



# The Opequon Spirit

“Prayerfully Equipping Disciples of All Generations to be Christ’s Hands, Heart and Feet in the World”

## JULY 2016

### WORSHIP IN JULY 10:00 a.m.

**Sunday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Independence Day  
Weekend

Patriotic Concert Begins at 9:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary  
Galatians 3:23-29  
Communion, CCAP

**Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup>**

Guest Speaker: Carrie Burslem Evans  
Teaching Elder/Pastor, Shenandoah Presbytery  
Commissioning of Mission Trip Teams, Asheville Youth Mission & Baja, Mexico

**Sunday, July 17<sup>th</sup>**

Philippians 3:4b-16  
Sermon: “The Forward Look”

**Sunday, July 24<sup>th</sup>**

Annual Summer Hymn Sing Begins at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary  
Philippians 3:17-4:1  
Sermon: “Standing Firm”  
Four Cents A Meal, Fair Trade Coffee

**Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup>**

Philippians 4:1-9  
Sermon: “Full of Joy in the Lord”  
Habitat for Humanity Paint Can Offering  
“Southern Country Social” – 5:00 p.m.

### COLLECTING FOR CCAP



**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**  
in observance of Independence Day on  
Monday, July 4<sup>th</sup>



### STAFF SCHEDULES THIS MONTH

Kevin Hay -----	July 17-22 Youth Mission Trip July 23-30 Vacation
Cathy Richard-----	July 23-August 6 Vacation
Carole Witt-----	July 6-16 Vacation
David Witt-----	July 1-16 Vacation

*Summer  
Worship*

**One Blended Service**

**Sundays at 10:00 a.m.**

**July 3 through August 28**

## NOTES FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends in Christ,

After attending many Presbyterian conferences in recent years where a baptismal bowl was included in worship in meaningful ways as a visual reminder of our baptisms, I discussed with our Worship Team the possibility of a redesign of our current baptismal font, which we first began using when the Sanctuary was completed in 2005. Last fall, through memorial gifts, our Worship Team researched and secured the new baptismal bowl for the Sanctuary. Then, through his own ingenuity, Bill Hopeck was able to retrofit and incorporate the bowl with the font. We began using the bowl beginning with the first Sunday in January, a day when we often share in a congregational renewal of baptism. While we have had several baptisms recently, you may have noticed that we have also begun to use the bowl on a weekly basis, as water is poured into the bowl, often during the assurance of pardon. Several people have recently asked me about this new facet of worship, so I thought folks would appreciate a word of insight and reflection.

As Presbyterians, we testify that the sacraments of baptism and communion are outward and visible signs of God's inward and spiritual grace working within us. The waters of baptism are a visual reminder of the promise that we belong to God. Baptism is a continuing affirmation that God loves us and accepts us through his sovereign grace. And this leads us to two fundamental convictions with respect to baptism. First, baptism calls us to lead a life of commitment to God's will, a life of Christian discipleship. Second, since our life as Christians after baptism, regardless of when it happens, will never be as totally committed as it should be, baptism is a referent point for our daily lives, with all that it means renewed through daily repentance and faithfulness in discipleship. Baptism is a testimony to what God has accomplished for us and what God is doing within us. As noted by our "cousins" of the Reformed family in the Book of Common Worship of the Church of Scotland when a child is baptized:

"Little one, for you Jesus Christ came into the world:

for you he lived and showed God's love;  
for you he suffered the darkness of Calvary  
and cried at the last, 'It is accomplished';  
for you he triumphed over death  
and rose in newness of life;  
for you he ascended to reign at God's right  
hand.

All this he did for you, little one,  
though you do not know it yet.  
And so the word of Scripture is fulfilled:  
'We love because God loved us first.'

We belong to God. This is both why we baptize and why we pour forth water as we confess our sin and receive the words assuring us of pardon. "If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9) So each time we see the water of baptism, let us remember and rejoice!

Together in Christ's Service,

*David*

## SESSION HIGHLIGHTS—June 21, 2016

- Session met with Robert Beach, an architect who is working with us on how to use the OPC 280 funds. We will begin with roof and Fellowship Hall issues. The goal is to have those complete by November 1 when we host the meeting of Shenandoah Presbytery.
- Fellowship Ministry will sponsor "Lemonade in the Lobby" on Sunday August 21.
- Members of the congregation have offered to hire someone to come twice a month to keep the scatter garden maintained.
- Session approved the recommendation of the Personnel Team to grant David Witt a two-month sabbatical in the summer of 2017, and Carole Witt a one-month sabbatical to overlap with David's.

