



OPEN DOORS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WELLS CAMPUS

595 1st Ave SW, Wells, MN 56097
507-553-5453 | opendoorsumc@bevcomm.net
Worship: 9:00 am | Coffee: 8:30 & 10:00 am

KIESTER CAMPUS

116 N. 3rd St., Kiester, MN 56051
507-294-3300
Coffee: 10:00 am | Worship: 11:00 am

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

December 4, 2022 – Advent 2

Please turn off or silence your cell phone.

“The Savior comes ... Let every heart prepare a throne and every voice a song”
 (“Hark, the Glad Sound!”). Help me prepare to receive you, Lord Jesus.

– Gathering in Faith –

Gathering Music

Welcome & Announcements

Advent Carol “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed” #203, vs. 1 & 3

* *Advent Lighting Ceremony* “Lift Up Your Eyes”

Musical Introduction – Praise Team sings verse, then the congregation sings response:

(Sung Response) **Lift up your eyes and see the light surround you;**

with radiant hope, illuminate the night.

Lift up your voice and sing, let earth and heaven ring,

lift up your eyes and see the everlasting light.

One: God’s light illuminates a weary world.

For any who have grown weary of waiting;

All: God speaks, “Peace, be still.”

One: For any who are anxious about the worries of tomorrow:

All: God speaks, “Peace, be still.”

One: For any whose lips have been silenced:

All: God speaks, “Peace, be still.”

Candle Lighting – The Light of Hope

This morning we light two candles. The **first candle** reminds us in a dark and weary world, that our hope lies securely in the grace and truth of Jesus Christ. The **second candle** radiates God’s perfect peace to calm our restless souls. As we continue our journey, let us be encouraged with hope, comforted with peace, and guided in truth.

Sung Response (same as above)

Prayer (unison)

Gracious Lord, our souls long for the peace that only you can provide. We confess that, all too often, we only add to the discord, separation, and tension around us. Help us to feel your peace in our lives and strive to reflect it more in our witness. We pray this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

* *Passing the Peace*

Opportunities to Serve

Pastoral Prayer

– Hearing Our Faith Story –

Scripture Lesson Isaiah 11:6-9 (NRSV)

* *Hymn* “Come, Let Us Dream” On screen (#3157, vs 1,3)

* *Gospel Lesson* Matthew 3:1-12 (NRSV)

Sermon “The Heart That Grew Three Sizes” Series, Week #2

“When Christmas Isn’t Christmas” Rev. Christopher Leistra

- 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

Communion Song

"Let Us Be Bread"

#2260

(Refrain-All, vs 1-Praise Team, Refrain-All)

The Great Thanksgiving

pg. 9

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

895

Receiving the Gifts of Bread and Cup

You are invited to come forward to receive this gift of God's love in Christ as instructed by the pastor. 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 return to your seats by the side aisles. If coming forward is difficult for you, signal the communion servers who come to the back of the sanctuary and overflow room - they will be happy to bring communion to you. Thank you.

Prayer after Receiving

- Sending Forth -

* *Benediction*

* *Hymn of Going Forth*

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

#211, vs. 1, 2, 4

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

Welcome! "The kingdom of heaven has come near" (Matthew 3:2), so let us repent — turn our lives around — and prepare for the Lord's coming. Everyone is invited for coffee and treats, both before and after the 9:00 worship service at the Wells Campus and before the 11:00 am service at the Kiester 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: The family of Nancy Vincent; Bev Niebuhr and Joan Christian with cancer; Alan Yokiel; all those grieving, hurting, and lonely; all those struggling with challenging life situations; all those serving in the military and their families.

Announcements

Nancy Vincent passed away November 29 in Alexandria. Her visitation will be Wednesday, December 14, from 5:00-7:00pm at our church, Open Doors UMC-Wells. Her funeral will be Thursday, December 15 at 10:30am at Open Doors, with visitation an hour before. Lunch will follow in the church basement and burial will be at Rosehill Cemetery.

