



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. 3rd St., Kiester, MN 56051

507-294-3300

Worship: 10:30 am

Pastor: Rev. Christopher Leistra | Cell Phone: 920-765-3665 | Email: pastorumc@bevcomm.net
Central Office: 507-553-5453 | opendoorsumc@bevcomm.net | Web Site: www.opendoorsumc.org

November 28, 2021 – Advent 1

Please turn off or silence your cell phone.

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

Happy Advent! We direct our hearts and our worship now toward the coming of Jesus at Christmas and at the end of time. Welcome.

– Gathering in Faith –

Gathering Music

Welcome & Announcements

Advent Carol

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

#211, vs. 1 & 2

* *Advent Lighting Ceremony*

Praise team: All creation lies in waiting, in the stillness of the night,
With hope anticipating the Advent of Eternal Light.

Leader: Advent is a time to wait.

People: We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

Leader: During Advent we wait for the light in the darkness.

People: We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

Leader: During Advent we wait for freedom from captivity.

People: We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

Leader: During Advent we wait for comfort in sorrow.

People: We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

Leader: During Advent we wait for power in weakness.

People: We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

Leader: This morning we light the **first candle**. The first candle reminds us that, as we wait upon the Lord, God’s light never ceases to shine, God’s will never ceases to unfold, and God’s grace never ceases to be felt. As we begin the journey of Advent, may we learn to wait upon the Lord with hopeful expectation by celebrating all God has done and anticipating all he will do.

All Sing: We wait in hope for the morning Light,

(W) for the love of Christ to illuminate the night.

We wait with joy for the Savior’s birth;

we wait in hope for peace on earth, peace on earth.

Leader: Let us pray: God in heaven, as we begin this season of Advent, we pray that you will teach us to wait with patience, endurance and trust. Holding to the eternal promises revealed to us through the power of your Word, we ask that you remind us of your everlasting presence. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer

– Hearing Our Faith Story –

Scripture Lesson

1 Samuel 3: 1-9 (NRSV)

* *Hymn*

“Lord, Speak to Me”

#463, vs. 1, 4, 5

* *Gospel Lesson*

* John 10:22-30 (NRSV)

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

Sermon "Samuel and Eli—Listen for the Voice of the Lord" Pastor Chris Leistra
Message Response "Open My Eyes That I May See" #454, vs. 1 & 2

– Stewards of Faith –

Giving with a Thankful Heart

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

– Sending Forth –

* *Benediction*

* *Hymn of Going Forth* "The Summons" #2130, vs. 1, 4, 5

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

Keep in your prayers this week: Wanda Kothlow in St. Mary's, Rochester. Those fighting cancer and other serious illnesses: Sue Schuster, Rita Bebler, Joan Christian, Michelle Viesselman (Kent & Diane's daughter-in-law), Alan Yokiell, Bebo Getchell. Those in the military and their families; and all others dealing with loss, poor health, pain, or family crisis.

Announcements

The flowers on the altar this morning are from the funeral of Jason Roberts. Please continue to keep his family in your prayers.

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Pledges – If you have not turned in your 2022 financial commitment card, please do so today. You may put them in the green Joash chest (W) or offering plate (K). Extra forms are available.

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The Christmas program will be Sunday, December 12 in a joint service at 9:30 a.m. in Wells. All children, ages 3 through 6th grade, are busy learning their songs and parts. Please help the children be in class each week (10:30-11:30), so they will know their part and how it fits into the whole story.

The one and only **dress rehearsal** for the children in **grades 1-6** is **Friday, December 10 at 3:15 p.m.** Please put this important date on your calendar.

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Advent/Christmas Worship We're into Advent now and we're looking for **4 COUPLES or FAMILIES** who can help with readings and lighting the Advent candles each week. One person can do the readings and another person light the candles, or these responsibilities can be split up between any number of family members or friends. Please contact Jan Johanson if you are able to take one of these worship services, Dec. 5, 12, 19, or 24, in Kiester or Wells.

Advent and Christmas is certainly a time for music. We love hearing it, and singing it. If anyone would like to try a solo, duet, or small group singing, we have some wonderful music in our music library for the season. If you have other ideas, and think this is a good time to try them out, please let Jan Johanson know what you have in mind, and we can try to get that going as well.

Jan can be reached through email (wellssumcmusic@gmail.com) or by phone (553-5077). She would love to hear from you, with any questions or concerns, or just to check in.

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Interested in joining membership of Open Doors UMC? We'll be having a day to join on December 5. Contact Pastor Chris or the church office.