- Christian Education reported that we are in good shape with staffing for the upcoming Sunday School year. Rally Day this year will be August 28. CE will sponsor the backpack ministry at Orchard View Elementary School again next year.
- On June 28, Mission Ministry will present checks for \$1,000 each to CCAP, the Highland Food Pantry, and WATTS from the proceeds of Opequon on the Lawn. Ministry Mission will prepare “Blessing Bags” for clients of the Laurel Center.
- 43% of the attendees at Vacation Bible School this year were not from Opequon. This is slightly higher than in prior years.
- Congregational Care has completed a study of Opequon’s Small Groups. Over 200 people participate in a small group.
- This year OPC raised \$4,325 for Relay for Life. This put us in 11<sup>th</sup> place. Over the last three years, we have raised over \$18,000.
- Congregational Care is studying the purchase of cushions for our pews.
- Session approved the request of the Blue Ridge Singers to hold their December and April concerts at Opequon, provided there was no conflict with other activities.
- To date, OPC 280 has received pledges of \$102,145.50, with \$93,405.60 actually received.
- The Mountain Valley Mission Community is in flux. It may dissolve. A new mission community based on church size might replace it.

### COLLEGE GRADUATES

Jordan Hartman----- Bridgewater College  
 Ben Hawkins-----Radford University  
 Garrett Hodgson - James Madison University  
 Ali Hoxton----- James Madison University  
 Meagan Leonard----- Washington University  
 Rebekah Witt ----- James Madison University

### OLDER ADULT HAPPENINGS

We can’t have a rainbow without a little rain; look for the rainbows after summer storms this month and remember God’s promises to us! The Older Adult Ministry Team is taking a little vacation this month and will not be meeting. The next meeting will be Monday, August 1, 9:30 a.m.

Come enjoy Happy Days on Wednesday, July 13 at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Following the covered dish lunch, it is the annual White Elephant Game with a fun twist-“The White Elephant Hits the Road”! The white elephant game is played much like a ‘thieves Christmas gift’ game is played. So this month, bring travel related items to fit the theme of the white elephant hitting the road! Think about helpful things for a day trip, a weekend outing, or an overnight extended stay somewhere. Wrap up your item and bring it along. The game always proves to promote much laughter and fun.

There is still room to join us for the trip to tour the Daniel Morgan House in Winchester on August 24. This is actually the home of George and Jeanne Schember. They will be our personal tour guides! Lunch will be at a local restaurant after our time at the house. The cost is \$5 plus lunch. The sign-up sheet is in the kiosk in the Gathering Area.

### THE LATEST IN LOGOS

What do LOGOS and July have in common? They both tend to fly by! That’s why the LOGOS Leadership Team is working hard during this month to plan and prepare for our NEW LOGOS year set to begin on September 14. LOGOS is so much fun that at the end of each year, everyone finds themselves saying, “I can’t believe this LOGOS year is over already!”

Each week at LOGOS, there are new surprises and deepening relationships. In our upcoming year, there will be a special emphasis on our theme “I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me” as well as brand new curriculum for all ages and some special studies for our high school youth. Registration

information will be available next month, so stay tuned!

## A RECAP OF VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

We started the summer on our surf boards last month as we enjoyed a week of VBS at the SURF SHACK; catching the waves of God's amazing love. What a tremendous VBS week it was! We had 50 children, ten youth, eight adults in attendance and over 50 staff members involved, all focusing on our amazing God and HIS great love for us. The "aquarium room" was a big hit where kids played games and had story time along with a scavenger hunt. Special guest speakers **Kristin Blake**, **Patty Klinefelter**, and **Lorie Henley** shared most interesting presentations with our children and the VBS youth took a trip to the Shenandoah Valley Horse Rescue Network to help bathe, feed, and groom horses. At the end of the week, 42 Hope Boxes were packed for children of Appalachia and 60 balloons were launched with messages of God's love and hope. Thank you to OPC for all the support for our Vacation Bible School week!

## SUNDAY MORNING SUMMER ADULT CLASS

The Sunday morning adult class continues this month, studying the Gospel of Mark. The class meets each Sunday in the Bageant Room at 8:45 a.m. This study is being facilitated by Gary Strickler, a master teacher. In working through the Gospel each week, the discussion on various passages will center around two questions: What do the passages teach us about Jesus? and What do they teach us about following Jesus? This class is open to all adults. It will surely be a terrific journey through this book of the bible. God is not packed away for the summer; HE is ever present each day. Discover what God wants you to learn!

