

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 6, 2015

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

The Second Sunday of Advent

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

Come Ye Thankful People Come..... arr. Pethel

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

Please complete the Friendship folder and pass it along during the greeting.

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

MINUTES FOR MISSION “Ty Headley Tree of Warmth”

Jennie Wright & Susan Homan

ENTRANCE OF THE WORD AND THE LIGHT

GATHERING SONG NO. 314 (v. 1) *Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

..... The Barr Family (8:30), The Burton Family (11:00)

GATHERING SONG NO. 314 (v. 2) ... *Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness*

†CALL TO WORSHIP

In the wilderness a voice is heard, a voice that speaks with prophetic power, a forewarning and a promise.

God's deliverance is at hand.

Listen! Prepare! Jesus is coming!

Jesus the Christ is coming, the Savior of the world.

†HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 87..... *Comfort, Comfort Now My People*

(Please be seated for prayer)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Saints, let us trust in God's love for us and confess our sin, confident in God's mercy.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Refining God, you have sent us prophets and we have not listened.

We have not always determined what is best or made way for your reign in our lives, our church, and our society. Forgive us, we pray,

and renew your covenant within us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Moments of Silent Confession

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Friends, I am confident of this: if we repent, God is sure to forgive us. The One who began a good work in us will bring it to completion. Grateful for the promise of joy and of peace, let us share that peace with one another.

LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

†THE RESPONSE OF PRAISE NO. 654 *In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful*

†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

ANTHEM *Hope Will Come*

Hope will come, to a world in need. Through the eyes of a child, God's people will see. Hope will come, have faith and believe. Open your heart now; make room for the hope Christ will bring. Peace will come, in the midst of strife, to a stable so bare; one still, silent night. Peace will come. God's truth will shine bright. Open your heart now; God's peace will bring us new life. Peace will come to the nations. Hope will ring through the night. For those who walk in darkness will see a great light, and love will reign, love will reign, love will reign, in the day of Jesus Christ.

READING OF GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Malachi 3:1-4 Pew Bible p. 778

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Luke 1:68-79, 3:1-6 Pew Bible p. 832

ANTHEM (8:30)..... *Prepare a Way for the Lord*

LOGOS Grs. K-5

A SPECIAL TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN..... "Messengers"

Nursery (Ages Infant – Age 3)

†HYMN NO. 106 *Prepare the Way, O Zion*

SERMON..... "Prepare the Way of the Lord"

Pastor David R. Witt

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY *Setting on "Veni Emmanuel"*arr. Sewell

†THE DOXOLOGY (Hymnal No. 606) AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

(Hymnal p. 35, we say "debts" and "debtors" in the prayer)

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread & Cup

Communion Music

Hymn No. 347 *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

Hymn No. 177 *I Will Come to You*

Communion Prayer

WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME

†HYMN OF DEDICATION NO. 367.....*Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

†CHARGE AND BLESSING

†CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 384 (v. 1)..... *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

COMMUNION TODAY

The bread and wine/juice are passed in the pews, and the congregation holds the elements until everyone has been served, partaking together. The wine is dark red; the grape juice is white. Gluten-free bread is available; please see an usher for assistance. Those serving communion today at 8:30 are: Carroll Youngblood, Dottie Edwards, Stuart Williams, Brenda Hawkins, Bill Burslem, Vicki Crites, and Graham Taylor. Those serving communion today at 11:00 are: Dorothy Walker, Mitch Orndorff, Sabra Veach, Mark Walter, Pam Bayliss, Ray Jones and Patty Klinefelter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 6-13, 2015

TODAY

“Ty Headley Tree of Warmth” Blanket Drive Kick-Off

- 8:30 a.m.: Morning Worship, CCAP Offering, Communion
- 9:45 a.m.: Sunday School for All Ages
- 10:50 a.m.: Called Congregational Meeting—Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m.: Morning Worship, CCAP Offering, Communion
- 12:30 p.m.: Youth Council—Youth Spot
- 2:00p.m.: Officer Training—Bageant Room

