



The Opequon Spirit

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

January 2019

WORSHIP 8:30 & 11:00 AM

Sunday, January 6th - The Day of Epiphany

Isaiah 60:1-6, Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon: “Opening Our Treasure Chests”

Communion

Sunday, January 13th - Baptism of the Lord Sunday

Isaiah 43:1-7, Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Sermon: “Reclaiming Our Baptism”

Ordination, Installation, & Commissioning of
New Officers

Renewal of Baptism Service

Sunday, January 20th

Isaiah 62:1-5, John 2:1-11

Sermon: “Steadfast Love”

Sunday, January 27th

Nehemiah 8 (selected verses), Luke 4:14-21

Sermon: “Called Back Home”

Four Cents a Meal Offering

Fair Trade Coffee

COLLECTING FOR CCAP



OATMEAL

MINISTRY TEAM NIGHT

Tuesday, January 8th, in the Fellowship Hall

Dinner 6:00 pm

Assorted Soups & Salad prepared by The
Fellowship Ministry Team

Devotions 6:45 pm

Ministry Team Meetings 7:00 pm



The Church Office is closed on January 1st.

It will reopen at 8:30 am on Wednesday,
January 2nd.

CHURCH DIRECTORIES

The Photo Directories have arrived. Courtesy copies are available to all who were photographed for the directory as well as all new members in 2018. If you wish to purchase a directory, they are available for \$4.00 each, which will help defray the cost of printing. The directories are available following the 8:30 and 11:00 worship services in the Gathering Area.

STAFF SCHEDULE THIS MONTH

Pastor David Witt ----- January 17-23
Vacation/Continuing Education

If a pastoral concern arises, please call Rev. Tracie Martin, Parish Associate, at 304-856-2080.

NOTES FROM THE PASTOR

“Staying Focused”

Dear Friends in Christ,

The beginning to some days is rough, downright difficult, filled with hitches and glitches. On Sunday, November 25, I pulled everything together and headed out the door for church, leaving even a few minutes early, thinking that I was well-prepared. I arrived at church, unloaded the car (it seems I always have my hands full!) and headed down the hallway to my office. As I reached into my pocket, I realized that I had not brought the right set of keys! I didn't have the key to my office! Oh my! So much for a few minutes early! After scrambling around and pacing, trying to problem solve, I was able to secure a key from someone else who had arrived. Then, I placed my computer in the docking station as I do each Sunday morning, rebooted, and readied myself to print out my sermon. Well...my computer was not cooperating. I couldn't access my sermon. I couldn't even get into my files. So much for being well-prepared! I tried and tried. I prayed and prayed. I laid hands on it. I did everything but anoint it with oil for healing. No progress.

Carole said, “What are you going to do?”

I muttered, “Well, I guess I'll just have to do the best job I can in remembering what I wrote, and I'll wing it! I don't think I have a choice. Most of all, I'll stay focused.” And off I went to practice with the choir. After we sang, I returned to my office and tried one last time. Nothing. So, not saying anything to anyone, I went forward with worship and a sermon as planned. It was Christ the King Sunday, so I knew what I was going to talk about and could recall largely what I had written, not word-for-word, mind you, but overall. I stayed focused. And I prayed and recited to myself the scriptures I so often do when I am anxious, worried, and perplexed (as I cited in my December 16th sermon):

- ✓ “Be still and know that I am God. I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.” (Psalm 46:10)

- ✓ “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.” (Proverbs 3:5-6)
- ✓ “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, let your requests be known to God; and the peace of God which surpasses all understanding will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Philippians 4:6-7)

As you and I enter a new year, 2019, I encourage you to stay focused, to stay focused on what you know about God, life, faith, people, gifts, the church, relationships, and the difference between good and bad. I invite you to stay focused on the above scriptures. When life is topsy-turvy, when the hitches and glitches are downright difficult and rough, rely on truth, recall what you have been taught and what you know, make good decisions, and stay focused. Don't let the anxiety and worry get the best of you, my friends.

