



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 26, 2023 – Lent 5

Please turn off or silence your cell phone.

“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. ... Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me.” (Psalm 51:10, 12, NKJV)

– Gathering in Faith –

Gathering Music

Welcome & Announcements

* *Call to Worship*

* Song “Stand Up and Bless the Lord” #662, vs. 1, 2, & 4

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

People: We are learning to follow Jesus.

Leader: The journey is long and the burden of our sins and struggles feels so heavy.

People: Yet we will hope in God because with God, there is steadfast love.

* Song “Cares Chorus” #2215

Leader: Year after year of change and struggle have taken their toll—how can anyone bring forth life when we feel so parched and tired?

People: Yet God meets the lifeless with the breath of life, reviving us again to worship and follow God’s way.

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 “I Love You, Lord” #2068

* *Passing the Peace of Christ*

Opportunities to Serve

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer

– Hearing Our Faith Story –

Scripture Lesson Colossians 2:6-15 (NRSV)

Anthem “O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee” #430, vs. 1, 3, 4

* *Gospel Lesson* Matthew 28:1-20 (NRSV)

Sermon “Christus Victor” Rev. Christopher Leistra

Message Response “In the Cross of Christ I Glory” #295, vs. 1 & 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

– Sending Forth –

* *Benediction*

* *Hymn of Going Forth* “Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain” #315, vs. 1, 2, 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. It's located on the south side of the entryway next to the restroom.

Keep in your prayers this week: Staci Thompson on the passing of her father, Norman Kohlmeyer, whose funeral was yesterday; Wanda Kothlow as she recovers at the Transplant House in Rochester. Bev Niebuhr and Joan Christian; Alan Yokiell; 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 – 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: One year ago today we voted to support Red Bird Mission with a yearly commitment of prayer and financial support. Our covenant amount for Red Bird Mission this year is \$1,155.00 (\$5 per member). The Lenten offering goes to Red Bird Mission and as of last Sunday, we have \$525 towards our goal. **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. Make checks out to Open Doors UMC.

The Red Bird Mission is located in the Appalachia hills of southeast Kentucky. It is an area populated by some of the poorest people in the country. Red Bird Mission, guided by Jesus Christ, empowers individuals and advocates justice through spiritual, educational, health and community outreach ministries.

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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 29: **Chicken Nuggets, French Fries, Veggies & Cake**. Serving will be from 5:00-6:15 and we'll ask for a free-will donation. Invite your friends! Stop in before your evening event! Also, please consider volunteering as a Wednesday night cook! The following week is various soups for Holy Week. 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 – We will be having a Soup Supper on Wednesday, April 5. The supper will be followed by an ecumenical Holy Week worship service in the sanctuary with Communion. Please sign up on the clipboard if you are willing to make a crockpot of soup.

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Looking for readers for Palm Sunday in the Tenebrae service of darkness and again on Easter morning in a "reverse" Tenebrae. Please contact Jan Johanson or the office this week.

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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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Little Red Food Pantry, an ongoing ministry of Open Doors, is always in need of food and/or financial donations. Next Sunday, the first Sunday of the month, we take our monthly offering, however donations are welcome anytime. 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. *Thank you!*

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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.

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UMCOR Sunday offering – If you haven't given your gift to support UMCOR yet, you still can. Please use the Special Sunday envelopes near the offering chest or write "UMCOR Sunday" clearly on your pew envelope and drop it in the chest. (Make checks out to Open Doors UMC.)

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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.

Community Leadership Event – Tuesday, April 25, 5:00-7:30pm at Nasinec Event Center. Bill Goodwin will be discussing Dr. Tim Elmore’s book, *A New Kind of Diversity*, about what might be the biggest, most dramatic, and most disruptive shift the American workforce has ever seen: the vast diversity of several generations living–and working–together. Area businesses and leaders are encouraged to attend to learn how their teams can become stronger from all the strengths each generation brings to the table. Wells Area Ministerial is sponsoring this event. Tickets are \$15 and include dinner.

Have some laughs with The Skit Guys this Friday, March 31 at 7:00 pm at the Fairmont Opera House, 45 Downtown Plaza. The Skit Guys write and perform hilarious and poignant skits for families at events, churches, and conferences around the world. Josh Edwards and Tom Eggum are also on the program. Tickets are only \$5, get yours before they’re sold out! Call 507-238-4900 for tickets.

Minnesota Lake Firefighters Pancake Breakfast – Today, 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.

Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at the Wells American Legion on Monday, March 27 from 10:30am-6:30 pm. Please visit RedCrossBlood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to schedule an appointment. Give the gift of life!

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 nondenominational Christian classical academy in Winnebago currently serving students in preschool through 11th grade.

Five Sisters Project SOUL SISTERS: Thursday, April 13 at 7:00pm at the Wilderness Prayer Center. The special speaker will be Paula Shaughnessy from Only Believe.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, March 26

- W** 9:00am Worship
- 10:00am Sunday School / Coffee
- 12:00pm Hunter Bruckhoff Eagle Ceremony
- K** 11:00am Worship

Monday, March 27

- 10:30-6:30 Bloodmobile, Wells Legion

Tuesday, March 28

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

Wednesday, March 29

- 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 30

- W** 10:00am Powerful Tools for Caregivers
- 6:30pm Church Board Meeting

Sunday, April 2 – Palm Sunday

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

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

- Pastor Rev. Christopher Leistra
- Organist.....Jan Johanson
- AcolyteMakinlee Gossen
- Scripture ReaderJaiden Gossen
- A/VDon Stenzel, Sarah Hankerson
- Projection Karen Stenzel

Birthdays This Week:

- March 26..... John Kruse, Dan Willaby
- March 28..... Greg Ellsworth
- March 29..... Neil Roesler, Darrin Hueper
- March 30..... Brett Hankerson



H O L Y · W E E K

- 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 Sunrise Worship with the Youth
- 7:45am-W Easter Breakfast
- 9:00am-W Easter Worship
- 11:00am-K Easter Worship