



## OPEN DOORS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

### WELLS CAMPUS

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

### KIESTER CAMPUS

116 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:pastorumc@bevcomm.net) | Web Site: [www.opendoorsumc.org](http://www.opendoorsumc.org)

May 28, 2023 – Pentecost Sunday

Please turn off or silence your cell phone.

*Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, today and always, Lord God.  
Energize and equip us to live out your love in the world.*

### – Gathering in Faith –

*Gathering Music*

*Welcome & Announcements*

\* *Call to Worship*

\* Song "Surely the Presence of the Lord" #328

Leader: Like the disciples, we gather in this space, united by our relationship with the Risen Christ.

**People: We come ready to receive what God has to give.**

Leader: Just as tongues of fire descended on the disciples,

**People: We receive the gift of the Spirit's power and inspiration.**

Leader: Just as the resurrected Christ breathed the Spirit onto the disciples,

**People: We receive the gift of the spirit's peace and wisdom.**

Leader: As the lifegiving and peacemaking Holy Spirit blazes through us today,

**People: We receive the gift of the Spirit's fire that unites us as the body of Christ.**

**Amen.**

\* Song "Spirit of the Living God" #393

\* *Passing the Peace of Christ*

*Opportunities to Serve*

*Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer*

### – Hearing Our Faith Story –

*Children's Moment* "Cain and Abel" *Believe Storybook* (Genesis 4:1-16)

*Scripture Lesson* Hosea 11:1-11 (NRSV)

*Response* "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" #140, vs 1 & 3

\* *Gospel Lessons* John 3:16-21; Matthew 10:34-36 (NRSV)

*Sermon* "Humanity and God" Pastor Christopher Leistra  
*Believe*, Chapter 7

*Message Response* "Oh, How He Loves You and Me" #2108

### – Stewards of Faith –

*Giving with a Thankful Heart*

*Offering our Gifts for Ministry*

*Offertory Music (as we present our gifts for ministry)*

\* *Doxology* #95

\* *Prayer of Thanksgiving*

### – Sending Forth –

\* *Benediction*

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**At Pentecost** we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit! Welcome to worship as we pray to be aware of the Spirit’s movement around us here, as well. 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:** All the graduates; leaders and delegates at MN Annual Conference this week; the farmers; Brenda Johnson’s niece, Trishel; Alan Yokiell; 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**

**Registrations due TODAY 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 or pick one up on the back table. Registration due date is next Sunday, May 28.

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**Believe Study** – There will be a study group beginning this Tuesday, May 30, at 9:00 a.m. at The Bean. We’ll begin with discussing chapter 6 of the book *Believe*. (If The Bean is not open, meet at church.) The study will be from 9-10 and “Coffee with the Pastor” from 10-11.

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**Annual Conference** is this Wednesday & Thursday, May 31-June 1. Pastor Chris and Sherry Asmus will be our voting delegates. All events will be live-streamed and you can watch it at [www.facebook.com/MinnesotaUMC](http://www.facebook.com/MinnesotaUMC), beginning with the Opening Session at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday. You don’t have to have a Facebook account to watch. Check out [www.minnesotaumc.org/annualconference](http://www.minnesotaumc.org/annualconference) for the schedule and also information on all the conference legislation that will be voted on and reports that will be given. News updates will be posted on the Conference’s Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram sites with the hashtag #MNUMC. If you would like to discuss any of the Conference issues with Pastor Chris, either on the phone or in person, you’re welcome to give him a call.

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**TODAY is last day to collect Conference Love Offering & UMCOR/MMDC donations** – Our Love Offering this year will tangibly share God’s extravagant love with a hurting world by addressing the growing mental health needs in Minnesota. 60% of the Love Offering will fund a new grant that will support churches that have partnerships with mental health services offered in local schools or communities. 30% will go to three Minnesota nonprofits engaged in mental health education and advocacy: Mental Health Connect, Mental Health Minnesota, and Minnesota Association for Children’s Mental Health. Finally, 10% of the Love Offering each year goes to Volunteers in Mission scholarships, which support first-time mission trip participants. 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](http://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 today, May 28.