And the sermon that morning? It went fine at 8:30. Besides Carole, I confessed to one other person what had happened to me. By 11:00 am worship, I was able to print the sermon out. Hmmm. You want to know something: I think it went better at 8:30! Thank you, Lord!

Happy New Year!

Together in Christ's Service,

David

Remember
OPC
in
Your Will

JUST THINKIN'



“Over the river and through the snow to Grandmother’s house we go!” My family often sang that song all through winter as we drove to the farm. The farm was a place of wonder and intrigue. The farm had a barn full of milk off the kitchen, and the spring - where we could find a tin cup and drink the best water *ever*.

At the farm, we could slide downhill without winding up in the road. We could ski and hike in the snow. We could make a big fire and bury our lunch to cook as we explored and come back to Coffee Can Stew. The farm was a playground not to be equaled anywhere, ever.

I remember one evening when we went to visit Grandma. It was late, and we were stopping to see her on the way home from somewhere else. She had a small apartment attached to the main house. It was cozy and warm, heated by a wood stove in the corner. As she and my parents talked, I fell asleep on the chair. I awoke to hear the three adults exclaiming, “Look! There’s another one.” The field across the road was filled with deer. In the summer, that field was used to grow corn to feed the cows, so it makes sense that deer might congregate there, but in my sleepiness, I remember having the hardest time imagining why they would gather and dance in my grandmother’s front lawn. I watched in wonder as they chased each other and leaped as they acted out a ballet on the snow. I remember it as so lovely. Soon, my father started laughing. Grandma and Mom joined in and all three guffawed for several minutes.

As I watched the adults, having no idea what was so funny, my dreams and reality came together. I could finally see that the deer were not just chewing on unharvested field corn, they were also eating crab apples under the trees that lined the road. Those apples had frozen and thawed many, many times and were now icy balls of hard cider and mash. No wonder the deer were dancing. They were “under the influence!” Some were walking

oddly, but most were just having a very, very good time.

I remember asking Mom if the deer would be alright in the morning? “Everything in moderation,” she replied with a chuckle. As we left to get in the car, another vehicle drove into sight. It slowed as its lights illuminated the deer. I remember that it stopped, and the driver and Dad had a conversation as both waited for the deer to clear the area and run back into the woods. Finally, Grandma banged on a tin dishpan and they scattered. Nobody messed with Grandma, not even nature.



I wonder, in this new year of 2019, is it possible that we might recapture some of the wonder of the things that surround us here at OPC? I am not aware of any crab apple trees on the campus, but I do know that there are deer and other critters to watch. There is not usually much snow, but we do find people with stopped cars chatting. Some parking lot conversations are good. We check on each other just like the church family we are, and we help when needed. We even warn each other when there is something amiss.

It is great fun to talk of way-back-then, but it occurs to me that 2019 will be way-back-then in a few years. What memories can we create to be cherished by those who follow us? We seldom know just what will be remembered. Who would expect a cherished memory to be a herd of drunken deer and a car that preferred to stop rather than risk hitting one?

To me, this says that we need to be watchful that all our interactions include kindness, integrity, and love. We never know who will remember what or how.

Friends, 2019 is going to be great fun!

A race

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

December 18, 2018 Stated Meeting

- Session met with newly elected officers and after examining them, sustained their examination and approved them for ordination and installation in January.
- On the recommendation of Worship Ministry, Session approved dates for communion in 2019.
- The December “Coffee House” was a success and Worship plans to continue that format for the near term future.
- Worship reported we are having issues with our audio equipment. We will be bringing in an audio engineer to evaluate the situation.
- Christian Education reported that Dan Cammer designed, and Carroll Youngblood built a Blessing Box and Little Free Library to be placed at the entrance to our property.
- Congregational Care also plans to make a donation to the hospital’s “Lights of Love” in memory of each member of the congregation who has died in the past year.
- On the recommendation of Mission Ministry, Session approved Special Offerings for 2019.
- The Evangelism Team continues to look for volunteers.
- Fellowship reported that the photo directory is here.
- Building & Grounds is in negotiation with the tenants to extend their lease of the manse.
- Stewardship & Finance expressed the hope that at year’s end expenses and income will be in balance.
- On the recommendation of Stewardship & Finance, Session approved a 2019 budget reflecting income and expenses of \$629,037.77.
- As contained in the 2019 budget, Opequon will respond to the Presbytery’s Asking by pledging to contribute \$32,000.
- Session approved the request of an Irish film company, making a documentary on

the influence of the Ulster Scots on Rock and Roll music, to film at Opequon in January.

