



The Opequon Spirit

"Prayerfully Equipping Disciples of All Generations to be Christ's Hands, Heart and Feet in the World"

February 2019

WORSHIP 8:30 & 11:00 AM

SUNDAY, 2/3 - 4th Sunday after Epiphany

"Souper Bowl Day of Caring"

Jeremiah 1:4-10, Luke 4:21-30

Sermon: "A Plan for Our Lives"

Annual "Souper Bowl" Offering

CCAP, Communion

SUNDAY, 2/10 - 5th Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 6:1-13, Luke 5:1-11

Sermon: "Are You Willing?"

SUNDAY, 2/17 - 6th Sunday after Epiphany

Jeremiah 17:5-10, Luke 6:17-26

Sermon: "Thinking Anew on a Level Place"

SUNDAY, 2/24 - 7th Sunday after Epiphany

Genesis 45:3-11, 15, Luke 6:27-38

Sermon: "Full of Grace"

LOGOS K-5 Worship (11:00)

Four Cents a Meal, Fair Trade Coffee

Annual Meeting of the Congregation - 12:00

Noon

COLLECTING FOR CCAP



Cheerios

SUNDAY NIGHT COFFEE HOUSE... FEBRUARY 10TH!

Join us around tables in the Memorial Sanctuary on Sunday, February 10th at 6:00 pm for an evening coffee house. What is a coffee house, you may ask? It's an opportunity to gather and share in conversation, enjoy coffee and snacks, and appreciate people who may have a song, poem, musical piece, or reading/thought to offer. PS 150 will even share a couple of songs. Mostly, it's fun, it's relational, it's casual. If you would like to participate by offering something, please let Sarah Shade, Vicki Crites, or David Witt know so plans can be made.

MINISTRY TEAM NIGHT

Tuesday, February 5, in the Fellowship Hall

Dinner 6:00 pm

Baked Ham, Scalloped Potatoes, Mixed

Vegetables, Biscuits, Fruit Salad &

Assorted Desserts

Prepared by "MOO," the Men of Opequon

Devotions 6:45 pm

Ministry Team Meetings 7:00 pm

SAVE THIS DATE!

**Annual Potato Bake
Luncheon**

Sunday, March 17
(following the 11 a.m. service)
Fellowship Hall

NOTES FROM THE PASTOR

“Bridges to Community”

Dear Friends in Christ,

I grew up in the small Amwell Valley of New Jersey within the much larger Delaware Valley region, marked by the Delaware River, made famous by General George Washington’s crossing on Christmas night in 1776. While I was born in a hospital on the Pennsylvania side of the river, I grew up about seven miles from the river in New Jersey. We often and regularly crossed back and forth over the river, to our bank, to our doctors, and to the hospital. Three bridges in our immediate area spanned the river, two mostly for vehicular traffic (though there was a separate lane for walkers) and one that we called the “walking bridge,” reserved only for pedestrians. Later, a new toll bridge was added that opened up more thru traffic to our rural area. All the bridges are maintained by the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission, which operates seven “toll” bridges and thirteen “free” bridges. Obviously, the bridges are essential in connecting people, of bringing communities together, of making a difference in peoples’ lives. I have many great memories of life along both sides of the river.

I remembered my childhood perspective when I recently crossed a bridge over the interstate. Although we don’t have a major river flowing through our community (though the Shenandoah is not that far away!), we do have I-81 bisecting this wonderful Valley. And, like the bridges of my growing up years, the overpasses spanning 81 are essential in connecting people, of bringing communities together, of making a difference in peoples’ lives. To me, the interstate is visually like a big river to be crossed. Imagine how disconnected we would be from each other without those bridges. Think how difficult it would be if we had to go miles north or miles south along the interstate to get from one community to another. I am thankful that there are many places where we can cross, and I look forward to when the new overpass will be constructed extending Tevis Street from Winchester into Frederick County.

I have been thinking about bridges as we fully move into this new year. And, I recently suggested to our leaders that the key bridges within our community of faith, within our community, nation, and world, are collaboration and communication. Building community through collaboration and communication will be our focus at Opequon in 2019. They are essential for connecting people, of bringing us together, of making a difference in others’ lives and our own as we seek to follow Christ, to serve by being Christ’s hands, heart, feet and mind in the world. Partnership, where each person contributes by both giving and receiving, and dialogue, where we are engaged by the Spirit and engage one another, will launch us forward in our faithful witness. I invite you to join me in building bridges to community.

