

OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

INFORMATION FOR OUR GUESTS

WELCOME! This historic church began worship on these grounds in 1732 and was organized in 1736. We are dedicated to “prayerfully equipping disciples of all generations to be Christ’s hands, heart and feet in the world.” We are strengthened today by your presence whether guest or member. Go forth, blest and renewed because you were here this day! To get the most out of your visit, may we recommend you familiarize yourself with the following:

- We encourage you to share requests for prayer. You may do so by completing the pink form found in the pew rack and placing it in the offering.
- Trust your children to the care of our dedicated, loving workers! The nursery rooms are located through the Gathering Area, down the Gallery and through the Dell Room. An usher will be happy to escort you. Our nursery ministry cares for infants and toddlers to age three.
- Worship Bags are available for children ages 3-kindergarten. These bags are located in a basket in the back of the Sanctuary. Children are welcome to pick one up as they arrive for worship each week. Please return the bags (and contents) to the basket as you leave worship.
- Parenting in the Pew notebooks are great tools for PARENTS to use while in worship. We value children and parents worshipping together. Parents are invited to pick up one of the 3-ring notebooks in the basket in the back of the Sanctuary and use the suggestions, tools, and ideas within it as you worship with your child. Please return the one and keep it as a resource for your family. Thank you.
- Look forward to taking part in a Sunday School class each week. Sunday School is held at 9:45 a.m. each Sunday. There are classes for all ages and interests.
- Restrooms and a coat rack are located off the Gathering Area, just outside the Sanctuary.
- A water fountain is located off the Gathering Area.
- Large-print hymnals and bulletins are available from an usher.
- Personal hearing assistance devices are available from an usher if you would like to use one.
- Transportation can be provided to worship. Call the church office, 662-1843, before 12:30 p.m. on Friday.

Opequon Presbyterian Church

217 Opequon Church Lane, Winchester, VA 22602

office@opequonchurch.com

540-662-1843

www.opequonchurch.org

WIFI: Network ID: opc-guest Password: 25dec!!!

David R. Witt	Pastor
Kevin W. Hay	Associate Pastor
Carole Witt	Director of Christian Education
Catherine Richard	Office Administrator
Susan Homan	Director of Music
William Heavner	Organist
Robert Sydnor	Sexton
Laurie Carver	Nursery Supervisor
Patty Klinefelter	Faith Community Nurse
Nancy McGaughey	Missionary to South Sudan
Stephen & Brenda Stelle	Missionary to Ethiopia

SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

December 20, 2015

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE *Love Came Down at Christmas*

Please use this time to prepare for the worship of God.

PRAYER REQUEST forms are inside the pew racks—please place in offering plate.

†All who are able, please stand.

Bold print—all respond

THE CHURCH BELL RINGS

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHIMES INTROIT (11:00) *Carol of the Bells*

LOGOS Youth Worship, Johanna Abell, organ

ENTRANCE OF THE WORD AND THE LIGHT

GATHERING SONG NO. 110 (v. 1) *Love Has Come*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

The Abell Family (8:30), The Homan Family (11:00)

GATHERING SONG NO. 110 (vv. 2, 3)..... *Love Has Come*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us magnify the Lord together!

Let us rejoice in God our Savior.

For a Child will come from Bethlehem

To redeem the people of God.

†CAROL NO. 133 (vv. 1, 3, 4)..... *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

†MORNING PRAYER

Loving God, as the celebration of your coming draws near, we are caught up again in the mystery of Christmas. With our minds, we, like Mary and Joseph, cannot understand the experiences by which you lead us, the ways in which you come to us. But, we know that you come to this world in love, to bless our lives with your presence, even the poorest and most helpless among us. And we, like Joseph, will seek to be faithfully obedient; we, like Mary, will praise you for the great things you have done. Trusting in your loving nature, we rejoice as we

anticipate the fullness of what is yet to be. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, we pray. Amen.

†CAROL NO. 121 (vv. 1, 2)..... *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

†PASSING OF THE PEACE (Please share this prayer with those near you.)

