One Way
Outreach of the United Methodist Churches of Wells and Kiester, Minnesota

JULY 2020

Growing in love of God and neighbor, Reaching new people, and Healing a broken world.

In-Person Church
Starts July 5 at both Wells & Kiester Campuses.
Wells—9:00 am  Kiester—10:30
We’ll worship outside, weather permitting, or inside if not.
See page 7 for important info.

JULY 2020
Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am writing this only a few days after the longest day of the year - the summer solstice - which saw the sun still out after 9pm. It is something that I personally really like. There is nothing like a warm summer sun to get you feeling like moving around and enjoying the day.

The promise of spring has given way to the life abundant of summer, which I have always felt is God’s cosmic replaying of the events of Easter. The cold and dark of Good Friday leads to the warmth and sun of the garden on Easter morning, when God’s final word on death and sin is spoken in the newly resurrected Lord. I think it is, for the careful observer, another way in which the drama of God’s salvation is shown to us.

Though this summer seems a bit different as we see so much going on in the world, and for many, the warm summer sun doesn’t lift their spirits in the way it may have on other summer days. We have a pandemic, loss of jobs, uncertainty, and protests. These things have shaken our nation and we may never go back to the way things were before for a long time, if ever. Some of this may lead to better things, while others may be very detrimental to the lives of the people of our great nation. In our own Church we have seen something, that until March of this year, no one thought possible: a stoppage of our usual Sunday services and a move to being online only. I know this has been very hard for many of you and not all of you may agree, but my guiding principle has been to do no harm as best I can. The lockdown may be coming to an end at least, and the question for the country and our church is going to be much the same, and that is what will things be like going forward? I hope all of you have taken a moment to reflect on our current time and situation, as I hope all of the people of the country will do as well, as we think about the events on the TV and the suffering of our fellow man who God assures us is worthy of love just as we are. Who will we be? Is our goal to just go back to business as usual? To quote Albert Outler, “Business as usual will simply not get our business done”.

We stand at a very tumultuous time in history. Our country and even our United Methodist Church stand at a crossroads and we will see where they go. One road is division and disharmony, and the other leads to a much harder task of finding out how we can fulfill the prayer of our Lord when he prayed we would be one as he is one with the father. I believe this was not just the Church but all humanity. In our local setting we must ask ourselves how can we pull closer and more represent this unity and the love that took our Lord to the cross and back to save us even as were are yet sinners. Let us come back stronger and even more attentive to the still small voice. Let us step aside and let our Savior step into the center of the church and our lives.

“I will give them a heart to know Me, for I am the LORD; and they will be My people, and I will be their God, for they will return to Me with their whole heart.”

Jeremiah 24:7

In the hope of the our Lord eternal,

~ Pastor
OPEN DOORS UMC COVID-19 RE-OPEN PLAN

All churches that decide to re-gather in person need to write and submit a plan to re-open. Below is the plan for Open Doors as written by Pastor Chris Leistra, approved by the District Superintendent, and presented to the Ad Council on June 25.

Three Rules for Church Life During Covid-19

We are a people that do no harm.
We practice physical distancing to minimize harm to others, especially the vulnerable.

We are a people that do all the good we can.
We care for the spiritual and physical needs of our neighbors.

We are a people that stay in love with God.
When we love God through prayer, praise, and worship, we grow in love of our neighbor.
Love of God and love of neighbor are inseparable.

ORANGE PHASE

Worship and Life Events
• We will be worshiping online and/or through drive-up worship services, which is when people gather in a parking lot without ever leaving their vehicles and with each vehicle must be at least six feet away from others.
• Outdoor worship services will adhere to strict social distancing (six feet on every side of each person is maintained) and attendees wear masks. The state permits no more than 25 percent of a church’s building capacity to meet outside, and we recommend keeping your numbers smaller than that out of an over-abundance of caution
• Online worship can be done from the church building safely by having no more than 10 people involved following social distancing guidelines.
• In-person weddings and funerals may be conducted provided no more than 10 people are gathered indoors and those present follow social distancing guidelines and remain six feet apart from one another. These gatherings are safest outdoors and should be live streamed whenever possible to allow greater participation.