## WE ALL NEED SHOTS



August is national immunization awareness month. We all need vaccinations to help protect us from serious diseases.

Vaccinations can prevent serious diseases like the flu, measles, and pneumonia. Vaccine-preventable diseases cause long-term illness, hospitalization, and even death.

- Each year in the United States, 1 million people get shingles and some will have severe pain that can continue even long after their rash clears up (called post-herpetic neuralgia) or they may suffer from other painful complications that could persist for years.
- Each year, an average of 226,000 people are hospitalized due to influenza and between 3,000 and 49,000 people die of influenza and its complications, the majority are among adults.
- There were approximately 32,000 cases of invasive pneumococcal disease in 2012. Of those cases, there were about 3,300 deaths.
- 800,000 to 1.4 million people suffer from chronic hepatitis B, with complications such as liver cancer.
- HPV causes about 17,000 cancers in women, and about 9,000 cancers in men each year.

### How Vaccines Prevent Diseases

The diseases that vaccines prevent can be dangerous, or even deadly. Vaccines reduce the risk of infection by working with the body's natural defenses to help it safely develop immunity to disease. When germs, such as bacteria or viruses, invade the body, they attack and multiply. This invasion is called an infection, and the infection is what causes illness. The immune system then has to fight the infection. Once it fights off the infection, the body is left with a supply of cells that help recognize and fight that disease in the future. Vaccines help develop immunity by imitating an infection, but this "imitation" infection does not cause illness. It does, however, cause the

immune system to develop the same response as it does to a real infection so the body can recognize and fight the vaccine-preventable disease in the future. Sometimes, after getting a vaccine, the imitation infection can cause minor symptoms, such as fever. Such minor symptoms are normal and should be expected as the body builds immunity. As children get older, they require additional doses of some vaccines for best protection. Older kids also need to be protected against additional diseases they may encounter. Talk to your doctor or nurse to make sure that everyone in your family gets the vaccinations they need. See the bulletin board for more information related to the recommended immunizations by age.

Reference



### HEALTH SYMPOSIUM

September 18, 2016

SAVE THE DATE!

Cardiovascular education (preventing strokes) is the topic for the Health Symposium that will be conducted by Patty Klinefelter on Sunday, September 18, in the Fellowship Hall. We will have a light lunch and start right after 11:00 a.m. worship. Be sure to save the date!



Our own **Sara Gomez** and **Bill Heavner** will be our guest speakers at our July 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. Sara and Bill will share with us about the mission, program, and outreach of the Winchester Little Theater. Dinner begins at 6:00 p.m. at the newly renovated Chick-fil-A on Pleasant Valley Road, with the 7:00 p.m. program back at the church (Youth Spot). Looking ahead, MOO'S annual picnic will be held on Monday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, at the Pitcock Memorial Shelter beginning at 6:00 p.m. Save

the date and plan to bring a good dish to share with all!



God-Loving Opequon Women will be gathering on Tuesday, July 12, 7:00 p.m. at the church. The atmosphere is relaxed and inviting with some great time to simply socialize with one another. Refreshments and drinks are provided. Devotions are shared and much laughter finds its way into every gathering. Come on out and enjoy the friendships.

### Young Adult - 20's & 30's News

For all Young Adults in their 20's and 30's in all stages of life (young professionals, newlyweds, married with kids, college students, graduate students)

### Winchester Royals Game - All Ages - Families Encouraged

Join us for a Picnic and Baseball Game on Saturday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, Picnic Starts at 6:00 p.m. Game Starts at 7:00 p.m. \$10 per adult includes admission and \$10 food voucher (Great Deal!) Kids Under 6 Years of Age FREE If not wanting food vouchers - General Admission Tickets:

\$5 - Adults

\$2- Youth (6 To 12 Years)

Please RSVP with Kevin if you think you might come: [associate@opequonchurch.com](mailto:associate@opequonchurch.com)

Save the Date

**Young Adult Brunch after Worship**  
 Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
 IJ Canns

### GETTING READY FOR THE SOUTHERN COUNTRY SOCIAL!!

We will enjoy a "Southern Country Social" in the evening of July 31<sup>st</sup>. While the church will be providing fried chicken, corn on the cob, watermelon, and sweet tea, we are asking

attendees to bring “southern side dishes” and especially seeking folks to make homemade ice cream. If you have an ice cream freezer and are willing to make a container of a fruit flavored ice cream (e.g. strawberry, peach, blueberry, pineapple, banana, grape nut), please contact David Witt (540-931-2390 or [pastor@opequonchurch.com](mailto:pastor@opequonchurch.com)). It will be a fun and fulfilling evening for all!!

