

Opequon Presbyterian Church



The Day of Epiphany

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 a Sunday School class each week.** Sunday School is 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----- Youth & Young Adult Director



SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

January 6, 2019

8:30 & 11:00 am

The Day of Epiphany

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE *Joy at Christmas*

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

Please complete the Friendship Folder and pass it along during the greeting.

PRAYER REQUEST forms are inside the pew holders - please place in offering plate.

†All who are able, please stand.

Bold print—all respond.

THE CHURCH BELL RINGS

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ENTRANCE OF THE WORD AND THE LIGHT

†GATHERING SONG NO. 744 (vv. 1, 4) *Arise, Your Light Is Come!*

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Arise! Shine! Our Light has come!

The Light of Life streams into every dismal corner.

Christ has put the door of eternity ajar.

Fear and shame flee like shadows before the dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around.

The Lord is our everlasting light.

†HYMN NO. 265 *Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun*

(Please be seated for prayer)

CALL TO CONFESSION

In the light of Christ, we see the shadows of our world and of our hearts.

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, you know us from the beginning. You see in us more good and beauty than we have dared to believe. You beckon us to do more that we have dared to try. Forever you call our names. Yet, we have filled our ears with the sounds of the world; we have timidly spoken of your great love; we have doubted the gifts hidden within each of us.

Searcher of hearts, shine your forgiving light into our hesitancy, and embolden us to live with such joy and fire that all the world may know of your love. Forgive our sins, and lead us to true repentance, that we may trust you in all things.

MOMENTS OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

This is the good news: Christ is the Light of the World, who grants forgiveness and healing of our sins. Thanks be to God.

LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

† THE RESPONSE OF PRAISE NO. 121 (v. 4) *O Little Town of Bethlehem*
O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

† PASSING OF THE PEACE (Please share this prayer with those next to you)
“May the peace of Christ be with you.”
“And also with you.”

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

ANTHEM *We Seek the Tiny King*
Ruth Elaine Schram

We seek the tiny King, traveling afar, following the brightest star! Over field and fountain, over moor and mountain, following, following the star. We three Kings of Orient are: bearing gifts we traverse afar. Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star. Oh, star of wonder, star of might, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light. Glorious now behold him rise: King and God and Sacrifice; Alleluia, Alleluia, Earth to heaven replies. Wise men still seek the tiny King.

THE READING OF GOD’S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6.....Pew Bible p. 602

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Matthew 2:1-12.....Pew Bible p. 783

A SPECIAL TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN “The Guiding Star”

Nursery (Ages Infant - Age 3)

† CAROL NO. 151 (vv. 2, 3, 4) We Three Kings of Orient Are

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY *Fantasy on Three Kings*..... Arr. Heavner

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

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God..

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

The Lord’s Prayer

(Hymnal p. 35, we say “debts” and “debtors” in the prayer)

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread & Cup

Communion Carols No. 145..... *What Child Is This*

No. 146..... *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*

No. 147..... *The First Nowell*

Communion Prayer

WE GO OUT IN GOD’S NAME

†CAROL NO. 150..... *As With Gladness Men of Old*

†CHARGE AND BLESSING

†CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 136 (Refrain)

..... *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

Go, tell it on the mountain over the hills and everywhere;

Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

†POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 6-13, 2019

TODAY

- 8:30 am: Morning Worship, Communion, CCAP Offering
9:45 am: Faith Formation Educational Hour (For All Ages)
11:00 am: Morning Worship, Communion, CCAP Offering
12:30 pm: Presbyterian Youth Connection (High School Only)
–Fellowship Hall
12:30 pm: Visioning Team–Assembly Room

THIS WEEK

- Monday: Older Adult Ministry Team–9:30 am–Bageant Room
LOGOS Leadership Team–5:30 pm–Bageant Room
Tuesday: Tuesday Morning Mission–9:30 am–Home of Stella Strickler
Ministry Team Night Dinner–6:00 pm–Fellowship Hall
Devotions–6:45 pm Meetings–7:00 pm
Wednesday: Happy Days–12:00 Noon–Fellowship Hall
LOGOS–4:30 pm–Theme: “Topsy Turvey Night”
Choir Practice–7:30 pm–Sanctuary
Thursday: Cub Scouts Den 1–7:00 pm
Read ‘em & Reap–7:00 pm–Home of the Tandys
Saturday: Officer Training/Continuing Education–9:00 am

NEXT SUNDAY–BAPTISM OF THE LORD SUNDAY

- Morning Worship–8:30 & 11:00 am
Faith Formation Educational Hour (For All Ages)–9:45 am
Isaiah 43:1-7, Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
Sermon: “Reclaiming Our Baptism”
Ordination, Installation, & Commissioning of New Officers
Renewal of Baptism Service
Reception in Honor of New Officers after 11:00 am Worship
Presbyterian Youth Connection–11:00 am

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

US Government Workers
John Carlo Family
Jenni Spielman Family
Lynne Rio Family
Dwayne
Myrt Nissen
Gil Barrington
Cherry Nickens
Crystal Nicola
Joyce Braithwaite
Families of Children, Youth &
Young Adults with Special Needs
Pat York
Rick Bean
Jim Butler
Kim Levy James
Estella Noelle James
Brad Metheny
Bob Weber
Dave Weir
Taylor Eadie & Family
Barton Goodeve
Isaiah Truman