- Session approved two requests from the Lion’s Club, one to hold their Bland Musical Competition at Opequon, and the other to hold their annual luncheon and memorial service at OPC.
- Bill Burslem reported that it is highly unlikely that a refugee family will be sent to Winchester, but if one should come, the community Refugee Resettlement team will be ready.
- Session re-elected the clerk and financial officers for 2019.

ORDINATION, INSTALLATION, & COMMISSIONING of NEW OFFICERS

Ruling Elders - Bill Deck, Carole Fox,
Al Owens,
Lance Pearce, Jim Youngblood
Deacons - Alyce Callahan, Bill Martin,
Graham Taylor
Trustee - Mac McNichols

Sunday, January 13, 2019 - 11:00 am
Join us as we celebrate the joy of
serving Christ! Celebration Reception
Following Worship

A PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR OF 2019

Abiding God of love and peace, we thank You for a New Year. We ask You, Lord, to bless us and our families, as we begin this new year with renewed hope in You.

Lord, we thank You so much for all that You have done for us and our families. Your hand on our lives is so much more than we could ask. Your blessings are so greatly appreciated. Over the past year, You have seen our challenges, been saddened by our weaknesses, and rejoiced in our successes.

As this New Year commences, let us remember the past year. In so doing, we truly repent of all that has hindered us from abiding in You. Forgive us, for the promises and

resolutions we made and never fulfilled. Forgive us, for the times we neglected prayer and Your word as our focus. Let us recall the things that hindered us from getting closer to You and keeping Your word. May we come to realize our mistakes and shortcomings and make amends. Help us Lord, to be willing to forgive ourselves and to forgive one another. Lord, remind us of our truest values and our deepest desires. Help us to live in the goodness that comes from doing what You want us to do. Help us to put aside anxiety about the future and regret of the past, so that we might live in peace with You now, one day at a time. In the powerful name of Jesus, the Christ, we pray. Amen.

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE NURSERY

We welcome your child (under 4 years old) to the Nursery during Sunday services or Faith Formation time. Your older child is welcome to join us for Ministry Team Nights as well! Please remember to bring a diaper and wipes, to write your child's name on their belongings, a spare set of clothing, and to write your child's name on their belongings.

THE LATEST IN LOGOS

Did you know that there are 42 children & youth that participate in LOGOS each week along with a staff of 62 who serve in various ways to make it all happen? There is much goodness happening at OPC on Wednesday evenings. It is great to see adults and children playing together, learning together, eating together and praying together.

On our recent "Oh Christmas Tree" night, hats, gloves, and mittens were donated and then decorated a tree before being given to our Motel Ministry and distributed to neighbors in the community at Christmas. We hope to share warmth with others in those small ways. This month we are looking forward to "Topsy Turvey Night", "Giraffe Night" and "Snowball Fight Night". There is always room for more; come join us on Wednesdays, 4:30-7:30 pm. LOGOS young people are always welcome to invite a friend to come join us too. If you have

any questions, please feel free to speak with Carole Witt at 662-1843 or dce@opequonchurch.org.

CONFIRMATION CONNECTION

The confirmation students are at the halfway point in their journey of exploring and learning about faith through the structured Confirmation Class and activities. They are faithful in attending classes and participating in the conversations that occur during class time. In addition to class lessons this month, they will be packing the food bags for Orchard View Elementary School one Sunday morning and preparing to do some interviews with their parents. Thank you for your prayers for the students, leaders and covenant partners as they go through this year together.