Together in Christ’s Service,

David

Remember
OPC
in
Your Will

JUST THINKIN’



January often feels like “Post-Christmas.” February, however, is decidedly “Pre-Spring.” The angle of the sun changes and the light becomes less blue. In New York, we had to wait until March for a similar change. Snow may cover the ground, but bushes begin to revive, and buds change just a bit. Most importantly, the forsythia can begin to bloom.

I am not suggesting that forsythia blooms in our back yards in February, but it can and does bloom easily in the house.

You will know that your forsythia is ready to bring inside when the bark begins to look just a tad yellow. The buds will show no swelling or growth and there will certainly be no leaves, but that yellow-ish bark says it is time. Look for new branches or for older, thicker branches with many buds and knobs. The newer branches will bloom more quickly but the older ones will last longer. Cut or break the branches and bring them inside. Fill a vase with warm (not hot) water. Pound the ends of the branches a bit to open them, place them in the warm water, and wait. Within a week, you will begin to see signs of yellow buds and green leaves. Within 10 days, you will have open blossoms.



By the end of February, you should be able to force other shrubs and branches, including apple and cherry. Mom also put a penny in the water to slow the growth of fungus. If you do this, make sure to find a penny minted before 1981. Newer pennies do not contain enough copper to act as a fungicide.

Remember, the branches you cut in February will not grow back before spring. It is important to cut with care to avoid over cutting and spoiling the spring blooms. If you do overcut, however, the branches will generally grow back within a year or two.

Pussy willows can be forced any time after the middle of February. I love to see their fuzzy fur. It reminds me that a God who will give a bud a fur coat will surely provide for us. We may cause God a lot more trouble than a branch of most anything, but God still loves and cares for us. I sometimes wonder why; it's not like we are always well behaved. I guess it is because God is God...and we are not.



I find it funny, the older I get, the more I see truth in adages I rejected as trite when I was a child. "Let go and let God." "Be the light you want to see." "God has a plan." Somehow as I age, the simple truth of these aphorisms makes more and more sense. Oh well, "Life goes on."

A race

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

The Session of Opequon Presbyterian Church calls for the annual meeting of the congregation for Sunday, February 24 at 12:00 Noon in the Sanctuary. The purpose of the meeting is to review the written report to the congregation (available beginning Sunday, February 17), which will include statistical and financial reports, ministry team reports, staff reports, and the 2019 church calendar. The congregation will be asked to elect four representatives to the church's Nominating Committee. **Please come prepared to nominate four individuals.** In addition, the annual meeting of the corporation - Opequon Presbyterian Church, Inc. - will occur, with a review of the trustees' work in 2018 and the corporation's and trustees' organization in the current year. The meeting will be called to order immediately following the closing hymn at the 11:00 a.m. service; the benediction will be pronounced at the conclusion of the meeting. We invite those who normally attend the 8:30 a.m. service to return for the meeting, entering the Sanctuary during the singing of the final hymn. The church nursery will be staffed until the conclusion of the meeting so that parents may attend. All active members of Opequon are encouraged to participate in this meeting, exercising both the privilege and responsibility of church membership.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

January 15, 2019 Stated Meeting

- Christian Education reported that the Free Library and Blessing Box has been installed at the entrance to our property. CE is now working on getting it filled and maintained.
- CE said that Vacation Bible School will be June 16-20, 2019.
- Eight children's Bibles have been ordered and will be made available in the Sanctuary.
- Mission Ministry reported on a very successful WATTS week at Opequon. Over 70 members of the congregation helped with this effort.
- Evangelism reported that Bill Bender and Mary Himelright have agreed to chair this Ministry Team.
- The Personnel Team reported that the job description for the position of part time Finance Administrator has been finalized and will be advertised. All but two staff reviews are complete.
- On the recommendation of Building & Grounds, Session approved the replacement of the failed heating unit.
- Session tabled a recommendation for the painting of the crypt until we see if it is possible for it to be done by volunteers.
- Building & Grounds reported that the tenants of the manse will execute a six-month extension of their lease. However, because our tenant is employed by TSA and is not getting paid during the government shutdown, receipt of rent may be delayed.
- Stewardship & Finance reported that we ended 2018 with receipts exceeding expenses.
- Session approved Counting Teams for 2019.
- The Technology & Communications Team plans to install a TV as a "bulletin board" in the Gathering Area.
- Session approved a recommendation to enroll Opequon in the Amazon Smile program whereby individuals who

choose to do so may designate a percentage of their purchase to go to OPC.

