

# 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, 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.

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## Opequon Presbyterian Church

217 Opequon Church Lane, Winchester, VA 22602

540-662-1843

[www.opequonchurch.org](http://www.opequonchurch.org)

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

David R. Witt----- Pastor  
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

**Like us on Facebook—Opequon Presbyterian Church**

# SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

December 4, 2016

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

## Second Sunday of Advent

### WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE *Toccata and Variations on "Hyfrydol".....* Young

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

THE CHURCH BELL RINGS

ENTRANCE OF THE WORD AND THE LIGHT

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**

MOMENTS FOR MISSION .....*"Ty Headley Tree of Warmth"*

Susan Homan & Jennie Wright

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES... Cady, Chris, Evelyn, & Finnegan McCarty (8:30)

Jennifer, Stuart, Bryce, McKenna & Addison Williams (11:00)

GATHERING SONG .....*The Advent Candles*

(Tune: *Away in a Manger*, CCLI #1622560)

**A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright;**

**A candle of Hope in November's dark night.**

**While angels sing blessing from heav'n's starry sky**

**Our hearts we prepare now, for Jesus is nigh.**

**A candle is burning, a candle of Peace;**

**A candle to signal that conflict must cease.**

**For Jesus is coming to show us the way;**

**A message of Peace humbly laid in the hay.**

UNISON PRAYER

**Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is sadness, joy; and where there is darkness, light. Grant that we may not seek so much to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, in pardoning that we are pardoned, and in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen!**

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus says: I am coming soon.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!**

A voice cries out in the wilderness.

**Prepare the way of the Lord!**

Let us worship God.

†HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 82..... *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

(Please be seated for prayer)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us lay before God and one another the distances between us, the impatience, idolatries, and lack of compassion that form our confessions this day. For if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves. Yet in mercy, God will forgive us and renew us.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious and welcoming God, have mercy on your people. We confess that we struggle to believe in your incarnation, that you would dare to come down to earth. We do not heed your word each day in all that we say and do. We do not see our neighbors, families, and friends as beloved children whom you have made. In your mercy, forgive us, for we repent of our ways and look to your power to heal us and raise us up, so that, at the last, you will gather us to you and give us peace.**

MOMENTS OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The reign of God has come near; the repentant will be judged with righteousness. You are forgiven. Be filled with hope, believing in the power of the risen Christ to bring you to new life. Rejoice and believe.

LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

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

†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 ..... *Visit Us, Emmanuel*  
Pepper Choplin

Visit us, Emmanuel. In quiet times when we are still, we yearn to feel Your Spirit's breath, the healing touch of holiness. Come, breathe on us, Emmanuel. In deepest prayer, our hearts are full. The veil of heaven seems so near. We long for you to enter here. Come, live with us, Emmanuel. Come, O Lord and with us dwell, God with us, Emmanuel. Come visit us and live with us, Emmanuel. Your holy pow'r is in this place. We sense your presence all around. Your holiness is so profound. Empower us Emmanuel. Come visit us, Emmanuel.

### THE READING OF GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 11:1-10 ..... Pew Bible p. 558

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Matthew 3:1-12 ..... Pew Bible p. 784

A SPECIAL TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN..... "Getting Along"  
Nursery (Ages Infant – Age 3)

†HYMN NO. 96..... *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

SERMON..... "Staying Focused"  
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. 592) 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 Meditation

Communion Prayer

## WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME

†HYMN OF DEDICATION NO. 384..... *Soon and Very Soon*

†CHARGE AND BLESSING

† CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 384 (v.1) ..... *Soon and Very Soon*  
**Soon and very soon we are going to see the King** (3x)  
**Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we're going to see the King**

† POSTLUDE

## SERVANTS IN MINISTRY

8:30

Acolyte: Audrey Saunders  
Beadle: Alan McKay  
Bell Ringer: Mo Mohler  
Hospitality: Dom Cafaro, Heide Mohler  
Liturgist: Mike Butler  
Ushers: Vicki Crites, Ainsley DesMarais, Dulcie Reed,  
Audrey & Camden Saunders, Graham Taylor