A "GIFT" EVENT—SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

GIFT stands for "**Generations in Faith Together**" and it truly is great fun to be all together for the Sunday morning educational hour at 9:45 am in the Fellowship Hall. The Christian Education Team is continuing to hold these intergenerational GIFT events on the 4th Sunday of most months. This month the theme is "FAMILY STORIES." We will focus on love and unity in our families, along with building a firm foundation within our families. This GIFT experience will provide time for telling family stories and sharing family photos. There will be heartwarming conversation mixed into all the laughter around the tables. Individuals, couples, whole families, all ages are encouraged to come. You are the most important ingredient in the GIFT Events. The truth is we can't do it without you! Hope you will plan to participate and find this to be a blessing in a huge way. **BRING a FAMILY PHOTO or TWO from your own collection.**

FAITH FORMATION CLASS FOR PS-5TH GRADE

Did you know there is a great opportunity for children PS-5th grade every Sunday morning at

9:45 am? It is FAITH FORMATION time and it gives a boost to help children learn about our great God. Lessons and activities come from "WALK WITH ME," a strong Reformed curriculum. The time is very interactive, hands on, and multi-sensory. Rebekah Witt is the consistent weekly leader of the class with various youth and adults invited to assist throughout the months of January-May. All children are invited to participate in this Sunday morning time in Classroom 3. **On GIFT event Sunday mornings, children will be a part of GIFT, along with all youth and adults.**

AS we are all enduring some cold days during the winter, here is some WARM news to share:

VBS dates: June 16-20, 2019

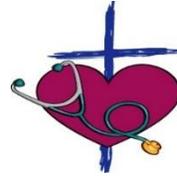
As you begin your 2019 calendar, you can put these dates on it.



CHILD SAFETY POLICY INFORMATIONAL GATHERING

We are committed to providing a safe and secure environment for children, youth, and adults who participate in ministries and activities sponsored by the church. With that commitment, Opequon Church adopted and approved a Child Safety Policy in 2004. Over the years, informational gatherings have been held to educate the congregation on the background and contents of the Child Safety Policy. These gatherings have been large and small in nature, yet all with the same purpose: to reflect our church's commitment to preserve Opequon as a place where all can safely experience the love of God through relationships with others. As we begin 2019, an intentional informational gathering to review our Child Safety Policy is scheduled for **Sunday, January 20 at 12:15-1:00 pm** in the

Fellowship Hall. If you are involved in any roles where you work with children or youth at Opequon and have not yet attended one of these gatherings in the past, you are encouraged to attend this informational time. If you have any questions, feel free to speak with Carole Witt.



JANUARY IS CERVICAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH Patty Klinefelter

The OPC Faith Community Nurses want you to know that there's a lot you can do to prevent cervical cancer. Each year, more than 11,000 women in the United States get cervical cancer.

HPV (human papillomavirus) is a very common infection that spreads through sexual activity, and it causes almost all cases of cervical cancer. About 79 million Americans currently have HPV, but many people with HPV don't know they are infected. The good news?

- The HPV vaccine (shot) can prevent HPV.
- Cervical cancer can often be prevented with regular screening tests and follow-up care.

In honor of National Cervical Health Awareness Month, OPC Faith Community Nurses encourage:

- Women to start getting regular cervical cancer screenings at age 21.
- Parents to make sure pre-teens get the HPV vaccine at age 11 or 12

Teens and young adults also need to get the HPV vaccine if they didn't get it as pre-teens. Women up to age 26 and men up to age 21 can still get the vaccine.

Thanks to the health care reform law, you and your family members may be able to get these services at no cost to you. Check with your insurance company to learn more.

Information provided by
<https://healthfinder.gov/NHO/JanAnnounce.aspx>

OLDER ADULT HAPPENINGS

Happy New Year to YOU! You have probably uttered the words "I can't believe it is 2019! Where did that last year go?" A new year, a new month, and brand-new days are upon us each morning! As we put our feet on the floor each day, let us say with sincerity, "THANK YOU GOD FOR THIS DAY!"

January kicks off with the Older Adult Ministry Team meeting on Monday, January 7, 9:30 am in the Bageant Room. The team enjoys friendships, morning goodies, and time for planning as they look ahead to Happy Days programs and future trips. The meeting is open to any older adults who would like to attend. Special morning treats and coffee are served.

