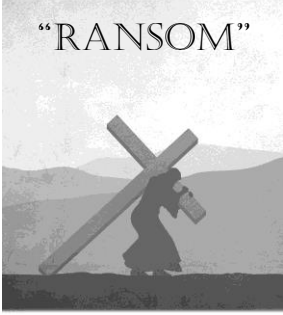


“RANSOM”



## OPEN DOORS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

### WELLS CAMPUS

595 1st Ave SW, Wells, MN 56097  
507-553-5453 | [opendoorsumc@bevcomm.net](mailto:opendoorsumc@bevcomm.net)  
Worship: 9:00 am | Coffee: 8:30 & 10:00 am

### KIESTER CAMPUS

116 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Kiester, MN 56051  
507-294-3300  
Coffee: 10:00 am | Worship: 11:00 am

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

February 26, 2023 – Lent 1

Please turn off or silence your cell phone.

“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me” (Psalm 51:10).

### – Gathering in Faith –

*Gathering Music*

*Welcome & Announcements*

\* *Call to Worship*

Psalm 103:1-2, 11, 17, 22

\* *Song* “Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days” (K/W) #269, vs. 1-4

Leader: Welcome, pilgrims on the way to the cross.

**People: We are learning to follow Jesus.**

Leader: For those who feel Christ near,

**People: May we not turn away from the discomfort of the journey ahead.**

Leader: For those who feel as far from Christ as the desert is from the ocean,

**People: May we find Christ in the wilderness with us.**

Leader: For all of us who stumble and fall in our silence, indifference, and lack of generosity,

**People: May we reach for the hand of Christ, who raises us up to continue on the journey.**

Leader: Pilgrims on the way, come let us worship God!

**People: We come to worship God as we learn to live in Him! Amen.**

\* *Song* “Lord, Listen to Your Children” (W) #2207  
“Great Is the Lord” (W) #2022

\* *Passing the Peace of Christ*

*Opportunities to Serve*

*Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer*

### – Hearing Our Faith Story –

*Scripture Lesson* Acts 16:16-29 (NRSV)

\* *Hymn* “Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)” (W) on screen (#3104)  
“Amazing Grace” (K) #378, vs. 1-3

\* *Gospel Lesson* Luke 4:16-30 (NRSV)

*Sermon* “Ransom” Rev. Christopher Leistra

*Message Response* “And Can It Be that I Should Gain” #363, vs. 1, 3 & 5

### – 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*

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**Welcome to worship** on the first Sunday in Lent. A warm welcome to visitors joining us today. Everyone is invited for coffee and treats, both before and after the 9:00 worship service at the Wells Campus and before the 11:00 am service at the Kiester Campus.

**The nursery** is available for parents to use during worship on Sunday mornings. The nursery is on the south side of the entryway next to the restroom. The TV may be turned on to watch the service.

**Keep in your prayers this week:** Wanda Kothlow as she recovers from heart transplant surgery on February 15. Her address while in Rochester is Wanda Kothlow, 724 2<sup>nd</sup> St SW, Room 246, Rochester, MN 55902. Also, Wanda is asking us to keep her donor family in your prayers.

The people of Turkey and Syria who experienced devastating earthquakes; Bev Niebuhr and Joan Christian; Alan Yokiel; all those grieving, hurting, and lonely; all those struggling with challenging life situations; all those serving in the military and their families.

### Announcements

**Next Sunday, March 5**, the first Sunday of the month, we will be collecting a food and/or monetary offering for the Little Red Food Pantry. During the winter, some good things to donate are: breakfast cereal (small packages), instant oatmeal packets, dried soup mixes, boxed potatoes & pasta, ramen, dried fruits, tuna in oil, breakfast/snack bars, fruit squeeze pouches. As it begins to warm up and is safe to set out canned goods, canned pasta, soup, vegetables and fruit are a big favorites.

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**Lenten Offering** will go to Red Bird Mission, the mission that Open Doors supports. Red Bird Mission, Inc. provides ministries for critical needs in the isolated, rural distressed area of the Appalachian Mountains. Chronic poverty, lack of jobs, poor housing, and rugged mountainous terrain provide obstacles to a fuller life for the residents of this area. Red Bird Mission and Clinic strives to meet these needs through ministry in five areas: Education, Health and Wellness, Community Outreach, Economic Opportunity, and Community Housing Improvement.

**To give** to Red Bird Mission through the Lenten offering, please use the special Lenten envelopes in the pew pockets. You may also give online at [www.opendoorsumc.org/giving](http://www.opendoorsumc.org/giving)

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**Lenten Study** The study books, *Savior: What the Bible Says about the Cross* are here. If you would like a book, you may take one off the back table, or sign the clipboard if you would like a book ordered. Suggested donation is \$12.50. Each week the class will be on **Tuesdays at 9:00 at Open Doors-Wells Campus**, not at The Bean. Coffee time will follow from 10:00-11:00 at church. Pastor Chris's sermon series during Lent is also based on this book.

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**Listening Sessions** – Pastor Chris will be available from 10:00-10:30am after worship on each Sunday in February, for listening to what your thoughts and ideas are about new things we could do together at Open Doors. He'll be in the back of the sanctuary. Please join him! If it doesn't work out to meet at church, give him a call and set up an appointment to talk.