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**Serve Wednesdays.** One Wednesday a month during the summer will be designated as Serve Wednesday. If anyone has any work projects at their home that they would like to have done but need help with, we will do our best to line people up to do that for you. And if there are any men, women, or youth who would like to work together to do these projects, let us know. The work will be done in the evenings, from 6:00 to dark and the anticipated dates are June 21, July 26, and August 16. Contact John Kruse at 507-995-1224 or the church office at 507-553-5453 if you have projects you would like to have done or if you would like to be on a Serve Team.



**Worship in the Park** – 6:30-7:30pm Wednesday, June 7, at Thompson Park. Join the worship team and youth from The WAY for an hour of uplifting music and worship!



**Red Cross Blood Drive** is Monday, June 5 at the Legion Hall in Wells. To make an appointment, please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: WELLSMN.



**May is Double Donation Month** – Less than 3 days to go! Join iGive.com and shop at 1900+ online stores to help support Open Doors with 2X the normal donation! Each store will donate a percentage of your purchase amount at no cost or risk to you. Check it out at [www.iGive.com/opendoorsunitedmethodistchurch](http://www.iGive.com/opendoorsunitedmethodistchurch)



**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!



**THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE**

**Sunday, May 28 / Pentecost**

W 9:00am Worship  
10:00am Coffee

**Monday, May 29** – Memorial Day

Office Closed

**Tuesday, May 30**

9-11am Coffee with Pastor at The Bean (or at church if Bean is closed)

W 1:00pm Painting class

4:15pm VBS meeting at Wells Assembly of God church

**Wednesday-Thursday, May 31-June 1**

Minnesota Annual Conference in St. Cloud

**Wednesday, May 31**

W 9:00am Community prayer  
10:00am Community Bible study  
5:45pm Praise Team

**Sunday, June 4**

W 9:00am Worship w/Communion  
10:00am Coffee  
2:00 USC Graduation

**WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS**

Pastor .....Rev. Christopher Leistra  
Organists.....Jan Johanson  
Scripture Reader ..... Alice Oleson  
Offering .....2 volunteers, please  
A/V ..... Sarah Hankerson  
Projection.....Brett Hankerson

**Birthdays This Week:**

May 30 ..... Brayden Mithun  
May 31 ..... Margaret Courrier, Carol Tibodeau, Owen Lackey  
June 1 ..... Pastor Paul Woolverton, Taylor Lacher

**Cable Schedule of Wells’ Sunday Service:**

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

## **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

The church survey we conducted this spring revealed that the majority of responders wanted to see our church grow, particularly the children & youth programs, but improvement was needed.

We held a meeting last week about childhood education for the fall and we are definitely looking at making some changes. We're looking at moving classes to Wednesdays, either right after school (3:15) or right after supper (6:00 - supper will be served at church from 5-6 and hopefully we have cooks for each week – another opportunity to serve! ☺); and a possible 1-room multi-age class on Sundays after church.

To make this next year's Christian Ed the best possible for our children, we need your help. We will need around 6 adults or older youth to volunteer as teachers & helpers, but we want to know what time would be best for our volunteers – Wed. afternoon, Wed. evening, or Sunday morning – and based on your responses, program planning will proceed for the time slot when we have an adequate number of leaders. It is a commitment of a few hours a week, but it can make a big impact on a kid's life to have you share the Gospel and some of yourself with them. Jesus said the harvest is great, but the workers are few ... can you be a worker? Let us know what time or times work for you.

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### **Yes, I care about our children and want to see our church grow!**

I can volunteer during the following times:

*Please check as many as possible, as planning will proceed for the time slot where we have the greatest number of leaders available.*

- 3:30-5:00pm Wednesday Classroom
- 6:30-7:30pm Wednesday Classroom
- 3:00-3:30pm Wednesday Snack Server
- 10:00-11:00am Sunday Classroom (multi-age)
- I can't commit to a full year, but I can teach from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ during this day & time (pick from times above): \_\_\_\_\_
- I will pray for Open Doors to develop a successful children's ministry, for leaders to step forward, and for the children to come. I pray that each child has the opportunity to grow their faith and to lead others.

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

Place in offering plate.