

Opequon Presbyterian Church



Presbyterian Heritage Sunday

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.

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

May 21, 2017

8:30 and 11:00 am

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Graduation Sunday

WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME

PRELUDE

Setting on "St. Denio" arr. Haam

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

ENTRANCE OF THE WORD AND THE LIGHT

† **GATHERING SONG NO. 670** *From the Rising of the Sun*

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

The night passes; a new day dawns! Thanks be to you, O God, for your continuing care!

Another week passes; a new week dawns! Thanks be to you O God, for your unfolding love.

As sunrise brightens the morning sky, we are awakened to the journey ahead.

Wipe the sleep from our eyes, O God, and remove the hesitancy from our step. Fill us with the power of love; strengthen us with the wisdom of memory.

In the challenge of faithfulness in our time, may we find cause for celebration and hope. Instruct us so that we may learn from all that has gone before. Shine light on our path and keep us on the road from today into tomorrow.

In this new day, grant us wisdom in this hour. Grant us courage in this week. Grant us vision for the journey ahead. In the name of the Christ who makes all things new. Amen and Amen!

† **HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 307** *God of Grace and God of Glory*

(Please be seated for prayer)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Brothers and sisters, God not only asks us to repent, but also assures us of forgiveness. Therefore, let us confess our sins to the One who is steadfast love.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gentle Lord, forgive us when we forget, ignore, or overlook your ministry and journey from Bethlehem to Calvary. We confess that we are often blind to your example, deaf to your instructions, apathetic towards others, and stubborn in our refusal to change. We have not loved without expecting something in return; we have not lived with compassion in our hearts; we have not followed the way of your gospel. How short-sighted is our vision; how counterproductive our lifestyles. Lift us from despair. Light the way to our future. Lead us boldly to stand with you, so that we might know the power of faithful discipleship. Help us to be beacons of hope in the midst of poverty and oppression, violence, fear, and greed. Make us ministers; mark us as missionaries, mold us as messengers of the Good News. Walk with us along the journey of faith, so that your example remains our rock, and the Holy Spirit, our Counselor and Guide.

MOMENTS OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Though we have sinned, we are affirmed; though we have not loved, we are loved; though we have walked away from God's call, we are drawn back with the promise of a new opportunity, a new hope, a new chance to show the world, and ourselves, that we are free in Christ. Thanks be to God for this inexpressible redemption.

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.”

HONORING OUR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES Lynn Metheny & Carole Witt
RACHEL BAYLISS SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS George Schember

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

ANTHEM *They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love*

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord, we are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord, and we pray that all unity may one day be restored: And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love: Yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love. We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand, we will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand, and together we’ll spread the news that God is in our land. We will work with each other, we will work side by side, we will work with each other, we will work side by side, and we’ll guard human dignity and save human pride. All praise to the Father, from whom all things come, and all praise to Christ Jesus, God’s only Son, and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one.

THE READING OF GOD’S WORD:

FIRST LESSON: Acts 17:22-31 Pew Bible p. 902

GOSPEL LESSON: John 14:15-21 Pew Bible p. 877

A SPECIAL TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN..... “Pictures within a Picture”

Nursery (Ages Infant – Age 3)

†HYMN NO. 305 *Come Sing, O Church, in Joy*

SERMON..... “Journeys”
David R. Witt, Pastor

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY *O Land of Rest*..... Hegarity

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

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Hymnal p. 38)..... “A Brief Statement of Faith”
(Sections 4, 5, 6)

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. 366..... *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

†CHARGE AND BLESSING

†CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 238 (Refrain)..... *Thine Is the Glory*

**Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.**

†POSTLUDE

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

Opequon's High School seniors are being honored during 11:00 am worship today. The Christian Education Team is privileged to highlight each of these young people at this special milestone in their life. We are very proud of our high school graduates and wish them happiness and fulfillment in the next chapter of life. Congratulations to:

Lauren Armstrong Handley High School
Taylor Heishman James Wood High School
Jonathan Lunsford Sherando High School
Ben Newhouse Sherando High School
Mitchell Skowbo Sherando High School
Megan Triplett Sherando High School
Cameron Veach Handley High School