- Based upon a review of our rolls by the Congregational Care Ministry and after sending each individual a letter, Session moved individuals identified as not being at Opequon for over two years to the inactive roll.
- Session set Sunday, February 24, 2019 at noon for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation.

HOW CAN YOU CONNECT TO OPC?

In November & December, the Technology & Communications Team communicated to the congregation via a salmon-colored bulletin insert. If you want to be informed regarding schedule updates, including changes/cancellations due to weather, notices will be posted to the following media:

1. Our website (opequonchurch.org). Our home page will have emergency info on the blue banner at the top of the page.
2. Our Facebook page (search "opequon church")
3. Email broadcast-If you want to receive email messages, please send a message to office@opequonchurch.org.
4. Sign up for Text Messages:
Enter this number: 81010
Text this message: @opequonc
5. Participate in the emergency phone tree-If you want to be added to the phone tree, call the church office 540-662-1843.

ARE YOU A COMCAST CUSTOMER?

As of the newsletter publication date, Comcast/Xfinity customers may still be experiencing problems receiving messages from the church emails such as: pastor@opequonchurch.org, DCE@opequonchurch.org, or office@opequonchurch.org. The Technology & Communications Team is working diligently on the problem which is on the Comcast/Xfinity side. There might be an easy solution. Log into

your Comcast/Xfinity email account. Go to settings (looks like a gear icon). Then go to Advanced Settings, Uncheck the Spam Filtering box. Also, verify that the Mail Safe box is also unchecked. If that does not work, please contact Comcast.

LITTLE FREE LIBRARY & BLESSING BOX

There is a NEW standing structure in the front of the church building, near the 'circle'. It is a "LITTLE FREE LIBRARY & BLESSING BOX". This has been a project of the Christian Education Team. With the help of **Dan Cammer** who prepared sketches and drawings with dimensions and measurements of the little library and **Carroll Youngblood** who built it, painted it and secured it in the ground, we are very excited about this new outreach project. We will be stocking it with canned goods and books that are FREE to anyone who may drive by it and want an item from in it. The team will be obtaining the desired items for filling it. As you approach the church, stop by and take a look at it. You will notice how it resembles our larger church building that stands in the background.

THE LATEST IN LOGOS

Do you know what SPOON HANGING IS? Have you ever tried it? The Spoon Hanging Competition is an annual event during each LOGOS year. It occurs at the end of dinner time with everyone taking a regular tablespoon and positioning it to hang on the end of their nose! What a great sight to see as there is a room full of adults and children all with spoons hanging from their nose! This year's competition was held on January 9, as we returned to LOGOS after Christmas break. The 2019 Spoon Hanging Champion is **Kate Wilfong!** Congratulations Kate! She had the spoon hanging for the longest amount of time. Her name will be engraved on the Spoon Hanging trophy and her picture will be displayed in the center of it. A few pictures from the spoon hanging game are on display

above the water fountain outside the Sanctuary.

This month we are looking forward to "Africa Night," "Baby Face Night," and back by popular demand, "Ask the Pastor Night." There is always room for more; come join us on Wednesday 4:30-7:30 pm. If you have questions, please contact Carole Witt at 662-1843 or dce@opequonchurch.org.

CONFIRMATION CONNECTION

Banana surgery, marshmallow towers, sharing faith timelines, watching a faith prints anonymous skit, and considering some case studies are all part of the Confirmation Retreat being held at the Hunting Ridge Retreat Center on February 1-2 for the students, covenant partners, and class leaders. This retreat experience always proves to be a highlight of the confirmation year for students.

Recently, the confirmation students packed the food bags for Orchard View Elementary School. Also, this month the students will be sharing in the experience of visiting some of our older members and having lunch out. Continue to remember **Drew Arnoldy, Joseph Burton, William Callanan, Griffin Hott, Paige and Jordan Hughes, Carson Ritter, Ethan and Will Schwantes** in your prayers as these young people participate in the journey of confirmation.

A "GIFT" EVENT Sunday, February 24

GIFT stands for "Generations in Faith Together" and it truly is great fun to be all together for the Sunday morning educational hour at 9:45am in the Fellowship Hall on the 4th Sunday of each month. This month the theme is "When God Gave Us Words" as we focus on the power and usage of our fascinating language! You know the line from The Sound of Music when Julie Andrews is teaching the children how to sing. She says, "when you read you begin with A-B-C" - that is where our words begin with these letters plus a host of 23 other letters in the alphabet. This GIFT experience will guide us in exploring if our use

of words honors God or if our words are full of lies, gossip or harm. Look forward to some warm ALPHABET SOUP at the tables during this morning event as well! 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.

