

If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
if I settle on the far side of the sea,
even there your hand will guide me ...



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

August 13, 2023 – Pentecost 11

Please turn off or silence your cell phone.

(* indicates when to stand. You may remain seated if standing creates a problem for you.)

*"The Lord will give what is good. And our land will give its fruit" (Psalm 85:12, NLV).
As gardens and fields bear produce, God, harvest goodness also in my life.*

– Gathering in Faith –

Gathering Music

Welcome & Announcements

* Call to Worship

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

Leader: Beloved disciples, welcome. As we gather, what are you seeking?

People: We seek God's presence all around us.

Leader: Beloved disciples, if God's presence is all around us, what are you seeking?

People: We seek to recognize God's presence among us.

Leader: Beloved disciples, if God is among you, what are you seeking?

People: We seek God in the faces of family, friends, and neighbors.

Leader: Beloved disciples, if God is in the face of your neighbor, what are you seeking?

People: We seek God in the search and work for peace and wholeness for all God's creation.

Leader: As we gather today, may we meet God in our seeking and in our finding.

ALL: Amen.

* Song "Bind Us Together" #2224

Leader: May we all find God in the present, in our space, in the people around us, and may they find God in us as we seek to live and do God's will each day. Let us stand as we sing our praise to God.

* Song "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart" #160, vs. 1, 2 & 5

* Passing the Peace of Christ

Opportunities to Serve

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

– Hearing Our Faith Story –

Scripture Lesson

Psalm 139 (NRSV)

Response

"I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"

#2151, vs. 1 & 3

* Gospel Lesson

Matthew 14:22-33 (NRSV)

Sermon

"Where I Lie Down and Where I Get Up"

Rev. Christopher Leistra

Message Response

"Children of the Heavenly Father "

#141, vs. 1, 3 & 4

– Stewards of Faith –

Giving with a Thankful Heart

Offering our Gifts for Ministry

Offertory Music (as we present our gifts for ministry)

* *Doxology*

* *Breakthrough Prayer (Take a colored print from the back table to pray this at home.)*

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!

– Sending Forth –

* *Benediction*

* *Hymn of Going Forth* "I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry"

#2051

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

A joyous and blessed Sabbath to you, brothers and sisters in Christ! Welcome to worship. Everyone is invited for coffee and treats, both before and after the 9:00 worship service at the Wells Campus. Thank you, Shari Petersen, for making coffee today!

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: The family of Irene Bathke; Jaunice Gerber; Marge Mutschler; 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

Irene Bathke (88) passed away at Parkview Care Center last Sunday, August 6. A private memorial for family will be held at a later date. Her family would like memorials to be put in a fund for the kitchen, where Irene worked so faithfully for every funeral, remembering when the ladies spent days preparing full meals.

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Confirmation meeting – There will be a quick 20-minute meeting for all eligible Confirmation students (7th & 8th graders) and parents at 10:00 am today, August 13. Please meet in the back of the sanctuary.

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Treasures & More meeting next Sunday – After worship on August 20, there will be a planning meeting for our Treasures & More fundraiser sale, which will be October 7 & 8. Everyone is encouraged to come who would like to help put this event on.

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Bible Journaling Class– Wondering what this is all about? Stop into **The Meeting Room** after worship to find out. (Pastor Chris will be a few minutes late today, attending the Confirmation meeting first.) Pastor Chris is leading this class each Sunday in August focusing on the scripture used during worship that morning. Feel 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.

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Little Red Food Pantry – *Our surplus of food from earlier this summer is gone.* Please help out as you are able for those who have little. These are popular and go fast: canned meat and 1-can

meals like pasta with meat & stew, instant potatoes, canned fruit & vegetables, soup, oatmeal packets, juice. Food may be placed in the collection tub in the entryways or put directly in the pantry. Please remember this is for emergency needs and the users are usually not experienced cooks or bakers. Items with little or no preparation needed are best. Monetary donations are also welcomed. Gifts are welcome all month long.



Church School this Fall – Elementary classes will be held on Wednesdays after school, followed by a short family-style worship and supper. Confirmation class will be held at 6:30 on Wednesdays. There will also be a Sunday School class for preschool, kindergarten, and older students on Sunday mornings.

The WAY youth group has some exciting news. They will be moving their meetings to Sunday evenings and will have their own space at the former Covenant Life church on hwy 109.

Some starting dates to keep in mind:

Wednesday after-school program for grades 1-5: September 13

Mid-week worship and Wednesday suppers: September 13

Sunday School class for preschool on up: October 1

Bible Sunday for 2nd, 7th & 8th graders: October 1

The WAY Youth Group: Sunday, September 10

Confirmation class: date tbd. (Parents, students: please come to meeting today.)