11:00

Acolyte: Nicholas Hott  
Beadle: Shirley Tomblin  
Bell Ringer: Kristin Blake, Bailey Cooper, AnnMarie Kelly  
Greeters: Kirsta & Ben Weber  
Hospitality: Nadine DeHaven, Debi Hodgson  
Liturgist: Kevin Reed  
Nametags: Pat deButts  
Ushers: Jenna Arnoldy, Jim Butler, Nicholas Hott,  
AnnMarie Kelly, Annemarie Matthews, Travis Morgan

**“Ty Headley Tree of Warmth”**  
10<sup>th</sup> Annual Blanket Drive Ongoing  
\$5 per blanket  
Envelopes in the Pew Racks  
Please See Display in Gathering Area

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 4-11, 2016

### TODAY

- 8:30 a.m.: Morning Worship—Advent 2, Communion, CCAP,  
Fair Trade Coffee
- 9:45 a.m.: Sunday School Classes for All Ages
- 9:45 a.m.: Marriage Enrichment Session—Office Suite
- 11:00 a.m.: Morning Worship—Advent 2, Communion, CCAP,  
Fair Trade Coffee
- 5:00 p.m.: New Church Officer Orientation—Bageant Room
- 7:00 p.m.: Shenandoah Valley Chorus—Sanctuary

### THIS WEEK

- Monday: Older Adult Team—9:30 a.m.—Bageant Room  
Covenant Bible Study—3:00 p.m.—Bageant Room  
Men of Opequon “MOO” Christmas Gathering—6:00 p.m.  
—Home of Mac McNichols (426 Handley Blvd)  
PS150 Rehearsal—6:30 p.m.—Memorial Sanctuary  
Blue Ridge Singers Rehearsal—6:30 p.m.—Sanctuary
- Tuesday: LOGOS Leadership Team—1:30 p.m.—David’s Office  
Tech & Communications Team—5:15 p.m.—Bageant Room  
Ministry Team Night—6:00 p.m.—Fellowship Hall
- Wednesday: Adult Trip to Lancaster, PA—7:15 a.m.  
LOGOS—4:30 p.m.—Theme: “Warm & Fuzzies Night”  
Sanctuary Choir Practice – 7:30 a.m.
- Thursday: Read ‘em & Reap—7:00 p.m.—Home of the Tandys  
Scout Pack 1—7:00 p.m.—Fellowship Hall  
Scout Troop 1—7:00 p.m.—Assembly Room
- Saturday: Christmas Breakfast—9:00 a.m.—Fellowship Hall

### NEXT SUNDAY—Third Sunday of Advent

- Morning Worship—8:30 & 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday School Classes for All Ages—9:45 a.m.  
Newcomers’ Class—9:45 a.m.—Office Suite  
Isaiah 35:1-10, Matthew 11:2-11  
Sermon: “Choosing the WAY”  
LOGOS Grs. K-5 & LOGOS Youth Worship (11:00)  
Presbyterian Youth Connection—12:00 Noon—“Warm Buns” & Lunch Out  
Blue Ridge Singers Concert—4:00 p.m.—Sanctuary  
Advent Open Door Worship—6:30 p.m.—Memorial Sanctuary

## **PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

Judy Payne & Family  
Paula McNichols  
Roy Martin  
Beth McCrary  
Fire Victims  
Gary Dove  
Mollie Guthrie  
Art Fulton  
Melissa Ambers  
Gene Fish  
Travis Taylor Family  
Josh Sherman  
Emily Dick  
Patrick Vincent  
Jack Treece  
Elmora Golightly  
Seth Noel Family  
Aaron Jeller  
Beth Klinefelter  
Christine Clark  
Jay Journell  
Mac McNichols