WE CONCLUDE OUR CURRENT SUNDAY SCHOOL YEAR

Our current Sunday School year is finishing today with classes for all ages. All class participants from the youngest to oldest are encouraged to go to class by way of stopping in the Dell Room for a tasty treat and celebration token. You will find something there for everyone! If you have to take a different path on the way to class, it will be well worth your effort. We celebrate with everyone who has been in an adult class, youth class, confirmation class, and our children's workshops throughout the year. Thank you for giving your time to learn and help others learn as you explored stories of faith with one another. We have 'tasted and seen' that the Lord is good. Special thanks to all the class leaders and teachers!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 21-28, 2017

TODAY

- 8:30 am: Morning Worship
9:45 am: Sunday School Classes for All Ages
9:45 am: Confirmation Class & Newcomers with Session
—Memorial Sanctuary
11:00 am: Morning Worship, Honoring Our High School Graduates,
Fellowship Reception
12:30 pm: Presbyterian Youth Connection Picnic—Pitcock Shelter
5:00 pm: WLT Kids—Memorial Sanctuary

THIS WEEK

- Monday: Tuesday Morning Mission—9:30 am
LOGOS Leadership—1:30 pm—David's Office
FEAST Group—5:00 pm—Pitcock Shelter
PS 150 Rehearsal—6:00 pm—Memorial Sanctuary
Adult ESL—6:00 pm—Assembly Room
- Tuesday: Hands & Hearts—10:30 am—Assembly Room
Refugee Resettlement Meeting—4:30 pm—First
Presbyterian Church
Highland Food Pantry—6:00 pm
WATTS Operations—6:30 pm—Bageant Room
- Wednesday: GIS Students—8:00 am—Pitcock Shelter
Annual Older Adult Luncheon—
Program—11:30 am—Sanctuary
Lunch—12:15 pm—Fellowship Hall
Choir Practice—7:00 pm—Sanctuary
- Thursday: Scout Pack 1—6:30 pm—Classroom 4 & 5
Scout Troop 1—7:00 pm—Assembly Room
- Saturday: Hike with Mike—8:30 am
Blessing & Planting of the Community Garden—9:00am
—Hedgebrook Farm

NEXT SUNDAY—Memorial Day Weekend/Ascension Sunday

Morning Worship—8:30 & 11:00 am
Sunday School for All Ages—9:45 am

Acts 1:6-14, John 17:1-11

Sermon: “Open Hearts”

Four Cents a Meal, Fair Trade Coffee

Remembering Those Who Have Faithfully Served

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Doug Moyer Family
Bob Weidele
Frances Pitcock
Evan Nordeen
Beatrice Poe
Rick Praml
Dottie Edwards
Gary Strickler
Cindy Sousa
Wayne Lake
Carlene Lemasters
Gail Crane
Kim Chicklo
Marjory Journell
Natalie Williams
Carlos Valdez

Helen Lucas
Patricia & Ray Ferguson
Fred & Vicki Earnshaw
James Ingram
Gary Kain
Charles Lawson
Nancy Kerns
Melissa Ambers
Bill Simmons
Barbara Patterson
Gary Snapp Family
Kelly McCord
Doug York
Tom & Vicki Harman
Arden & McKinney Ireland
John Sidell

Barb Sumner
Sherry Clark
Verity Morrow
Joe Strosnider
Susan Martin
Donna Coffman
Rebekah Witt
Stephanie Fitch
Phyllis Dilley
Sandi Pulizzi
Colleen McMurdo
Jane Lewis
Larry Matthews
Doug Koch
Illubabor Bethel Synod of
Church Mekane Yesus

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY SERVICE

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

ATTENDANCE SUNDAY, MAY 14TH:

8:30 am—90

Sunday School—59

11:00 am—138

WORM-TODAY'S WORKSHOP IS...

“A Sunday Morning Party!” We will be wrapping up the year of workshops with this celebration morning. Children will enjoy games, treats, and a special take home challenge. All preschool-5th grade children are invited to come enjoy the activities of the morning in Classroom #3 at 9:45 am.

“WORM” your way to room 3 for some super fun.