### HIGHLAND FOOD PANTRY 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday Every Month

The Hands, Heart, & Feet - Mission-Oriented Sunday School Class invites anyone interested in joining us in our commitment to serving at Highland Food Pantry on Tuesday, July 26, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Contact Kevin: [associate@opequonchurch.com](mailto:associate@opequonchurch.com)

### CHURCH-WIDE, ALL AGES BASEBALL TRIP Washington Nationals vs. San Francisco Giants

Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 p.m. - 12:00 Midnight  
Cost: \$50/person which includes ticket and transportation

The sign up deadline has passed; however, talk to Kevin ASAP if you are interested. The game starts at 7:00 p.m., we plan to leave the church at 4:00 p.m. Youth in grades 6-12 may come unaccompanied but children 5<sup>th</sup> grade and below must be accompanied by an adult chaperone or parent. Contact Kevin at [associate@opequonchurch.com](mailto:associate@opequonchurch.com) for details or to sign up.

## PYC News

Upcoming Summer Youth Events:

Church-Wide Nationals Baseball Game  
Details in the previous article.

July 17-22—Mission Trip to Asheville, NC—  
Rising 7<sup>th</sup> Graders through Graduating 12<sup>th</sup>  
Graders



### PATRIOTIC CONCERT Sunday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> 9:45 a.m.

Come to the 10:00 a.m. service a little early and enjoy some patriotic music. Our

organist, William Heavner, will present a short program of July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday organ music beginning at 9:45 a.m. Selections include *Yankee Doodle* and *Stars and Stripes Forever*.

### SUMMER SABBATICAL FOR OPEN DOOR WORSHIP

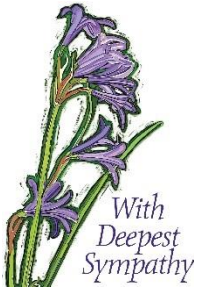
Because of various vacation schedules, our monthly Open Door Worship service has taken a summer sabbatical. Open Door Worship will return this fall, on the second Sundays of the month, beginning on Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. We hope you will plan to join us then for this contemporary service of praise, prayer, teaching, and communion.



**Madelyn Grace Phares Estep** was born on June 14<sup>th</sup>, to Eric and Mandy Estep. Madelyn joins brothers Noah and Wyatt at home. Welcome to the Opequon Church family, Madelyn!

### THROUGH THE WATERS OF BAPTISM

Recently, we welcomed **Adalyn Ann Dantro**, **Caleb Kernan Garcia** and **Claire Karys Gaines** into the baptized membership of Opequon. Adalyn is the daughter of Philip and Heather Dantro, the younger sister of Garrett and the granddaughter of Glenn and Lisa Kochel. Caleb and Claire are the children of Rob and Kristy Gaines and grandchildren of Bob and Judy Gaines. May God’s Spirit rest upon them and may we, as their church family, nurture and love them.



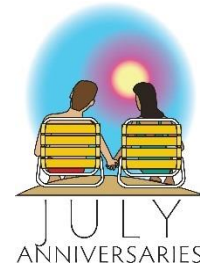
We express our Christian love and sympathy to...

**Lisa Kochel & family** upon the death of her father, Stanley Lickey, on May 27

**Gerri Bayliss, Bill & Pam Bayliss, and Steve Bayliss & family** upon the death of their husband and father, **Roy** on June

18

*"I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord. "Those who believe in me shall live, even though they die; and those who live and believe in me shall never die."*  
John 11:24-25