Cheryl DeCeault  
Ken Johansen  
Barb Treece Family  
Patricia & Ray Ferguson  
Janet Thompson  
Tom & Vicki Harman  
Sarah Bauwer  
Myrt Nissen  
Connie Robinson  
Donna Coffman  
Dom Cafaro  
Robert Sydnor  
Don Lewis  
Loretta Homan  
Detra Michaels  
Kevin Hay  
Opequon Church  
Tiffany Judge  
Samantha, Owen & Brian Cox  
Jolissa Matthews  
Joe & Barbara Alderman  
Rebekah Witt

Richard Young  
Berlin Zirk  
Ethiopia Unrest  
Dorothy Rogers  
Cody Monday  
Stephanie Fitch  
Phyllis Dilley  
Gary Snapp  
Sandi Pulizzi  
Lanette Orduna  
Mettu, Ethiopia  
Donna Klinefelter  
Colleen McMurdo  
Jane Lewis  
Frank Vardeman  
Dottie Edwards  
Larry Matthews  
Doug Koch  
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, Michael White, and their families.

## **WORM—SUNDAY MORNING WORKSHOPS FOR CHILDREN**

Today's morning workshop for children is a take-off from American Idol called "ADVENT IDOL"! Oh, what fun they will have as they create some new words to familiar songs and share in performing them using REAL MICROPHONES and MEGAPHONES! Each child will get to wear their own "Advent Idol" sash. Great times await our preschool-5<sup>th</sup> grade children in this creative and lively educational hour being held at 9:45 a.m. in the Memorial Sanctuary.

## **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.

## **ATTENDANCE ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup>:**

8:30 a.m.—78

Sunday School—46

11:00 a.m.—81

### **PYC NEWS TODAY**

- Tremendous thanks to the youth who served through Motel Ministry last Sunday afternoon. Many hands helping made the time go very successfully.
- Tremendous thanks to all the youth who participated in Midnight Gladness as their efforts will bring great cheer to three families this Christmas!
- There is NO PYC gathering today. Next Sunday, we will be sharing “WARM BUNS” on the Loudoun Street Mall and having lunch out at Roma. Plan to meet at 12:00 noon.

### **MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITY**

The marriage enrichment sessions continue this month with a gathering being held TODAY, 9:45 a.m. in the church office suite. Each session stands alone and thus you can ‘pop’ in whenever the sessions are convenient for you. The session today will focus on “Being an Encourager” to your partner. Sessions have been great fun for the participants along with gaining insight for even healthier relationships with one another. Come join us. These gatherings are for couples of any age or stage!

### **ADVENT ITEMS FOR YOU**

Advent has begun. A great gift for us during Advent is our annual ADVENT DEVOTIONAL. The title of this year’s devotional is “What Will I Bring Him?” with pages full of writings by our own Opequon people! It is a treasure to read each day’s devotional. It is full of WORDS WORTH READING! Pick up a copy today! This daily devotional will enrich your Advent season. Advent booklets are available in the Gathering Area and Dell Room. Children are encouraged to stop by the CHILDREN’S CORNER by the elevator to pick up a weekly item that they can use during the following week as they go through the season of Advent too. Instructions are provided for each weekly item. Let’s get ready for the birth of our Savior!



## **OLDER ADULT MINISTRY TEAM**

The Older Adult Ministry Team meets tomorrow morning at 9:30 a.m. in the Bageant Room for discussion and planning, fellowship and morning treats. This meeting is open to any older adults.

All Men Invited!  
Annual Christmas Gathering  
Men of Opequon "MOO"  
Tomorrow Night—6:00 p.m.  
Home of Mac & Paula McNichols (426 Handley Blvd.)  
Bring finger foods to share and a gift (no more than \$10) for Thieves' Christmas

## **ADULT TRIP TO SEE "OUR CHRISTMAS DINNER"**

Those adults who are signed up for the trip to Lancaster this Wednesday to see "Our Christmas Dinner" are asked to be at church by 7:15 a.m. You are in store for a full and fantastic day!

