



The Parable
of the
Weeds in
the Field.



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

July 23, 2023 – Pentecost 8

Please turn off or silence your cell phone.

We thank you, Holy Spirit, for cultivating our lives to bear good fruit that serves your kingdom.

– Gathering in Faith –

Gathering Music

Welcome & Announcements

** Call to Worship*

* Song "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" #139, vs. 1, 2 & 5

Leader: Psalm 139 will lead our thoughts as we continue in our call to worship.

O Lord, you have examined my heart and know everything about me.

People: You know when I sit down or stand up. You know my every thought when far away.

Leader: You chart the path ahead of me and tell me where to stop and rest. Every moment you know where I am.

People: You know what I am going to say even before I say it, Lord.

* Song "Lead Me, Guide Me" #2214

Leader: Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts.

People: Point out anything in me that offends you and lead me along the path of everlasting life.

* Song "Spirit of God" #2117, vs. 1, 2, & 5

** Passing the Peace of Christ*

Children's Message

Opportunities to Serve

Breakthrough Prayer

One: Despite hardship, our ancestors dared to dream God-sized dreams.

Many: **Praise God for hope-filled dreams.**

One: Do it again, Lord. Dream big dreams through us today!

Many: **Praise God for new dreams for our generation.**

One: Invisible God, be visible through our faith today.

Many: **Praise God who empowers us with faith to see what others miss.**

One: Almighty God, bless us in our God-sized dreaming. Fill our minds and hearts with the possibilities of tomorrow and help us do the work today that helps us reach those dreams.

Many: **We will get involved in the dreaming and the work of ministry for the sake of God's mission and to make the possible real, for your glory, Almighty God.**

All: **Come now, Lord, and fulfill your dreams in us today!**

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

– Hearing Our Faith Story –

Scripture Lesson

Romans 8:12-25 (NRSV)

<i>Response</i>	"Lord of All Hopefulness"	#2197, vs. 1-3
* <i>Gospel Lesson</i>	Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43 (NRSV)	
<i>Sermon</i>	"Growing"	Rev. Christopher Leistra
<i>Message Response</i>	"The Potter's Hand"	Praise Team

– Stewards of Faith –

- Giving with a Thankful Heart*
- Offering our Gifts for Ministry*
- Offertory Music (as we present our gifts for ministry)*
- * *Doxology*
- * *Prayer of Thanksgiving*

– Sending Forth –

- * *Benediction*
- * *Hymn of Going Forth* "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" #2129
- * *Postlude – The Church Scatters for Ministry . . .*

Welcome! The Holy Spirit calls us together as the church to worship and praise God, made known to us in Christ. Peace be with you all. 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: Jaunice Gerber; Marge Mutschler; 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



Servant Wednesday – Do you have gutters to clean, branches to trim, dirt to be dug, small woodworking projects or repair jobs that need to be done but you just can't manage it yourself? WE CAN HELP!

This summer, there is a designated Servant Wednesday once a month. The next Servant Wednesday is **July 26**. 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**.

.....

Coffee maker next Sunday – We will need a volunteer to make and serve coffee on Sunday, July 30. Please sign up on the clipboard by the coffee counter. Any questions, ask Doug Hankerson. Thanks!

.....

We're going to start up a Wednesday "Sunday School." We know we can build Wednesdays into a vibrant, active, Spirit and fun-filled night for families of all ages! But we need your help! We will need around 6 adults or older youth to volunteer as teachers & helpers. Right now, we need teachers, so we will design the program around the time slot where we have the most leaders available. Included in the Wednesday line-up would be supper and a short time for worship & song that everyone can participate in.

Teaching 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 God's story and some of yourself with them. **We need you!** Please consider being a teacher this fall/winter/spring! Call Pastor Chris or the office and let us know what time works best for you: **3:30-5:00pm Wednesday, 6:30-7:30pm Wednesday, OR 10:00-11:00am Sunday** (we would like to continue with a 1-room multi-age class after church on Sundays). Snack servers will also be needed if we have an after-school program.

Please pray for the success of our children's ministry and that teachers will come forward.

.....

Golf Outing July 28 – Join Pastor Chris this Friday afternoon for a round of golf at the Wells Golf Course. The WAY is sponsoring it, but everyone regardless of age is invited. Regular green fees apply. Meet at the club house at 2:00.

.....
The Kernel Days Parade is coming up Saturday, August 12! We're looking for riders and walkers to represent Open Doors! Doug Bruckhoff will drive his pick-up through the parade for us. We need lots of friendly faces – young and old! Line-up is 4:30 with the parade beginning at 5:00. Please sign up on the clipboard if you want to be part of the fun of the Kernel Days parade or let the office know. We'll let you know what our unit number is a couple days ahead.

.....
Bible Journaling Class in August – Pastor Chris will be leading a Bible Journaling class each Sunday in August following worship. While studying specific Bible passages, be free to take notes, highlight, decorate, draw, color, use stickers, all to help record what is meaningful to you. A journaling Bible with wide margins will be helpful – you can get them online at Christian bookstores or Amazon – or a separate journal to record your thoughts.

.....
Congratulations! Jan and Glenn Johanson are happy to share the news of the arrival of a new granddaughter, **Maren Joy Johanson**, born July 9, 2023, to Thad & Kelsey Johanson, of Manchester. Maren has two older siblings, Korah & Levi.

.....
Fundraiser this Saturday for Jim & Alice Oleson's granddaughter, Trisha Eastman – Saturday, July 29, 5:00-10:00pm at The Golden Bubble. Snacks, silent auction, and dancing to the live music of Door 49, a classic country music band. Trisha, 26, is going through her second bout with breast cancer. All funds received will help the family with medical expenses.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, July 23

W 9:00am Worship
 10:00am Coffee

Tuesday, July 25

9-11am Coffee at The Bean (if it's closed, then meet at Open Doors)

W 6:30pm Ministry Council

Wednesday, July 26 – Servant Wednesday

W 9:00am Staff meeting
 9:00am Community prayer
 10:00am Community Bible study
 10:00am Worship at Parkview
 6:30pm The WAY Middle School group at Stenzel's
 6:30pm The WAY High School group at Edwards'

Thursday, July 27

W 10:00am Caregiver Support Group

Friday, July 28

2:00pm The WAY Golfing at Wells Golf Club

Sunday, July 30

W 9:00am Worship
 10:00am Coffee

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Preacher.....Rev. Christopher Leistra
 Organist..... Jan Johanson
 Scripture Reader Britney Haugh
 Offering..... 2 volunteers, please
 A/V..... Don Stenzel, Sarah Hankerson
 Projection.....Karen Stenzel

Birthdays This Week:

July 23Mark Miller
 July 24Sally Musser, Janet Garvick
 July 25Joan Christian
 July 27Mark Wedin, Rich Goggin
 July 30Alayna Lau

Sponsored by The Wells Area Ministerial

Kernel Days Pool Party

5 pm
Food & Yard Games

5:30
Community Worship & Prayer Service

6:30
Open Swim

8-9pm
TRU SERVA HIP HOP CONCERT

August 9th

Wells Swimming Pool
 798 1st Ave SW
 Wells, MN 56097

f @Wells Area Ministerial

WELLS AREA Ministerial