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Our Advent mission offering will stay local this year, benefiting Communities Fighting Student Hunger backpack program at USC. We will collect this all month long. Please use the special Advent Offering envelopes or write CFSH in the memo line of your check made out to Open Doors UMC.

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Coffee with Pastor Chris is back! Pastor Chris invites you to join him for coffee and conversation this Tuesday, November 30, and each Tuesday after (except for Dec. 29), from 9:00-11:00 a.m. at The Bean, downtown Wells south of the Theater.

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Next Sunday, December 5, will be our monthly offering for the **Little Red Food Pantry**. Bring a food item suitable to be outside in freezing temperatures, or a financial gift.

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Donate to The Salvation Army *Your Donation Helps Change Lives For The Better.* The Salvation Army's 2021 Red Kettle Campaign will run from Friday, November 26 through December 24. In Wells, Bell Ringers will be posted at Marketplace Foods each Friday and Saturday until Christmas and also Thursday & Friday, December 23 & 24. Donations will stay within Faribault County to fund social service programs for local residents in need. **Bell Ringers are needed!** If you'd like to help change lives and know it's helping local folks, sign up for a shift or two to ring the bell at Wells Marketplace. The shifts are 2 hours and run from 12noon to 6pm. Volunteers can sign up for open time slots by going to www.RegisterToRing.com or by contacting Sarah Hankerson at 507-317-4322 or 553-5453. Sign up with a friend or two and spread the giving spirit of Christmas!

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Shopping online? Do your online shopping through **UMCmarket**, powered by **iGive.com**, and **earn money for Open Doors UMC!** UMCmarket is a shopping portal. From iGive.com, you can access the actual websites of 1,000s of participating retailers, each donating a percentage of your purchase to the church of your choice, at no cost to you! (You must designate Open Doors United Methodist Church for us to get the benefit.) Check it out and explore all the stores, then sign up and shop! In addition to earning extra dollars for Open Doors, often there are special offers and discounts just for UMCmarket shoppers. ***And if you join iGive.com, designate Open Doors UMC, and make your first purchase before 1/1/22, you will earn an extra \$5 bonus!**

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Looking for someone who could be Acolyte Coordinator . . . Being here on Sunday mornings (Sept-May) to help with candle-lighting sticks, making sure they are working properly and have enough wick, lighting the flame, preparing a schedule. Please contact Sarah in the church office if this is something you can do that takes very little effort or time outside of Sunday mornings.

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UHD Hospice invites you to **Light Up A Life**. Remember your Loved One and support Hospice by purchasing a bulb for the local Hospice Memorial Tree. Donation forms are available at each church. The tree lighting ceremony will be at the Hospice office, 125 S Main in Blue Earth on December 3 at 5:00 p m

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A Festival of Trees Love to decorate? Sign up today to dazzle the crowd and have a chance to win a prize at the Five Sisters Project Festival of Trees fundraiser. You provide your own tree, bring the WOW factor, the top three vote getters will win a prize. Set up is December 1st at the Wells Golf Club. Public viewing and voting is Thursday, Friday, Saturday, December 2-4 from 5:00-9:00 pm. Proceeds benefit women and families in crisis. Sign up today! Email tracym@fivesistersproject OR call Tracy 507-720-2731.

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Thank you all very much for your thoughts, prayers, cards and phone calls. Thank you to those who prepared and delivered meals, they were delicious and greatly appreciated.

~ Dave and Sue Schuster

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THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, November 28

- K** 8:00am Worship
- 9:00am Coffee
- W** 9:30am Worship
- 10:30am Coffee / Sunday School
- 10:30am Discipleship Pathways

Tuesday, November 30

- 9-11am Coffee with Pastor at The Bean

Wednesday, December 1

- W** 9:30am Staff meeting
- 5:30pm Youth Group
- 5:45 pm Praise Team practice

Sunday, December 5

- K** 8:00am Worship
- 9:00am Coffee
- W** 9:30am Worship – Baptisms & New Members
- 10:30am Coffee / Sunday School
- 10:30am Discipleship Pathways

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS - Wells

- Pastor..... Rev. Christopher Leistra
- Organist..... Jan Johanson
- Scripture Reader..... Bob Clark
- Cross Bearer..... Miles Kruse
- Acolytes..... Rebecca Kruse, October Roberts
- A/V..... Kaylynn Healey
- Projection..... Martin Healey

Birthdays This Week:

- November 30..... Marla Froehlke, Norell Durfee
- December 2..... Jay Hankerson, Mike Henkel
- December 3..... Ron Culbertson
- December 4..... Sharon Lacher
- December 5..... Heather Schuster, Tammy Bullerman

Cable Schedule of Wells' Sunday Service:

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