



OPEN DOORS UPDATE

News and Announcements



Hello Everyone!

Hello all, we are mid-way through March and soon we will come to the end of our journey through the time of Lent. It will bring us faithfully to the cross and then to the empty tomb, but let's not let it get away from us without really thinking about who it is that was on the cross. I hope you are all thinking about these "I Am" statements that Jesus made and what that means for who He is for you in your life.

- Please be thinking about the teams we have at Open Doors, and how you can get involved and live out your faith as a steward of the gifts God has given you. We are looking for people to fill open positions on these teams: Trustees, Finance, Ministry Council, VBS planning, and a person to serve as Lay Leader.
- General Conference has been delayed till 2022. There will be more information about this later. This means that there will be no changes until at least then. If you would like more info please contact me directly.
- You can find online weekly devotions from the United Methodist Church here: <https://www.umc.org/en/content/umc-bishops-offer-lenten-season-devotions> There are also written devotions here: <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/lenen-devotionals-for-families-overview>
- Holy Week services will be Maundy Thursday at Wells at 7:00pm (also on Facebook and YouTube), Good Friday at Kiester at 7:00pm. Easter Sunday services will be at our usual times: 9:00am in Wells and 10:30 in Kiester. There will be no Sunrise service or Easter Breakfast this year. As always, all of Open Doors church family is welcome and encouraged to attend services at both campuses.
- If you have prayer concerns that you would like to be prayed for on Sunday, please send them to me directly. You can email me (pastorumc@bevcomm.net), text or call me (920-765-3665), put a note in the slot of the NW church door marked 595, or contact the office. If it is about someone other than yourself, make sure they are ok with it being said on Sunday. You can also use the prayer board.
- If you are having trouble finding our Sunday videos, I suggest you make an account with YouTube. This takes an email address to sign up. You should find a place to click on the top right to make an account. If you need more help with this, here's a video that will walk you through the process: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QnmCMPTTiO8> Then you just need to subscribe to our channel, which you can do by going to our YouTube channel by either searching Open Doors UMC on YouTube or going to https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjsJrL3wmm_iCWJZN0WXb_Q Then click on the word subscribe that is in Red, then click on the bell icon that is close by and that will give you an alert when we are going live or have a new video. On Sunday morning, just be ready at 9:00 and click on the video and you will join us live. You can click the video early and it will just say "going live soon" and you can wait till it starts. You can also find the link on our website <http://www.opendoorsumc.org/> that will bring you to the channel, just look for the YouTube icon in the red menu bar. Facebook is also an option and if you friend request our page then you will get alerts that we are going live. If you still have problems, feel free to contact me and I can help walk you through it.

~ Pastor Chris



March 14 is UMCOR Sunday – *Together our reach is beyond measure!*

How do your gifts support UMCOR? As followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to respond with extravagant grace. Through the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), we are able to make a difference in the lives of communities and individuals whose lives have been upset by storms, wars, fires, displacement and climate change. This offering underwrites UMCOR's "costs of doing business," allowing 100% of any gift to a specific UMCOR project to go to that project, not administrative costs.

You can now give to UMCOR Sunday online at opendoorsumc.org or on the GivePlus mobile app.

UMCOR Sunday offering envelopes will be available to pick up at church and included in this mailing if you are receiving this by postal mail. Make checks out to Open Doors UMC.

Lenten Offering for Graners

The Lenten Season is one of the most important seasons in the Christian faith. It is a period of 40 days, starting with Ash Wednesday and ending with Easter Sunday. During this period, Christians around the world participate in a season of penitence, prayers, fasting and self-denial, just as Jesus did when he spent 40 days in the wilderness (Matthew 4:1-25 and Luke 4:1-13).

Have you "given up" something this Lenten season? If you have, take the money you would have spent on this thing, and give it as a sacrificial offering designated as your Lenten offering.

Any money received that is designated as Lenten Offering will go to support our missionaries, Ardell & Gordon Graner. This is the last year we will be supporting them, specifically. Gordon retired last September and Ardell has recently announced her retirement at the end of September 2021. We have had a Covenant Relationship with them for 25+ years. To read more about the Graners, how they have been fairing in the Dominican Republic during the pandemic, and their work with distributing solar ovens, creating Christian education materials, and hosting Volunteers in Mission teams, read their blog at <https://granerfamily.org/>

The offering for Graners will be collected all through Lent, or until we reach our commitment of \$1250.00. As of now, we have received \$630, slightly over halfway to the goal. Use the special Lenten envelopes or write "Lenten Offering" in the memo line of your check made out to Open Doors UMC. You can also give **online** – Lenten Offering is one of the fund choices you have.

