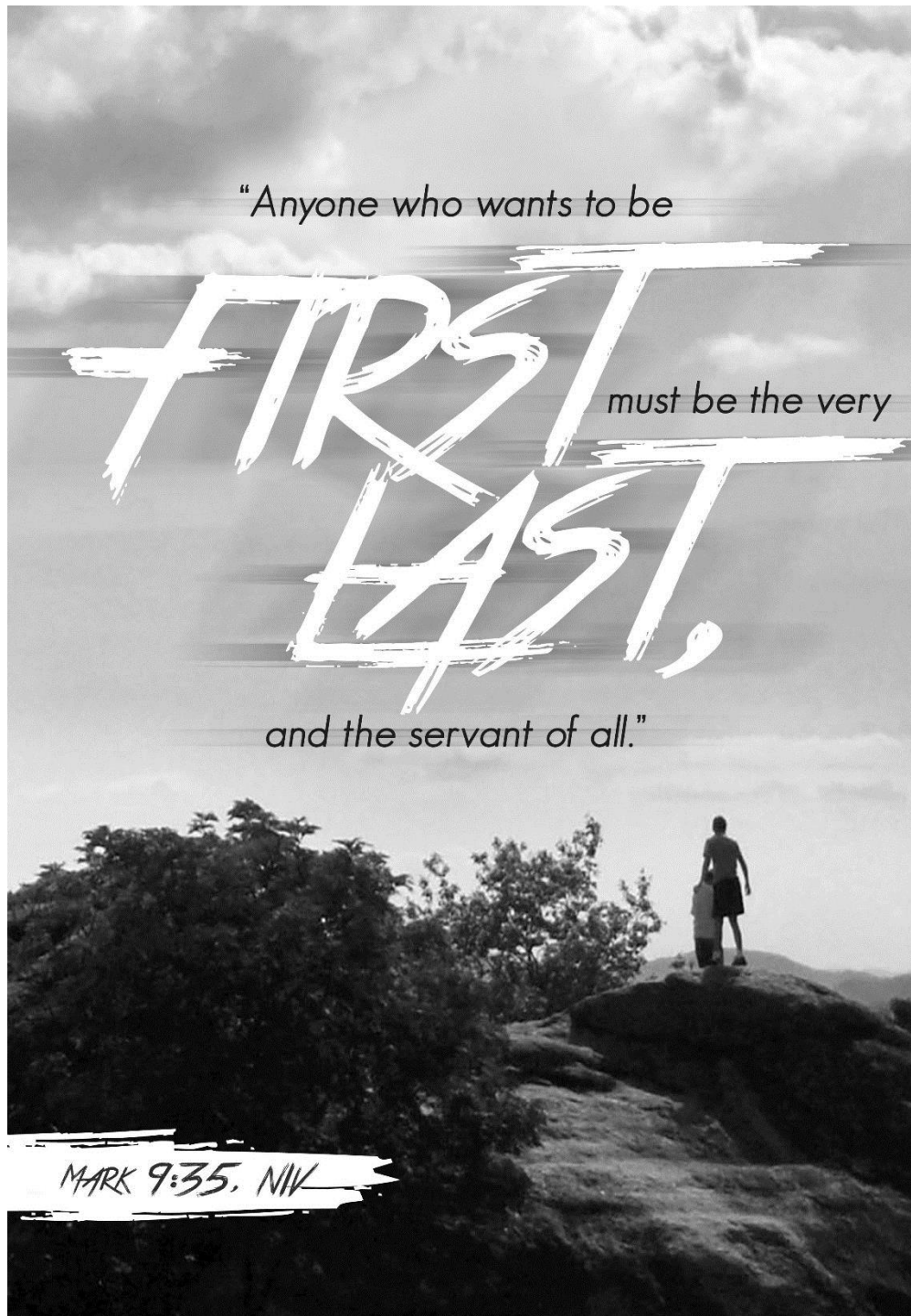


Opequon Presbyterian Church



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 are located in the back of the Sanctuary. Please return the bag and supplies to the basket when you are leaving.
 - **Look forward to taking part in the Faith Formation Educational Hour each week.** It's held at 9:45 am 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 before 12:00 pm 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
Laurie Carver-----Nursery Supervisor
William Heavner-----Organist
Susan Homan-----Director of Music
Patty Klinefelter-----Faith Community Nurse
Catherine Richard-----Office Administrator
Robert Sydnor-----Sexton
Carole Witt-----Director of Christian Education
Rebekah Witt-----Director of Youth & Young Adults



SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

September 23, 2018

8:30 & 11:00 am

“Back to Church Sunday”

WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME

PRELUDE

Lead on, O King Eternal Thygerson

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

THE CHURCH BELL RINGS

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

†GATHERING SONG NO. 727 (vv. 1, 3, 5) *The Servant Song*

†ENTRANCE OF THE WORD AND THE LIGHT

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Little children, the one who welcomes you is here in word and water, at pulpit, font, and table.

