

Opequon Presbyterian Church

JOHN 3:7, NRSV

“You must
be born
from above.”

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!

INFORMATION FOR OUR GUESTS

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, located in the back of the Sanctuary. Please return the bag and supplies to the bin when you are leaving.
- **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, Bibles 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, 540-662-1843, before 12:30 p.m. on Friday.

Opequon Presbyterian Church

217 Opequon Church Lane, Winchester, VA 22602

540-662-1843

www.opequonchurch.org

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

David R. Witt ----- Pastor
 Tracie Martin ----- Parish Associate
 William Heavner ----- Organist
 Susan Homan ----- Director of Music
 Carole Witt ----- Director of Christian Education
 Laurie Carver ----- Nursery Supervisor
 Patty Klinefelter ----- Faith Community Nurse
 Catherine Richard ----- Office Administrator
 Robert Sydnor ----- Sexton



SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

March 12, 2017

8:30 and 11:00 am

The Second Sunday in Lent

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

The Love of God..... F. M. Lehman ©1917

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

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

PRAYER REQUEST forms are inside the pew holders – please place in offering plate.

†All who are able, please stand.

Bold print—all respond.

THE CHURCH BELL RINGS

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTES FOR MISSION “One Great Hour of Sharing”

Graham Taylor, Ruling Elder

ENTRANCE OF THE WORD AND THE LIGHT

† GATHERING SONG NO. 414 (3x)..... *Be Still and Know That I Am God*

† CALL TO WORSHIP

As God set Abraham and Sarah on a journey, God calls us to follow in trust.

God is able to make us more than we have been and blesses us on the way.

As Jesus invited Nicodemus to be born again from above, Christ invites us to become a new creation.

Christ calls us out of darkness into his marvelous light, and we are saved through him. Praise be to God for what he is doing through us to change the world.

† HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 49 *The God of Abraham Praise*

(Please be seated for prayer)

CALL TO CONFESSION

If we say that we have no sin, then we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us; but, if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we come before you in need of forgiveness and grace. You call us to trust in you completely, but we do not. We are timid and fearful as we follow your lead. We justify our actions and words, though we know they are not what you require. We struggle to understand the new life Christ offers, preferring old habits to real change. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to be born again into the life of Christ, trusting that you have included us by grace in the family of faith.

MOMENTS OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (John 3:16-17)

Friends, God is for us and not against us. For that very reason, God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

† THE RESPONSE OF PRAISE NO. 443..... *There Is a Redeemer*

† PASSING OF THE PEACE (Please share this prayer with those next to you)

“May the peace of Christ be with you.”

“And also with you.”

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

ANTHEM *Our Father*

Kevin Winkel

Father hear our prayer, rising from Your people. All shall ever say, Holy is Your name. May Your kingdom come, may your will be done, here among Your people. Fill tomorrow’s needs. Nevermore to hunger. Hasten to forgive, sins that flood our lives. Here am I Your child; Jesus my Defense, come to us our Father. Come to us our Father.

THE READING OF GOD’S WORD:

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Genesis 12:1-4a Pew Bible p. 8

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: John 3:1-17Pew Bible p. 863

ANTHEM (11:00) *God So Loved the World*

LOGOS Grs. K-5 Worship

A SPECIAL TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN..... “God Working Through Us”
Nursery (Ages Infant – Age 3)

†HYMN NO. 829 *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

SERMON..... “The Love of God”
Pastor David R. Witt

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY *God So Loved the World*..... Stainer

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

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (An Act of Commitment Service -The Iona Abbey Book of Worship)

We believe that God is present in the darkness before dawn; in the waiting and uncertainty where fear and courage join hands, conflict and caring link arms, and the sun rises over barbed wire. We believe in a with-us God who sits down in our midst to share our humanity. We affirm a faith that takes us beyond the safe place: into action, into vulnerability and into the streets. We commit ourselves to work for change and put ourselves on the line; to bear responsibility, take risks, live powerfully and face humiliation; to stand with those on the edge; to choose life and be used by the Spirit for God's new community of hope. Amen.

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

†HYMN OF DEDICATION NO. 634..... *To God Be the Glory*

†CHARGE AND BLESSING

†CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 601 *Amen*

†POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 12-19, 2017

TODAY

- 8:30 am: Morning Worship
9:45 am: Marriage Enrichment—Church Office Suite
Sunday School Classes for All Ages
11:00 am: Morning Worship, LOGOS Grs. K-5 Worship
12:15 pm: Potato Bake—Fellowship Hall
3:30 pm: PS 150 Rehearsal—Memorial Sanctuary
4:00 pm: Lenten Fellowship Group—Home of Becky Myers
5:00 pm: Presbyterian Youth Connection—Fellowship Hall
6:00 pm: Lenten Fellowship Group—TVOR Engage Center