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Join the Advent Study on Tuesday mornings – *The Heart That Grew Three Sizes – Finding Faith in the Story of The Grinch* study group will meet at The Bean, downtown Wells, on Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m., followed by "Coffee with Pastor Chris." There is an 8-10 minute video with this study.

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Christmas Caroling – The whole family is invited to an evening of Christmas Caroling on **December 11**, 4:00-7:00pm. Meet at Wells Assembly of God, 190 S Broadway. Hosted by the Wells Ministerial and Love Out Loud. You can rsvp to Pastor Chris or Sandy Youngblom, or just show up.

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The Christmas program is next week! The program will be presented on Sunday, Dec. 11 at **10:00 am** at the Wells Campus. **Parents, please note:** The one and only dress rehearsal for the children in grades 2-6 is this Friday, December 9 at 3:15 p.m. Please make every effort to be here!

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Joint worship on December 11 at 10:00 – Worship will be at 10:00 a.m. on December 11 only. Since that is the day of the children’s Christmas program and there will be no Sunday School classes, and it is the day of the kitchen dedication and meal, we will have a joint service with Wells and Kiester together in Wells. The schedule will be:

- 10:00 – Worship in Wells
- 11:00 – Brief coffee fellowship while dinner is getting set up
- 11:30 – Kitchen Dedication and meal

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RSVP TODAY for the December 11 Dinner! If you haven’t turned in your RSVP yet, please use the enclosed reply form and let us know if you will plan on attending the church meal on December 11. You can also sign up online at <https://forms.gle/TWffre9bPMSeQYsG6>. Extended families are welcome, too, if they are your guests that day for the Christmas program. There will be a free-will offering and the menu will be ham, scalloped potatoes, corn, salad, and Christmas cookies & bars. RSVP forms may go in the basket on the back table (W) or offering plate (K). Replies must be in by today, December 4.

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Kitchen Update: One more work day this week will finish up all the miscellaneous small details. Whoever can donate a couple hours on Monday or Tuesday, PLEASE let Sarah know when. It would involve some painting, cleaning, and putting away in cupboards. Thank you!

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The Advent offering this year will be staying close to home and helping people right here in Faribault County who are at the poverty level and in an emergency situation. Through the Salvation Army, we can directly reach people who need emergency financial assistance with lodging, rent, heat and utilities, gas, car repairs, or emergency prescriptions. Make someone’s life a bit easier with an Advent offering to the Salvation Army of Faribault County. Make your checks out to Open Doors UMC and use the special Advent offering envelopes or write “Advent Offering” in the check memo line.

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Mitten Tree: We are collecting gifts of hats, mittens & scarves for the less fortunate. At Kiester, there is a basket to place your gifts and in Wells, you can decorate the lobby “Mitten Tree.” They’ll go to USC and Semcac.

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Poinsettias – We would welcome poinsettias—any color—to decorate our sanctuaries during this Advent season. They may be given in memory of a loved one or just to celebrate the season. If you plan to have a plant brought to the church, please let the church office know by December 16 so that it can be printed in the bulletin.

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“Unfrozen” Wednesday after-school kids program for grades 2-5 Do you want to meet a savior this Christmas? *UnFrozen* 4-Week series (Wednesdays 11/30-12/21) teaches kids that Jesus was born to melt away the old and bring new life and a new kingdom. UnFrozen will include a snack, skits, lessons, crafts & games and run from 3:15-5:00. Contact Sarah Hankerson for questions, to help, or to sign up your kids.

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Looking for volunteers for....

Weekly Advent candle lighting: an opportunity for families and individuals to participate in worship. December 18 and 24 (7:30) are open. Please contact Jan Johanson or the office if you would like to light the Advent candles.

Christmas Eve readers – now is the time to let Jan Johanson know if you would like to volunteer to read for the Lessons & Carols at the 5:30 (K) or 7:30 (W) candlelight services.