Little children, young and old, growing and maturing: we welcome one another to this place of hope.

Little children, Jesus calls us into the circle of his arms. Come and be blessed.

Little children, seeking and searching, fearful and faithful: we come together knowing that we belong to Jesus and are enfolded in his love.

†HYMN NO. 839 *Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!*

(Please be seated for prayer)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us give up boasting and dishonesty, turning to the Lord with our confessions, because the one who knows us through and through has promised to renew us.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, who makes known to us all truth, we confess that we are weighed down by our failings: envy distances us from other people; greed alerts us only to our own desires. Where we

might bring reconciliation, we create conflicts. Where you call us to give, we take. Where your presence beckons, we resist. Deal with us not as we deserve, O God, but forgive us, cleanse us, and teach us your way.

Moments of Silent Prayer

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The God who loves and sustains you hears your plea. The Lord desires for you a welcome into the blessed community of freedom and light. You are forgiven. Remember the poor and the outcast, welcome the child, and you will know, as well, your own welcome, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

†THE RESPONSE OF PRAISE NO. 188*Jesus Loves Me!*

†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 *Order My Steps*

Glenn Burleigh

Order my steps in your Word, dear Lord, lead me, guide me, every day. Send your anointing, Father, I pray. Order my steps in your Word, please, order my steps in your Word. Humbly I ask Thee, teach me your will, while You are working, help me be still. Tho’ Satan is busy, God is real! I want to walk worthy my calling to fulfill. Please order my steps, Lord, and I’ll do your blessed will. The world is ever changing. But You are still the same. If You order my steps, I’ll praise your name. Order my steps in your Word, order my tongue in your Word; guide my feet in your Word, wash my heart, O Lord, in your Word. Show me how to walk in your Word, show me how to talk in your Word. When I need a brand new song to sing, show me how to let your praises ring, in your Word. Please order my steps in your Word.

THE READING OF GOD’S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Psalm 1Pew Bible p. 424

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Mark 9:30-37Pew Bible p. 821

A SPECIAL TIME WITH THE CHILDREN..... “Walking Together”

†HYMN NO. 738 *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*

SERMON "Refocusing"
Pastor David Witt

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY *Open My Eyes that I May See*..... arr. Livingston

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

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Hymnal p. 37, Sections 1 & 2)

..... "A Brief Statement of Faith"

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 NO. 727 (vv. 2, 4, 6) *The Servant Song*

†CHARGE AND BLESSING

†CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 468..... *Lord, Be Glorified*
CCLI 1625560

**In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In my life, Lord, be glorified today.**

†POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

September 23-30, 2018

TODAY

- 8:30 am: Morning Worship, "Back to Church Sunday,"
Four Cents A Meal, Church Coffee
- 9:45 am: G.I.F.T. Event—9:45 am—Fellowship Hall
- 11:00 am: Morning Worship, "Back to Church Sunday,"
Four Cents A Meal, Church Coffee
- 12:30 pm: Motel Ministry/Presbyterian Youth Connection
- 7:00 pm: Young Adult Bonfire—Home of Rebekah Witt

THIS WEEK

- Monday: FEAST Group—6:00 pm—Fellowship Hall
Sing! Shenandoah—6:00 pm—Sanctuary
- Tuesday: Hands & Hearts—10:30 am—Assembly Room
Highland Food Pantry—5:30 pm
- Wednesday: Camp Paddy Run Committee—12:00 Noon—Bageant Room
TVOR Lunch Bunch—12:00 Noon
LOGOS—4:30 pm—Theme: "Legos Night"
Young Adult Bible Study—6:10 pm
Choir Practice—7:30 pm—Sanctuary
- Thursday: Scouting Ministry—7:00 pm—Assembly Room
- Friday: Life Goes On—1:00 pm—Firefly Café
- Saturday: Opequon @ Jubilee Kitchen—10:00 am—1st Presbyterian Church

NEXT SUNDAY

- Morning Worship—8:30 & 11:00 am
Mission Morning—9:45 am—Fellowship Hall
Congregational Meeting—10:45 am—Sanctuary
Esther 7:1-6,9-10, James 5:13-20
Sermon: "A Balm for Sorrow, a Rest from Care"
Habitat for Humanity Paint Can Offering, Fair Trade Coffee
Camp Paddy Run Fellowship—1:00 pm
Communion Education Event—4:00 pm—Sanctuary
Youth Progressive Dinner—4:30 pm

