



OPEN DOORS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WELLS CAMPUS

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

KIESTER CAMPUS

116 N. 3rd 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 | Web Site: www.opendoorsumc.org

March 5, 2023 – Lent 2

Please turn off or silence your cell phone.

*It's still winter ... but spring is near. It's Lent ... but we're pointed toward Easter.
Keep us hopeful, Lord.*

– Gathering in Faith –

Gathering Music

Welcome & Announcements

* *Call to Worship*

* *Songs*

"I Will Call Upon the Lord" (W) #2002

"Lord God, Almighty" (W) #2006

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" (K) #127, vs. 1 & 2

Leader: In the season of Lent we are invited to consider how we live as followers of Christ—to look at our decisions and our actions straight on, to hold them up to the example of Christ, and to make amends. In this time of silence, and in our prayer together, let us look at our lives. We pray, first in silence.

Let us pray together:

ALL: Holy God, Creator of all that is, Donor of Grace, and Giver of Life: Hear our prayer.

There are chasms in our lives, deep valleys that separate us from one another and from You.

We confess that we have allowed those rifts to grow, for fear of admitting our part in the separation, for fear of being rejected when we reach out.

You call us to a reconciled life, to healed relationships, to a wholeness with each other and with You.

Mend us, we pray, and make us new creations through the power and love of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

* *Song*

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness" (W&K)

#140, vs. 1

* *Passing the Peace of Christ*

Anthem (W)

"Amazing Grace"

Choir

Opportunities to Serve

Pastoral Prayer

– Hearing Our Faith Story –

Scripture Lesson

1 John 3: 11-24 (NRSV)

* *Hymn*

"Jesu, Jesu"

#432, vs. 1-3

* *Gospel Lesson*

Matthew 5: 38-48 (NRSV)

Sermon

"Moral Example"

Rev. Christopher Leistra

Message Response

"Are Ye Able, Said the Master "

#530, vs. 1, 2 & 4

– 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

Communion Song "Eat this Bread" #628

The Great Thanksgiving pg. 9

The Lord's Prayer (unison) #895

Receiving the Gifts of Bread and Cup

You are invited to come forward to receive this gift of God's love in Christ as instructed by the pastor. Everyone is welcome to the Lord's table in the United Methodist Church, as Christ's act of love is offered to all. After you have communed, please return to your seats by the side aisles. If coming forward is difficult for you, signal the communion servers who come to the back of the sanctuary – they will be happy to bring communion to you. Thank you.

Prayer after Receiving

– Sending Forth –

* *Benediction*

* *Hymn of Going Forth* "God of Love and God of Power " #578, vs. 1, 3 & 4

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

Dear family of God, welcome to worship! May you be blessed, and be a blessing to others, during our time together here and in the coming days. 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. **There is a sheet of paper on the back table (W) to write a greeting to her on.** Her address while in Rochester is Wanda Kothlow, 724 2nd St SW, Room 246, Rochester, MN 55902. Also, Wanda is asking us to keep her donor family in your prayers.

Bev Niebuhr and Joan Christian; the people of Ukraine as they move into the second year of war; 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

Lenten Study There is one book left of *Savior: What the Bible Says about the Cross*, but more can be ordered if there is interest. 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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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, rugged mountainous terrain, PLUS recovery from the flood of July 2022, 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, or online at www.opendoorsumc.org/giving

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Wednesday Night Supper – Enjoy a night away from the kitchen and out with friends at church! The menu this week, March 8: **Chicken Alfredo with pasta and a side.** 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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Holy Week Soup Supper – The Soup Supper that got snowed out on Ash Wednesday will now be on Wednesday, April 5. The supper will be followed by an ecumenical Holy Week worship service in the sanctuary. If you were going to make soup for Ash Wednesday, would you be willing to make it for April 5? Please sign up on the clipboard if you are.

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Today, the first Sunday of the month, we are collecting a food and/or monetary offering for the **Little Red Food Pantry**. The stock is very low and soon will be depleted. Donations are welcome anytime. Hebrews 13:16 says: "Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God."

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 good choices. Please, no open packages or outdated food.

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Surveys due March 19 – By now you should have received the church survey in your mailbox. Please don't wait to fill it out – you can place it in the collection box in the back (please return your unused reply envelope as well) or use the reply envelope to mail your completed survey to the office. After results are tabulated, we will schedule some "Focus Group" meetings to discuss.

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Daylight Savings Time begins next Sunday, March 12! Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead!

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Easter Breakfast Meeting – 7th-9th grade students and a parent should plan to be at the Easter Breakfast meeting on Sunday, March 12 after worship to start planning the Easter Breakfast on April 9.

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9th-12th 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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I will be out of the office from March 8-22. While I am gone, Karen Stenzel will be filling in. If you need any assistance, you may contact either her in the office or Pastor Chris at 920-765-3665.
– Sarah Hankerson

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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.

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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 meets at 10:00 a.m. 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.

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Eligible Thrivent Financial members have until March 31, 2023, to direct any remaining 2022 **Choice Dollars**. After that date, the 2022 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, including [Open Doors United Methodist Church](#). Act soon, before Choice Dollars expire! Visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice today.

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Genesis Classical Academy – Wondering which educational setting is best for your children? Genesis Classical Academy is a nondenominational Christian Classical Academy in Winnebago, MN enrolling students in Preschool through Grade 12 for next year. The school currently educates 119 students from a 40-mile radius of Winnebago. Visit us at our **Open House on Tuesday, March 14**

from 6:00-7:30 pm at 620 1st Ave SW, Winnebago. Tour our facility, meet our staff and other families, and explore whether a Christian classical education is right for your family! For more information or to schedule a private tour, call 507-893-3600.

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, March 5

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

Tuesday, March 7

- 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 8

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

Thursday, March 9

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

Friday & Saturday, March 10-11

Ignite in Des Moines

Sunday, March 12 (DST begins)

- W** 9:00am Worship
- 10:00am Easter Breakfast meeting
- 10:00am Sunday School / Coffee
- K** 11:00am Worship

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.

There are still plenty of tickets!
The Skit Guys are Tommy Woodard and Eddie James. They use humor to break down walls for God's truth to enter. Since their high-school days, they've been writing and performing hilarious and poignant skits live and on camera. Tommy and Eddie have traveled the world performing for families at events, churches, and conferences. Their SkitGuys.com website has grown into a treasured media resource for families, pastors and churches.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

- Pastor.....Rev. Christopher Leistra
- Organist.....Jan Johanson
- Acolyte..... tbd
- Scripture Reader Alice Oleson
- A/V..... Don Stenzel, Sarah Hankerson
- Projection..... Karen Stenzel
- Communion ServersJoyce Frederick, Pat Coy

Birthdays This Week:

- March 5.....October Roberts, Brooklyn Miller
- March 8.....Brad Kaiser, Parker Lau
- March 9.....Hayden Chandler, Andy Cords
- March 10.....Leah Meyer
- March 11Pat Mithun
- March 12.....Jaunice Gerber, Joy Krosschell