Staff and Building Operations
• Church staff should work from home as much as possible. Every person who must be in the office should wear a mask at all times and engage in frequent hand-washing; staff

(Continued on next page.)
should stagger schedules as much as possible so that multiple people are not in the office at the same time for long periods.

- The custodian will disinfect all surfaces that might have been touched by the public after the service as soon as is reasonable.
- The Church will be closed to the public to protect both staff and public.

**YELLOW PHASE – PHASE 1**

**Worship and Building Operations**

This will start first week of July in accordance with the Governor’s orders to allow for 50% capacity and the start of the yellow phase for the conference.

- Custodians will disinfect all surfaces that might have been touched by the public after the service as soon as is reasonable.
- The office be open with limited hours with social distancing and with the expectation that working from home is still encouraged. The public will be asked to wear masks and social distance as well. Appointments to meet with staff whenever possible will be requested. Staff will wear masks unless they are alone in their office.
- Passing the peace will be suspended.
- Singing will only be done by the praise band and from a safe distance from congregation. No congregational hymns, but congregants may participate by humming if they like.
- Communion will be done in pre-packaged containers and sent home with the people. We will offer the opportunity for folks to take extra to extend the table to family members who are in at-risk categories.
- All people who fall under the CDC’s guidelines for being at risk will be asked to worship from home via our online services.
- There will be no coffee time, small groups, or any similar gatherings offered other than worship. (These will return at Phase 3/Green Phase). We suggest using Zoom for all meetings, or use social distancing and masks.
- We will be taking measures in the sanctuary and Hospitality Room to make sure we are following social distancing best practices. We will encourage the use of masks. We will be having seating set-up in the Hospitality Room behind the sanctuary for people who don’t feel comfortable in the sanctuary proper.
- Ushers will dismiss people and hold doors open for them so that we don’t bunch up on the way out.
- Some items such as hymnals will be removed from the sanctuary until Phase 2/Blue Phase.
- If anyone is feeling sick, they will be asked to stay home until they are feeling better, especially if the symptoms are in the listed CDC guidelines for Corvid-19.
- We request that everyone use face masks.

**NOTE** – Outside worship, if held, will still require social distancing until Phase 3/Green Phase, but will allow for singing, and masks will be optional.
BLUE PHASE – PHASE 2

Worship and Building Operations
(Some things from Phase 1/Yellow Phase may still also be necessary depending on how we see the plan going.)

- Office hours will go back to normal for all employees, and we will have selected times for the office to be open to the public.
- People in at-risk groups will be encouraged to begin to come back as they are comfortable in doing so. The coffee room will be exclusive for them to sit in, and they will be given the opportunity to leave the church first after service for their safety.
- We will move to having limited congregational singing with social distancing in place.
- Passing the peace will still be suspended.
- Communion will still be taken home to consume.

GREEN PHASE – PHASE 3

Worship and Building Operations

This is the final phase and we will be lifting all of the rules from the first and second phases. An event will be held to celebrate. It is important to note that this phase is likely to be a long time from now, possibly even a year or more, and will begin only when we have good information that the outbreak is over and done. Some of these rules may seem to be overly cautious, and there have been other church communities who will ignore the threat - some of whom have lived to regret it - however I intend to do as much as possible to keep our people safe. Please know that what we are doing here is only being done because your church family cares deeply about you and your family’s safety.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Small groups
Most small group and fellowship will not be able to be held until Phase 3/Green Phase. This may mean it will be a long time until it is possible. We understand this is an important social aspect of life for many, but we need to make sure we are safe before starting our groups again. Things such as Pioneer Club, youth group, and confirmation will follow what the school does in closing and being online. Some that can go to online meetings will be encouraged to do so.

Volunteers
Due to safety issues, we will be limiting all volunteer activities until we get to Phase 3/Green Phase. We will be unable to have the nursery open, no coffee time, social distancing in the booth, and no cross bearer. There will be no greeters because of space and to limit contact. With limited people who can work in the booth, there will likely be Sundays where we will be using bulletins only, and this would start at Phase 2/Blue Phase.

Communion, in the pre-packaged containers will be set out by Wednesday so that it will be ready for Sunday, when people will be asked to take it with them to their homes to consume. Some things that are seasonal, we will look at in the fall depending on the phase.

