



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 19, 2023 – Lent 4

Please turn off or silence your cell phone.

*During Lent, Lord, help us grow in faith, hope and love – “and the greatest of these is love”
– 1 Cor. 13:13*

– Gathering in Faith –

Gathering Music

Welcome & Announcements

* *Call to Worship*

* Song “Grace Greater than Our Sin” #365, vs. 1, 2, & 4

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

People: We are learning to follow Jesus.

Leader: On this Lenten journey, where do we find God’s presence among us?

People: One thing we know: God calls us to witness extraordinary love in ordinary moments.

Leader: On this Lenten journey, how does God’s presence work among us?

People: One thing we know: God uses the messy and mundane to heal and restore us to one another.

Leader: On this Lenten journey what does God’s presence do in our midst?

People: One thing we know: God opens us to recognize presence, sustenance and abundance where the world perceives isolation and lack.

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

People: We come to worship God as we learn to live in His will! Amen.

* Song “Living for Jesus” #2149, vs. 1

Leader: Let us pray:

ALL: O God of miracles and mighty deeds, we acknowledge your healing and comforting presence in our lives. We confess that we have been drawn in by materialism and driven by consumerism. Open our hearts to a new way of being. Send your anointing and grant us fresh insight for spiritual breakthroughs. Shine the light of your truth into our relationships and grant us victory over every secret and shame. We thank you in advance for healing and renewals in our lives. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

* Song “Thank You Lord” CCLI #1815700

Thank you, Lord, for saving my soul,
Thank you, Lord, for making me whole,
Thank you, Lord, for giving to me
Thy great salvation, so rich and free.

* *Passing the Peace of Christ*

Opportunities to Serve

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer

– Hearing Our Faith Story –

Scripture Lesson

Psalm 51 (NRSV)

Anthem	"Give Me Jesus"	Choir
* Gospel Lesson	John 13:1-8 (NRSV)	
Sermon	"Cleansing"	Rev. Christopher Leistra
Message Response	"Rock of Ages"	#361, vs. 1-3

– 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* "Nothing but the Blood" #362

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

Welcome to worship. May God’s Word help us each see something or someone in a new way 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: The youth and leaders at the high school winter retreat tonight and tomorrow. 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.** 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

TODAY is UMCOR Sunday – Today we will collect a special offering for United Methodist Committee On Relief (UMCOR). UMCOR comes alongside those who suffer from natural or human-caused disasters – famine, hurricane, war, flood, fire or other events—to alleviate suffering and serve as a source of help and hope for the vulnerable in the US and around the globe. Once a year, on UMCOR Sunday, United Methodists collect a special offering that is used to cover UMCOR’s administrative costs. This offering allows UMCOR to use 100% of all funds given to humanitarian response and recovery efforts directly to communities in need. These gifts ensure UMCOR can respond swiftly to disasters around the world and as a source of hope and healing for those left most vulnerable.

Please use the “Special Sundays” envelopes or indicate “UMCOR Sunday” in your check memo line or envelope.

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Surveys due TODAY, March 19 – There are spare forms on the back table if you forgot yours. Please place it in the collection box in the back (return your unused reply envelope as well), however, we’ll still accept them if they are postmarked by tomorrow. After results are tabulated, we will schedule some “Focus Group” meetings to discuss.

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Lenten Study – We are studying the book *Savior: What the Bible Says About the Cross*, same book that Pastor Chris’s sermon series follows. Each week the class meets on **Tuesdays at 9:00 at Open Doors-Wells Campus**. Coffee time will follow from 10:00-11:00 at church. Everyone is invited.

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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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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. Please sign up on the clipboard if you are willing to make a crockpot of soup.

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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 22: **Swedish Meatballs over noodles.** 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. March 29 is open yet. Thanks!

Holy Week Worship Schedule		
April 2	9:00am-W	Palm/Passion Sunday Worship
	11:00am-K	Palm/Passion Sunday Worship
April 5	5:00pm-W	Soup Supper
	6:30pm-W	Holy Week Worship with Communion & handwashing, symbolic of the Upper Room
April 7	7:00pm-W	Good Friday Worship
April 9	7:00am-W	Sonrise Worship with the youth
	7:45am-W	Easter Breakfast
	9:00am-W	Easter worship
	11:00am-K	Easter worship

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Easter Flowers: Anyone wishing to give an Easter lily or other flowering spring plant in memory or in honor of a loved one, or just for the joy of Easter, should bring it to church, either in Wells or Kiester, or have it delivered by Friday, April 7. Please notify the church office by Tuesday, April 4, to have it included in the bulletin - 553-5453 or e-mail opendoorsumc@bevcomm.net.

