



**JANUARY MESSAGE SERIES: “JESUS’ FIRSTS!”** is a look at “First Events” in Jesus’ ministry. The series conclude on the 26<sup>th</sup> with Jesus First Rejection, in Nazareth.

**IT’S TIME TO CONNECT** with your Faith and Faith Family! You are invited to attend the “God Connects” Bible Study on Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, running through March 2<sup>nd</sup>. This is a great time to learn about the basic teachings of the Christian faith. People interested in joining Open Arms are encouraged to attend. Marty Moro and Dave Ferber will be leading the sessions so Pastor Larry can continue leading the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade confirmation class.

**We Are Not Alone: Engaging Your Community Together.** If you’re looking for encouragement, spiritual renewal, and practical ways to connect with others in ministry, don’t miss this year’s Theological Conference. February 1, 2025 | Our Savior, Lansing 8:15 a.m. – 3 p.m. Register online at [www.michigandistrict.org/theological25](http://www.michigandistrict.org/theological25) to attend in person or online.

Christ Our King Lutheran Church in Saline will be hosting a simulcast. Contact the church at 734-429-9200 for more information.

#### **TEAM TIGER BACKBACK NEEDS**

Pancake mix	Potatoes
Pancake syrup	Cornbread mix
Go Go Squeeze yogurt	Buttermilk biscuit mix
Tuna/Chicken packets	Beans (bagged or canned - any kind)
Soup	Spaghetti
Hormel Compleats	Pasta sauce
Peanut butter	Canned vegetables
Jelly	Pizza dough mix
Go Go Squeeze applesauce	Pepperoni (shelf-stable)
Fruit cups	Tomato/pizza sauce
Macaroni	Rice
Stove Top stuffing (any brand is fine)	

**THE NEXT MEAL TIME** is Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>. You are invited to a free meal served between 5:00 and 6:00 PM. Deb and Rob Kasper will be serving Sloppy Joes, Chips, Veggies, Cheese and Cookies.

**“LIVING WISELY IN AN UNWISE WORLD”** is the title for the services in February

- February 2<sup>nd</sup>, “Following God’s Wisdom”
- February 9<sup>th</sup>, “Using Time Wisely”
- February 16<sup>th</sup>, “Becoming Money Wise”
- February 23<sup>rd</sup>, “Living Together Wisely”

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY** – The January 2025 Men's Bible Study the 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the Upper Room. The men will be reviewing and discussing a DVD series titled, "Anxious for Nothing." Contact Deacon Dave if you have any questions.

**THE NEXT PASTOR CALL LIST FOR OPEN ARMS** should be arrive before the end of the month. The Call Committee will review the information after it arrives and decide which Pastors to interview. An application for a Seminary Graduate to be placed at the church has also been submitted. Both paths can be followed at the same time. A Voter's Meeting should be schedule in March to decide how to proceed. Watch for more information. Thanks to Tim Manthei for continuing to lead the Call Committee.

**THE STORY** Bible Study and videos concludes on Sunday, the 26<sup>th</sup>.

**OPEN ARM DAYCARE** is hiring Part time staff, especially for the afternoons, and a teacher for Toddlers. Contact Director Greta Bower for more information or to give her a recommendation.

**SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES AT HAMPTON MANOR** assisted living facility on Tyler Road. Deacon Dave Ferber has been leading a Bible study every other Wednesday. Daycare students have been invited to visit on a somewhat regular basis. Director Greta Bower is looking for volunteers interested in driving 4 and 5 year old children and visiting with the residents. Contact Greta for more information. Some residents at Hampton Manor are looking for people who would be willing to play Euchre with them. Contact Deacon Dave for more information.

### **You are invited to a LADIES NIGHT SWAP PARTY!**

**When:** Feb 21st      **Time:** 7:00-9:00 pm      **Where:** Open Arms Lutheran Church and Daycare  
**What is it:** A swap party is a gathering where participants exchange unwanted items like clothing, accessories, home decor, and shoes! It's a fun and engaging way to refresh your wardrobe and enhance your home decor without any cost. Plus, it promotes eco-friendliness and encourages sustainable practices.

**What to bring:**

Gently Used Items You No Longer Need! We welcome the following categories:

Clothing	Accessories	Kitchen Goods
Shoes	Home Décor	

Please bring an appetizer or drink to share!

Friends! Swap parties are much more enjoyable with plenty of items and friends!

Contact Noel Gee with any questions! ([Noel.Granger16@gmail.com](mailto:Noel.Granger16@gmail.com))

### **TEAM TIGER UPDATE** (From Dana and Brandon Underwood)

THE TEAM TIGER PROGRAM is going to open up backpacks to the 3rd and 4th graders next week. We don't anticipate more than 20 to 30 students. When this program was initially approved, we anticipated approximately 250 students. We currently have 58 students.

We have received enough food donations that we have not had to spend hardly any of the money we have raised until Thanksgiving because we decided to give each of these families a turkey and other fresh items. For Christmas, we received a large donation that paid for the majority of the food that was given to families. We anticipate that we will continue receiving a large number of food donations throughout the year. The Senior Center's donation alone fills approximately 20 backpacks. Tyler Elementary is currently doing another food drive for us and we anticipate at least two or three more food drives before the end of the school year. We also continue to receive quite a few donations from the community.

We currently have approximately \$13,000 in the Team Tigers account. We won a grant through the District for \$5,000. We are still waiting for that money to come in. Once it does, that will bring our bank balance to approximately \$18,000. We will also be sending donation request letters to local businesses within the next several weeks. We were very successful with sending out donation letters in 2024. We have also had a lot of success with placing an ad in The Independent monthly.

Volunteers:

We have talked with all of our packers and they're all on board with the additional number of backpacks. None of our deliverers have an issue with the number of backpacks. It's also not a problem for those picking up backpacks.

Thanks to Dana and Brandon for coordinating TEAM TIGER and for all the individuals and businesses who donate food and the volunteers who make the program work!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o\\_xOMNiH7\\_w&list=PLyqFOkxicbM17Z7Z0NvGMTmLv3DCk8Kt](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o_xOMNiH7_w&list=PLyqFOkxicbM17Z7Z0NvGMTmLv3DCk8Kt) **WORSHIP MUSIC PLAY LIST LINK**

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