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we are in at that time. One usher will be asked to open the doors so that people can leave with limited touching of the doors.

**Outside groups and activities**
Outside groups will be allowed to meet as long as they follow CDC guidelines and may have to sign a waiver that states they will meet the guidelines, and ODUMC waives any legal responsibility.

Weddings will follow CDC guidelines for social distancing and for how many people can gather. We will advise but not require people to wait and schedule after Phase 3/Green Phase if possible.

Funerals will be in conjunction with the local funeral home to advise on proper safety measures, and the same guidelines/restictions will be in place as there is for worship for the current phase.

**Online worship**
Online worship will be something we will be doing from now on and we will look to enhance the experience by upgrading our A/V capabilities and try some new things with engaging people virtually.

*Any staff that feels sick or thinks they have Covid-19 will be asked to stay home and quarantine for 14 days. Non-staff will also be asked to stay home and worship online if they have any symptoms related to Covid-19.*

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**JULY OFFICE HOURS**
Pastor Chris: 920-765-3665
Mondays 10:00-12:00 and 2:00-4:00pm
Wednesdays 2:00-4:00 OR by appointment

Other staff generally still working from home, or by appt.
Sarah Hankerson 507-317-4322
Sandy Youngblom 507-525-2401
Jan Johanson 507-553-5077
LaMar Johnson 507-420-4588

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**July Bible Readings**
- July 5: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
- July 12: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
- July 19: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
- July 26: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

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For related material and the Conference Re-Gathering Plan for Churches, go to https://www.minnesotaumc.org/covid-19-preparedness
OUR CHURCH IS RE-OPENING!

BEGINNING JULY 5
AND EVERY SUNDAY AFTER UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

Worship outside on the lawn!
In case of bad weather, we will go inside the church.

In Wells: 9:00 am
In Kiester: 10:30 am

- Bring your own lawn chair or sit in your car.
- Please reserve the parking spaces closest to the lawn for those who will be staying in their car.
- Face masks recommended outside, REQUIRED inside. Masks will be available if you don’t have one.
- Maintain 6-ft. distancing between others or between family units. Be considerate of others and don’t crowd into their space.
- When outside, feel free to sing along with the song leaders. If inside, there will be no congregational singing, but you may hum.
- Try to keep from touching surfaces. Wash your hands often or use hand sanitizer.
- If worshiping inside, congregation will be ushered out row by row. Please exit the building immediately and do not linger inside to visit.
- The offering plate will not be passed, but there will be a stationary collection spot for you to place your offering in. E-giving is still a very good option.
- There will be no coffee time.
- There will be no nursery available.
- If you are not feeling well, please stay home and worship with us online.
OUR CHURCH IS RE-OPENING

WE WERE NEVER CLOSED, BUT WE ARE EXCITED TO GATHER AGAIN.

HERE ARE SOME SAFETY GUIDELINES →

- PLEASE WEAR A FACE MASK
  WHILE WITHIN INDOOR AREAS

- PLEASE MAINTAIN SAFE SOCIAL DISTANCE
  NO HANDSHAKES. NO HIGH FIVES. NO HUGS. NO TOUCHING.

- STAY HOME IF YOU’RE SICK
  YOU CAN WORSHIP WITH US ONLINE

- PLEASE WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN
  WITH SOAP & WATER OR HAND SANITIZER
Summer Singing

We’re all happy to be back to church starting this Sunday, July 5th! It will not be the same as what we are used to, however.

The plan is to worship outside every Sunday, weather permitting. When rain or other weather events make this too difficult, we will move indoors, where the sanctuary has been prepared for distance seating.

Congregational singing is not really part of the plan, because of the added risk it presents. There will be no hymnals or lyric sheets. Familiar songs that we’ve sung many times before will be part of the service, so you may know the words, and as long as we’re outside, you may sing along. However, if we are worshiping inside, singing is much more risky for the spread of coronavirus because respiratory droplets can be spread over greater distances. There will be no congregational singing indoors, but you may quietly hum along.

That being said, singing is still a very important part of a worship service. And so, we will be having a group of singers who will lead communal singing outside, and replace the congregational singing inside. Singers will stand 6 feet apart from each other and at least 12 feet from anyone in the congregation. We’re asking for volunteers who love to sing to consider being part of this group. It is a week-by-week choice. Coming once does not commit you for the rest of the season.