FAITH FORMATION CLASS FOR PK-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 assisting throughout the months of January-May. All children are invited to participate in this Sunday morning time in Room 3. **On GIFT event Sunday mornings, children will be a part of GIFT, along with all youth and adults.**

- 1 faster
- 2 Monday
- 3 gallons
- 4 fist
- 5 valves
- 6 miles
- 7 cancer
- 8 cardiac
- 9 activity
- 10 depression
- 11 laughing
- 12 pound
- 13 Christmas

Reference

<https://www.healthline.com/health/fun-facts-about-the-heart>

OLDER ADULT HAPPENINGS

Jesus LOVES US, this we know! Celebrate HIS love for you and share love with others this month. February begins with the Older Adult Ministry Team meeting on Monday, February 4, 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, February 13 at noon. This is our older adult fellowship group that is full of spirit as they have a great time together. The gathering begins with a covered dish lunch followed by a presentation from the Debbie & Bill Bender and Carole & David Witt on their trip to Alaska last summer. 'Let's take a trip together to the fascinating state of ALASKA!'

At the February gathering we hope to also present a check for \$350 to a representative of KIDS CLUB in Winchester as the result of the 2018 Coin Jar contributions.

If you can do so, you are invited to bring rolls of toilet paper to Happy Days to support OPC's Motel Ministry.



MEN OF OPEQUON

We'll be back at Chick-fil-A this month for dinner on Monday, February 11th at 6:00 p.m.

Spouses are always invited to join us for dinner. Then, we'll reconvene at the church at 7:00 pm in the Bageant Room, as we share devotions and continue in our planning. Last month, we heard a lively presentation by Bill Burslem about the work of the church in Ethiopia and Opequon's support for the widows and orphans project at the Kolokorma Church, along with MOO's support for a child at the Gore Children's Home.

The men of MOO are also serving up a hot meal at MT Night on February 5th, and preparing to be the staff for our annual Easter

breakfast on Sunday, April 21st! All men: come on out and help us!



READ 'EM & REAP

Read 'em & Reap, a small group, meets on the second Thursday of each month. This month's meeting is on Thursday, February 14 and starts at 7:00 pm, at the home of Tom and Rhoda Tandy (128 Cahille DR, 22602). Our discussion will be on the book, *The Bishop's Pawn*. 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, February 22nd, 1:00 pm at The Firefly Café. Contact Martha Fulton, with questions at 540-542-6161 or fultonmartha@gmail.com.



God-Loving Opequon Women

The Opequon's women's group, known as GLOW, typically meets monthly for great gatherings of friendship, support, enjoyment, and spiritual nourishment. During this cold winter month of February, GLOW is on break. Next month, we will be back to our regular meeting schedule of the second Tuesday each month; our next gathering is March 12, 2019 at 6:00 pm for a FONDUE PARTY! Cheese fondue and chocolate fondue will both be available.

PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH CONNECTION GRADES 6-12

February 3-Souper Bowl Sunday!

Help collect/count the soup & monetary donations before/after church.

February 9-Visitation Day at 10:00 am-1:30 pm

February 17-Parent's Day Out, 12:30-3:30 pm

February 24-Motel Ministry at 12:30 pm

YOUNG ADULT (AGES 18-35) NEWS

We will continue meeting for Bible Study each Wednesday of the month. Please meet in the Youth Spot. Dinner is provided.



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 pm and you are asked to please bring a main dish, side, or salad to share. Dessert will be provided by the Fellowship Ministry Team 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.



Let's tackle hunger by bringing in soup cans and monetary donations on Sunday, February 3. Which section of the Sanctuary will win the competition by donating the most cans?!

Choir Side=Vegetable Beef

Center Section=Chicken Noodle

Window Side=Tomato

You will find the collection spot in the Gathering Area. All donations will go to Highland Food Pantry.

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 wittrc@dukes.jmu.edu if you are willing to prepare one of these items or something similar.

CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING IN BAJA, MEXICO IN 2019

The Hands, Heart and Feet of Opequon

This will be the fourth consecutive year members of our congregation will volunteer to build homes in Baja, Mexico. Last year, we had eleven OPC volunteers join four others from our region. The goal for 2019 is to double the number of volunteers to 30.