## **CHILDREN'S CHOIR ON CHRISTMAS EVE**

Children ages Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be singing at the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service. Rehearsal will be this Wednesday, December 7 at 5:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. A quick rehearsal will be held on Wednesday, December 14 at 4:20 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall before Christmas Caroling. Stay and come join us for caroling! Questions? Contact Susan Homan at 540-665-9844 or [srh1305@verizon.net](mailto:srh1305@verizon.net).

## **HAVE YOU TURNED YOUR PLEDGE CARD IN?**

"Expanding Our Hearts, Extending Our Ministry" is the theme for this year's stewardship emphasis. As it says in 2 Corinthians 9:6: "God blesses us financially when we give generously." Dedication Sunday was several weeks ago; however, you can still submit your pledge card by dropping it in the offering plate, stopping by the church office, or even mailing it in. Thank you.

## **CHRISTMAS AND HOLIDAY CONCERTS**

The **Shenandoah Valley Chorus** (Sweet Adelines Chapter) performs and teaches four-part a cappella harmony in the barbershop style. They will present a Christmas Concert in Opequon's Sanctuary today at 7:00 p.m. For more information, check out their website—[shenandoahvalleychorus.com](http://shenandoahvalleychorus.com).

The **Blue Ridge Singers** directed by Dr. Jeffrey Alban will present "There's a Song in the Air" at Opequon next Sunday, December 11 beginning at 4:00 p.m. For more information, go to [blueridgesingers.com](http://blueridgesingers.com).

"**Cultural Expressions**" is coming to Winchester! Gerson Medina and Anna Dye from Shenandoah University will hold a recital on Tuesday, December 13 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in Opequon's Sanctuary. A free will offering will help fund a trip to with Shenandoah Conservatory Symphony Orchestra Tour to Argentina They will perform a classical repertoire including composers like Bach, Walton, Ernst, Piazzola and a few seasonal songs.

## **CHRISTMAS CAROLING IS FOR EVERYONE!**

The Advent season is upon us and with all the hustle and bustle it brings, wouldn't it be nice to take an evening off and share the joy of Christmas with others? Our LOGOS and Congregational Care ministries are teaming up to lead the way, and they invite you to join them on Wednesday, December 14 when we will be caroling to shut-ins from our church family. After caroling, EVERYONE will reunite and gather in the Fellowship Hall for a soup and sandwich dinner prepared by our LOGOS kitchen crew. Everyone is invited to come along as we share the familiar sounds of the Christmas season and give the gift of joy and fellowship. Please gather with us at 4:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. If you have questions, please contact David Witt at 662-1843 or [pastor@opequonchurch.org](mailto:pastor@opequonchurch.org).

## **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

- ❖ We appreciate everyone—youth, youth leaders, parents, cooks and food donors, and all participants—who made the Pilgrims' Feast such a grand event for fellowship and fundraiser for our youth. Almost \$1,000 was generously contributed to Midnight Gladness, our youth Christmas outreach project in support of three families from our community.
- ❖ The offering from the Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service was \$421. These monies have been directed to support our church's Motel Ministry, led by our youth and intergenerational leaders.

## **AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS CHRISTMAS MUSIC**

The Winchester chapter of the American Guild of Organists will present performances of Christmas music in local churches on December 26, 4:00-7:30 p.m. Due to the huge success of last year's event, we are repeating it. Come view the beautifully decorated and candlelit sanctuaries of historic Winchester churches and hear lovely organ music. These events are free and open to the public, but you will have the opportunity to donate to WATTS (Winchester Area Temporary Thermal Shelter). Performances will begin on the hour and half hour with short presentations on the history of each church at 20 minutes past the hour. Participating churches are: Braddock St. UMC, Market St. UMC, First Presbyterian, Grace Lutheran, First Baptist, and Christ Episcopal.

You are invited to the annual  
**CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST**

**This Saturday, December 10, 9:00 a.m.**

Theme: "It's All in How You Wrap It"

- \*Delicious breakfast
- \*Carol Singing
- \*Hilarious Game and a Game with a Purpose!

Outreach to Evans Home:

Collecting holiday wrapping paper,  
scotch tape, gift tags, ribbons & bows.

\*Special token for children to take home and 'pay it forward'.