



OPEN DOORS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WELLS CAMPUS

595 1st Ave SW, Wells, MN 56097
507-553-5453 | opendoorsumc@bevcomm.net
Worship: 9:30 am | Coffee: 9:00 & 10:30 am

KIESTER CAMPUS

116 N. 3rd St., Kiester, MN 56051
507-294-3300
Worship: 8:00 am | Coffee: 9:00 am

Pastor: Chris Leistra | Office Phone: 507-553-5453;
Cell Phone: 920-765-3665 | Email: pastorumc@bevcomm.net | Web Site: www.opendoorsumc.org

December 26, 2021 – Christmas 1

Please turn off or silence your cell phone.

*Jesus, help us continue to celebrate your birth among us
for the full 12 days and, indeed, all year.*

– We Gather to Celebrate –

Gathering Music

Welcome & Announcements

* *Call to Worship and Praise*

Leader: Good morning! We have come together this morning after Christmas to celebrate God's great gift to us, his son come to live with us, to teach us and show us the way to live with each other, and to die for us and give us the gift of life with God, the Father. Let us join our voices as we rejoice in God's gift.

Song "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen" On Screen (#3052, vs 1 & 5)

Leader: Sing aloud with gladness:

People: God is gathering the people!

Leader: From the farthest parts of the earth we come:

People: All who struggle; all who labor with new life!

Leader: Those who are weeping, God will console:

People: Those who get lost find a clear path home.

Leader: Let us worship the God who gathers us!

Song "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" (K) #240
"The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy" (W) #2098
"We Three Kings" (K & W) #254, vs 1 & 5

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

– Hearing Our Faith Story –

Scripture Lesson

1 Thessalonians 5:5, 8-11 (NRSV)

* *Hymn*

"We Would See Jesus" (K) #256, vs 1 & 5

"We Are Marching" (W) #2235b

* *Gospel Lesson*

* Matthew 2;1-12 (NRSV)

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

Sermon

"A Star to Follow"

Pastor Chris Leistra

Message Response

"Love Has Come"

On Screen (#3059)

– Stewards of Faith –

Giving with a Thankful Heart

Offering may be placed in the green chest (W)/offering plate (K) at the back of the sanctuary at this time, or on your way in or as you leave. *Thank you!*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

– Sending Forth –

* *Benediction*

* *Hymn of Going Forth*

"Go Tell It On the Mountain"

#251

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

Welcome to worship as we continue to revel in the Christmas season. Friends, we're glad you're here!

Keep in your prayers this week: All who are coping with or healing from physical ailments; especially Anne Feist following knee surgery, Wanda Kothlow recuperating at home; Alan Yokiel; Sue Schuster, Rita Bebler, Joan Christian, Michelle Viesselman, and Bebo Getchell in their fight against cancer; all those grieving, hurting, and lonely; all those struggling with challenging life situations; all those serving in the military and their families and others away from home, especially during the holiday season.

Announcements

Our Advent mission offering benefits Communities Fighting Student Hunger backpack program at USC and St. Casimir's. Please use the special Advent Offering envelopes or write Advent Offering in the memo line of your check made out to Open Doors UMC.

Wishing a Blessed Christmas Season and a Happy New Year!

Adult Class – Resumes January 2.

Sunday School Classes – Resumes January 9.

Bevcomm Cable Services:

Tues., Dec. 28, 11am & 8:00 pm Christmas Eve 7:30 service

Fri., Dec. 31, 6pm Sunday, December 26 service

Tues., January 4, 11am & 8:00 pm Sunday, January 2 service

Note: If anyone without cable service would like to borrow a DVD recording, they are available for loan from the church library.

Wednesday Night Suppers Begin January 5! Yes, enjoy a night away from the kitchen and out with friends at church! John & Melissa Kruse have volunteered to cook for all of January. We will be asking for other volunteers for February and beyond. Serving will be from 5:00-6:00 each Wednesday and we'll ask for a free-will donation. Invite your friends or meet them here! And please consider volunteering as a Wednesday night cook!

Menu for January 5: Spaghetti and meatballs with garlic bread.

E-Giving options for holiday visitors & members! During the holiday season, we extend a warm welcome to visiting families and friends. We offer convenient electronic giving options that help you make donations on a one-time or recurring basis. 1) Vanco Mobile is a free mobile app that lets you can give anytime, anywhere, right from your smartphone! You can choose whether to donate as a guest or set up an account that allows you to set up recurring donations, store payment information for future gifts and view giving history. 2) Online giving at www.opendoorsumc.org where you can also choose to give a one-time donation or set up an account for secure, convenient frequent giving.