According to **Bill Hopeck**, OPC Baja Coordinator and a member of the Presbytery Baja Mission Leadership Team, the mission trip is scheduled for July 6 to 14, 2019. This is the 20th year members of our Presbytery have participated. Plans are underway for at least two OPC sponsored events to help raise funds for building supplies, food for the volunteers

and "in-country" transportation. Come have a fun time for a great cause.

- February 9-Robby Limon - Baja Fundraiser
- Spring-Baja Paint Party Fundraiser with artist, Hillary White, Strasburg

So you ask, "What will be required of me?" First, a willingness to help build the homes under the guidance of experienced leaders, and second, a readiness to help raise funds for your journey. If you plan to make the trip, you need to do some independent fundraising to cover your airfare and a one-night stay in California before traveling to Baja. In addition, you can help with the OPC sponsored fundraising events to cover the building supplies, food and "in-country" transportation costs. Some scholarship funds will be available to help those interested in attending, who might not be able to achieve the financial fundraising goals.

We are also reaching out to other regional Presbyterian churches to have them join in on the mission trip. **Bill Hopeck**, **Graham Taylor** and **Robin Owens** are planning to meet with the area's Presbyterian pastors on February 7th to spark some interest for the 2019 trip. In addition, Robin is planning some informational sessions for local youth.

Prayerfully consider whether this mission trip is calling YOU to be the hands, heart and feet of Christ in the world.



From December 29, 2018-January 5, 2019, OPC hosted the Winchester Area Temporary Thermal Shelter (WATTS). We averaged between 33-35 guests per night. The guests were served hot meals each morning and night. They had the option of taking a packed lunch with them at 7:00 am when they left. We offered the shower trailer twice and a few guests made use of it. We played Bunco with the guests twice. Many guests tried to defeat Becky Proctor in chess, but to no avail!

Several guests stayed for worship on Sunday. We had volunteers come from Kernstown United Methodist Church, Shenandoah University and Westminster-Canterbury. Several hairstylists offered haircuts to the guests. Throughout the week, we had **76 volunteers** from OPC with a total of **785 volunteer hours!!!!** We would like to thank everyone who volunteered, cooked, donated items, rode the bus, carried bins, served and cleaned up from dinner, spent the night, checked guests' vital signs, gave out cough drops, set up and broke down the shelter, ran the shower trailer, ran the WATTS Up Shop, registered guests, played Bunco, played chess, and all who prayed for a successful week! When you put all those wonderful things together, you get an awesome week of WATTS! Millions of thanks to everyone!

Until next year,
Heather Burton and Graham Taylor
Co-lead volunteers

THANK YOU FOR CARING AND WRAPPING THE WORLD IN BLANKETS AND LOVE!

1,103 blankets totaling **\$5,517.01** were given during December to **THE TY HEADLEY TREE OF WARMTH!** We thank you for your generosity. In its 12th year, our annual blanket drive has contributed more than \$60,000 (that's 12,000 blankets!) to Church World Service. Thank you for your generosity.

THE POWER OF FOUR CENTS

All those pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, and dollars the people of Opequon collected for Four Cents a Meal during 2018 totaled \$3,510 Thank you for reaching new heights last year! Four Cents a Meal is our monthly offering for hunger that assists people in our community, state, nation, and world. Please give to Four Cents a Meal on the Fourth Sunday of each month. Next Four Cents a Meal: Sunday, February 24th.

In addition, other special fund contributions for 2018 were as follows...

CCAP ----- \$115.72
Good Samaritan ----- \$1,761.07

Habitat for Humanity ----- \$985.94
One Great Hour of Sharing-----\$2,374
Pentecost ----- \$1,300
Peacemaking ----- \$450
Christmas Joy-----\$1,382
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance
----- \$2,100
Heifer Project ----- \$65
Women's Shelter-----\$1,250
WATTS ----- \$2,840

OPC COMMUNITY GARDEN NEWS

Although it is the middle of winter, we are already planning for this year's garden season. We need a Garden Manager. This is a volunteer administrative position. You do not need to have any gardening skills or knowledge. We're looking for someone who wants to get involved in helping our community, and this is a great way to do that! If you are interested and/or have any questions, please contact Dana Kelly at davedana@comcast.net or 540-868-0553.

COMMUNITY GARDEN'S VALENTINE TO OPC

By Jeanne Losey

Cabbage always has a heart;
Green beans string along.
You're such a cute tomato
Will you peas to me belong?

