



DECEMBER ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT OPEN ARMS

“Movies Have Magic ... Christmas is a Miracle”

These services will use Christmas movies to introduce and discuss what is Christmas is all about.

- “A Christmas Carol”* ... Past Forgiven. Present Purpose. Future Fulfilled. Dec. 8th
- “The Preacher’s Wife”* ... Remember What Christmas Is All About Dec. 15th
- “How the Grinch Stole Christmas”*... Taking Back Christmas Dec. 22nd
- Christmas Eve Service* ... Celebrating the Miracle of Christmas Dec. 24th 6:00 PM

THE BELLEVILLE CHRISTMAS PARADE is Saturday, December 7th. You are invited to walk in the parade with other people from Open Arms.

THANKS TO SARA CONRY and her team for decorating the church for the Christmas Season.

ANGEL TREE gifts need to be returned by Sunday, Dec. 15th.

SECRET SANTA Gift Exchange will be after church on December 15th.

MEN’S BIBLE STUDY. Because Deacon Dave will be representing Open Arms at the Circuit Forum on December 17th, the Men’s Bible Study for that day has been cancelled. Their next session is scheduled for Tuesday, January 21, 2025, 6:30 pm, in The Upper Room. They will begin discussing the DVD titled; “Anxious for Nothing.” Please contact Deacon Dave if you have any questions.

UPCOMING DECEMBER SPECIAL EVENTS & SERVICES

- 7th, Belleville Christmas Parade, 5:00 PM
- 12th, Daycare Christmas Program, 6:30
- 15th, Secret Santa Reveal Party
- 15th, Deadline to return Angel Tree gifts
- 18th, Meal Time Cookie Decorating 5:00 – 6:00 PM
- 24th, Christmas Eve Service, 6:00 PM

TEAM TIGER CHIRSTMAS DINNERS WISH LIST:

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|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Corn syrup | Turkey gravy | Cranberry sauce |
| Buttermilk biscuits | Pumpkin pie spice | |
| Durkee onions | Evaporated milk | |

TEAM TIGERS BACKPACK NEEDS

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|--|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Spaghetti | Donettes (mini donuts) | Jelly (no glass jars please) |
| Spaghetti sauce (no glass jars please) | Chex mix | Pepperoni |
| Go go squeeze applesauce | Beef sticks and/or jerky | Taco kits |
| Go go squeeze yogurt | Pancake mix | |
| | Pancake syrup | |

MEAL TIME DECEMBER 18TH will be “Cookie Decorating!” Items needed are:

10 Dozen Sugar Cookies	Sprinkles (assorted)	Mini Marshmallows
Frosting (chocolate and vanilla)	Decorating Sugars	Parchment Paper
	Mini M&Ms	

We would LOVE to borrow some flat cookie sheets for work spaces if available. Please LABEL the bottom with a piece of masking tape and your family name on it so it can be returned! **They will NOT be placed in the oven.** Volunteers are always welcome!

SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT BEFORE THE END OF 2024

God has blessed Open Arms in many ways with the increased attendance, growing membership, and opportunities to help and serve other people. Open Arms is in the process of Calling the next Pastor. There are number of ways you can help support and be a part of the growing Open Arms ministry.

1. Pray
2. Get Involved
3. Provide Financial support.

Even though worship attendance has almost doubled in three years, there has only been a small increase in offerings. Donations have to grow in 2025 to support the next pastor. You also have the opportunity to support members through the Agape Fund, staff members through the Staff Emergency Fund, and Tyler School children through the Team Tigers project.

You can make a donation by going to the church website and clicking on the Online Offering button, placing your donation in the offering plate in the back of the church on Sunday, or mailing you donation to the church. Thanks to all of you for your support of the Open Arms ministry. Together we are making a difference in the greater Belleville area and helping people in the name of Jesus.

OPEN ARMS CALL PROCESS UPDATE:

After the last Call to Open Arms was declined, the Call Committee decided to take a short brake through the end of 2024. The Michigan District has been asked to provide Open Arms with a new Call List in early January. The Call Committee is also in the process of submitting an application for a seminary graduate. This is the only opportunity to apply for the spring placement. Applying for a seminary graduate does not mean one will be assigned to the church. Open Arms can pursue both options at the same time or go with only one if that decision is made.

OPEN ARMS DAYCARE PRE-K TEACHER, Mildred Moje-Chico, has written the children’s book, “Bob the Gingerbread Man.” Congratulations Mildred. The book is available for purchase on Amazon.

OPEN ARM DAYCARE is hiring a Preschool Lead Teacher and Part time staff, especially for the afternoons. Ask Director Greta Bower for more information or to give her a recommendation.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o_xOMNiH7_w&list=PLyqFOkxicbM17Z7Z0NvGMTmLv3DCk8Kt **WORSHIP MUSIC PLAY LIST LINK**



Thank you to all
the families who
are participating
in our Angel
Tree!

REMINDERS

*Return wrapped gifts to
church no later than
DECEMBER 15th*

*Make sure gifts are marked
with the family tags*

**Thank you again!
Merry Christmas!**

Open Arms Lutheran Church & Day Care

Pastor Larry Courson

Daycare Director Greta Bower

Open Arms Website

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