study will continue with the video series titled; "Stuff They Didn't Teach Me in Sunday School." We will be viewing and discussing Matthew, Luke, followed by the Letters of Paul. The Men's Bible Study sessions schedule, for 2024, is as follows (all sessions are on Tuesdays, at 6:30 pm, in the Upper Room): 1/16, 1/23, 2/20, 2/27, 3/19, 3/26, 4/16 and 4/23. Please contact Deacon Dave Ferber (ferber_david@yahoo.com) if you have any questions.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO ONLY USE the church entrance and exit so that no one blocks the exit used frequently by first responders during call out responses. Thanks to the Van Buren Fire Department for allowing us to use their entrance and exit during the parking lot repairs.

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