You've been the apple of my eye,
You know how much I care;
So lettuce get together,
We'd make a perfect pear.

Now, something's sure to turnip
To prove you can't be beet;
So, if you carrot all for me,
Let's let our tulips meet.

Don't squash my hopes and dreams now,
Bee my honey, dear;
Or tears will fill potato's eyes,
While sweet corn lends an ear.

I'll cauliflower shop and say,
Your dreams are parsley Mine.
I'll work and share my celery,
So be my valentine.

WORSHIP MANNERS & HOSPITALITY NOTES

- ❖ Remember to pick up your nametag in the Gathering Area.
- ❖ Enjoy greeting and visiting with your friends **before worship begins (that's before the organ/piano prelude)**. We are blessed to see each other each Sunday.
- ❖ Look around the Sanctuary for guests or people you may not know. Warmly greet them, simply by saying, "Hi! My name is _____ . . ." and then letting them talk.
- ❖ Note that when the chimes ring prior to the 8:30 and 11:00 am worship services, the ushers will close the Sanctuary doors. Please find a seat, sit down, and quietly listen to the musical prelude, preparing your heart and mind to serve God through worship.
- ❖ Please refrain from bringing drinks and/or food into the Sanctuary.
- ❖ Please silence all cell phones, pagers, and any other electronic devices **before entering the Sanctuary**.

NOTE OF GRATITUDE

We are very grateful for all the calls, letters, emails, and cards upon the passing of my mother, Esther Rauch Larrick. Your kindness and thoughtfulness are very much appreciated, and we are very blessed to have such a loving and supportive church family.

Thank you so very much,

Kirsta and Ben Weber & Mitchell Skowbo



Becky Myers
 260 N Summit Avenue
 Woodstock VA 22664
 myersr271@gmail.com
 540-550-0049



We express our Christian love and sympathy to...

Annemarie Matthews upon the death of her husband, Larry on December 18th

Christin Weiss upon the death of her brother, John Carlo III on December 30th

"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

SERVANTS IN MINISTRY

Acolytes

8:30

3 Virginia Barr

10 MacKenna Bell

17 Volunteer Needed

24 Carson Ritter

11:00

3 Adelyn Astorino

10 Lucas Brown

17 Jack Hathaway

24 Lucy Weber

Hospitality

3 Debbie & Bill Bender

10 Lisa & Bill Frye

17 Ina & Robert Walker

27 Betty Chicklo, June Malone

11:00

3 Martha Fulton

10 Betty Ganoë, Debi Hodgson

17 Jack Drumheller, Annemarie Matthews

24 Scarlett Kibler, Marj Praml

Livestream

3 Bud Proctor

10 Lance Astorino

17 Joel Witt

24 Lance Astorino

Nametags

Week 1 Pat deButts

Week 2 Dulcie Reed

Week 3 Martha Fulton

Week 4 Kail Barbe

USHERS (Head Usher in bold)

8:30

3 Virginia Barr, Vicki Schmidt Crites,
Samuel Edwards, JT Reid,
Graham Taylor, Natalie Youngblood
10 MacKenna Bell, Alyce Callahan, Audrey
& Camden Saunders, **Jim Youngblood**

17 Terry Hartman, **Heide Mohler**,
Lance Pearce,
Youth Volunteers Needed

24 Mike Butler, Ainsley DesMarais,
Jaxson Hughes, Cameron &
Carson Ritter, John Winn

10 Lucas Brown, Jason Hathaway,
Kyle Homan, Aubrey &
Logan McGunnigle, **Bill Robinson**,
Gavin Widell

17 Tucker Birchenough, Jack Hathaway,
Hudson & **Andy Homan**,
Payton Hughes, Joel Witt

24 **Bill Hopeck**, Joe Seaton, Lily, Lucy &
Luke Weber

11:00

3 Adelyn & Aubrey Astorino, Joshua Batcha,
Al Owens, Annemarie Matthews,
Travis Morgan

The snow may be on the ground now, BUT SUMMER is coming!

There is some WARM news to share:

VBS dates: June 16-20, 2019

THE THEME is ALL ABOUT RUTH- THIS IS THE TRUTH!



SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT
December 2018

EXPENSES	2018 Budget	Net Expenses Current Month	Net Expenses Year to Date	Budget Balance Remaining
Administrative Ministry	405,427	25,123	399,264	6,164
Christian Education Ministry	13,550	1,867	11,042	2,508
Congregational Care Ministry	1,400	109	1,263	137
Evangelism Ministry	2,250	0	857	1,393
Fellowship Ministry	3,500	841	2,990	510
Mission Ministry	50,200	6,825	50,200	0
Worship Ministry	7,700	257	6,011	1,689
Capital Expenses	115,000	9,584	115,005	-5
Total Budget	599,027	44,605	586,633	12,395

INCOME	Current Month	Year to Date
Envelope Offerings	85,718	596,464
Loose	1,760	6,825
Total Operating Income from Offerings	87,478	603,289
Adjustments to Income		
Checking Account Interest	5	67
Room/Facility Usage	1,100	1,800
Wedding Fees	0	0
Manse Rental Income (Net)	1,065	11,240
Operating Income After Adjustments	89,648	616,396
Operating Expenses	44,605	586,633
2018 Operating Balance as of December 31	45,043	29,763



FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE NEWS

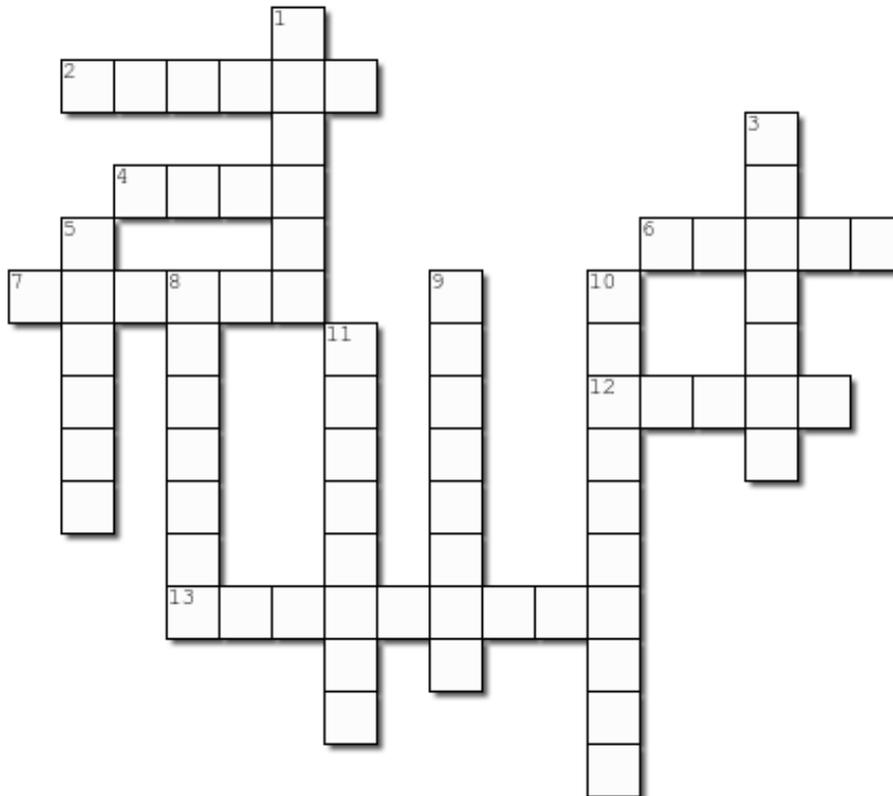
Patty Klinefelter

In

celebrating Valentine's Day, let's review some fun heart facts!
You will find the answers listed in this issue.

Heart Facts

Complete the crossword below



Created using TheTeachersCorner.net [Crossword Puzzle Maker](#)

Across

2. Most heart attacks happen on a _____
4. The average heart is the size of an adult _____
6. If you were to stretch out your blood vessel system, it would extend over 60,000 _____
7. Heart cells stop dividing, which means heart _____ is extremely rare
12. The human heart weighs less than 1 _____
13. What day is the most common day of the year for heart attacks to happen?

Down

1. A woman's heart beats slightly _____ than a man's heart
3. Your heart pumps about 2,000 _____ of blood every day.
5. The beating sound of your heart is caused by the _____ of the heart opening and closing.
8. An electrical system controls the rhythm of your heart. It's called the _____ conduction system.
9. Your _____ level is the greatest potential risk factor for heart disease.
10. _____ increases your risk for a heart attack, especially if you're a woman.
11. What is good for your heart? It reduces stress and gives a boost to your immune system.



PUZZLE

WITH LOVE FROM ABOVE

The Bible is full of special words from our loving God.

Directions: Using the messages on the candy hearts, complete the Bible verses (all NIV) below.