If you would like to be a Sunday singer, please come to church at 8:15 a.m. on the Sunday you choose to sing for a run-through of the music together. We won’t need a full choir to make this work. Bring a mask, or pick one up on the way into the sanctuary. They don’t need to be worn while singing, but will be worn in-between songs, especially if we are staying inside.

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# JULY 2020 EVENTS CALENDAR

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**The one who calls you is faithful.**

- **1** God, may the Holy Spirit serve as a catalyst to move us into action.
- **2** God, guide us to live our faith by helping and supporting others.
- **3** God, enable our church to offer many ways to experience Christ.
- **4** God, show us creative ways to reach our community.
- **5** God, show us creative ways to reach our church.
- **6** God, guide us to live our faith by helping and supporting others.
- **7** God, guide us to live our faith by helping and supporting others.
- **8** God, enable our church to offer many ways to experience Christ.
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- **30** God, enable our church to offer many ways to experience Christ.
- **31** God, enable our church to offer many ways to experience Christ.
We have ordered two new video cameras and a new computer-based video control system that will allow us to live stream our worship service directly to the internet and record at the same time with much better audio and visual quality. Hopefully we will have it all installed and ready to test by August.

We’re looking for people willing to learn the new video production and streaming software called vMix. If you’re interested in learning and being part of our Tech Team, let Sarah Hankerson know. We’ll get you lined up for training and give you a slot on the Sunday schedule. Check out the website www.vmix.com to learn more about it and view an introduction training video.

During this StaySafeMN period, social distancing is so important, but impossible while working in the close quarters of the booth. So, ideally, we’re looking for a family unit of three people who could run the video cameras, sound board, and projection, and trade off with the Healey’s and Hankerson’s until we are more free to mingle.

Online church is here to stay and this new streaming software will give us professional quality videos that will reach more people. Won’t you join our Tech team? Help us out!

Now that we’re back to church again, it’s time to catch up on your giving! Summer normally sees a drop in giving. Please keep supporting your church!

Use any one of these options: Sunday offering, mail, drop-off slot in Wells’ church door, GivePlus mobile app, or online at www.opendoorsumc.org. Contact Sarah Hankerson if you have questions about e-giving.

Face Mask Swap

When we begin meeting together as a church this July, we will all need to be wearing a mask. It’ll be recommended when we’re outside, but required when we’re inside.

There are some washable, reusable, cloth masks in the Face Mask Swap tub by the red Tiny Food Pantry at the NW corner of Open Doors church in Wells. (Thanks to Ruth Roesler for the large supply!) These are free for anyone who needs one – church members and community people alike.

If you are a sewer and would like to add to the supply, please do! Place each individual mask in a sandwich baggie.

Washable cloth masks and disposable masks will be available at the first outdoor service on July 5!
Thank You for the Freezer Meals!

In May, a few gals put together freezer meals and assembled goody bags to give out to people to spread a little love during the lonely Shelter In-Place period. This was one of the “Serve Day” projects that we weren’t able to do in March.

We received many thank you notes and here are some of the remarks:

It is so great to be remembered by our church family. Thanks so much for the delicious freezer meals. We are enjoying them and missing all of you.

Thank you so much for the gift of food delivered by Pastor Chris. It was a very nice surprise and I enjoyed it so much Your thoughts mean so much especially when we are isolated as we are.

Sometimes simple words say it best. Your kindness touched my heart. Thank you so very much. I will surely enjoy the good food. Had such a good time visiting with Sabrina.

Many thanks for all the goodies, so delicious, so many meals, you ladies went to so much work. I can’t thank you enough. It was a tear-jerker. I miss not seeing everyone and getting together...hope it won’t be long to be back in Church.

Just a short note to say THANK YOU lady’s for being so kind. I’ve always said we have wonderful people in Wells. Now I know some of them real well. We count our blessing each day. The hot dishes were great, cookies were also great. Job well done girls.
Litany of Lament

We hear your prophet crying, O God, “Let justice roll down like water . . .”
But it is not justice we see flowing; it is the blood of black men and women.

**Peace without justice is neither peace nor justice.**

It is not justice we see flowing; it is the tears of a mother who quakes with fear when her son goes out the front door.