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Nathan Windle

Kes Mersha

Judy Payne

Carol Tubbs

Reed Dailey

Vanderpoel Family

Carole Sacco

The Ingram Family

Bridgeforth/Waldruff Family

Funkhouser Family

Hurricane Florence Aftermath

Heather Leake

Lyn Warren

Samantha & Liam Pingley

Melissa (Myers), Carter, Emma

Nancy Grubb & Family

Lisa Callanan & Family

Hilda Zalonis & Family

Brenda Kain Family

Marion Schottelkorb

Mary Flagg

JoEllen Delamatta & Family

Bill Foster

Ben Weber

Susie Hurst

McKenna Williams

Jack Feeney

Ashley Tiberio

Jay Horne

Baker/Heavner Family

Patricia Ferguson

Jil & Gregory DeHaven

Russ Cutshall

Mary Anne Guard

Amber Burney

John Lown

Melissa Madagan

Martha Ryder

Ed Duetsch

Robbie Richman

Kelley Henry

Deana Shade

Brad Treece

Sandy Haney

Cherie Wubbe

Brenda Kerr

Teresa Ritenour

Ethiopia/Kes Amena

Larissa Strosnider

Megan McCord

Gretchen Cooley

Mark Wilhelm

Frances Pitcock

Phyllis Dilley

Jane Lewis

Larry Matthews

Doug Koch

Illubabor Bethel Synod of

Church Mekane Yesus

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY SERVICE

Max Crane, Stephen Crane, Taylor McMurdo, Samuel & Julia Phillips, Brandon Michael, Jared Snawder, Greg Sousa, Michael White, and their families.

SERVANTS IN MINISTRY

8:30

Acolyte: Brayden Rockwell

Beadle: Tom Tandy

Bell Ringer: Mo Mohler

Hospitality: Betty Chicklo, June Malone

Ushers: Mike Butler, Sammy Edwards, JT Reid,
Brayden Rockwell, John Winn

11:00

Acolyte: Alex Sardelis

Hospitality: Jack Drumheller, Marj Praml

Livestream: Rebekah Witt

Nametags: Kail Barbe

Ushers: Tucker Birchenough, Curt Budny, Wyatt Estep,
Bill Hopeck, Alex Sardelis

STAFF SCHEDULES THIS WEEK

Carole and David Witt will be on vacation Thursday and Friday, September 27-28. If a pastoral concern arises, please contact Tracie Martin at 304-856-2080, 315-247-5969 or tracie-martin@juno.com.

ATTENDANCE, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH:

8:30—103

Faith Formation—54

11:00—114

MUMS FOR BAJA

Mums of various colors are for sale today to benefit the 2019 Mission Trip to Baja. The price is \$15 per pot, available for pick up after each worship service.

GIFT EVENT TODAY 9:45 am-FELLOWSHIP HALL

All generations, all classes, everyone has the privilege of being together this morning during the Faith Formation hour for a fantastic experience of "The Phone is Ringing, God is Calling!" Come enjoy the humorous skit, be inspired by personal testimony, and reflect on how God is using YOU to be his hands-heart-feet through your own life. Grab a muffin from the Gathering Area and come on down to be part of this great experience. It will be worthwhile for every age.

PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH CONNECTION GRADES 6-12

- **TODAY**-Motel Ministry!! Meet in the Dell Room at 12:30 pm to gather supplies, pack the van, and head down Valley Avenue to two local motels. We will greet the residents and offer BBQ sandwiches and other necessities. Everyone from the congregation is invited to participate, so bring your family along!
- **September 30**-LET'S EAT!!! It's the Annual Progressive Dinner where we will travel to three different church members' homes for appetizers, a main course, and dessert. We will leave church by 4:30 pm and return around 7:30 pm. Make sure you're on time and a parent has filled out a year-long permission form.

YOUNG ADULT NEWS AGES 18-35

- ❖ **TODAY**-Bonfire at Rebekah Witt's home, 203 Halifax Court in Stephens City! Let's make some s'mores and hangout for an evening of fellowship together. There will be drinks and snacks for those who don't have a sweet tooth. Bring a lawn chair, if you have one.
- ❖ **September 26**-Bible Study will begin happening this week on every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at the church. Dinner will be provided each time, at no cost to you. Join us from 6:10-6:55 pm as we dive into "Faith Questions" and "The Wired Word".

WANTED: TRANSLATORS WITH OPEN HEARTS

As part of the Refugee Resettlement Project, we are signing up volunteers who are fluent in any and all non-English languages to help legal immigrants settle into successful new lives in the Winchester area. They may arrive with short notice, and it could be tomorrow or next year, so we would like to be as prepared as possible with a wide range of translators and interpreters who are patient, flexible, and compassionate. If your heart answers this call, please contact us at RRPTranslationTeam@gmail.com.