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**Wednesday Night Supper** this week – March 1! Enjoy a night away from the kitchen and out with friends at church! This is a great time for casual visiting and getting to know everyone better. The menu this week: **Tator Tot Hotdish, Corn & Dessert**. Serving will be from 5:00-6:15 and we'll ask for a free-will donation. Invite your friends or meet them here! Choir members & youth, come for supper before practice or The WAY. And please consider volunteering as a Wednesday night cook! The sign-up sheet is on the clipboard or on the bulletin board in the entryway. Thanks!

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**9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Winter Retreat** – It's time to register! Invite a couple friends! The retreat will be held 4:00pm March 19 to 1:00pm March 20 at Wilderness Prayer Center, \$25 (make checks out to Wells Assembly). You can register with Amy at The WAY on Wednesday nights, or online at <https://tithe.ly/event-registration/#/6824705>.

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**Powerful Tools for Caregivers** – Caregiving can take many forms, from helping a friend or relative with transportation, housekeeping, personal care or emotional support, to providing in-home care

for a spouse or parent. Whatever your situation, your role is an important one. Powerful Tools for Caregivers is a 6-week workshop, where caregivers will learn ways to reduce stress, improve your confidence, learn new skills and strategies, and balance your life. This is open to the public and will meet at 10:00 a.m. in the Hospitality Room. This workshop will be every Thursday at 10:00a.m. from March 2 through April 6 in the Hospitality Room at Open Doors–Wells Campus. Trained class leaders come from Interfaith Caregivers. The suggested contribution for “Powerful Tools” is \$25. Participants will receive The Caregiver Helpbook. Please call 507-526-4684 to register.



**Survey** – Watch your mailbox for the church survey, which should be coming very soon. Its intent is mainly to learn what your thoughts are regarding worship, Wednesday opportunities, church activities, and your thoughts in general. When you receive it, please don’t wait to fill it out - return it to the church office by the due date. After results are tabulated, we will schedule some Focus Group meetings to discuss.



**Eligible Thrivent Financial members have until March 31, 2023**, to direct any remaining 2022 Choice Dollars. After that date, Choice Dollars expire. Through the Thrivent Choice® program, eligible members have the power to recommend where Thrivent distributes part of its charitable grant funds annually. Choice Dollars can be directed to thousands of enrolled nonprofit organizations and congregations, including Open Doors United Methodist Church. Act soon, before Choice Dollars expire! Visit [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) today.



**Thank you** – Bev Niebuhr would like to thank everyone for the prayers and well-wishes for her. She is home, recovering from her surgery, and is doing well.



**iGive – \$5 New Member Shopping Bonus!** Join now, by March 1, and when you make your first purchase within 30 days, iGive will give an extra \$5 bonus for Open Doors United Methodist Church.



**Lent is a good time to do daily devotions** if you haven’t been in the habit before. There are **Upper Room** booklets available for you to take and use. They have short, 1-page reflections, a thought for the day, scripture, and a prayer.



**Community Prayer Group and Bible Study** – Prayer is powerful, renewing, and healing – our way to fellowship with God. There is a group that meets every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. for prayer in the Hospitality Room of Open Doors UMC and you are invited. Following prayer at 10:00, there is a community Bible Study that is open to all, as well. They are studying the book of John. Just bring your Bible.



**The camp brochures have arrived!** Pick yours up today! There are camps for all ages, for families, elementary, middle school, high school, and grandparents. Open Doors has scholarships available. Contact the church office.



**THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE**

**Sunday, February 26**

- W** 9:00am Worship
- 10:00am Sunday School / Coffee
- 10:00am Listening Session w/ Pr Chris
- K** 11:00am Worship

**Tuesday, February 28**

- W** 9:00-10am Lenten study at church
- 10:00am Coffee with Pastor at church
- W** 1:00pm Painting Class
- 4:00pm Community Chimes

**Wednesday, March 1**

- W** 9:00am Community prayer
- 10:00am Community Bible study
- 9:30am Staff meeting
- 5:00-6:15 Supper
- 5:45pm Praise Team
- 6:30pm Choir
- 6:30pm The WAY Youth Group at USC

**Thursday, March 2**

- W** 10:00am Powerful Tools for Caregivers

**Sunday, March 5**

- W** 9:00am Worship w/Communion
- 10:00am Sunday School / Coffee
- K** 11:00am Worship w/Communion

# the skitguys

7 PM  
Friday  
March 31st



45 Downtown Plaza, Fairmont, MN 56031

Fairmont Opera House

Tickets: \$5

**thrivent**

With guests Josh Edwards and Tom Eggum.  
Call 507-238-4900 to reserve tickets.

## WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Pastor ..... Rev. Christopher Leistra  
Organist ..... Jan Johanson  
Acolyte ..... tbd  
Scripture Reader ..... Kent Viesselman  
A/V ..... Sabrina Hankerson, Sarah Hankerson  
Projection ..... Brett Hankerson

## Birthdays This Week:

February 26.....Don Gimberline, Maci Hueper,  
Sharon Honstad  
February 27.....Betty Culbertson, Amber Cords,  
Karlene Gormley  
March 2 .....Joyce Thisius  
March 3 .....Diane Bathke, Jan Johanson  
March 4 .....Toby Anderson  
March 5 .....October Roberts, Brooklyn Miller

## Cable Schedule of Wells' Sunday Service:

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

Live Stream: Sundays at 9:00am on Facebook,  
YouTube and [www.opendoorsumc.org](http://www.opendoorsumc.org).