**Peace without justice is neither peace nor justice.**

It is not justice we see flowing; it is clouds of tear gas rolling down the streets where young people cry out the names of the murdered.

**Peace without justice is neither peace nor justice.**

It is not justice we see flowing; it is the sweat of those fighting for their lives from two deadly viruses: the pandemic and racism. Both are deadly. Only one has any hope for a vaccine.

**Peace without justice is neither peace nor justice.**

It is not justice we see flowing; it is a raging river that separates those of us oblivious to our privilege from those denied their basic human dignity.

**Peace without justice is neither peace nor justice.**

God, we want to stop that river. We want to quell those tears. We want the violence to cease. And so we turn to you, confessing what we know to be true:

**Peace without justice is neither peace nor justice.**

There can be no choice between peace and justice. They must live together or die together. We cannot turn our back on hatred. Open our hearts to hear your call. Give us the strength to be instruments of peace and justice right here, right now.

**For peace without justice is neither peace nor justice.**

God, we come to you in pain, but also in trust. Hear the cry of our hearts.

“Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.”

Amen.

*Elizabeth S. Moore, O.S.L. Abbot, the Order of Saint Luke, June 4, 2020*

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**Did you know . . .**

**UMCOR responds early to coronavirus crisis.**

When COVID-19 was first identified in Wuhan, China, the world was unaware of the disaster that would unfold. To support the efforts of local partners there, UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) issued an emergency grant to Amity Foundation in Nanjing. The grant immediately enabled the distribution of equipment to protect beleaguered medical providers. As the novel coronavirus spread, UMCOR staff collaborated with colleagues in Global Health to develop training materials on prevention for partners in Africa and the Philippines where health care systems are not prepared to respond to such a medical catastrophe.

Even as you shelter in place, you can be there for others. Give to the new **UMCOR COVID-19 Response** fund to equip Methodist partners in the US and around the world to assist our most vulnerable populations. [www.umcor.org](http://www.umcor.org)
Camp Connections: Visit camp virtually this summer!

Even though we can’t physically be together at camp this summer, you can still stay connected virtually to some of your favorite parts of camp! Every day, the Camp Minnesota Facebook page has a daily “Camp Connection” to bring you some of your favorite places and activities at camp. Join camp staff as they hike beautiful trails, feed the camp goats, visit the gold mine, go kayaking, swing in the hammocks, make s’mores, zoom down the zip line, sing songs around the campfire, worship, and SO MUCH more! New adventures posted for one more week. Visit Camp Minnesota Facebook page

Nuts and Bolts for Laity
August 7-8 Virtual Workshop

Are you interested in expanding your personal ministry beyond the pews? This virtual workshop looks into the various ways Laity can engage in ministry within their church community. Members of the Minnesota Annual Conference Lay Ministries Team share insights on: ministry during the COVID-19 pandemic, care ministry, technology, public speaking, our history as Methodist laity, reaching out to young people and much more

Workshop times: Friday, August 7, 2020, 6:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m. and Saturday, August 8, 9:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

In addition to group conversations, each participant will have the opportunity to delve deeper by attending two of three breakout groups (make your selection during registration).

Holy Listening – Listening: both wholly and holy. Discover your own level of listening and learn how to listen completely, totally-wholly. Learn also how holy listening shares the love and grace of Christ. This session will focus on the difference between a social visit and a caring visit in which listening, both wholly and holy, is a key element.

Spiritual Care During Difficult Times – How do you serve others during these challenging times? Explore how you can maintain ministries in nursing homes and independent living centers during lock downs, how to utilize technology like Zoom, Skype and other platforms to further ministries, and how to use personal protection to care for others, keep them safe and visit as they’re isolated in their homes.

Standing in for Christ – This session will give you valuable information on helping those who are facing end of life issues and their families who are impacted. Learn about serving those in hospice, helping prepare for and conduct funerals, including putting together bulletins as a family keepsake, and assisting at the grave site. Plus tips on how to read your audience and prepare children for what’s happening during these end-of-life stages.