- 2 Ben Newhouse
- 3 Lauren Armstrong, Kylie Vess, Dave Yost
- 4 Rebekah DesMarais, Amy Gray, Mackenzie Groah, Dave Richards, John Winn
- 5 Betty Bly, Lisa Kochel
- 6 Cullen Frye
- 8 Kaley Bender, Brady Noll, Danielle Stevens
- 9 Natalie Kochel, Amy Agreggaard-Reid, Patience Sydnor, Lance Weeks
- 11 Ronald Walker
- 12 Pat Burslem, John Stevens, Jr.
- 14 Judy Gaines
- 15 Aubrey Astorino
- 16 Dan Agreggaard, Barbara Gaul, Warren Sardelis, Christy Usa
- 17 Meghan Groah, Jason Hathaway, Mark Walter
- 18 Mitchell Skowbo
- 19 Gary Strickler
- 20 Karen Jones, Carrie Rockwell
- 21 Joseph Ganoë, Bobby Smith, Robert Walker
- 22 Carole Witt
- 24 Wanda Royston, Fiona Schieve
- 25 Isaac Shiley
- 26 Connie Robinson
- 27 Harrison Bayliss
- 29 Jeff Ganoë, Reagan Newhouse, John Stevens
- 31 Erin Bender

- 2 Doug & Bobbie Joyner
- 4 Robert & Kristen Todd
- 5 Lance & Vicky Astorino
- 6 Jeff & Kitty Kraemer
- 7 Steve & Heather Burton
- 9 Dom & Joelle Cafaro
- 11 Jeff & Wendy Ganoë, John & Jackie Hott
- 12 Nick & Warren Sardelis
- 13 A.J. & Amy Mockaitis
- 14 Travis & Casey Carr
- 16 Clifton & Melissa Ambers, Chris & Courtney Frye
- 17 Mark & Stacy Walter
- 18 Bobby & Harriet Smith
- 20 Bob & Judy Gaines
- 28 Darrell & Joyce Griffiths
- 30 Steve & Carrie Rockwell

### SERVANTS IN MINISTRY

*Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m.*

#### Acolytes

- 3 Kristin Blake
- 10 AnnMarie Kelly
- 17 Andrew Crites
- 24 Emma Abell
- 31 Erika Reed

#### Beadle

- 3 & 31 Mac McNichols
- 10, 17 & 24 Sandy Vess

**Bell Ringer** Mo Mohler

**Greeters** Ray and Karen Jones

## Hospitality

3 Mary Himelright  
10 Debbie & Bill Bender  
17 Heide Mohler  
24 Betty Chicklo, June Malone  
31 Brenda Hawkins

## Nametags

Week 1 Pat deButts  
Week 2 Dulcie Reed  
Week 3 Nancy Rodgers  
Week 4 Kail Barbe  
Week 5 Nancy Rodgers

## Ushers (Head Usher in **Bold**)

3 Kristin Blake, Pat Heavner, Cole Owens,  
Dulcie Reed, **Graham Taylor**  
10 Ashton Clark, Brenna Hathaway,  
AnnMarie Kelly, Dick Widell,  
Jim Youngblood  
17 Andrew Crites, Terry Hartman,  
Zane Hawkins, **Heide Mohler**,  
Carroll & Jack Youngblood  
24 Emma Abell, Caleb Cooper,  
**Keith McMurdo**, Chase Pierce,  
Sherry Schryver, John Winn  
31 **Dom Cafaro**, Bailey Cooper, Bob Gaines,  
Brady Noll, Erika Reed, Dave Yost

*"...together with those who in every place call  
on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ..."*

1 Corinthians 1:2

Dear Friends in Christ,  
In keeping with 1 Corinthians 1:2, the faith  
community at First Presbyterian Church, Delhi,  
NY wants you to know that we are praying for  
your church and its ministries. We are with you  
in your joys and sorrows, successes, and  
failures. It helps us to know we are part of the  
whole—the body of Christ and that it stretches  
across the whole world. We are all in it  
together.

In Christ's Love,  
Sue Kopecki, Member

Remember  
OPC  
in  
Your Will

Dear Church Family,

It has taken me over a year to process  
everything that happened last May 9, 2015. I  
was on my way home from planting the  
community garden and I was hungry, needed a  
shower and was preparing to work on Gifted  
Independent Showcase that was scheduled to  
happen on May 14, 2015. I was sitting on the  
exit ramp from 81 to Rt. 7 on exit 315 when my  
world stopped for 4 1/2 hours. As you all know,  
I was hit from behind by a driver who simply  
was not paying attention.

I remember waking up in the ER as someone  
was stitching up the only open wound I had, my  
forehead. For the 5 days I was in the hospital  
following the collision, I really didn't know why I  
was there or what had happened. I vaguely  
remember the many faces that I saw as my  
visitors came to make sure I and my family  
knew how much everyone cared. I do know  
that the wheels were put into motion very  
quickly as folks came together to feed my  
family when I was unable to do so. My family  
and I are so blessed to have such wonderful  
people in our lives from our OPC family, to our  
neighbors and to colleagues who prepared  
homemade meals, brought yummy food, and  
provided many gift cards to make sure  
everyone was able to eat. My heartfelt thanks  
for going out of your way and for taking such  
fantastic care of my family when I could not.