THIS WEEK

- Monday: Older Adult Ministry Team—9:30 a.m.—Bageant Room
“Jesus in the Gospels”—2:30 p.m.—Bageant Room
PS 150 Rehearsal—7:00 p.m.—Sanctuary
WATTS Week Orientation—7:00 p.m.—Fellowship Hall
- Tuesday: Tuesday Morning Mission—9:30 a.m.—Bageant Room
Shenandoah Presbytery Meeting—10:00 a.m.
—Cooks Creek Church, Graham Taylor and Jean Steidel,
Elder Commissioners
“God-Loving Opequon Women”—7:00 p.m.—Bageant Room
- Wednesday: Happy Days—12:00 Noon—Fellowship Hall
LOGOS—Theme: “Under-Where?”—4:30 p.m.
Sanctuary Choir Practice—7:30 p.m.
20s & 30s All Pass Football—8:00 p.m.
- Thursday: Cub Scout Pack 1—7:00 p.m.
Boy Scout Troop 1—7:00 p.m.—Assembly Room
Read ‘em & Reap—7:00 p.m.—Home of the Tandys
- Saturday: Young Adult Christmas Party—6:30 p.m.—Escutcheon

NEXT SUNDAY—Third Sunday of Advent

- Morning Worship—8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
- Sunday School for All Ages—9:45 a.m.
- Advent Theme: “Do Not Be Afraid”
- Zephaniah 3:14-20, Philippians 4:4-7, Luke 3:7-18
- Sermon: “Rejoicing and Repenting”
- Presbyterian Youth Connection—4:30 p.m.—Fellowship Hall
- Opequon Door Worship—6:30 a.m.—Memorial Sanctuary

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Jack & Sandi Pulizzi
San Bernardino Shooting
Don Wilson
George & Mary Bremer
Ken & Edwina Johansen
Scott Weimer
Strickler/Thorne Family
Joanna Mace
Jeff West
Ricky Roberts
Paul Turner
Mike Dorsey Family
Roy Bayliss
Brenda Carbaugh
Art Joliffe
Mark Paxton
Daniel McTiernan Family

Cody Monday
Larry Correll
Carolyn Newman
Terrorist Attack Victims
Lance & Cindy Weeks
Shannon DeHaven
William Ritenour
Suzi White
Betty Lee Foulk
Nancy Lloyd
John deButts
Doug Pittsnogle
Betty Ganoë
Dorothy Rogers
Colleen McMurdo
Jackie & John Boyd
Jane Lewis

Gretchen Cooley
Paula Tobin
Natalie Miller
Frank Vardeman
Ronny DeHaven
George Tubbs
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.

QUIZ SHOW WORKSHOP TODAY

Children preschool-5th grade are invited to the Christmas QUIZ SHOW workshop this morning at 9:45am in the Fellowship Hall. They will love this lively time competing in several rounds of a Christmas game show! Snacks will be provided too! Come on down; we need all our children to be contestants in this great game show!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AT 10:50 A.M. TO VOTE FOR DEACON

Stella Strickler has been member of OPC since 2014. She's been active in DISCIPLE and Jesus in the Gospels studies, Sunday School, various small groups and Congregational Care Ministry. She also served during WATTS last year. Stella has been married to Gary for 52 years and they have one daughter.

OLDER ADULT MINISTRY TEAM

Meets tomorrow morning, Monday, December 7, at 9:30 a.m. in the Bageant Room. The team will continue making great plans for programs and trips in 2016. Holiday goodies will be served during the meeting. This meeting is open to any older adults. Come join us.

SERVANTS IN MINISTRY

8:30 a.m.

Acolyte: Andrew Crites
Beadle: Bill Burslem
Bell Ringer: Mo Mohler
Greeters: Rebekah & Marc DesMarais
Hospitality: Vicky Astorino, Brenda Hawkins
Liturgist: Mike Butler
Ushers: Andrew & Vicki Crites, Dulcie Reed,
Alex & Sydney Sardelis, Graham Taylor

11:00 a.m.

Acolyte: Lauren Armstrong
Beadle: Mac McNichols
Bell Ringers: Kristin Blake, Bailey Cooper, AnnMarie & James Kelly
Greeters: The Newhouse Family
Hospitality: Nadine DeHaven, Jack Drumheller
Liturgist: Kevin Reed
Nametags: Pat deButts
Ushers: Lauren Armstrong, Jim Butler, James Kelly,
Annemarie Matthews, Ty Martin, Travis Morgan

ATTENDANCE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH:

8:30 a.m.—60

Sunday School—53

11:00 a.m.—85

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS/CHILDREN'S PRAYER BOOKS

Our "Opequon-authored" Advent Devotional booklet, "Do Not Be Afraid," and a Children's Advent Prayer Booklet **are** available for you today. 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 as you take a few moments to slow down, catch your breath, and focus your mind on the upcoming birth of Jesus.

