



**OPEN DOORS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**WELLS CAMPUS**

595 1st Ave SW, Wells, MN 56097  
507-553-5453  
Worship: 9:00 am

**KIESTER CAMPUS**

116 N. 3rd St., Kiester, MN 56051  
507-294-3300  
Worship: 10:30 am

**Pastor:** Rev. Christopher Leistra | Cell Phone: 920-765-3665 | Email: [pastorumc@bevcomm.net](mailto:pastorumc@bevcomm.net)  
**Central Office:** 507-553-5453 | [opendoorsumc@bevcomm.net](mailto:opendoorsumc@bevcomm.net) | Web Site: [www.opendoorsumc.org](http://www.opendoorsumc.org)

September 19, 2021 – Pentecost 17

**Please turn off or silence your cell phone.**

(\* indicates when to stand. You may remain seated if standing creates a problem for you.)

*God, nourish me with the living water of your Son Jesus,  
that I may not wither but may bear fruit to feed my neighbors with justice and love.*

**– Gathering in Faith –**

*Greeting & Announcements*

\* *Call to Worship and Praise*

Reader 1: Come on everybody!

Reader 2: Everybody means you.

**ALL: Let’s praise, praise, praise, praise, praise, praise, praise, praise the Lord!**

**Song “Let’s Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord”**

**All Readers: Who’s gonna praise the Lord today?**

Reader 1: I’m gonna praise the Lord today?

Reader 2: With my whole heart.

Reader 1: With my whole mind.

Reader 2: With my whole self.

Reader 1: With all the strength that I have.

**ALL: Who’s gonna praise the Lord today?**

Reader 1: I’m gonna praise the Lord today.

Reader 2: In front of friends.

Reader 1: In front of family.

Reader 2: In front of preachers and Sunday School teachers.

**ALL: Now everybody praise the Lord. Let everybody praise our Lord.**

**Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.**

**Song “Let’s Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord”**

**Song “He Has Made Me Glad”**

*Opportunities to Serve*

*Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer*

**– Hearing Our Faith Story –**

*Scripture Reading* James 3:13-4:3, 7-8 (NRSV)

*Song* “The Power of Your Love” Praise Team

\* *Gospel Reading* Mark 9:30-37 (NRSV)

*One: The Word of God for the people of God. All: Thanks be to God.*

*Sermon* “The Greatest of All Had the Heart of a Servant” Pastor Chris Leistra

*Message Response* “Jesus Loves Me”

**– Stewards of Faith –**

*Giving with a Thankful Heart*

Offering may be placed in the green chest at this time or as you leave. *Thank you!*

*Prayer of Thanksgiving*

**– Sending Forth –**

\* *Benediction*

\* *Hymn of Going Forth*      “They’ll Know We Are Christians”

\* *Postlude – The Church Scatters for Ministry . . .*

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**Keep in your prayers this week:** Farmers as they begin the year’s harvest. All those effected by Hurricanes Henri and Ida; the people of Afghanistan and Haiti. The family of Sue Rucker; Carol Tibodeau on the loss of her son, Todd Anderson from Covid. Those fighting cancer and other serious illnesses: Joan Christian, Michelle Viesselman (Kent & Diane’s daughter-in-law), Sue Schuster, Alan Yokiel, Bebo Getchell. Our missionaries Gordon & Ardell Graner as they finish out their final month as missionaries. Those in the military and their families; and all others dealing with loss, poor health, pain, or family crisis.

**Announcements**

**Rally Day is Today!** Isn’t it great to be TOGETHER again! We’re rolling out new Open Doors t-shirts and we’ll be giving some away free today! You could be a lucky winner! After worship, we’ll pack up and move to Thompson Park for lunch and organize a corn hole tournament, and for the more energetic, 9-square. “Rally” together with the Open Doors Family and have some fun as we move into Fall!

- 10:30 a.m. – Joint church service on the lawn in Wells
- 12:00 p.m. – Picnic lunch at the shelter in Thompson Park
- 1:00 p.m. – Games: 9-Square, bean bags, and maybe a game of kickball

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**New Worship Schedule Beginning Next Sunday, September 26!**

<u>Kiester</u> Worship 8:00 a.m.	<u>Wells</u> Worship 9:30 a.m.
	Sunday School/Classes 10:30-11:30 a.m.

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**Confirmation is next Sunday, Sept. 26** – We will have eight young people who will be taking their confirmation vows then: Abigail Healey, Clare Kruse, Brooklyn Miller, Addison Mithun, Brennan Anderson, Hayden Chandler, Aaron Johnson, and Jady Lutteke.

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**Wednesday, Sept. 22 – Confirmation Class of 2021 meeting and class photo** promptly at 6:00. Please come a bit early and be dressed and in your gown by 6:00!

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**Wednesday, Sept. 22 – Parent/student meeting for everyone in grades 7-12** at 6:30pm in the basement. We will be discussing and planning what the future of Youth Group will look like. It is important for the continuation of our youth program for at least one parent/guardian to attend. We will be discussing and planning what the future of our Youth Group could look like. It is important for the continuation of our youth program that at least one parent/guardian attend this meeting. Anyone else who is interested in getting involved with our youth and assuring that we have a great program for them is invited as well. If the situation changes, we’ll let you know.