So many OPC family members were there for  
us in so many ways during the time I was in the  
hospital and at Winchester Rehabilitation  
Center for the entire month of May last year,  
when I came home and was very limited  
mobility wise during the summer, and still  
continue to be there for us as I continue to  
recover from a devastating and life changing  
accident. I felt the prayers immediately and  
they worked! Dom and Joelle came  
immediately when they heard what had  
happened and our friendship has deepened.  
They are family. Melissa Youngblood sat with  
me overnight at the hospital to give Al a chance  
to go home and sleep. Kevin and David visited  
regularly and Kevin probably got quite a few  
laughs as I was very medicated when he  
visited and I talked nonstop. I remember David



bringing me a bulletin from worship and that evening, once I was settled for the night, I had my own church service. It took me three hours as I would nap between sections. I did not sing aloud as I am sure I would have awakened the other rehab patients (lol) but the melodies of familiar hymns were very vivid in my mind.

Thanks to everyone for your patience with me as I had to take a temporary leave of absence from session in order to recuperate. With a pelvis broken in four places, I had to relearn how to walk. The concussion I sustained was so severe that it caused cranial nerve 6 palsy (CN6 palsy) which meant I had double vision for seven months and had to wear a patch for that time. My left humerus was broken in half, I suffered a cardiac contusion and bruised ribs but I am blessed to still be here because I know that God still has work for me to do and I am living out His plan for me. Even though the doctors told me it would be a year and a half to two years before I would recover completely, I didn't believe them. I knew it would take some time but I didn't think it would take that long. I believe them now. Even thirteen months-post accident, I am still healing and dealing with challenges every day.

Three months post-accident, I returned to work. It was tough, physically and mentally challenging, but the best decision thing I could have done because it allowed me to focus on others and be productive. "But when we focus on others, our world expands. Our own problems drift to the periphery of the mind and so seem smaller, and we increase our capacity for connection—or compassionate action." (Social Intelligence by Daniel Goleman). I couldn't drive and didn't have a car so there were folks who volunteered to pick me up at home, take me to work and then transport me home or to physical therapy at the end of the day. Graham Taylor was my ride to James Wood High School on the days I had to be there. What a great way to start every other day by talking with Graham as he drove me to work. Graham has even attended the showcase for my students to show his support as he learned a lot about what I do through my job. I am so thankful for Graham and for

everything he did for me and what he does for others. Thank you Graham for making sure I had a way to work for three months!

Thanks so much to everyone who mowed our lawn so that Al and the boys could be with me instead of worrying about the yard. Thanks to everyone who visited at the hospital, at rehab and when I returned home. Thanks to my friends who came to wash my hair as I didn't have use of both arms to do so. Thanks to my friends who spent hours planting my flower beds (Joelle and my friends Denise and Vicky). Thank you for all of the cards and notes (I have enough to fill a dozen scrapbooks). Thank you immensely for the prayers (I felt them and I still do). God is good all the time!

Oh how I missed being out in the community garden last summer! I feel so at peace when I am in the garden and, knowing that, Joelle took me out to the garden a couple of times once I was walking a bit better and was able to walk around to see how beautifully the garden produced last year. I so missed working in the garden and working with the different groups of young people who volunteer each summer. Because I am unable to keep up the pace I was so used to before the accident occurred, I have had to re-evaluate just how many things I take on now. My focus this summer is the Community Garden. I am back to being a Gardener on Call, and this week alone, I have worked with two groups of young people who volunteered their time to take care of tasks in the garden. My heart listens to the Lord as He speaks to me in numerous ways. Even though I am not physically able to do all that I was accustomed to doing, I am still able to inspire young people to pick up where I left off - in the garden, through my work as an educator, as part of the Christian Education Ministry Team, as a mom. The garden and the connection with Highland food pantry and the wonderful volunteers there has also led to a relationship with OPC through the Hands, Heart and Feet Adult Mission-oriented Sunday School class and with my students in the Gifted Independent Study program as well. So blessed to be a part of all of these groups! I am truly thankful that I can now drive to the garden, stoop, bend,

stand, walk through the pathways, weed, plant seeds, harvest produce, pull wagons, water, and fulfill the duties of a GOC. Praise God!!!!!!

