



# OPEN DOORS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## WELLS CAMPUS

595 1st Ave SW, Wells, MN 56097

507-553-5453

Worship: 9:00 am

## KIESTER CAMPUS

116 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Kiester, MN 56051

507-294-3300

Worship: 10:30 am

**Pastor:** Rev. Christopher Leistra | Cell Phone: 920-765-3665 | Email: [pastorumc@bevcomm.net](mailto:pastorumc@bevcomm.net)  
**Central Office:** 507-553-5453 | [opendoorsumc@bevcomm.net](mailto:opendoorsumc@bevcomm.net) | Web Site: [www.opendoorsumc.org](http://www.opendoorsumc.org)

October 3, 2021 – Pentecost 19

**Please turn off or silence your cell phone.**

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

*I am so grateful, dear Jesus, that as you did with the little children who came to you,  
you take me in your loving arms, lay your hands on me and bless me.*

### – Gathering in Faith –

Prelude

John Miller

Greeting & Announcements

\* Call to Worship and Praise

**Song** "Let it Rise"

on screen

Leader: As Christians, we have been called to follow the example of Christ. We are to love and serve one another, being faithful to God the Father. Paul shared these thoughts with the people of Ephesus.

"Always keep yourselves united in the Holy Spirit, and bind yourselves together with peace.

We are all one body, we have the same Spirit and we have all been called to the same glorious future. There is only one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and there is only one God and father, who is over us all and in us all and living through us all."

**Song** "From All Who Dwell Below the Skies"

#101, vs 1 & 4

Leader: Let us pray:

All: Lord of all nations, you hold this fragile world securely in your hands; at the same time you are so personal as to live within each believer through your Spirit. Meet with us this day. Help us to see you in the faces of our sisters and brothers, to hear you in the words of Holy Scripture and to be nourished by you at the table. Convince us of your presence as we worship so that we may be inspired to live our lives for your glory and offer your love to all. Through Christ, our Lord and Savior, we pray. Amen.

**Song** "We Are the Body of Christ"

#2227

Opportunities to Serve

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn "Thy Word Is a Lamp" (vs 1)

#601

*(2<sup>nd</sup> graders and their parents, and 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders receiving Bibles should come forward during the hymn.)*

Presentation of Bibles

Pastor, parents, teachers: Receive the Word of God.

Learn its stories and study its words.

Its stories belong to us all, and these words speak to us all.

They tell us who we are. They tell us that we belong to one another, for we are the people of God.

Children & Youth:

*We receive these Bibles with our hands, our hearts, and our minds.*

*Thank you. We will read and study the Bible together.*

Congregation:

**We rejoice in this step in your journey with God.**

We pray God will guide you, your family, and us as you use this Holy Bible in your home, in your church school and Confirmation classes, and in our worship. We will learn together and grow in our love for God's Word.

Hymn "Thy Word Is a Lamp" (vs 2) #601  
(All may return to their seats during the song.)

**– Hearing Our Faith Story –**

Scripture Reading Genesis 22:9-19 (NRSV)

Song "In His Time" #2203

\* Gospel Reading \* Matthew 25:14-21 (NRSV)

*One: The Word of God for the people of God. All: Thanks be to God.*

Sermon "Abram to Abraham—God's Promises Fulfilled" Pastor Chris Leistra

Message Response "Everlasting God" on screen

**– Stewards of Faith –**

*Giving with a Thankful Heart* World Communion Sunday video  
Offering may be placed in the green chest (W)/offering plate (K) at the back of the sanctuary at this time, or on your way in or as you leave. *Thank you!*

*Prayer of Thanksgiving*

Communion Song "Let Us Be Bread" #2260

*The Great Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer* pg. 9

*Receiving the Gifts of Bread and Cup*

*You are invited to commune in your seats from the pre-packaged communion set as directed by the pastor. The pre-packaged sets are there for you to pick up as you enter the sanctuary. 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 discard the empty cup in the trash receptacle. Thank you.*

*Prayer after Receiving*

**– Sending Forth –**

\* *Benediction*

\* *Hymn of Going Forth* "Take My Life and Let It Be" #399

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

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**Keep in your prayers this week:** Farmers for a safe harvest. Rita Bebler for surgery coming up on Wednesday to remove a small spot of colon cancer. Those fighting cancer and other serious illnesses: Joan Christian, Michelle Viesselman (Kent & Diane's daughter-in-law), Sue Schuster, Alan Yokiel, Bebo Getchell. Those in the military and their families; and all others dealing with loss, poor health, pain, or family crisis.

**Announcements**

**The flowering plant** on the altar is in honor of Betty Olson for her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, which will be on Tuesday, October 5. *Happy birthday, Betty!*

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**The Story** – We're in week #2 of the 31-week series that goes through the Bible from Genesis through Revelation, helping people understand God's Word more fully. We will be looking at people in the Bible who have been disciples of God and how that can relate to our own story. To gain a greater understanding and have a time to talk and get better acquainted, grab a cup of coffee and come to the *Pathways to Discipleship* class that will be meeting after worship each Sunday. Don't worry if you can't be at every class, come whenever you can.

If have a copy of *The Story* from the last time we went through it, you should dig it out. We have a few new copies available for only \$5.00. There is a reading schedule available if you want to refer to the Bible as we go along. Also a handy bookmark with the schedule to mark your place in your copy of *The Story*.