THIS WEEK

- Monday: Covenant Bible Study—3:00 pm—Bageant Room
Lenten Fellowship Group—6:00 pm—Home of the Witts
Adult ESL—6:00 pm—Assembly Room
Men of Opequon—6:00 pm—Chick-fil-A (PVR)
7:00 pm—Bageant Room
- Tuesday: Tuesday Morning Mission—9:30 am—Home of the Tandys
GLOW—7:00 pm—Bageant Room
- Wednesday: Staff Meeting—9:30 am—David's Office
Winchester Newcomers—10:00 am—Fellowship Hall
LOGOS—4:30 pm—Theme: "Night in the Tropics"
Choir Practice—7:30 pm—Sanctuary
- Thursday: Lenten Fellowship Group—1:30 pm—Home of
the McMurdos
Lenten Fellowship Group—7:00 pm—Home of
Graham Taylor
Scout Pack 1—7:00 pm—Fellowship Hall
Scout Troop 1—7:00 pm—Assembly Room
- Saturday: Men's Lectio Divina—8:00 am—Bageant Room
Presbytery Evangelism Workshop—Mt. Carmel Church

NEXT SUNDAY—Third Sunday in Lent

Worship—8:30 & 11:00 am

Sunday School for All Ages—9:45 am

Exodus 17:1-7, John 4:5-42

Sermon: “Not Again!”

Youth Prayer Breakfast—9:30 am—Fellowship Hall

PS 150 Rehearsal—3:30 pm—Memorial Sanctuary

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Nancy Lewis & Family

Joan Leonard

Alex York

Craig

Ingrid

Jerry Metheny

John, Dianna & Family

Jordan Hartman

Dave Daggett Sr

Patricia & Ray Ferguson

Gene Walker

Tom & Vicki Harman

Arden & McKinney Ireland

Juanita

Chuck Guffee

Mike Butler

Bob Weidele

Buddy Chicklo

John Sidell

Ellie Cammer

Justice in America

Roger Everitt

Connie Robinson

Barb Sumner

Owen Cox

Refugees

Dulcie Reed

Calvin McCracken

Sherry Clark

Jeanne Cosby

Verity Morrow

Jim Ross

Cindy & Lance Weeks

Lauren Armstrong

Gary Snapp

Gretchen Cooley

Joe Strosnider

Pam Pierce

Melissa Ambers

Susan Martin

Carolyn Clemens

Paulette Willemsen

Mike Fries

Dick Widell

Cody Monday

Gene Fish

Janet Thompson

Sarah Bauwer

Donna Coffman

Rebekah Witt

Berlin Zirk

Dorothy Rogers

Stephanie Fitch

Phyllis Dilley

Sandi Pulizzi

Colleen McMurdo

Jane Lewis

Dottie Edwards

Larry Matthews

Doug Koch

Illubabor Bethel Synod of

Church Mekane Yesus

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY SERVICE

Taylor McMurdo, Brandon Michael, Greg Sousa, Scott Sydnor, Michael White, and their families.

ATTENDANCE SUNDAY, MARCH 5TH:

8:30 am—102

Sunday School—60

11:00 am—131

ANNUAL POTATO BAKE

The Fellowship Team invites everyone to join us in the Fellowship Hall following 11:00 worship for our Annual Potato Bake. The Mission Team will also give a brief presentation from their Baja Mission trip last year.

SERVANTS IN MINISTRY

8:30

Acolyte: Carson Ritter
Beadle: Sandy Vess
Bell Ringer: Mo Mohler
Greeter: Becky Proctor
Hospitality: Heide Mohler, Graham Taylor
Liturgist: Tom Tandy
Ushers: Tim Gaul, Pat Heavner, Cameron & Carson Ritter,
Jim Youngblood

11:00

Acolyte: Lauren Moses
Bell Ringer: Kristin Blake, Bailey Cooper, AnnMarie Kelly
Hospitality: Jack Drumheller, Annemarie Matthews
Liturgist: Heather Burton
Ushers: Caleb Cooper, Jason Hathaway, Kyle Homan,
Lauren Moses, Chase Pierce, Bill Robinson

WORM-TODAY'S WORKSHOP IS...

About a wonderful biblical character- this time a woman of the Bible named Ruth. Her life teaches us SO MUCH about LOVE for our families and following God. Included in the morning fun will be a game of FOLLOW THE LEADER and a yummy snack. All preschool-5th grade children are invited to come enjoy the activities of the morning in Classroom 4 at 9:45 am.

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT SESSION TODAY

The marriage enrichment session focusing on "Sharing Responsibility and Working Together" will be held this morning, 9:45 am in the church office suite. Sessions are open to all couples of any age and stage and each session stands alone. If it is convenient for you to come, you are very welcome to join in. The time together is lighthearted, yet offers insightful things to think and talk about in our marriage relationship. You are guaranteed that you won't leave empty handed!

PYC NEWS

- ❖ **BOWLING** was great fun last week as the pins got knocked down from all angles!
- ❖ Come this evening for **A MIXTURE OF SURPRISES**, 5:00-7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a brown bag dinner. Drinks and ice cream provided. We'll try our skill at the **STRAW CHALLENGE**, Cup Stacking (not exactly how you might picture it), some rounds of Family Feud and "30 SECONDS"- a fast paced thought provoking experience. Hopefully you'll leave saying, "Whew, that was fun!"