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Salvation Army Bell Ringers Needed – RING A BELL...HELP CHANGE A LIFE
The Faribault County 2022 Red Kettle Campaign is underway. Bell Ringers will be outside Marketplace Foods on Fridays and Saturdays until Christmas. Volunteers can sign up for open time slots to ring the bell by going to www.RegisterToRing.com or by contacting Sarah Hankerson at 507-317-4322. Donations to the Red Kettle Campaign in Wells will go to The Salvation Army of Faribault County helping our neighbors in need in our community.

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Painting Class – There are still openings in the painting class. It meets from 9-11 on Tuesday mornings in the Youth Room in the basement. It is open to acrylic or watercolor painters of all skill levels. If you want to take the class, call the church office or just show up. Supplies are provided for the first class, after that, please bring your own.

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UHD Hospice invites you to **Light Up A Life** throughout the month of December. 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 local trees are at Broadway Apartments in Wells, Bud's Café in Bricelyn, and the Kremer House in Minnesota Lake.

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Community Prayer Group and Bible Study – Prayer is powerful, renewing, and healing. There is a group that meets every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. for prayer in the Hospitality Room of Open Doors UMC and you are invited. Following prayer at 10:00, there is a community Bible Study that is open to all, as well. They are studying the book of John. Just bring your Bible.

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THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, December 4–Advent 2

- W** 9:00am Worship w/Communion
- 10:00am Sunday School / Coffee
- K** 10:00am Coffee
- 11:00am Worship w/Communion

Monday, December 5

- W** 9:00am Painting class

Tuesday, December 6

- 9:00am Grinch study group at The Bean
- 10:00am Coffee with Pastor at The Bean
- W** 4:00pm Community Chimes

Wednesday, December 7

- W** 9:30am Staff meeting
- 9:00am Community prayer
- 10:00am Community Bible study
- W** 5:45pm Praise Team
- 6:30pm Adult choir practice
- 6:30pm The WAY Youth Group at USC

Thursday, December 8

- 7:30am Youth Breakfast at Youngblom's
- W** 10:00am Caregiver Support Group

Friday, December 9

- W** 3:15pm Christmas Program practice

Saturday, December 10

- W** 3:00pm Dinner prep

Sunday, December 11–Advent 3

- W** 10:00am Wells & Kiester JOINT Worship & Christmas Program
- 11:00am Coffee
- 11:30am Kitchen Dedication and Meal
- 4-7pm Community Caroling

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

- Pastor.....Rev. Christopher Leistra
- Organists....Jan Johanson (W), Staci Thompson (K)
- AcolyteMakinlee Gossen
- Cross Bearer.....Jaiden Gossen
- Advent CandlesKatie Hueper
- Scripture ReaderKent Viesselman
- Communion.....Carol Draheim, Pat Coy A/V.....Sabrina Hankerson, Sarah Hankerson
- Projection.....Brett Hankerson

Birthdays This Week:

- December 4 Sharon Lacher
- December 5 Tammy Bullerman, Heather Schuster
- December 6 Dawn Tews Weber
- December 7 Kayla Lackey
- December 9 Ethan Fickett
- December 10..... Brian Wesley
- December 11..... Karissa Bathke

Cable Schedule of Wells' Sunday Service:

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

Live Stream: Sundays at 9:00am on Facebook, YouTube and www.opendoorsumc.org. On Dec. 11 it will stream at 10:00am.

NOTICE!

There will be
**One Joint Worship Service on
 DECEMBER 11
 10:00 a.m.**
 Followed by the Kitchen Dedication and
 Dinner at **11:30.**
Please RSVP by Dec. 4

**Please RSVP
By Dec. 4**

Kitchen Dedication Dinner
December 11, 2022 – 11:30 a.m.
 Open Doors UMC – Wells Campus Fellowship Hall
Celebrating the completion of the kitchen remodeling project.
Please return to Open Doors by December 4.

Yes, I /we will attend.

Name: _____

Number of attendees age 10 and older? _____ Number of children under 10? _____