



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

May 7, 2023 – 5th Sunday of Easter

Please turn off or silence your cell phone.

*Risen Jesus, as spring blossoms around me, may your love blossom in me,
that I might share its fragrance and brilliance with others.*

Gathering Music

Welcome & Announcements

* Call to Worship

* Song "Jesus Is a Rock In a Weary Land" on screen (#3074 chorus)

Leader: Let's share these verses from Psalm 31:

In you, O Lord, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me.

People: **Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily. Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.**

* Song "Jesus Is a Rock..." on screen (#3074 chorus)

Leader: You are indeed my rock and my fortress: for your names' sake lead me and guide me, take me out of the net that is hidden for me, for you are my refuge.

People: **Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.**

* Song "Cornerstone" on screen

Leader: Come, people of God! Take refuge in the Lord, who listens when we cry out,

People: **who rescues us when we call, and who leads and guides us according to his unfailing love.**

Leader: You are our God; our lives are in your hands.

People: **Let's worship God together! Amen.**

* Passing the Peace of Christ

Opportunities to Serve

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

– Hearing Our Faith Story –

Scripture Lesson

Acts 7:55-60 (NRSV)

Anthem

"Peace Be with You"

Choir

* Gospel Lesson

John 14:1-14 (NRSV)

Sermon

"Where?"

Rev. Christopher Leistra

Message Response

"I Will Trust in the Lord"

#464, vs. 1, twice

– Stewards of Faith –

Giving with a Thankful Heart

* Doxology

* *Prayer of Thanksgiving*

All: 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.

Communion Song "Come to the Table of Grace" on screen (#3168)

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* "Halle, Halle, Halleluja" #2026b, vs. 1, 3 & 4

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

Welcome to worship and Christian fellowship in the name of Jesus, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Amen. Everyone is invited for coffee and treats, both before and after the 9:00 worship service at the Wells 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

Pastor Chris will be on vacation this afternoon, May 7 through Tuesday, May 16. While he is away, if you have any pastoral care needs, please call the office. We have a pastor on-call.

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Wednesday Night Suppers – The menu this week, May 3: **hamburgers, hot dogs and pasta salad served by Alice & Jenny**. Serving will be from 5:00-6:15 and we'll ask for a free-will donation. Invite your friends!

May 17 will be a POTLUCK meal! Come as you are, bring what you are able. This will be the last Wednesday meal this season, so let's make it big!

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Treasures & More meeting – today. 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 join us in the back of the sanctuary.

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Volunteers needed, please!

1. The Church Board is looking for someone to team up with Sally Yokiell to mow the church and parsonage lawns in Wells for this year's mowing season. You would not be asked to mow it every week, but work out a schedule between the two of you to share the mowing. 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.

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!!



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 by May 18 and give the student's name, relationship to you, school name & city, degree or major if appropriate.



Children's Focus Group meeting on May 24 at 6:30. Parents and church family members who have a desire to rejuvenate a children's program, please come to a meeting on Wednesday, May 24 at 6:30pm where we will talk and share ideas about forming a "Wednesday School" program and how to make it happen.



Offering Plates – We have resumed passing the offering plates now that we are out of the pandemic and getting back to normal. Many of you give electronically now, so if you feel better about placing something in the plates, there are "I give electronically" cards in the pew pockets that you can drop in the offering plate.

Offering Stewards – Each Sunday, we will be asking for two people to help pass the offering plates. They will take the plates from Pastor Chris, go down the center aisle towards the back, passing the plates to each pew row. A third and fourth volunteer could also get up and assist in passing the plates from the outside aisles. When all have been collected, both people will return to the front of the sanctuary together, where Pastor will be waiting to take the plates from you, then you can return to your seats. It's a small thing, but thank you very much for stepping up and willingly offering your service!



Today, May 7, the first Sunday of the month, is the day for collecting food and/or a money for the Little Red Food Pantry. Each week the pantry gets regular use and the food supply dwindles down. Please donate so that this Open Doors ministry can keep helping those who are hungry in a confidential and caring way.



Conference Love Offering – Please read the bulletin insert for information about this year's offering. Use the special "Love Offering" envelopes in the pew pockets. Checks should be written out to Open Doors UMC and write "Conference Love Offering" in the memo line. You may also donate online at www.opendoorsumc.org/giving.



UMCOR & Midwest Mission Distribution Center Collections – There will be an MMDC truck at Annual Conference in St. Cloud to collect local church's donations of kits, cleaning supplies, diapers, and other items. There is a handout on the back table that lists what goes into each kit, as well as other info about how to order these things online. Partial kits are needed as well as complete kits. MMDC also has a list of current needs: shampoo, liquid laundry detergent, liquid dish soap and liquid household cleaner. Deadline for having items here to be brought to Annual Conference is May 28.



Time to Register for 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). You can download a registration form from our website. Registration due date is May 28.



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

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Omelet Breakfast Today, May 7, 7:30-12pm at Wells VFW supporting The Five Sisters Project.
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THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, May 7

- W** 9:00am Worship w/ Communion
- 10:00am Sunday School / Coffee
- 10:00am Treasures & More meeting
- 10:00am Worship meeting

Mon., May 8 thru Tues., May 16

Pastor Chris out of town on vacation.

Monday, May 8

- 4:15pm VBS Meeting at Wells Assembly of God Church

Wednesday, May 10

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

Thursday, May 11

- W** 10:00am Caregiver Support Group

Sunday, May 14 / Mother's Day

- W** 9:00am Worship w/ TJ Lewis
- 10:00am Sunday School
- 10:00am Coffee

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

- Pastor..... Rev. Christopher Leistra
- Organists..... Jan Johanson
- Scripture Reader..... Tammy Bullerman
- Acolytes.....
- Offering..... 2 volunteers, please
- A/V..... Sarah Hankerson, Kaylynn Healey
- Projection..... Martin Healey

Birthdays This Week:

- May 8.....Linda Bakken
- May 10.....Alexis Musser
- May 12.....Pastor Chris Leistra
- May 13.....Ella Olson
- May 14.....Glenn Johanson, Priscilla Holst

Cable Schedule of Wells' Sunday Service:

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