NAME TAG MINISTRY

Looking for a way to serve, but haven't found your niche? We may have the job for you. The Evangelism Team is seeking three volunteers to file name tags once a month. You can choose the day and time that best fits your schedule. Please call Vicki Schmidt Crites for more details at 540-247-5735.

ALL MEN: COME AND JOIN US!

Men of Opequon

TOMORROW NIGHT—6:00 pm—Dinner @ Chick-fil-A

7:00 pm—Bageant Room

Special Guest Speaker: Lauren Cummings

GLOW: "GOD-LOVING OPEQUON WOMEN" MEET TUESDAY

The Opequon's women's group, known as GLOW, will be back to their monthly gatherings of friendship, support, enjoyment, and spiritual nourishment **this Tuesday, 7:00 pm** in the Bageant Room. GLOW has been on a little break the past two months and we are eager to be back together for an enjoyable time. We are in store for a terrific event called "What's in Your Purse?" There will be goodies, drinks, and much laughter! Come on out ladies, you are invited!

CCAP IS COLLECTING EASTER BASKET ITEMS

CCAP & Denny's of Winchester are collecting small unused toys, Easter grass, plastic eggs, coloring books, and other items suitable for Easter baskets until March 31st. You may leave items on the CCAP table in the Gathering Area or in the box located in the Dell Room.

THE LENTEN CHALLENGE!

Lent is a period of 40 days when we take time to sacrifice, reflect, renew, and relate as we examine our relationship with God. It is the perfect time to CLEAN OUT, LET GO, and fill up on God's goodness. So, here's the challenge: our goal as a congregation is to FILL 40 BAGS in 40 DAYS! Clean out - a drawer, closet, room, garage, office, vehicle-whatever, and fill up a bag with unneeded things or trash. You can donate the bag of items to your place of choice or toss out the trash! AHHH, that feels so good to get rid of unneeded clutter and have more space. The large bulletin board in the hallway outside the sanctuary will help us track our progress in filling 40 bags in 40 days. WHEN YOU FILL UP A BAG and get rid of it, place a sticker (they are provided at the bottom of the bulletin board) on one of the 40 bags on the wall and take the "Prayer Pretzels" off as your reward. Enjoy the snack and the prayer that comes with it. Certainly, as a congregation, we can meet the challenge of cleaning out 40 bags of STUFF in 40 days! **Check the bulletin board to see our progress!** Fill up on God's goodness!

ANNUAL YOUTH PRAYER BREAKFAST FOR LENT

The youth are invited to breakfast next Sunday, March 19, at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. Mr. Mike McKiernan will be the guest speaker. He is a John Handley High School teacher and coach, who will share about his faith and doubt, improvement and setbacks, during a major health crisis. Coach McKiernan is a walking testimony!

HIKE WITH MIKE!

Spring is around the corner and with it comes hiking season. If you would like to join Mike Butler and other "Opequonites" in the great outdoors meet us at OPC on Saturday, March 25 at 8:30 am. We will car pool to the Shenandoah University Environmental Center. You will need to wear comfortable shoes with good ankle and arch support, bring water and a snack/lunch. Please register by the Thursday before the hike by contacting Mike, mbutler57@outlook.com, 540-533-1239. In case of rain, we will decide the day of the hike and let people know by email and phone call. the status of the hike. The hike in April will take place at Blandy Farm on Saturday, the 22nd.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Be a community hero during Red Cross month by donating blood. OPC is hosting a blood drive on Saturday, March 25th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Appointments can be made by visiting rcblood.org or by registering for a time slot on the form located on the table in the Gathering Area. See Patty Klinefelter with any questions.

Co-sponsored by Opequon Church and
Mountain-Valley Mission Community:

A Film:

“When God Has Left the Building”

Sunday, March 26, 3:00 p.m.

Film, Discussion, & Light Supper
Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall

Help Needed/Wanted for the Light Supper—
Please see Pastor David

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL ITEMS

For children: *A Lent List for Kids* is available! The pages are full of daily things to do during the days and weeks of Lent. Spend just a few minutes a day to do ONE task from the Lent List. This list of things to do are perfect for helping children ponder what this season is all about. [A Lent List for Kids](#) is available in the Dell Room and Gathering Area.

For adults: [Living the Gospel Life: Daily Devotions for Christians on a Mission](#) are available for adults. These pages offer self-seeking ways to journey down “God Street” as you are equipped, inspired, and challenged to a faith that is alive and active for the Lord during this holy season. Devotion booklets are available in the Dell Room and Gathering Area.



MISSING

LOGOS Spoon-Hanging Trophy
Have you seen it? Do you know where it is?
If so, contact Kristi Cooper or Carole Witt.

Save the Date

“Opequon on the Lawn”

A Spring Mission Festival

Saturday, May 20 11:00 am-4:00 pm

- ✓ Volunteer
- ✓ Craft
- ✓ Bake
- ✓ Participate

Start Getting Ready Now!

For more information, contact Graham Taylor
gtaylorgofishing@gmail.com, 540-247-4663

SAVE THE DATE

Vacation Bible School June 11-15, 4:30-7:30 pm

“Tinkering at the Factory”

Made by God & Built for a Purpose!

Open to 4 year olds-8th Grade

Adult Class Available Too!