Connection information will be sent to registrants before sessions.
Register at https://www.minnesotaumc.org/eventdetail/14024617 Deadline August 5.
Cost: Workshop is $5 (download materials); workshop and printed materials is $22; workshop and materials in binder is $30
Questions? Contact Terry Sullivan at 218-770-9573 or tntdlake@ptel.com
CONTAGION 2020 Summer Mission Trip
“Spreading God’s love...no masks or sanitizer required!”

We Love because He first loved us!
1 John 4:19

Top: Singing to residents at Parkview. Middle left & right: Celebrating Dean Holst’s 90 birthday with him and Priscilla. Bottom left: Making tie blankets for the REACH center for homeless teens in Mankato. Right: washing windows for Reine Klein.
Our summer mission trip was located in Wells and Kiester this year. Because of Covid-19, our trip to Urban Plunge in Des Moines was canceled. Our group was beyond blessed to love on our community. We had a great group of adults and youth from several different churches spreading the love of God by doing many projects for others.

The many things we did were: washing outside of windows, small paint project, pulling weeds, cutting tree limbs and cutting down small trees, trimming bushes, cementing in poles for a new fence, cleaning cutters, celebrating two birthdays with cupcakes, posters, cards and happy birthday song, making treats and freezer meals for people, making tie blankets for teens at the REACH Center, assembling gift bags for cancer treatment patients and boxes for the military. We made 350 R.A.K. bags and delivered to all the policemen and women in our county, two fire stations, our ambulance garage, and to people around Kiester and Wells. The last day we were able to visit The Shepherd’s Inn and Parkview nursing home residents outside, with our masks on, and sang songs with them. What a joy to see our dear friends again!!

God has truly blessed us this past week. It has been a long season of being confined to the inside. It was fun to safely love on others and see how the love of God was working in our hearts, as well as the people we connected with!
Church Leadership Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the church leadership meetings are published in the OneWay. They will be subject to approval at the next month’s meeting. Meeting packets of Open Doors UMC are located on the literature table (W&K) and are available for taking.

Ministry Council Minutes – June 8, 2020, 6:30 pm

Members present: Karen Stenzel, Pastor Chris, Jan Johanson, Sherry Asmus, and Sarah Hankerson. Location: Zoom video.

Karen opened with devotions.

Minutes: M2P Sherry/Jan to approve the minutes of 5/11/20 as printed.

Evaluate/Old Business: Parade – Fun for the eight cars who were in it. Good to get out into the community and appreciated by those we saw. Would have liked more people to participate. Freezer Meals Serve Day Project – very much appreciated by recipients and the visit was especially nice. Tiny Food Pantry/Prayer Box/Face Mask Swap – Food is getting used. There is a demand for more face masks. Graduate Recognition – gifts were delivered to each of the three graduates by Sandy.

NEW/REVIEW – UPCOMING:

Drive-up Worship: Pr. Chris will check out site this week. Sarah has the form filled out to request use of the school parking lot for June 21, rain date June 28. It will be allowed to get out of car and sit on lawn chair. Will still do recording. Karen will check with Don about lending us his enclosed trailer for storing equipment overnight.

Re-opening Worship: Pastor has rewritten his plan for reopening in accordance with the Governor’s recent relaxing of the restrictions. Looking at the first Sunday in July as the re-opening of in-person worship. This week, the Conference has moved into the Yellow Phase. No indication of when we will go to the Blue Phase. Final draft coming soon. Online worship will continue. Pastor will set up a sanitizing schedule with LaMar. Praise Team needs to be 12 feet from people. No congregational singing. We are short of projectionists. If no projectionist on a Sunday, we will use bulletins. 1 or 2 people will take attendance rather than passing the Friendship Folders.

Small Group: Pastor has had some technical difficulties. Had to skip last Saturday. Hasn’t caught on real good. See how July goes, may start up the other small group with Zoom.

Worship Road Map: “The Prodigal God” sermon series goes through June 28. Something new in July – lectionary? July 5 will be first Sunday back. Will raise US flag if we can get two people to raise it.

Summer Mission Trip: Sandy has been working on details for the at-home mission trip June 15-19.