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Sign up for camp this year! Check out the Camp Minnesota brochure or visit the website at campminnesota.org. Minnesota has three beautiful UM camp facilities. There are camps for all interests and all ages, for families, elementary, middle school, high school, and grandparents. For Early Bird Camp Store Credit, registrations need to be in by April 30. Open Doors has scholarships available. Contact the church office.

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March Campaign for Wells Area Food Shelf – Stretch your donations to the Wells Area Food Shelf and Kiester Food Pantry by donating during the March Campaign. Financial donations go further due to access to Channel One Food Bank and discount purchasing programs. You can give directly, or through Open Doors UMC through April 9.

Little Red Food Pantry, an ongoing ministry of Open Doors, is always in need of food and/or financial donations. Please place food that is able to handle outside temperatures either in the tubs in the entryways or directly in the little red food pantry. Financial donations marked for the Little Red Food Pantry can go in the offering.

Hunger Facts: Rising inflation and the end of various Covid-19 support programs are keeping the charitable food system running at or beyond capacity . . .

- Nationwide, 21.4% of households reported some level of food insecurity in 2022, up 6% from 2021.
- 9.3% of Minnesotans had incomes below the poverty line in 2021, up from 9% in 2019. This included 10.4% of Minnesota's children.
- A record-breaking 5.5 million visits were made to food shelves during 2022 in Minnesota, up nearly 50% from 2021. 47% of food shelf visitors in 2022 were seeking food assistance for the first time.

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I will be out of the office through March 22. While I am gone, Karen Stenzel is 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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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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Congratulations Hunter Bruckhoff! Hunter has completed all the requirements for the rank of Eagle Scout and will be receiving his award this afternoon. Hunter is a senior and has been a member of Boy Scout Troop 41 in Wells.

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Wells Firefighters Pancake Breakfast – TODAY, March 19, 7:30am-12:00 at Wells Fire Hall; Pancakes, eggs, sausage, juice, coffee; \$10/\$5 12 & under.

Minnesota Lake Firefighters Pancake Breakfast – March 26, 9:00am-12:00 at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church; Pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, cookies, juice, coffee; \$8 adults/\$5 ages 6-10/5 & under free.

Genesis Classical Academy Spring Fling: Saturday, April 1, at the National Guard Armory, 700 N Fairlakes Ave., Fairmont. A grilled pork dinner will be served from 5-7 pm. \$15/\$7 12 and under. Events also include a silent auction, live auction, raffle and live entertainment. Genesis Classical Academy is a preschool-10th grade nondenominational Christian classical academy.
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THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, March 19–UMCOR Sunday

W 9:00am Worship
 10:00am Sunday School / Coffee
 12:00pm Hunter Bruckhoff Eagle Ceremony

K 11:00am Worship

Sunday-Monday, March 19-20

Grades 9-12 Winter Retreat at Wilderness Prayer Center

Tuesday, March 21

W 9:00-10am Lenten study at church
 10:00am Coffee with Pastor at church
 1:00pm Wells Area Ministerial meeting at Five Sisters

W 1:00pm Painting Class
 4:00pm Community Chimes
 6:30pm SPRC online training

Wednesday, March 22

Newsletter Deadline
W 9:00am Community prayer
 10:00am Community Bible study
 9:00am Staff meeting
 10:30am Worship at The Shepherd's Inn
 5:00-6:15 Supper
 5:45pm Praise Team
 6:30pm Choir
 6:30pm The WAY Youth Group at USC

Thursday, March 23

All Clergy Gathering with Bishop at Koronis

W 10:00am Powerful Tools for Caregivers

Sunday, March 26

W 9:00am Worship
 10:00am Sunday School / Coffee
K 11:00am Worship

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Pastor.....Rev. Christopher Leistra
 Organists...Jan Johanson (W), Staci Thompson (K)
 Acolyte..... tbd
 Scripture Reader Alice Oleson
 A/V.....Kaylynn Healey
 Projection..... Martin Healey

Birthdays This Week:

March 20Mark Lacher, Holden Petersen, Sabrina Hankerson
 March 22Janice Linder, Wayne Minse, Rose Wigern
 March 23Brennan Anderson
 March 24Bob Clark
 March 26John Kruse, Dan Willaby

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.