**Class locations this morning:**

Pathways to Discipleship.... 10:30 am in the basement Youth Room at the Wells Campus  
Preschool-Kindergarten..... Noah's Ark Room. (upstairs and to the right.)

1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> ..... Music Room (upstairs and down the hall behind the balcony).

Snacks: Children will get a snack in their classrooms following music. Children are discouraged from going through the adult line.



**Bible Sunday.** 2<sup>nd</sup> graders and upcoming Confirmation students will be getting new Bibles during the worship service. Receiving their first Bible will be Harper Bird and Noah Leistra. Receiving their Student Bibles will be: Rebecca Kruse, Madison Meyer, Nevaeh Roberts, October Roberts, Marian Anderson, Gavin Bird, Kolt Bullerman, Hailey Chandler, Oliver Druckenmiller, Jaiden Gossen, Wyatt Haugh, Brayden Mithun, Abby Wedin, and Teagan Lutteke.



**Sunday School teachers needed!** We're still looking for a few teachers. Will you teach Sunday School this year? You can have your choice of age and schedules can be flexible. Please be praying for people to step up, and listen if God is nudging YOU! Contact Sarah in the church office if you'd like to volunteer or have questions. Classes begin next week on October 3.



**On the first Sunday of each month,** we will be taking a food offering for the **Little Red Food Pantry.** Bring non-perishable healthy food to help keep the Little Red Food Pantry stocked. It's been getting regular use. Canned vegetables, fruits, meats, soups, and all-in-one meals, peanut butter, cracker or granola snacks, rice or potato mixes are all great. Cash can also be given to go towards the purchase of needed food.



**TODAY is World Communion Sunday.** We will join many Christian churches across the globe for this celebration of unity among churches across denominations.

United Methodist Churches around the globe take a special offering on World Communion Sunday that will provide scholarships for U.S. racial- and ethnic-minority students and international students, on both undergraduate and graduate levels. Use the enclosed envelope. (Special Sunday offering envelopes have been redesigned so we can use the same envelope for all the special offerings.) To give online, find the World Communion card in the pew pocket and scan the QR code.



**Trunk or Treat** will be on Halloween Day, Sunday, October 31 from 3:00-4:00 pm on 1<sup>st</sup> Ave SW (west of the church). We're looking for lots of trunks, the more the better! Sign up on the bulletin board or contact Barbara Roberts (553-3341) or the church office if you would like to reserve a spot to host a trunk . . . car trunk, SUV, pick-up. Have fun with it – you can decorate, have a theme, come in costume, bring candy or trinkets for handing out to all the kids. This is a safe and fun alternative to door to door trick-or-treating.



**Operation Christmas Child** – OCC is our October Mission-of-the-month. Now is the time to be collecting shoebox gifts for that special child. The deadline will be November 14. Shoebox labels and donation envelopes will be here soon. Information and tips can be found in the October OneWay or at [www.operationchristmaschild.com](http://www.operationchristmaschild.com).



**Wells Firefighters Pancake Breakfast October 10** – 7:30am-12:30pm at the Wells Fire Hall. Pancakes, eggs, sausage, juice, coffee \$8.00, children 12 & under \$4.00.



**Jason Gray Concert for Five Sisters Project** – The Five Sisters Project is hosting a benefit concert with local artist Josh Edwards opening for International Christian Recording Artist Jason Gray to benefit their outreach to women and families in crisis. It will be held at Crossroads Church, 3402 Hoeger Lane, Albert Lea at 7pm on Sunday, October 24. Tickets can be purchased on the Five Sisters' website [www.fivesistersproject.com](http://www.fivesistersproject.com). If the concert is a sell-out, the concert can be livestreamed internationally and that could be a huge help in their fund raising efforts! So, won't you consider purchasing a ticket and enjoy an exciting night with Jason Gray!

This benefit event has two ticket options:

**Option 1:** Savory meal with the best seats for the concert – \$60. Dinner seating will begin at 5:30 and the meal served at 6. Hurry, limited quantity left.

**Option 2:** Concert only tickets are \$25. Concert starts at 7. Doors open at 6.



**Correction in the October OneWay:** On page 5, the All-District Church/Charge Conference will be Tuesday, November 16 from 6:30-8:00 pm and will be held via Zoom, rather than in person. Given the myriad of comfort levels out there and precautions needed, it was felt that one more year by Zoom would be best.



**THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE**

**Sunday, October 3**

- K** 8:00am Worship with Communion
- 9:00am Coffee
- W** 9:30am Worship with Communion
- 10:30am Coffee
- 10:30am Adult study
- 10:30am Sunday School

**Tuesday-Thursday, Oct 5-7**

Pastor Chris & Teal on vacation

**Sunday, October 10**

- K** 8:00am Worship
- 9:00am Coffee
- W** 9:30am Worship
- 10:30am Coffee
- 10:30am Adult study
- 10:30am Sunday School
- 10:30am UMW-Wells

**WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS - Wells**

- Pastor ..... Rev. Chris Leistra
- Organist.....Jan Johanson
- Scripture Reader ..... Katie Hueper
- Technicians .....Martin Healey, Kaylynn Healey, Sarah Hankerson

**Birthdays This Week:**

- October 3.....Sherry Asmus, Emmett Rasmussen
- October 4.....Noah Leistra
- October 5.....Betty Olson (90), Luke Parks
- October 6.....Layna Bathke
- October 8.....Aurora Blank
- October 10.....Ryder Anderson, Luke Miller

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

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