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

THE READING OF GOD'S WORD Luke 1:39-55
(Good News Translation)

A SPECIAL TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN "Mary's Song...Our Songs"

Nursery (Ages Infant - Age 3)

†CAROL NO. 121 (vv. 3, 4)..... *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Bethlehem's Child

Arranged and Composed by Lloyd Larson

Susan Homan, Director

Garrett Jones, Accompanist

Kevin Hay, Narrator

Come and Worship

Our Hope Is in Emmanuel

Waiting and Longing

My Soul Does Magnify the Lord

Lauren Armstrong & Garrett Jones, Soloists

Christ Is Born in Bethlehem

Run, Shepherds!

Cradle Carol

Bethlehem's Child

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY *Gloria* Vivaldi

†CAROL NO. 113 (v. 3) *Angels We Have Heard on High*
Come to Bethlehem and see, Him whose birth the angels sing; Come,
adore on bended knee, Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria, in Excelsis Deo; Gloria, in Excelsis Deo.

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER
(Hymnal p. 35, we say "debts" and "debtors" in the prayer)

WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME

†CAROL NO. 31 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

†CHARGE AND BLESSING

†CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Soon and Very Soon*

Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King. (Sing 3x)

Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King!

†POSTLUDE

SERVANTS IN MINISTRY

8:30 a.m.

Acolyte: Leah Rogers
Beadle: Bill Burslem
Bell Ringer: Mo Mohler
Greeters: Rebekah & Marc DesMarais
Hospitality: Ina & Robert Walker
Liturgist: Mike Butler
Ushers: Ainsley DesMarais, Terry Hartman, Heide Mohler
Leah Rogers, Sam Sherman, Carroll Youngblood

11:00 a.m.

Acolyte: Liza Homan
Beadle: Mac McNichols
Bell Ringers: Kristin Blake, Bailey Cooper, AnnMarie & James Kelly
Greeters: The Newhouse Family
Hospitality: Heather & Steve Burton
Liturgist: Kevin Reed
Nametags: Nancy Rodgers
Ushers: Jason Brown, Madison Clark, Andy Homan,
Liza Homan, Lauren Reed, Joel Witt

ANNOUNCEMENTS
December 20-27, 2015

TODAY

8:30 a.m.: Morning Worship, Christmas Joy Offering, Christmas
Cookie Reception, Fair Trade Coffee
9:45 a.m.: Sunday School for All Ages
11:00 a.m.: Morning Worship, Christmas Joy Offering, LOGOS
Youth Worship, Christmas Cookie Reception, Fair Trade Coffee
12:30 p.m.: Motel Ministry
2:00 p.m.: "Blue Christmas—Longest Night" Service—Memorial Sanctuary
7:00 p.m.: College Student Christmas Gathering—Brewbaker's

THIS WEEK

Monday: WATTS Week Building Prep—8:00 a.m.
PS 150 Rehearsal—7:00 p.m.—Memorial Sanctuary
Tuesday: Hands & Hearts—10:30 a.m.—Assembly Room
Hearts, Hands & Feet—6:00 p.m.—Highland Food Pantry
Wednesday: No LOGOS This Week
Sanctuary Choir Practice—6:30 p.m.
Thursday: O Come, All Ye Faithful—Christmas Eve!
Staff Breakfast—9:30 a.m.—Fellowship Hall
Church Office Closes at Noon
Family Worship—5:00 p.m.—Sanctuary
Traditional Worship—7:30 p.m.—Sanctuary
Alternative Worship—11:00 p.m.—Memorial Sanctuary
Friday: Joy to the World, the Lord Is Come! Merry Christmas!!