March is Minnesota Food Share Month

Minnesota Food Share March Campaign is joining with faith communities, businesses and organizations across Minnesota in working together to support the work of our local food shelves. During the month of March, dollars received can expand the amount of food that we can purchase. \$1 can be stretched into food for 2 or more meals.

The need in our area is great! Thanks to community support, the Wells Area Food Shelf serves 75-100 families each month. Our food shelf is making a difference! Your help is crucial in continuing to serve our friends and neighbors!

Donations may be sent to: WAFS, PO Box 12, Wells MN 56097, or given through our church.

*For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was
thirsty and you gave me drink,
I was a stranger and you welcomed me.*

Matthew 25:35

STRETCH YOUR DONATION

GIVE MORE BY MAKING A CASH DONATION TO YOUR LOCAL FOOD SHELF.

Financial donations go further due to access to food banks and discount purchasing programs, allowing food shelves to purchase items most needed in their community.

YOUR \$10 FOOD DONATION

vs.

YOUR \$10 FINANCIAL DONATION

MN Food Share

follow us @mnfoodshare

Twitter, Instagram, Facebook icons

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Please join us for this very special week of worship.
All services are for all of Open Doors Family and the public.

Palm SundayWells – 9:00am

Kiester – 10:30 am

and live on Facebook, YouTube, & website at 9:00am

Maundy Thursday, April 1Wells – 7:00 pm

and on Facebook Live, YouTube, & website at 7:00pm

Good Friday, April 2 Kiester – 7:00 pm

Easter SundayWells – 9:00 am

Kiester – 10:30 am

and live on Facebook, YouTube, & website at 9:00am

Easter Flowers

Easter will be here before you know it, and Covid willing, we will be rejoicing in-person this year. We would love a sanctuary full of fragrant lilies and other spring flowers. If you would like to supply a plant, please feel free to purchase and bring it to the church or have it delivered by Friday, April 2.

Bloodmobile in Wells March 22

There is a critical need for blood. Especially Type O and those who have recovered from Covid-19 and have the anti-bodies. Call to schedule:1-800-RED-CROSS. American Legion, 10:30-6:30.

Thrivent Choice Dollars®

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have been designated Choice Dollars have until **March 31, 2021**, to direct them. Don't miss this opportunity to recommend that Thrivent Financial provide grant funding to Open Doors UMC. In 2020, Open Doors was granted \$208 from Thrivent members directing their Choice Dollars to the church. Go to [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](https://www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice) to learn more. Or call 800-847-4836 and after the prompt say "Thrivent Choice." *Thank You!*

Open Doors Easter Egg Hunt March 31 at 4:00 pm Park View Care Center



With the help of the residents at Parkview Care Center, Open Doors UMC is having an Easter Egg Hunt on the lawn on the north side of Parkview for Open Doors' preschool and elementary children on Wednesday, March 31 at 4:00 pm.

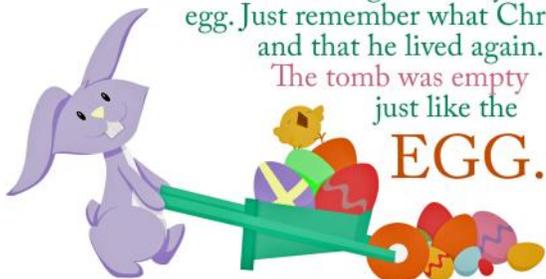
After we had the Snowman Day, Betty Olson said "How about Easter eggs?" Our church will provide the plastic Easter eggs and candy, and the residents will fill the eggs for us. Parkview will keep a bunch to hide for the residents inside, and the rest will be for us to hide outside for the kids (I will need help)! The residents will have so much fun watching the kids trying to find the eggs!

If you would like to donate plastic eggs, candy (small wrapped Easter candy), or money for this outreach, please drop it off at church by March 24. I will need teens and/or adults to help hide the eggs at 3:00 on March 31, the kids will come at 4:00!! Thanks in advance for your generous donations to help with the outreach!!!

You've Been Egged!