Happy Days this month occurs on Wednesday, January 9 at noon. This is our older adult fellowship group that is full of spirit as they have great times together. The gathering begins with a covered dish lunch followed by guest speaker, Brandon Thomas from the Winchester Rescue Mission. He will be sharing updates on the Men's Rescue Mission and goals for a Women's Shelter. If you are able, you are invited to bring rolls of toilet paper that support our Motel Ministry.

A sign-up sheet is available for the Apple Blossom Prayer Brunch, May 2, 2019, 11:00 am. Tickets are \$25 and due to Carole Witt by January 9th. You are welcome to add your name to available spaces on the list found in the Gathering Area Kiosk or contact Carole if you would like to be on the list at 662-1843 or dce@opequonchurch.org.

MOO!



MEN OF OPEQUON PULL IT TOGETHER THIS MONTH!

After a big turnout for our annual Christmas Party, the Men of Opequon (MOO) invite all men to join them for their first gathering of the New Year. We'll first meet at Chick-fil-A on Pleasant Valley Road on Monday, January 14th for dinner at 6:00 pm. Then, we'll get back together at the church in the Bageant Room to hear from Bill Burslem about his recent trip to Ethiopia and all that is

developing there as the church faithfully witnesses and grows. We'll also share devotions and look over plans for our monthly gatherings. So, ALL MEN: come on out and share your ideas!



READ 'EM & REAP

Read 'em & Reap, a small group, meets on the second Thursday of each month. This month's meeting on January 10th starts at 7:00 pm, at the home of Tom and Rhoda Tandy (128 Cahille DR, 22602). January's discussion will be on the book, *The Trail of The Lonesome Pine*. You are welcome to join us.



LIFE GOES ON

"Life Goes On" is a small support group of people whose lives are undergoing change as the result of the death of a spouse. For some it is a recent loss, for others more time has passed, but for all it is a major change in our lives. Our next meeting will take place on Friday, January 25th, 1:00 pm at The Firefly Café. Contact Martha Fulton, with questions at 540-542-6161 or fultonmartha@gmail.com.



God-Loving Opequon Women

Many thanks to all the OPC women that participated in the SOCK SWAP fun last month at GLOW. How delightful that everyone went home with a new pair of socks! Opequon's women's group, known as GLOW, typically meets monthly for great gatherings of friendship, support, enjoyment, and spiritual nourishment. During the coldest winter months, January and February, GLOW is on break. In March, we will be back to our regular meeting schedule of the second Tuesday each month;

our next gathering is March 12, 2019 for a FONDUE PARTY!

PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH CONNECTION GRADES 6-12

January 6 College Age Panel for High School
January 13 Cook/Serve a Meal to Youth Parents!
January 20 Ice Skating
January 27 Motel Ministry

YOUNG ADULT (AGES 18-35) NEWS

We will continue meeting for Bible Study every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. Please meet in the Youth Spot for a provided dinner. Our next study will be focused on "The Lord's Prayer."



6TH ANNUAL OPC TALENT SHOW
Saturday, February 23, 2019, at 5:00 pm

Do you sing, dance, play an instrument, or act? Perhaps you are a juggler, magician, or can ride a unicycle. Whatever your talent, the Fellowship Ministry Team needs you! NOW is the time to sign up in the Gathering Area to share your talent.

Dinner starts at 5:00 p.m. and you are asked to please bring a main dish, side, or salad to share. Dessert will be provided by Fellowship during intermission. Everyone is warmly invited to participate as a member of the audience. It will be a night to remember so please be sure to save this date!

Questions? Please contact Marj Praml at 540-327-2667 or via e-mail at teachandwritemp@gmail.com.

MOTEL MINISTRY

Fourth Sunday Each Month at 12:30 pm

If you're unable to visit the local motels, then think about preparing a hot food item as a donation. We often take foods such as spaghetti, soup, sloppy joe, or pork BBQ. Please email Rebekah Witt at witr@dukes.jmu.edu if you are willing to prepare one of these items or something similar.