Praise God from whom all blessings flow! My OPC family is truly a blessing! I am overcome with gratitude for everything you all do, have done and are to me and my family. My genuine, heartfelt thanks to all of you for everything! Al, Ty, Cole and I are truly blessed to be part of such a wonderful, loving, concerned, caring, prayerful church family. We love you! I am sorry it has taken so long for me to write this and to send it. It really has taken this long to process everything that happened and how everything has changed.

*"Let your roots grow down into HIM, and let your lives be built on HIM. Then your faith will grow strong IN THE TRUTH you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness."*

Colossians 2:7

May blessings abound,  
Robin, Al, Ty and Cole Owens

### SAVE THESE AUGUST DATES:

- Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup> - Nationals vs. Giants Baseball, Nationals Park
- Sunday, August 7<sup>th</sup> - Annual Blessing of the Backpacks - 10:00 a.m.
- Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup> - "Lemonade in the Lobby" - Following 10:00 a.m. worship
- Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup> - "Worship under the Stars" - 6:30 p.m.
- Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup> - Sunday School Kick-off - 11:00 a.m.

### SAVE THE DATE

**Organ Dedication Concert 3:00 p.m.  
July 31, 2016**

at the Chapel at Orchard Ridge  
A Wine & Cheese Reception 2:00 p.m.

**Monday Evening Music  
The Chapel at Orchard Ridge**

Free & Open to the Public  
Presented by the Winchester Chapter of the  
American Guild of Organists

July 11	Music for Organ & Trumpet
August 8	The Golden Age: Buxtehude, Bach, & Friends
September 12	A Little Bit of Jazz
October 10	Performers Old & New
November 14	Wedding Music
December 12	Anticipating Christmas: Carols, Old & New



# SUMMER FRUIT PIZZA

Celebrate summer with this tasty dessert pizza, using your favorite summer fruits as the toppings.

**What you need:**

- 1 tube slice-and-bake sugar cookie dough
  - Knife
  - Round pizza pan
  - 8 ounces cream cheese
  - 1/3 cup sugar
  - 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
  - 2 cups sliced fruit
  - Adult help
- 

**What you do:**

1. Cut the dough into slices 1/8-inch thick. Place slices on the pan, overlapping them slightly.
2. Bake at 375 degrees for 12 minutes. Let cool.
3. Combine softened cream cheese, sugar and vanilla, mixing well. Spread this "frosting" over the baked-cookie "crust."
4. Arrange fruit on top of the pizza.
5. Slice and enjoy!

## SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT May 2016

EXPENSES	Net Expenses		Net Expenses Year to Date	Budget Balance Remaining
	2016 Budget	Current Month		
Administrative Ministry	415,048	38,864	181,407	233,641
Christian Education Ministry	13,900	101	1,685	12,215
Congregational Care Ministry	300	0	74	226
Evangelism Ministry	600	25	446	154
Fellowship Ministry	1,600	334	1,089	511
Mission Ministry	47,000	4,236	15,994	31,006
Worship Ministry	5,000	933	1,934	3,066
Capital Expenses	115,025	9,584	47,919	67,106
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>598,473</b>	<b>54,076</b>	<b>250,549</b>	<b>347,924</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		Current Month	Year to Date	
General Fund Pledges		41,656	216,618	
Loose		520	2,070	
<b>Total Operating Income from Offerings</b>		<b>42,176</b>	<b>218,689</b>	
<b>Adjustments to Income (YTD)</b>				
Checking Account Interest			14	
Transfer from Building Fund			0	
Room/Facility Usage			250	
Wedding Fees			0	
<b>Operating Income After Adjustments</b>			<b>218,953</b>	
<b>Expenses (YTD)</b>			<b>250,549</b>	
<b>2016 Operating Balance as of May 31</b>			<b>-31,596</b>	

Opequon Presbyterian Church  
 217 Opequon Church Lane  
 Winchester, VA 22602-2421

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“The Opequon Spirit” is the monthly newsletter of:  
 Opequon Presbyterian Church  
 217 Opequon Church Lane  
 Winchester, VA 22602-2421  
 Phone: 540-662-1843  
[www.opequonchurch.org](http://www.opequonchurch.org)  
 Email: [office@opequonchurch.com](mailto:office@opequonchurch.com)  
 Newsletter deadline is the Wednesday after the Stated Session Meeting.  
 Sunday Worship at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.  
 Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 a.m.