God is our _____ and _____,
an ever-present help in trouble. Psalm 46:1

“Surely I am with you _____.” Matthew 28:20

And the _____ of God ... will guard
your hearts and your minds in
_____. Philippians 4:7

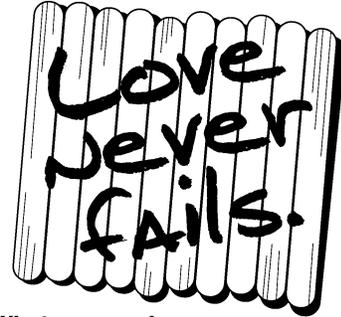
Whoever lives in _____ lives in God,
and God in them. 1 John 4:16

_____ love drives out fear. 1 John 4:18

Answer: refuge, strength, always, peace, Christ Jesus, love, Perfect

A MESSAGE OF *Love*

Make this valentine for a family member or friend.



What you need:

- 10 wooden craft sticks
- Painter's tape
- Markers
- A photo and glue (optional)
- Craft knife (and adult help)
- Ribbon or a rubber band

What you do:

1. Set the sticks side by side. Secure with two tape strips.
2. Flip the sticks over. Draw (or glue on) a picture or write a message or Bible verse. If using glue, let dry.
3. Flip the sticks again and remove tape. If you glued on a photo, have an adult help cut the sticks (and photo) apart.
4. Secure the sticks with ribbon or a rubber band.
5. Deliver the gift and invite the recipient to assemble the puzzle.

FEBRUARY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Souper Bowl Offering 8:30am & 11:00am Worship, CCAP Communion 9:45am Faith Formation 12:30pm Visioning Team	4 9:30am Older Adult Ministry 6pm Sing! Shenandoah	5 6pm Ministry Team Night	6 9:30am Staff Meeting 4:30pm LOGOS 6:10pm YA Bible Study 7:30pm Choir Practice	7 7pm Scout Pack 1 7pm Scout Troop 1 7pm Trustees Meeting	8	9 10am PYC Visitation Day 6pm Baja Fundraiser
10 8:30am & 11:00am Worship 9:45am Faith Formation 12:15pm Safety Team 6pm Coffee House	11 6pm MOO @Chick-fil- A 6pm Sing! Shenandoah 7pm MOO	12 9:30am Tuesday Morning Mission	13 12pm Happy Days 4:30pm LOGOS 6:10pm YA Bible Study 7:30pm Choir Practice	14 7pm Read 'em & Reap 7pm Cub Pack 1 7pm Scout Troop 1	15	16
17 8:30am & 11:00am Worship 9:45 Faith Formation 12:30pm Parents' Day Out!	18 6pm Sing! Shenandoah	19 7pm Session Meeting	20 Newsletter Deadline 9:30am Staff Meeting 10am Winchester Newcomers 4:30pm LOGOS 6:10pm YA Bible Study 7:30pm Choir Practice	21 7pm Cub Pack 1 7pm Scout Troop 1	22 1pm Life Goes On	23 9:30am Shenandoah Presbytery 5pm Dinner & Talent Show
24 8:30am & 11:00am Worship, 4 Cents a Meal, Fair Trade Coffee 9:45am GIFT Event Noon Annual Meeting 12:30pm Motel Ministry	25 6pm FEAST Group 6pm Sing! Shenandoah	26 10:30am Hands & Hearts 6pm Highland Food Bank 6:30pm WAITTS Operations	27 12pm TVOR Lunch Bunch 4:30pm LOGOS 6:10pm YA Bible Study 7:30pm Choir Practice	28 7pm Cub Pack 1 7pm Scout Troop 1		

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



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February 2019

LOOKING AHEAD:

MAGNIFICENT MARCH MEMORIES IN THE MAKING

Transfiguration Sunday Communion - **Sunday, March 3rd**
 Shrove Tuesday “Flannel & Flapjacks”
 - **Tuesday, March 5th**
 Ash Wednesday “Ashes to Go” in the Community
 - **Wednesday, March 6th**
 Ash Wednesday Evening Prayer & Praise Service
 - **Wednesday, March 6th**
 1st Sunday in Lent - **Sunday, March 10th** - “Spring Forward”
 (Set Clocks Ahead)
 Annual Potato Bake - **Sunday, March 17th** (12:15 pm)
 LOGOS Sunday - **Sunday, March 24th** (11:00 am)
 Prayer Breakfasts for Adults, Youth, & Children
 - **Sunday, March 31st** (9:45 am)