We need you! Please consider being a teacher this fall/winter/spring for Wednesday afternoons or Sunday mornings! Call Pastor Chris or the office and let us know that God has been nudging you and you'd like to get involved! Snack servers will also be needed to have snack ready every Wednesday at 3:10. And we'll need lots supper cooks! All the people working together to create a place where people feel loved by God and by each other is what Open Doors is all about.



Wednesday Suppers will begin September 13. A sign-up sheet for the fall term is on a clipboard on the back table for cooking teams to volunteer. Please consider serving in this way!



Schedule your photo session TODAY for the New Pictorial Directory! – See Shari or Sarah in the entryway to pick your date for photography. We would like 100% participation! Our dates for photography are September 11 & 1, and there are times left from 2:12 to 8:36! There are three ways to schedule: in-person on Sunday mornings, online, or call the church office. In-person: Today and next Sunday you can schedule your family for their portrait time at the scheduling table. Online: Simply go to the Universal website, www.ucdir.com, click on the box to the right that says "Photography Appointment Scheduling Login," enter **mn406** in the Church Code field and enter **photos** in the Church Password field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. Phone: Call Sarah in the office at 507-553-5453 to schedule an appointment. Remember, this is a terrific opportunity for a professional portrait in the comfort of our own church. Schedule your family soon while you have a good choice of times!

We'll need volunteers to serve as host or hostess during the two days of photography. You can sign up at the scheduling table for that, too. Thanks!



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!

The last Servant Wednesday for this summer is **August 16**. Contact John Kruse at 507-995-1224 if you have projects you would like to have done **or if you would like to be on a Serve Team**.



Golf Outing August 18 – 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.



Garden Produce Table Bring your garden abundance for sharing & place on the table in the narthex. People may help themselves to whatever is brought in. Optional donations, and left-over produce, will go to the Wells Area Food Shelf or the Little Red Food Pantry.



Collecting school supplies thru August 27! We will be collecting school supplies for the August Mission-of-the-Month as we have in the past. Having to purchase school supplies all at once and with today's prices, some families are put in a difficult financial situation. Let's help them out! A collection tub is in the front entryway and north hallway. *Thank you!*



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| Boxes of Kleenex | 12" rulers | Glue sticks and white glue |
| Clorox Wipes | Clipboards | Erasers, large & pencil-top |
| #2 yellow pencils | Pocket folders | 24-count crayons |
| Colored pencils | Watercolors | Thin yellow highlighters |
| Pencil boxes & zippered pouches | | Dry-erase markers, fine and wide tip |
| Pointed end scissors (Fiskars) | | Regular & fine-point Classic markers |
| Red, blue or black pens (Bic-like) | | Headphones and Earbuds |
| Spiral notebooks, wide-lined | | Index cards, lined |
| Looseleaf paper | Trapper Keepers | Composition notebooks |
| Jumbo stretchy book covers | | Ziplock storage bags, gallon & quart |

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Vacation – Our Office Manager, Sarah Hankerson, will be on vacation this week and will be out of the office August 14-18.

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We need someone to make coffee next Sunday, August 20. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet at the coffee bar. All other Sundays are open, too.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, August 13

- W** 9:00am Worship
- 10:00am Coffee
- 10:00am Confirmation meeting
- 10:00am Bible Journaling class

Tuesday, August 15

- 9-11am Coffee at The Bean
- W** 1:00pm Painting Class
- 6:00pm TheWAY leader meeting at Covenant Life

Wednesday, August 16

- W** 9:30am Staff meeting
- 9:00am Community prayer
- 10:00am Community Bible study
- 6:00pm-? Servant Wednesday

Thursday, August 18

- 2:00pm The WAY Golfing at Wells Course

Sunday, August 20

- W** 9:00am Worship
- 10:00am Coffee
- 10:00am Treasures & More meeting
- 10:00am Bible Journaling class

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

- Pastor Rev. Christopher Leistra
- Organist.....Jan Johanson
- Scripture Reader..... Martin Healey
- Offering2 volunteers, please
- A/VDon Stenzel, Sarah Hankerson
- Projection Karen Stenzel

Birthdays This Week:

- August 13..... Sally Yokiel
- August 14..... Angela (Bixby) Voss
- August 15..... Mandi Culbertson, Britney Haugh
- August 17..... Julie Roesler
- August 18..... Terry Halverson, June Petersen
- August 20..... Todd Rasmussen

Cable Schedule of Wells' Sunday Service:

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