Thank you for your generosity, and A Happy New Year from all of us!

Worship at Kiester will move to the Upper Room beginning January 2.

Coffee with Pastor Chris Pastor Chris invites you to join him for coffee and conversation each Tuesday, resuming January 4, from 9:00-11:00am at The Bean, 135 S Broadway, Wells.

UNITE ::Youth Christmas Party will be Wednesday, December 29 at 6:30 pm at The Bean. All youth from the community in grades 6-12 are invited.

Offering envelopes are ready for you to pick up in the entryway. If you would like a box and you don't find your name, contact Sarah in the church office. Envelopes are also available for your children upon request.

Blood Drive – Monday, Jan. 3, 10:30-6:30 at the Wells American Legion. Give the gift of life!

Rides to Church – If you, or anyone you know, would like a ride to Sunday morning worship this winter, please call the office and we can get a ride arranged for you. For Sundays, please call by Friday morning. Also, anyone who would be willing to pick up riders, please let the office know.

January/February Upper Room devotionals are available to pick up. \$1.25 for regular print and \$1.50 for large print.



Dear United Methodist Church Family,

Thank you to the women of the church for helping serve the meal at Carrell Bathke's funeral. A special thank you to Pastor Chris, Jan Johanson, Sarah & Doug Hankerson, Sandy and Dean Youngblom. Thank you for all of your prayers and cards, flowers and memorials. We appreciate all that you did. Carrell will be deeply missed.

~ Sincerely, Carrell Bathke Family



Thank you for the cute card and kind words. Merry Christmas to all of you! ~ Jan Carlson



To give assistance in Kentucky: Please continue to hold victims, survivors and relief workers in your prayers and make a gift to UMCOR's U.S. Disaster Response and Recovery Fund. You can give directly to <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/901670/> or make a check out to Open Doors UMC and write "UMCOR Disaster Response" in the memo line.



Thank you to all who donated poinsettia plants this Christmas. They certainly made our sanctuary festive. Feel free to take your plant home with you any time.



Given By

In Memory of

- Diane and Elizabeth Bathke and Mike & Christine Buer & FamilyCarrell Bathke
- Margaret CourrierLoved Ones
- Roesler FamiliesRalph & Wilma Roesler and Loved Ones
- Deb JohnsonCharlie Johnson
- Kara & Jay ChristiansonTheir Parents
- Dave & Mary LovelessLoved Ones

(And others not known at time of printing.)



Year-End Giving: There are many ways you can give to your church that both helps the church in huge ways, while at the same time may offer considerable tax advantage to you. Gifts offering possible tax advantages to you while helping the church could include:

- Gifts of Commodities (corn, soybeans)
- Gifts of Cash
- Marketable Securities
- Bequests and Beneficiary Designations under revocable trusts, life insurance policies, commercial annuities, retirement plans
- Charitable Remainder Trusts or Charitable Lead Trusts

The last day to donate and be counted for this year's taxes is [postmarked by] December 31; however, our church office will be closed on December 31, so please have donations to the office by noon on December 30 in order to be deposited.



THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, December 26

K 8:00am Worship
9:00am Coffee

W 9:30am Worship
10:30am Coffee

Monday, December 27

Office is Closed

Wednesday, December 29

6:30pm Unite ::Youth Christmas Party
at The Bean

Friday, December 31

Office is Closed

Sunday, January 2, 2022

K 8:00am Worship
9:00am Coffee

W 9:30am Worship
10:30am Coffee (No Sunday School)
10:30am Discipleship Pathways

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS – Wells

- Pastor Rev. Christopher Leistra
- OrganistJan Johanson
- Scripture ReaderKim Anderson
- Cross Bearer Wyatt Haugh
- Acolytes..... Kaydra Haugh
- A/V Sarah and Sabrina Hankerson
- Projection Brett Hankerson

Birthdays This Week:

- Dec. 26..... Bev Niebuhr, Aaron Johnson, Faye Lackey
- Dec. 29..... Olivia Bird
- Dec. 31..... Cindy Hagen
- Jan. 1 Elizabeth Bathke
- Jan. 2 Wes Mortenson