NEXT SUNDAY—First Sunday of Christmastide

Morning Worship—10:00 a.m. Only
No Sunday School
Annual Service of Lessons & Carols
Special Music, Special Children's Conversation
Four Cents a Meal

ATTENDANCE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13TH:

8:30 a.m.—97	Sunday School—49	11:00 a.m.—120
	Open Door—32	

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Ann Bailey Kerr Family
Dom Cafaro
Jeremy McDonald Family
George Tubbs
Betty Lee Foulk
Amy Bloom
Clay Knick
Caleb Dotson
Rita Gelman Family
Jack & Sandi Pulizzi
San Bernardino Shooting
Don Wilson
Ken Johansen
Scott Weimer
Joanna Mace
Jeff West
Ricky Roberts

Mike Dorsey Family
Roy Bayliss
Brenda Carbaugh
Art Joliffe
Larry Correll
Carolyn Newman
Terrorist Attack Victims
Lance & Cindy Weeks
Shannon DeHaven
William Ritenour
Suzi White
Nancy Lloyd
John deButts
Doug Pittsnogle
Betty Ganoe
Dorothy Rogers
Colleen McMurdo

Jackie & John Boyd
Jane Lewis
Gretchen Cooley
Paula Tobin
Natalie Miller
Frank Vardeman
Ronny DeHaven
Dottie Edwards
Larry Matthews
Lou Ann Thompson
Doug Koch
Michael Keister
Illubabor Bethel Synod of
Church Mekane Yesus
People Looking for Work &
Challenged by the Economy

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY SERVICE

Taylor McMurdo, Greg Sousa, Scott Sydnor, Jerry Morgan and their families.

COOKING WORKSHOP TODAY

Children preschool-5th grade are invited to the COOKING workshop this morning at 9:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Come, put on one of our special aprons, and help make some Christmas cookies that will be served during the Church Coffee following the 11:00 service. Each cookie will have its very own special message attached! Let the children come on down and be CHEFS this morning!

BLUE CHRISTMAS—LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

To acknowledge your recent loss...to remember a loved one...to offer support in this holiday season...you are invited to our annual “Blue Christmas—Longest Night Service,” a Service of Hope and Healing, today at 2:00 p.m. in the Memorial Sanctuary. If you, a loved one or a friend has suffered a loss, please join us for this time of prayer, scripture reading, reflective music, and remembrance.

OPEQUON ORNAMENTS

275th anniversary ornaments are available for purchase. The special deal is *Buy 1 for \$5, Get the 2nd Half Off*. That's right! \$7.50! The ornaments are displayed on the tree in the Fellowship Hall.

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS/CHILDREN PRAYER BOOKS

Copies of the "Opequon-authored" Advent Devotional book, "Do Not Be Afraid," and A Children's Advent Prayer Book are still available for you. These books are on display in the Gathering Area and Dell Room. Please take a copy for your use during this Advent season, enjoying the daily readings/prayers and insightful words as you take a few moments to slow down, catch your breath, and focus your mind on the upcoming birth of Jesus.

TY HEADLEY TREE OF WARMTH

\$2,910 has been collected to date for a total of **582** blankets. **418** more are needed towards our goal of 1,000 blankets. Donations will be accepted through December 29th. Envelopes are available in the pew racks; blankets are \$5 each. Please be sure to write your name on the envelope so your donation will be included on your 2015 financial statement.

A GENTLE REMINDER

Many of you are filling Christmas Jars with coins and watching it fill up. That is VERY exciting. PLEASE keep your jar until Christmas Eve and bring it to 5:00 or 7:30 p.m. worship. During worship, you will learn of the surprising culmination of this project. If you have a jar but will not be able to attend Christmas Eve services, please keep your jar and you will hear of the project conclusion after Christmas Eve and will be able to participate fully as well. Please do not bring full jars before Christmas Eve. Thank you.

ALTERED SCHEDULE NEXT SUNDAY

Next Sunday, December 27, there will be ONE Worship service at 10:00 a.m. thus there will NOT be Sunday morning classes for adults or youth and no WORM workshops for children. Come as family to the Lessons and Carols Service at 10:00 a.m. and enjoy the stories and music as we worship God.

CANDLELIGHT TOUR OF HISTORIC HOUSES OF WORSHIP

The congregation is invited to attend a Candlelight Tour of Historic Houses of Worship, including our own local organists in performance from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 27. Organ mini-recitals will take place on the hour and half-hour, with docents to provide historic tidbits regarding each church and its decorations on the quarter hour. Feel free to come and

go to any church in any order. Donations go to support WATTS. Braddock St. UMC, Centenary UCC, Christ Episcopal, First Baptist, First Presbyterian, First UMC, Grace Evangelical Lutheran and Market St. UMC are involved. Take a flyer from the nametag table.