Matthew Chicklo
Paul Ferrante
Tamatha Hasse
Tracie Martin
Gary & Donna Crawford
Charles Thomas
Emilie Roberts
Kate Beaman
Dianna DeWitt
Gloria Trabes
Lee Ruple
Doug Sensabaugh
Jill Waryu
Reed Dailey
Claire Judy
Mary Ann Johnson
Tom Ganoe
Thelma Cameron
Susan Lee
Russell Brink
Disaster Relief Agencies
Terry Payne

Dick Crane
Nathan Windle
Kes Mersha
Heather Leake
Mary Flagg
Ashley Tiberio
Ed Duetsch
Robbie Richman
Deana Shade
Cherie Wubbe
Larissa Strosnider
Megan McCord
Frances Pitcock
Jane Lewis
Doug Koch
Illubabor Bethel Synod of
Church Mekane Yesus
Rachel & Michael Weller
Doug Dicks

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY SERVICE

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

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. Those serving communion today at 8:30 are: Debbie & Bill Bender, Peggy Gruenther, Larry Donovan, Robin Owens, Graham Taylor and Vicki Schmidt Crites. Those serving communion today at 11:00 are: Bill Deck, Susan Ritter, Jerry Metheny, Allison Blake, John Hess, Kirsta Weber and Mitch Orndorff.

ATTENDANCE, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30TH:

8:30—82

Mission Morning—27

11:00—97

SERVANTS IN MINISTRY

8:30

Bell Ringer: Mo Mohler
Hospitality: Debbie & Bill Bender
Liturgist: Pat Williams
Ushers: Vicki Schmidt Crites, Graham Taylor, Natalie Youngblood

11:00

Hospitality: Martha Fulton, Kirsta Weber
Liturgist: Katherine Newhouse
Livestream: Joel Witt
Nametags: Pat deButts
Ushers: Al Owens, Annemarie Matthews, Travis Morgan

PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH CONNECTION GRADES 6-12

- **TODAY**-High Schoolers will meet with college-age students from 12:30-2:30 pm to hear about what post-graduation life is like. Come with questions and receive some advice. Lunch provided. No meeting for middle school.
- **January 13**-Let's make a meal! 11:00 am-1:30 pm, in the Fellowship Hall. Make a full meal for your family during the 11 o'clock service. We will serve them when worship ends.

ORDINATION, INSTALLATION, & COMMISSIONING OF NEW OFFICERS

Next Sunday, January 13, 2019 - 11:00 am
Ruling Elders - Bill Deck, Carole Fox, Al Owens,
Lance Pearce, Jim Youngblood
Deacons - Alyce Callahan, Bill Martin, Graham Taylor
Trustee - Mac McNichols

Join us as we celebrate the joy of serving Christ!
Celebration Reception Following Worship

OLDER ADULT MINISTRY TEAM MEETING

The Older Adult Ministry Team meets tomorrow morning at 9:30 am in the Bageant Room. With 2019 upon us, we will review plans in place for Happy Days programs and special trips and discuss new ideas and possibilities. This meeting is open to all older adults. Morning goodies and coffee are served along with a dose of daily cheer.

HAPPY DAYS GATHERING ON WEDNESDAY

Opequon's older adult fellowship group is known as "Happy Days", which meets once a month for a covered dish lunch and program, all beginning at noon. This Wednesday is Happy Days day, at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Come enjoy the spirit and great times together. Bring a favorite covered dish lunch item. Lunch will be followed by Guest Speaker, Brandon Thomas from the Rescue Mission. He will be sharing updates on the Men's Rescue Mission and goals for the new Women's Shelters. If you are able, you are invited to bring rolls of toilet paper that support our Motel Ministry.

CHILD SAFETY POLICY INFORMATION 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. 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.

GOOD NEWS IS OUR TO TELL!

Our annual Christmas project, the “Ty Headley Tree of Warmth,” fulfilled and exceeded its goal for the 10th time in the past 12 years! Because of your generous support, this year, **1,103** blankets will cover our community, nation, and world through the **\$5,517.01** donated to Church World Service. Thank you, thank you, thank you! Blanket remembrance booklets are available on the chest in the back of the Sanctuary.

APPLE BLOSSOM PRAYER BRUNCH

Through our Older Adult Ministry, we are sponsoring an outing to the annual Apple Blossom Prayer Brunch on Thursday, May 2, at 11:00 am. The event will be held at the Shenandoah University Event Center and participants will provide their own transportation. There are **three spaces** still available. Would you like a seat at OPC’s reserved tables? Sign up on the sheet found in the Gathering Area Kiosk or let Carole Witt know ASAP (see her in person, email her at dce@opequonchurch.org, or call 662-1843). Tickets are \$25 a person; all payment for tickets is due to Carole by January 9.

2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Offering envelopes are now available in the hallway leading to the parking lot in the rear of the building. If you want to use envelopes and don’t see a box with your name on it, please contact Cathy Richard at 540-662-1843 or office@opequonchurch.org. If you are interested in giving electronically through your financial institution’s bill pay system, please let Cathy know so she can issue you a different number.

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 in the Gathering Area following both 8:30 and 11:00 worship services.

WORSHIP NOTES AND REFLECTIONS

Notes on Today's Music

How did the music this morning express signs of God's presence and revelation?

Notes on Today's Prayers

Notes on Today's Children's Conversation

Why is the star important?

Notes on Today's Scripture and Sermon

How does the mystery, wonder, and majesty of Christ's birth continue on past Christmas?

What is Epiphany about?

What difference does God's revelation make?

Overwhelmed with joy, kneeling down and paying homage to the Christ Child, the wise men open their treasure chests. What does their offering mean?

What kind of gifts may we offer to Christ?

How does Epiphany point us forward?