PREPARE TO PARTICIPATE IN CAMP PADDY RUN DAY!

Opequon Church's fellowship event at Camp Paddy Run is next Sunday, sponsored by the Men of Opequon. We will leave after the 11:00 am worship service and travel out to Paddy Run for fun, food, and getting to know one another in the glorious outdoors of a fall afternoon. SO, PLAN ON ATTENDING RIGHT NOW! BRING FRIENDS! Soup, sandwiches, and drinks will be provided. Just bring a dessert to share. THIS IS AN EVENT FOR THE WHOLE CHURCH FAMILY AND PEOPLE OF ALL AGES!

COMMUNION EDUCATION WORKSHOP

A communion education workshop for children age 4 through 5th grade is being offered next Sunday, September 30, 4:00-5:00 pm in the Sanctuary. This time is led by David and Carole Witt and includes stories, visual illustrations, and hands-on opportunities as we explore the meaning of celebrating the Lord's Supper. Parents are invited to stay with their children and be part of this time as well. This workshop is meant to prepare our children so that they better understand this special sacrament and can enjoy it with you during worship.

SAVE THE DATE—OCTOBER 14

Directly after the 11:00 service, a presentation on Five Wishes will be given by Patty Klinefelter and Bill Martin. More than just an advance directive, Five Wishes brings a holistic approach to a living will by including an individual's care and comfort choices. It provides a means to legally document your choices for medical treatment, comfort, and care wishes. Lunch will be provided.

"PARENTING IN THE PEW"

Parents are invited to TAKE and KEEP a "PARENTING IN THE PEW" binder. These brightly colored three-ring binders have been prepared especially with parents in mind. They contain suggestions, tools, ideas, and more for parents to use as they sit and worship WITH their children in the sanctuary for the whole service. The pages of the binder have ideas that can last over weeks and months as parents and children share worship time together. **You are welcome to take the binder home and keep it as your own resource.** Glance at it during the week in preparation for worship time on Sunday. Parenting is not easy and of course, many of us have experienced squirmy children in the pews. However, parents are the most influential people in teaching their child how to worship, beginning with our children at a young age. It takes time. It takes patience. It takes diligence. It takes modeling. Children need to see you worship and be able to worship alongside you. Train up a child in the way he shall go, and he will never depart. The children's worship bags will remain available and the children are welcome to use them as parents use the "Parenting in the Pew" binders.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Q: What do you call an apple that plays the trumpet? A: A tooty fruity!
Fall has arrived and while the vegetables are slowing down, we are still harvesting. In fact, we delivered more than 40 pounds of vegetables to the food pantry earlier this week. Stay tuned for more information on the garden clean up date which will likely occur sometime in October. We want to thank each one of you for another successful season.

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

PDA urges your support for those affected by Hurricane Florence. PDA is delivering immediate aid to those impacted by the storm on the Eastern Seaboard of the United States. Initial assessment suggests catastrophic destruction, but the full scope of the damage will not be known for many months. The storm's path is cutting across areas still recovering from Hurricane Matthew (2016). While these winds and waters have meant loss and destruction, the work of PDA might become, as the psalmist says, "a river whose streams make glad the city of God."

PDA is deploying teams to affected presbyteries to meet with Presbyterian and community leadership to assist in coordinating relief efforts and mucking out homes and churches. After initial needs are addressed, PDA will remain — providing spiritual and emotional care and long-term recovery to address the unmet needs of those impacted. Through your prayerful gifts, we draw hope out of the chaos.

The needs for the response are great. God's people are once again called on to stand in the "GAP" — Give. Act. Pray.

Give: Financial support for relief efforts can be designated to **DR000169**, which supports the church's response to hurricanes impacting the U.S. Gifts can be made online, by phone at (800) 872-3283, or by check made out to Opequon Presbyterian Church, memo: Hurricane Florence.

Act: Learn how you and your congregation can help families who have lost everything in the devastation. Stay informed and like us on Facebook, download resources and share updates with your congregation.

Pray: For those who are suffering; wisdom and diligence among agencies and individuals assessing damage and directing relief efforts; and for generosity to flow as powerfully as rivers and streams, as we, your people, respond to the deep human needs emerging in the wake of the storm.

WORSHIP NOTES AND REFLECTIONS

Notes on Today's Music

How did today's music express our relationship with Jesus Christ?

Notes on Today's Conversation with the Children.

Notes on Today's Prayers

Notes on Today's Scripture

What is presbyopia? Is it a Presbyterian affliction?

What are we able to see readily? What do we struggle to see?

What gets in the way of our ability to see/hear and understand?

What got in the way of the disciples?

How do we need to refocus? What helps us refocus?

What examples does Jesus use in calling us to refocus?