MUFFINS FOR WATTS BREAKFAST

Want to help with WATTS but your time is limited? Needed: your favorite muffins. Please respond for details to Sandy Vess at 662-3727 or vess.stephen@gmail.com by 21 December. Thank you!

STEWARDSHIP EMPHASIS

If you have not submitted and dedicated your stewardship commitment for 2016, please complete a green pledge card and place it in the offering today. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

You will notice some windows along the back hallway being decorated for the season. Our youth Sunday morning classes have been designing and creating "Stained Glass Windows" for the season. Enjoy them as you walk in the back hallway.

WATTS WEEK ORIENTATION

Orientation for all WATTS volunteers will be tomorrow night, 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Hold the dates: December 28, 2015 to January 4, 2016. The blue volunteer sign-up sheets are available in the Gathering Area & Dell Room. Contact: **Graham Taylor**, 540-247-4663, gtaylorgofishing@gmail.com or **Heather Burton**, 540-771-0121 or mcpitch5@hotmail.com.

GLOW: GOD-LOVING OPEQUON WOMEN

The Opequon Women's group meets this Tuesday evening, December 8, at 7:00 p.m. in the Bageant Room. Women of all ages and stages have loved coming together for thought-provoking devotions, resounding laughter, heartwarming conversation, group games and activities and yummy treats. This Tuesday we will enjoy some Christmas games, a time of spiritual nourishment, and deepening friendships. Put on a Christmas sweater and come join us!

HAPPY DAYS THIS WEDNESDAY

Beginning at noon the Happy Days Christmas celebration will take place. Bring a favorite holiday dish for the covered dish lunch and then prepare to enjoy wonderful Christmas activities, including the balloon challenge, Christmas pairs, and a Christmas shopping game. Door prizes will be awarded. You won't want to miss this festive holiday fun!

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.

FAMILY CHRISTMAS JARS

There are close to 70 Christmas Jars in homes of Opequon families. These jars are being filled with coins throughout the weeks of Advent, leading up to Christmas Eve. Is YOUR jar filling up? If you need a jar, a few still remain on the table in the Gathering Area. You are invited to bring your filled jar back on Christmas Eve (not before!) as the great secret of the jars is revealed during our 5:00 and 7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve services.

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!

COOKIES NEEDED FOR CHURCH COFFEE

There will be a coffee following worship at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 20. Fellowship Ministry is asking for donations of cookies. If you can help, please contact Mark Walter at 540-542-6687 or steelers4in6@yahoo.com.

END OF YEAR TAX SAVINGS FOR GENEROUS PEOPLE WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Generous people can make a difference in the world and Opequon supports an active outreach program that makes a difference in people's lives.

"Giving people with grateful hearts" help to reach people who need God's help. Are you a "giving" person? There is not much time left to make charitable donations qualifying for an end of year tax deduction. Is your pledge up to date? Did you get a Christmas bonus from your employer and wish to make a special donation to Opequon? Did you have a wonderful year, and now realize that when we give, others are blessed and God is glorified? God blesses us financially when we give generously (2 Corinthians 9:6). The white envelopes in the pew racks are for donations to the General Fund. Simply write General Fund on the envelope and insert your check. Checks can always be left during the week in the Treasurer's mail box outside of the church office, and all donations received by the end of 2015 will be credited to your account, thus qualifying for the charitable deduction on your income taxes.

OPEN DOOR WORSHIP

Next Sunday—6:30 p.m.—Memorial Sanctuary

Special Christmas Music

Communion, Sharing Joys & Concerns

Teaching by Pastor Kevin

PYC News

Youth Council Meeting

TODAY, 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. Lunch Provided

PYC Christmas Dinner & "White Elephant" Exchange

Sunday, December 13th

Come share a delicious Christmas Dinner while exchanging Christmas gifts, decorating ginger bread cookies, and making Christmas cards for our Motel Ministry.

Motel Ministry
Sunday, December 20th, 12:30 – 3:00 p.m.
NO PYC – Sunday, December 27th

Youth Cooking Dinner for WATTS
Tuesday, December 29th

20s & 30s

Young Adults Sport & Social - Pass Only Football
December 9th 8:00 p.m.
Come out and cheer us on!

YOUNG ADULT CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday, December 12th, 6:30-9:30 p.m. @Escutcheon
Childcare Provided – drop off kids at Church. **\$10/person** to cover food and childcare expenses. We will be asking everyone to **RSVP by Sunday, December 6th** and provide information for childcare so we can plan accordingly, look out for details on how to RSVP.

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 if you plan to be there as we need an accurate headcount. associate@opequonchurch.com