OPC's WATTS Week began on Saturday, December 29, 2018 and continues through the morning of Saturday, January 5, 2019. Please keep our guests and volunteers in your prayers. A complete report of the week will appear in the February edition of "The Opequon Spirit."

WINCHESTER WOMEN'S SHELTER

The Mission Ministry Team has identified a local women's shelter as a priority mission for OPC, based on identified needs in the Winchester/Frederick County area. OPC contributed \$4,000 in 2018 to the Winchester Rescue Mission in their quest to establish a shelter for women - the first in their 44-year history.

The Stone House for Women in Winchester was opened in February 2018 by the Winchester Rescue Mission to assist homeless and economically challenged women. This was the first women-only shelter in Winchester, and according to Brandan Thomas, Executive Director, since opening, "has served 22 women, and experienced over 200 calls for a place to stay." The Stone House was named in honor of the Rev. Lee Stone, mission executive director from 1978 to 2012, and Shelda Stone, his wife. It is located at 4 E. Southwerk Street

If all went according to plan, the Rescue Mission just opened its second Women's

Shelter before Christmas. Thomas noted: "This home at 10-12 E. Clifford Street will accommodate 15 women. Each will be matched with a case manager to help them find a job and get back on their feet. It is not intended to be a transient shelter, but rather a transitional stop. Women at the shelters must be alcohol and drug free, and random tests are conducted to ensure sobriety." This second home opened in partnership with Blue Ridge Habitat for Humanity and the Northern Shenandoah Valley Substance Abuse Coalition.

In addition, by mid-January, the downstairs of the second shelter on Clifford Street should be renovated to provide a Day Shelter for homeless people to stay on cold mornings and afternoons - after spending the night in a WATTS facility. Plans are to provide TV's, washers and dryers for use by both women and men. The residential portion will be sealed off for access only by female residents.

"Once the larger women's shelter is operational, the Stone House will become a transitional facility for women who are ready to get jobs, pay off debt and, after six months or so, find their own homes," Thomas said.

How can you help? Twin-size bedding for 16 beds (15 residents, 1 staff) is needed for the Women's Shelter. Laundry soap, dryer sheets and stain remover; as well as travel size body wash, shampoo and conditioner are needed for the Day Shelter. If you make a financial contribution, please note "Women's Shelter" on the memo line. If you would like to donate new items, please leave them in the box by the elevator marked "Women's Shelter." Thank you from the Mission Ministry Team. For questions contact Karen Winters, kwwinters@gmail.com or 315-440-6508.

HIGHLAND FOOD PANTRY

Opequon Church supports the Highland Food Pantry in 4 ways: egg cartons, produce, special gifts, and energy. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Every week, the collection box (OK - so it's a milk crate!) in the Gathering Area is filled

to overflowing with empty egg cartons. Who knew that there could be so many models of egg cartons? Who knew that OPC people consumed so many eggs!? The collection box is emptied early each week and the cartons are delivered to HFP, where they are filled with eggs donated by a farm in Chambersburg, PA, and distributed to HFP client families. Many thanks for everyone's help!

Through the growing and harvest seasons, OPC's Community Garden raises and donates a variety of fresh produce for HFP's clients - almost 1400 pounds! HFP clients have expressed tremendous gratitude for this bounty. One client shared that when she and her husband had both been laid-off, her family's diet became very can-and-box-centered because it was all they could afford. Fresh produce from HFP was an invaluable blessing to them.

In 2018, special gifts of food and supplies were donated by Opequon people and gratefully received by the Food Pantry. For example, our Fellowship Ministry Team collected 182 pounds of canned goods as part of their photo directory project. Recently, several members have donated unopened cases of baby formula. Special donations are always welcomed!