Next meeting: Monday, July 13, 2020, 6:30 pm – in person

Recorded by Sarah Hankerson

Administrative Council Vote – June 13, 2020

On June 10, Pastor Chris sent out an email to Ad Council members with a proposal for upgrading our A/V equipment so that we are better equipped to do virtual worship. This

(Continued on next page.)
Meeting Minutes (continued from page 18)

would be for replacing the video control console in the booth, the two video cameras, improving the internet connectivity in the sanctuary, and the wireless microphones in the sanctuary and basement, which, because of the FCC frequency they are assigned to, will be illegal to use as of July 1. What this new system will do is greatly improve the sound and image quality of our online worship and let us record and stream on one set of equipment simultaneously, rather than use two sets of equipment like we are now. Our in-house projection system would not be effected, but we do need to replace the projection laptop, so we would also like to have approved an additional $1000 to purchase a new laptop.

By June 13, a majority of the Ad Council replied, all voting YES, and so the project was approved. Total equipment and labor comes up to around $19,000. The Finance Team will now meet to determine how is should be paid.

Administrative Council Minutes – June 25, 2020, 6:30 pm

On Monday, June 25, 2020, the Ad Council of Open Doors UMC met via Zoom video conference. Attending were Steve Burns, Sherry Asmus, Don Nickel, Pat Coy, Sarah Hankerson, Pastor Chris Leistra, Scott Johnson.

Chairman Steve Burns called the meeting to order and read devotions from the book Jesus Calling.

Pastor Chris talked about re-opening in-person worship. Currently, the Conference is in the Yellow Phase and we will move to the yellow phase in July. We’ll start on July 5 with worship on the lawn outside. People should bring chairs or sit in their cars. Same in Kiester. Communion on the 5th with pre-packaged elements that people will take home with them. In case of bad weather, we will go inside. Pastor Chris will write an addendum to his re-opening plan to add outdoor worship services and funerals to the yellow phase. In-person meetings can be held during the yellow phase with social distance and masks.

Finances: Scott reported for the Finance team who had just met that evening. The team voted to use designated Memorial and Trust Funds. Mics cost $3283.41 and will be paid for from designated and undesignated Memorial funds. Video system total is $14,632.79 with $1160 being paid from designated funds in the Memorial account and the remaining being requested from the Trust Fund. The new laptop for projection was not discussed at the Finance meeting. Scott motioned, Pat seconded, that we go ahead and purchase a laptop and figure out how to pay for it later. Reports show giving is down for June. There should be no problems with complying with the requirements for the PPP loan (Payroll Protection Plan). Apportionments are way behind. Roughly $41,000 in checking.

Trustees: Did not meet tonight as planned. Have a possible offer on the Kiester house. A dead maple tree in the boulevard at Wells was taken down by the neighbor for free.

SPPRC: Hasn’t met yet, but will plan to meet sometime in person. Two new members to orientate.

Next meeting: July 16 in person. 6:30 pm for teams and 7:15 for Ad Council.

Recorded by Sarah Hankerson.
OPEN DOORS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WELLS CAMPUS:
(Central Office) 595 1st Ave SW, Wells, MN 56097
Office Phone: 507-553-5453 Fax: 507-553-6370
E-mail: opendoorsumc@bevcomm.net  Web Site: opendoorsumc.org
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.

KIESTER CAMPUS:
116 North 3rd St., Kiester, MN 56051
Phone: 507-294-3300
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

STAFF
Ministers ........................................ People of the Congregation
Pastor ............................................ Rev. Christopher Leistra
Office Manager ................................. Sarah Hankerson
Music Ministries Coordinator .............. Jan Johanson
Youth & Family Ministries Coordinator .... Sandy Youngblom
Custodians ....................... LaMar Johnson (Wells); Priscilla Holst (Kiester)

In this issue:
Pastor’s Message ......................................... 2
Open Doors COVID-19 Re-Open Plan .... 3-6
Church is Re-Opening! ......................... 7
Re-Opening Safety Guidelines .............. 8
Summer Singing / Deaths ..................... 9
July Events Calendar ......................... 10
July Prayer Calendar ......................... 11
Join the Tech Team / Face Masks .......... 12
Thank You / UMW Reading Program .... 13
Litany of Lament / UMCOR ................. 14
Camp Connections / Nuts & Bolts for Laity .. 15
Contagion 2020 Mission Trip .............. 16-17
Church Leadership Meeting Minutes ...... 18-19

The OneWay is a monthly newsletter for members and friends of Open Doors United Methodist Church.

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