We hid 12 eggs in your yard! Enjoy the hunt, but don't be discouraged when you find an empty egg. Just remember what Christ did for us and that he lived again.

The tomb was empty
just like the
EGG.



The Youth Group will be filling eggs for the "You've Been Egged" event during our Youth Group meetings in March. We will be delivering the eggs after school the week of March 29. When the time gets closer and the weather looks good, we will pick a day to deliver the eggs that works for most kids. I will need some drivers that day help get the kids around to deliver. We have a few families out in the country we will be delivering to also!! If anyone would want to donate candy to help us out, that would be awesome!! Thanks!!!



Open Doors Re-Gathering Plan

No change this month on the re-gathering plan. Limited in-person worship resumed on February 7, 2021, in both Wells (9:00) and Kiester (10:30) locations. Watch for future announcements regarding changes of re-gathering phase. We continue to wait for a signal from the Minnesota Conference of the UMC.

Worship (For full Re-Gathering Plan, see the February OneWay or <http://www.opendoorsumc.org/about>)

- We will be worshipping in one or more of the following formats:
 - Indoor:** A limit of 50 people are permitted provided that family units are at least six feet apart and attendees wear masks (however, building capacity must not exceed 50 percent). No food or drinks may be served.
 - Online:** Will continue to be offered every week regardless of the phase we are in.

Worship
with us
from
HOME

Facebook: Streaming live on Sundays at 9:00am and saved there as a recording to watch later.

YouTube: Streaming live at 9:00 on Sundays and saved as a recording to watch later. Click the YouTube icon in the red menu bar on our website or search YouTube for Open Doors UMC to find our channel. "Subscribe" to our channel and click the "bell" icon to be alerted anytime that Open Doors goes live.

Website www.opendoorsumc.org: Video recording is posted here to watch anytime. This also is live on Sunday mornings.

Bevcomm Cable TV: Channel 990: Tuesdays at 11am & 8pm and Fridays at 6:00pm.

Calendar:

- Sun 3/14 **UMCOR Sunday**
In-person Worship – 9:00 Wells, 10:30 Kiester
Online Worship – 9:00 am
- Wed 3/17 Confirmation – 5:30; Youth Group – 6:30
"The God We Trust" Zoom study – 6:30pm
- Thur 3/18 Admin Team meetings – 6:30pm
Ad Council – 7:15pm
Newsletter Deadline
- Sun 3/21 In-person Worship – 9:00 Wells, 10:30 Kiester
Online Worship – 9:00am
- Mon 3/22 Bloodmobile in Wells – 10:30-6:30
SPRC Team meeting in Wells – 6:00pm
- Wed 3/24 Confirmation – 5:30; Youth Group – 6:30
"The God We Can Know" Study – 6:30pm
- Sun 3/28 **Palm Sunday**
In-person Worship – 9:00 Wells, 10:30 Kiester
Online Worship – 9:00 am
- Wed 3/31 Easter Egg Hunt on north side of Parkview – 4:00pm
Confirmation – 5:30
"The God We Can Know" Study – 6:30pm
- Thurs 4/1 **Maundy Thursday**
Worship at Wells Campus – 7:00pm
Online Worship – 7:00pm YouTube, Facebook, website
- Fri 4/2 **Good Friday**
Worship at Kiester Campus – 7:00pm
- Sun 4/4 **Easter**
In-person Worship – 9:00 Wells, 10:30 Kiester
Online Worship – 9:00 am

Weather Related Announcements

If worship or other church-related activities need to be canceled because of weather, please refer to the following preferred media for announcements:

- **Facebook** (Open Doors Umc)
- **www.opendoorsumc.org**
- or **call** the church office at **553-5453** & listen to the recorded message.

Worship cancellations will be also be announced on the following radio & TV stations:

KEYC-TV
KATE (1450 AM); **KJLY** (website only)
KBEW (1560 AM/98.1 FM)

PRAYER CONCERNS: Those recovering from or dealing with medical issues: Mark Lacher, Reese Druckenmiller, Aurora Blank, Charlie Johnson, Karen Kimberline, Bebo Getchell, Adelia Dundas. All those grieving recent loss: Margaret Courrier, Jo Doolittle, the Bathke, Haakensen, and Wedin families. All the people fighting Covid-19 and its after-effects. Shut-ins and residents in extended care facilities. Our country & community. Our military personnel. Our missionaries. All others dealing with family or financial crisis, or any type of physical or mental ailments.