On the 4th Tuesday evening of each month, 8-12 Opequon volunteers aid in the food distribution at the Highland Food Pantry. We have a soul-enriching and fun experience! It takes 20-25 volunteers to run HFP on Tuesday nights, so our folks are significantly contributing to the effort! And OPC's night is highly anticipated thanks to the can-do, client-focused, positive attitudes of our volunteers. If you're looking to serve in a big way for only a couple of hours each month, contact Ruth or Dave at 540-858-2889 or ruthanddave.richards@gmail.com.

Highland Food Pantry serves as many as 500 households per month, most from the Winchester-Frederick area. You can find them on Facebook and at highlandpantrywinc.org. If you look closely at the photos, you may see someone you know!



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

On December 9th, we welcomed into the membership of Opequon Church:

Judy & Raymond Colladay by Reaffirmation of Faith

Arline Dawson by transfer from Burke Presbyterian Church, Burke VA

Grace & Sidney Eadie by transfer from Grace Episcopal Church, Panama City Beach FL

Linda & Don Gibson by transfer from Leesburg Presbyterian Church, Leesburg VA

Carolee & John "Jack" Klimek by transfer from First Presbyterian Church, Winchester VA

Kathleen Knight by transfer from Highland Memorial Presbyterian Church, Winchester VA

Elizabeth "Betsy" McIntire by transfer from Our Savior Lutheran Church, Naperville IL

Ellyn "Lyn" Warren by transfer from First Presbyterian Church, Van Wert OH

Patricia Williams by transfer from First Presbyterian Church, Winchester VA

SHENANDOAH VALLEY WESTMINSTER-CANTERBURY RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Is sponsoring a life video internet feed called "The January Series" of lectures from Calvin College. These lectures will take place on weekdays in January from 12:30-1:30 pm. If you'd like more information on each lecture, there is a poster on the bulletin boards in the church or Google "January Series" and click on 2019. For more information you may contact Kitty Zuckerman, Marketing Communications Specialist at 540-665-5914.

A 2019 Flower Chart is on display in the Gathering Area on the CCAP table. Select the special Sundays when you want to honor a loved one with flowers in the Sanctuary.

NOTES OF GRATITUDE

On behalf of the Winchester Area Newcomers Club we would like to thank everyone involved at Opequon Presbyterian Church for their assistance in our Christmas Box project. Many thanks to Pastor David Witt and Robin Owens, (our liaison to Frederick County schools) for their advice, guidance and assistance in helping us organize the project. We also want to thank **Bill Robinson, Paul Clark, Bill Deck, Mo Mohler, Phil Sommer, David Schwantes,** and **Carroll Youngblood** for their willingness to give up a morning to assist us with the boxes. We appreciate their manpower transferring the filled banana boxes with various food items from our members' cars to the awaiting trucks they provided and also for delivering the 42 food boxes to a local high school. We could not have done this project without all of you and we cannot thank you enough for all that you did to make it so successful! Blessings!

Dear Opequon Church,
The Winchester Area Newcomers Club appreciates you providing a place for our club to meet monthly. Thank you for your wonderful generosity!

Grace Eadie, Treasurer

The Fellowship Ministry thanks the congregation for providing a wonderful assortment of cookies for the receptions following the Youth and Young Adult Services on December 2.

Ray and I continue to praise God for our Opequon family. Your prayers and support have blessed us in so many ways. Each call, card, and visit come just at the right time. God is so good! We are truly thankful for the ones who shop, prepare, and deliver the Tuesday Morning Mission's delicious meals, always prepared with love. God's Blessings to all in this New Year and always.

Ray and Patricia Ferguson



We express our Christian love and sympathy to...

Paula McNichols & Family, upon the death of her niece, Rebecca VanKeuran on November 25th
Kirsta & Ben Weber, & Mitchell

Skowbo upon the death of her mother, Esther Rauch Larrick on November 26

Travis Saunders & Family upon the death of his father, Gary "Satch" Saunders on November 27th

Dawn Arnoldy & Family upon the death of her mother, Ilo McCory on December 1st in Pennsylvania

Lisa Reed & Family upon the death of her father, Dick Martin on December 2nd in Florida
 Friends and Family of **Alice Mohlmann Hagen** upon her death on December 4th