SERVANTS IN MINISTRY

8:30

Acolyte: Cameron Ritter
Beadle: Graham Taylor
Bell Ringer: Mo Mohler
Greeters: Cathy Plumb, Brenda Hawkins
Hospitality: Lisa & Bill Frye
Liturgist: Dave Richards
Ushers: Terry Hartman, Heide Mohler,
Cameron Ritter, Reagan Tibbs

11:00

Acolyte: Mitchell Skowbo
Beadle: Shirley Tomblin
Bell Ringer: Kristin Blake, Bailey Cooper, AnnMarie Kelly
Greeters: Brenda & Clayton Carbaugh
Hospitality: Debi Hodgson, Annemarie Matthews
Liturgist: Lynn Metheny
Nametags: Kail Barbe
Ushers: Jason Brown, Kyle Homan, Bill Hopeck,
Ben Newhouse, Mitchell Skowbo, Cameron Veach

PYC NEWS

TODAY at 12:30 pm, All youth and their families are invited to the CLOSING CELEBRATION event. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided along with all the fixings. Please bring a side dish to share. There will be a great volleyball tournament happening with young people and parents! Don't worry if you are not the greatest volleyball player- there will be some fun variations to the standard game. This is a terrific way for us to wrap up the year and include families too. Please join us!

ANNUAL OLDER ADULT LUNCHEON

The 15th annual Older Adult Luncheon will be held this Wednesday, May 24. The festivities begin at **11:30 am** with entertainment in the Sanctuary followed by the luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. A full meal is provided along with loads of fun and the crowning of our 2017 Older Adult of the Year. This event is in honor of all our cherished adults who are 60 and more. It is a real treat to gather for this event each year!

HIKE WITH MIKE

If you enjoy the great outdoors, you will enjoy sharing it with like-minded church family members. Join us this Saturday at 8:30 am at the OPC parking lot to go hike in Dolly Sods. We will car pool. Please wear comfortable shoes with good ankle and arch support and bring water and snack/lunch, depending on the length of our outing. Please register by Thursday by contacting Mike Butler at mbutler57@outlook.com or 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.

CHURCH WORK DAY

We will have a church work day on Saturday, June 3 between 9 am and 12 Noon. We will be weeding, mulching and maybe some trimming. Bring a wheelbarrow if you have one. Many hands make light work!

MOO SPONSORS ROYALS BASEBALL ADVENTURE

The Men of Opequon invite women and men, girls and boys to the Royals game on Monday, June 5th at the Bridgeforth Stadium in Jim Barnett Park on Cork Street. The cost for the evening is \$15 and will cover dinner and admission. We have a reserved area for dinner, behind home plate. The dinner/picnic begins at 6:00 pm. Game starts at 7:00 pm. Contact Mike Butler with questions and to register at 540-533-1239 or mbutler57@outlook.com.

TWO WEEKS TO REGISTER!

Just 2 weeks left to get registered for the terrific VBS week of "Tinkering at the Factory", June 11-15, 4:30-7:30 pm. We will be discovering how God made each of us **ON PURPOSE for A PURPOSE!** VBS is open to 4-year old's through 8th grade along with an adult class opportunity. (Special track planned for 5-8th grade to include a field trip night and some special projects) Invite your friends now and register yourself too! **Registration is open until June 4.** Registration is very important for planning purposes so we appreciate you honoring the deadline. Meander over to the Factory Fun Shop display for registration and volunteer forms.

ITEMS NEEDED FOR VBS

There are some food items as well as other supply items that are needed for Vacation Bible School week. These items are listed on a board in the Gathering Area. Your contributions of these items are greatly appreciated. Quantities are listed for each item as well as when the item is needed. Thank you.

ADULT VBS CLASS AT OPC

Happiness: "We all look for it. Few find it. So, let's talk about it!"

We all dream of being happy. If we could just lose the extra weight, get the job, buy the house, we could truly be happy. But over time, it begins to seem as though lasting happiness is unattainable. Despite our best efforts, true happiness will never be a reality for us. So how do we find lasting happiness and contentment in our lives? Maybe the answer isn't in our own lives at all. UMC Pastor Matt Miofsky connects the existential question, "Am I happy?", with basic theology and unexpected biblical texts. Starting with the book of Ecclesiastes, considering if any "thing" can make us happy, he explores the value of relationships, a forgiving lifestyle, living in the present, feeling gratitude, and learning to release control.

June 11-15 (Sunday-Thursday) 6:30-7:30 pm

Please register at the "Factory Fun Shop" display

Great nightly class sessions facilitated by Pastor David Witt.

Join this time of study and fellowship together.

Blessing of the Garden and Planting Day *



OPC COMMUNITY GARDEN
AT HEDGEBROOK FARM
MAY 27, 2017
9:00 A.M. – NOON

*** No previous gardening experience is necessary -
many hands lighten the load.**



*Our Mission: Growing and Sharing the Light of Christ
with our Community and the World.*