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP INFO

- ✓ Offering envelopes are now available in the hallway leading to the back parking lot. If you want to use envelopes and don't see a box with your name on it, please contact Cathy in the church office. Please don't be concerned if you have a different number than last year. Some numbers have been reassigned.
- ✓ 2016 Pledges are still being accepted. You'll find a pledge card in the pew rack if needed. Please return these via the offering plate.
- ✓ All donations for 2015 need to be in the church office by Tuesday, December 29th in order to be deposited by year end. Please drop off your pledges/donations in the church office.

WATTS "UP SHOP"

Our guests are sometimes in need of the following items: socks or sweats, (new or gently used), feminine products, toiletries: bar soap, disposable razors, shaving cream, after shave, toothpaste and toothbrushes, combs, hairbrushes, deodorant and shampoo. Items left at the end of the week will be donated to C-CAP. Place all items in the bin marked WATTS "UP Shop" located in the Gathering Area. Thank for your generous support.

MAP IN GATHERING AREA

Have you happened to notice the large map on the wall beside the elevator in the Gathering Area? Just as we are a multi-generational congregation, we also come from a wide geographic area surrounding our church home. Some travel from West Virginia and others as far as Middleburg to worship and serve here! For some folks, Opequon has been their church home for all their years dating back as far as the 1930's! The Holy Spirit has led others here over the decades as you may have read in the booklet, "The Holy Spirit at Work." Evangelism gathered many personal stories of journeys that led to Opequon and compiled this booklet in celebration of Pentecost in 2013! You can find a copy in the Gathering Area kiosk. We are inviting you to locate your home on this map. A color-coded sticker will correspond to the

decade you and your family joined this special Body of Christ at Opequon!
God is good all the time! All the time God is good!

APPLE BLOSSOM PRAYER BRUNCH

The Older Adult Ministry Team is organizing a group outing to the Apple Blossom Prayer Brunch on April 29, 2016, 9:00 a.m. We are reserving three tables for our group to attend this fabulous event. There are a few spots still available. The sign-up sheet is in the Gathering Area kiosk or you may speak to Carole Witt about getting on the list. Tickets are \$25 per person. Payment is due by the end of this month.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSING

The Church Office will close at noon on Christmas Eve and remain closed through Monday, December 28. It will reopen Tuesday, December 29 at 8:30 a.m.

PYC News

Motel Ministry

Today 12:30 – 3:00 p.m.

NO PYC – Sunday, December 27th

Youth Cooking Dinner for WATTS

Tuesday, December 29th—4:00-6:00 p.m.

College Christmas Gathering

Brewbaker's on the Loudoun Street Mall—Tonight, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Join fellow Opequon College Students home for the holidays
for Dinner and Fellowship!

Parents of College Students: If you have contact info for your college student,
please pass along to Kevin. Email, cell phone, mailing address.
associate@opequonchurch.org

20s & 30s

Young Adults Sport & Social - Kickball

Wednesday Nights (most games 8:00 p.m. or 9:00 p.m.)

Starting January 6th - March 16th

Sign up online now - by Sunday, December 27th!

Talk to Kevin for details on how to sign up.

20's & 30's WATTS Dinner Team

Wednesday, December 30th, 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Young Adults Cook & Serve

Our Young Adults will work together to cook and serve our guests.

Please let Kevin know (associate@opequonchurch.org) if you plan to be there as
we need an accurate headcount.



CHRISTMAS WEEK SERVICES



Christmas Eve Candlelight Services
Thursday, December 24

5:00 p.m. Family Service—Sanctuary
Music by Children's Choir
Special Children's Conversation

7:30 p.m. Traditional Service—Sanctuary
Music by Sanctuary Choir
Christmas Sermon, Communion

11:00 p.m. Alternative Service—Memorial Sanctuary
Music by Garrett Jones, PS 150, & David Meyer

Annual Service of Lessons and Carols
Sunday, December 27

10:00 a.m.

Special Children's Conversation, Special Music
Final Four Cents A Meal Offering