



OPEN DOORS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WELLS CAMPUS

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

KIESTER CAMPUS

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

Pastor: Chris Leistra | Office Phone: 507-553-5453;
Cell Phone: 920-765-3665 | Email: pastorumc@bevcomm.net | Web Site: www.opendoorsumc.org

April 23, 2023 – 3rd Sunday of Easter

Please turn off or silence your cell phone.

Each new day to praise your name is a glorious gift, Lord. Thank you!

Gathering Music

Welcome & Announcements

* Call to Worship

Leader: Call on the Lord who bends low to hear us.
Come! Lift your voices to the Lord who always hears us.

People: Listen, Lord. Hear our voices sing your praises.

* Song "I Will Call Upon the Lord" #2002

Leader: Call on the Lord who bends low to hear us.

People: Listen, Lord. We lift our voices to you in praise.

* Song "We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise" #2031

Leader: Call on the name of the Lord, all people.

People: Listen, Lord. We call on your wonderful name. For you saved us, you raised us and turned our lives around. Let your name be praised in this congregation.

* Song "I Love You, Lord" #2068

Leader: Let us pray. We do love you, Lord. We rejoice in knowing you, and knowing your great love and sacrifice for us. Take our thoughts and our praise, our prayers and commitments, offered to you this morning through our worship of you. May they be acceptable to you, O Lord, our Redeemer and friend.

* 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	1 Peter 1:17-23 (NRSV)	
Response	"It Is Well with My Soul"	#377, vs. 1-3
* Gospel Lesson	Luke 24:13-35 (NRSV)	
Sermon	"Are We Just Walking Away?"	Rev. Christopher Leistra
Message Response	"The Summons"	#2130 vs. 1, 2 & 5

– Stewards of Faith –

Giving with a Thankful Heart

Offertory Music (as we present our gifts for ministry)

Offering our Gifts for Ministry

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

Almighty God, giver of every good and perfect gift, teach us to render to you all that we have and all that we are, that we may praise you, not with our lips only, but with our

whole lives, turning the duties, the sorrows, and the joys of all our days into a living sacrifice to you; through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

– Sending Forth –

* *Benediction*

* *Hymn of Going Forth*

"Christ Is Alive"

#318, vs. 1, 2 & 5

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

Welcome to worship, Christian education and fellowship. May God bless and strengthen you here 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: Leota Dahl; Alan Yokiel; all others who are dealing with health issues; for the people and work of Red Bird Mission; all those grieving, hurting, and lonely; all those struggling with challenging life situations; the victims of natural disasters all around the world; all those serving in the military and their families.

Announcements

The flowers on the altar are from the funeral of Jan Carlson, which was held last Tuesday. Please keep her family in your prayers.

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Survey meeting April 30 – Find out the results of the church survey and begin a discussion of what to do with the information we've gathered. There will also be a very short Board meeting. This will begin right after worship so Pastor can take part before leaving for worship at Kiester. (The Treasures & More meeting has been moved to May 7.)

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1st Quarter Financial Statements are being handed out this morning or were sent out in the mail and emailed on April 20. If you did not receive yours, please contact Sarah Hankerson in the church office.

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Collection for Emma Norton – Until this Wednesday, **April 26**, we will collect needed items for Emma Norton Services. Requested are:

- Financial gifts
- Gift cards for Target, Walmart, Amazon
- Household cleaning supplies: disinfectant, floor cleaner, sponges, dish soap
- Bed sheets: queen, full, twin ● Disposable masks
- Paper towels ● Toilet paper ● Ethnic hair care

Emma Norton Services began when a woman named Emma Norton gave a gift to the United Methodist Women and they opened a "Methodist Home for Girls" in the Twin Cities. Over the years, the organization and its services have changed to meet the needs of the community, and today they provide transitional housing and support to homeless women, and their families, who experienced mental health or chemical challenges.

The *Professional Administrators of the United Methodist Connectional Structure* (PAUMCS) National Conference, April 27-29 in Bloomington, MN, will be taking up this collection as their mission offering. Sarah Hankerson will be attending.

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Wednesday Night Suppers – We're looking for a cook for this week and for May 17! A main dish with a side, a simple dessert, and two people to help in the kitchen is all we need. If no one signs up, we will have pizza for sure. So, come out anyway for pizza with friends! Serving will be from 5:00-6:15.

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Treasures & More meeting postponed to May 7. Open Doors Treasures & More will be held this fall, October 7 & 8, 2023. Be thinking now and throughout the summer of what you can donate to sell at this fundraiser – something homemade or from your garden, handcrafted arts, collectibles, or delicious eats. Working together as a church family to put on this large event is

rewarding and fun. Your help with organizing the event is needed now! **A meeting will be held Sunday, May 7 at 10:00am after worship.** Please come to the meeting or contact Linda Bakken if you're interested in helping but unable to attend.



Volunteers needed, please!

1. The Church Board is looking for someone to mow the church and parsonage lawns in Wells for this year's mowing season. The church does own a Craftsman push mower, which is stored on the premises and is available to use if preferred. The person doing the mowing would need to also trim as needed to keep the lawns looking well-maintained.
2. We are also looking for someone to mow the Walnut Lake Cemetery. This is about 2 acres of mostly open lawn about 1-1/2 miles south of the Pink Schoolhouse on Cty Rd 21. A rider and trailer would be needed for this.
3. And, we are looking for someone to clean up the hostas in the landscaping rock on the north side of the church building and the peony & clematis bushes by the parsonage.

If you, or anyone you know, would feel called to volunteer your time and service to our church in any of these ways, please reply or call the church office. Thanks!!



Red Bird Mission – Open Doors UMC will be sending \$1,652.00 to Red Bird Mission in Kentucky! Thank you to everyone for the wonderful response to the Lenten Offering this year! We surpassed our pledge of \$1,155 by almost \$500! Once again, you demonstrated how loving and mission-minded the people of Open Doors are!



Vacation Bible School – We're going to experiment with a new format for VBS this year. It will be a "Wells Area" VBS including children and leaders from Wells Assembly of God, Good Shepherd Lutheran, Covenant Life, and Open Doors UMC. We're excited about how fun it can be for our kids, the huge outreach this can have in our town and about working together! It will be held 9:30-11:00am on June 5-8 at Thompson Park (rain location is Open Doors). Watch for registration info to come!



May/June Upper Room devotionals are available to pick up. \$1.25 for regular print or \$1.50 for large print.



Community Leadership Event – Tuesday, April 25, 5:00-7:30pm at Nasinec Event Center. **Open Doors UMC has two seats at our table available yet.** Please contact Pastor Chris if you have an interest in filling them.

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.



Graduates – Do you have a child, grandchild, or other relative graduating from high school, college or other educational institution this spring? To be included in the June graduation issue of the OneWay, please contact the church office and give the student's name, relationship to you, school name & city, degree or major if appropriate.



Summer 2023 is just around the corner! Experience Christ, creation, and community at our three UMC camp locations. Register before **April 30** and receive a \$25 camp store credit. Save even more by bringing a friend with you to camp. Check out all the possibilities and register at www.campminnesota.org. Open Doors UMC will give up to \$75 camp scholarship for UMC camps. Contact Mary Loveless.



Funeral Servers – Thank you to all who filled out and returned the church survey! We have some names of people who would be willing to serve on a funeral lunch team. *Thank you!* If there are others who are willing to serve that didn't sign their name, or people who did not turn in a survey and would like to serve, please let Mary Loveless know, or contact the office. Let us know if you are available weekdays, weekends, or both.