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**Sue Rucker’s memorial service** will be held at Open Doors UMC–Wells Campus at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, September 24. Visitation will be 4-7 pm at Bruss-Heitner Funeral Home on Sept. 23 and an hour before the service at church.

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**Pathways to Discipleship** – Everyone interested in the Sunday morning Pathways to Discipleship group that Pastor Chris will be leading should meet next Sunday morning after worship for a brief overview of what to look forward to.

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**Sunday School teachers needed!** Will you teach Sunday School this year? We’re looking for teachers for all ages of Sunday School. Please be praying for people to step up, and listen if God is nudging YOU! Contact Sarah in the church office if you’d like to volunteer or have questions. We are looking at beginning Sunday School classes on October 3. As of now, we will not be having Pioneer Clubs.

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**Jason Gray Concert for Five Sisters Project** – The Five Sisters Project is hosting a benefit concert with local artist Josh Edwards opening for International Christian Recording Artist Jason Gray to benefit their outreach to women and families in crisis. It will be held at Crossroads Church, 3402 Hoeger Lane, Albert Lea at 7pm on Sunday, October 24. Tickets can be purchased on the Five Sisters' website [www.fivesistersproject.com](http://www.fivesistersproject.com). If the concert is a sell-out, the concert can be livestreamed internationally and that could be a huge help in their fund raising efforts! So, won't you consider purchasing a ticket and enjoy an exciting night with Jason Gray! HURRY, as tickets are going fast!

This benefit event has two ticket options:

**Option 1:** Savory meal with the best seats for the concert – \$60. Dinner seating will begin at 5:30 and the meal served at 6.

**Option 2:** Concert only tickets are \$25. Concert starts at 7. Doors open at 6.

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**Urgent Call for UMCOR Cleaning Kits** – We are collecting cleaning kits (formerly called flood buckets) and other items in response to the recent natural disasters in Louisiana, Northeast, and Haiti. Today is the last day, a truck will be parked at Hope UMC in Blue Earth to pick up donations this Tuesday. A list of requested items is on our website: [opendoorsumc.org](http://opendoorsumc.org), or you can donate financially through Open Doors or online at . . .  
<https://www.midwestmission.org/donate/disaster-relief>

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**SEPTEMBER MISSION**

**Five Sisters Project**

The Five Sisters Project in downtown Wells serves women in crisis. This past January, they accomplished their goal of building emergency housing and have served over 15 women and their children since opening. They have helped clients with long term housing solutions, furnishings, small appliances, Christian Counseling services, Bible studies, vehicles, and many, many other things that have helped their clients move forward at a very challenging time in their lives.

The Five Sisters Project is our Mission of the Month for September. Below is a list of items they use on a continuous basis for their clients. Please participate in this hands-on mission by purchasing any of these items and placing in the designated collection tub in the entryway. Thank you!

**ON-GOING NEEDS LIST**

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|-----------------|---------------------|---|
| Paper towels    | Acrylic paints      | Trash bags - kitchen and large          |
| Toilet paper    | Canvasses to paint  | Gallon storage bags    Light bulbs      |
| Facial tissue   | Craft scissors      | Small laundry baskets                   |
| Office supplies | Gel pens & markers  | Laundry detergent                       |
| Copy paper      | Hand soap           | Grocery or gas gift cards               |
| Postage         | Dishwasher soap     | Portable file box with office supplies  |
| Bottled water   | Dish soap           | Plastic totes, gallon totes             |
| K-cups, tea     | AA & 9V batteries   | Bed bug mattress protector/twin & queen |
| Lint roller     | Cleaning supplies   | Bed bug pillow protectors               |
| First Aid kits  | Toilet bowl cleaner | Flameless battery operated candles      |

**THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE**

**Sunday, September 19**

- W** 9:30am Coffee
- 10:30am JOINT Worship on the lawn
- 12:00pm Lunch at Thompson Park
- 1:00pm Games

**Monday, September 20**

- 10:30-6:30 Bloodmobile at Wells Legion

**Wednesday, September 22**

- W** 9:30am Staff meeting
- 6:00pm Confirmation photo & meeting
- 6:30pm Youth/parents Youth Grp mtg

**Friday, September 24**

- W** 10:00am Visitation
- 11:00am Sue Rucker Memorial Service

**Sunday, September 26 – *New Times!***

- K** 8:00am Worship
- 9:00am Coffee
- W** 9:30am Worship with Confirmation and Communion
- 10:30am Coffee
- 10:30am Adult study brief introduction

**WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS - Wells**

- Pastor ..... Rev. Chris Leistra
  - Organist..... Jan Johanson
  - Praise Team.....Sherry Asmus, Deb Lackey
  - Technicians...Jadyn Lutteke, Sarah Hankerson
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**Birthdays This Week:**

- Sept. 19..... Doug Bruckhoff, Jason Roberts, Ruth Roesler
  - Sept. 21..... Brenda Johnson
  - Sept. 23..... Kathy Heaton, Wendy Nickel
  - Sept. 24..... Grace Mithun
  - Sept. 26..... Jay Miller
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**Cable Schedule of Wells' Sunday Service:**

- Tuesday: 11:00 am & 8:00 pm (Bevcomm ch 990)
- Friday: 6:00 pm (Bevcomm ch 990);