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

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Summer Worship Series  
 Continues

**“Under Construction”**  
 God Isn't Finished with Us Yet!

July Worship – Sundays, 10:00 a.m.  
 August Worship – Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

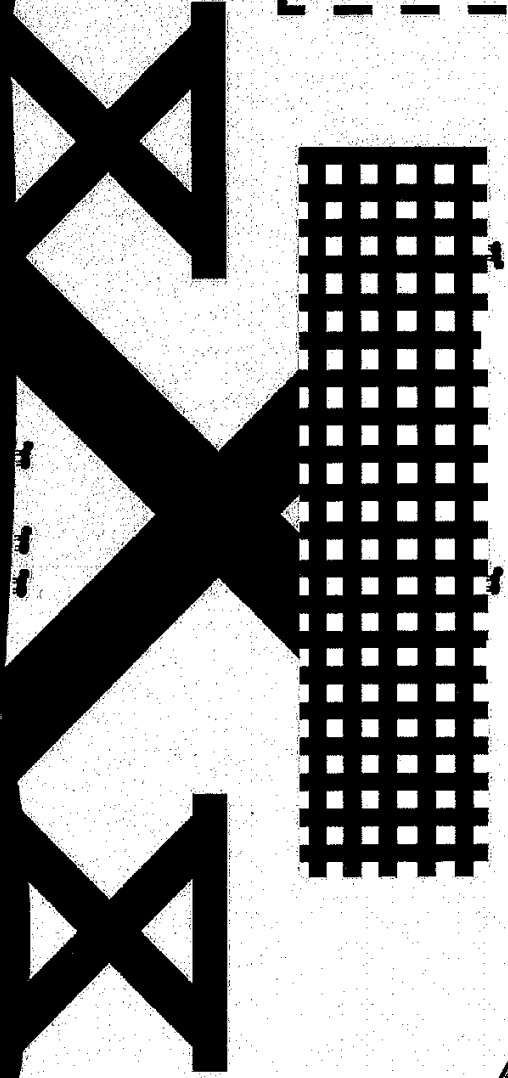
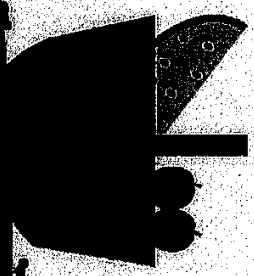
# Southern Country Society

Sunday, July 31 at 5:00 p.m.

Pitcoch Shelter

Y'all come!

- Fried Chicken
- Corn on the Cob
- Drinks
- Homemade Ice Cream
- 
- Please bring your favorite Southern side dish to share!



JULY 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					David Witt on Vacation	⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒ 8am Men's Lectio Divina-BR 8am Women's Lectio Divina-AR
3	4 Independence Day	5	6	7	8	9
David Witt on Vacation 8:45am Adult Class 9:45am Patriotic Concert 10am Worship	⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒ Church Office CLOSED	⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒ 6pm Congregational Care Mtg	David & Carole Witt on Vacation 9:30am Staff Mtg 7pm Wiffle Ball	⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒	⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒ 4pm Cammer Event @ Shelter	⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒ 4pm Cammer Event @ Shelter
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
David & Carole Witt on Vacation 8:45am Adult Class 10am Worship 11:30am 20s & 30s Brunch	⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒ 6pm MOO/Chick-fil-A 7pm MOO/BR	⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒ 7pm GLOW/BR	⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒ 12Noon Happy Days 7pm Wiffle Ball	⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒	⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒ 5pm HHF Class Dinner	⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒ 8am Men's Lectio Divina 3pm Campbell Recital & Social
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Youth Mission Trip 8:45am Adult Class 10am Worship	⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒ 1pm LOGOS Leadership Meeting 7pm WATTS Board	⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒ 7pm Session Meeting	⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒ Newsletter Deadline 9:30am Staff Meeting 12Noon TVOR Lunch 7pm Wiffle Ball	⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒	⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒ 9am Memory Lane	Cathy Richard Vacation Kevin Hay Vacation
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Cathy Richard Vacation Kevin Hay Vacation 8:45am Adult Class 9:30am Hymn Sing 10am Worship	⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒ 5pm Nominations Committee 7pm WATTS Board	⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒ 6pm HH&F/Highland Food Pantry	⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒ 7pm Wiffle Ball	⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒	⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒	⇒⇒⇒⇒⇒ 10am Jubilee Kitchen
31						
Cathy Richard Vacation 8:45am Adult Class 10am Worship 5pm Southern Country Social						