"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

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT
November 2018

EXPENSES	2018 Budget	Net Expenses Current Month	Net Expenses Year to Date	Budget Balance Remaining
Administrative Ministry	405,427	34,650	374,140	31,287
Christian Education Ministry	13,550	1,763	9,175	4,375
Congregational Care Ministry	1,400	34	1,155	245
Evangelism Ministry	2,250	169	857	1,393
Fellowship Ministry	3,500	535	2,150	1,350
Mission Ministry	50,200	3,287	43,375	6,825
Worship Ministry	7,700	409	5,754	1,946
Capital Expenses	115,000	9,584	105,422	9,578
Total Budget	599,027	50,431	542,028	57,000

INCOME	Current Month	Year to Date
Envelope Offerings	35,124	509,601
Loose	544	6,210
Total Operating Income from Offerings	35,668	515,811

Adjustments to Income	Current Month	Year to Date
Checking Account Interest	3	62
Room/Facility Usage	50	700
Wedding Fees	0	0
Manse Rental Income (Net)	1,125	10,175
Unplanned Facilities Maintenance (EXP)	-4,200	-32,516
Operating Income After Adjustments	32,646	494,232

Operating Expenses	50,431	542,028
2018 Operating Balance as of November 30	-17,784	-47,796

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
 Newsletter deadline is the Wednesday after the Stated Session Meeting.



Sunday Worship at 8:30 and 11:00 am
 Faith Formation Educational Hour at 9:45 am
 David 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

A fresh start

Baptism is a blessing because it changes us and gives us hope.

Directions: Write the boxed letters in the squares below. Then unscramble those letters to form two words that complete the Bible verse and represent the gift of baptism.

We were therefore buried with him
 through baptism into death in order that,
 just as Christ was raised from the dead
 through the glory of the Father,
 we too may live a _____.

Romans 6:4, NIV

Answer: f i e l e w n e w l i f e

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JANUARY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	WATTS	1 New Year's Day Week	2 Continues 9:30am Staff Meeting 6pm Choir Christmas Party	3 Through	4 ⇒⇒⇒	5 7am WATTS Clean Up 9am WATTS Lead Volunteer Training 12 Noon Memorial Service
6 8:30am & 11:00am Worship, Communion, CCAP 9:45am Faith Formation 12:30pm Visioning Team	7 9:30am Older Adult Ministry 6pm Singl Shenandoah 7pm LOGOS Leadership	8 9:30am Tuesday Morning ministry 6pm Ministry Team Night 6:30pm WATTS Operations	9 12pm Happy Days 4:30pm LOGOS 6:10pm YA Bible Study 7:30pm Choir Practice	10 7pm Read Em & Reap 7pm Scout Pack 1 7pm Scout Troop 1	11	12 9am Officer Training
13 8:30am & 11:00am Worship, Ordination & Installation of Officers 9:45am Faith Formation	14 6pm MOO @Chick-fil-A 6pm Singl Shenandoah 7pm MOO-B	15 7pm Session Meeting	16 Newsletter Deadline 9:30am Staff Meeting 10am Winchester Newcomers 4:30pm LOGOS 7:30pm Choir Practice	17 7pm Cub Pack 1 7pm Scout Troop 1	18	19
20 8:30am & 11:00am Worship 9:45 Faith Formation 12:15pm Child Safety	21 WLT in Fellowship Hall 6pm Singl Shenandoah 7pm WATTS Board	22 WLT in Fellowship Hall 6pm Highland Food Bank	23 12pm TVOR Lunch Bunch 4:30pm LOGOS 6:10pm YA Bible Study 7:30pm Choir practice	24 7pm Cub Pack 1 7pm Scout Troop 1	25 4pm Life Goes On	26
27 8:30am & 11:00am Worship, 4 Cents a Meal, Fair Trade Coffee 9:45am GIFT Event 12:30pm Leadership Retreat	28 6pm Singl Shenandoah	29 10:30am Hands & Hearts	30 11:30am Staff Luncheon 4:30pm LOGOS 7:30pm Choir Practice	31 7pm Cub Pack 1 7pm Scout Troop 1		