

OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

217 Opequon Church Lane, Winchester, VA 22602

540-662-1843

www.opequonchurch.org

society action service
business volunteerism honor change compassion youth group
communities nonprofit vibrant senior love skills program

volunteers

build service connections volunteer
hope diverse Thank You

family thanks heart prosperous difference
preparedness community retired

mission corporate celebrate
traditional emergency HandsOn
friends
actionaction



OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

217 Opequon Church Lane
Winchester, VA 22602

www.opequonchurch.org

540-662-1843

office@opequonchurch.org

<i>Pastor</i>	David R. Witt
<i>Associate Pastor</i>	Julia H. Burkley
<i>Parish Associate</i>	Tracie Martin
<i>Church Office Administrator</i>	Rachel Lesink
<i>Church Finance Administrator</i>	Ken Smiy
<i>Director of Christian Education</i>	Carole Witt
<i>Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries</i>	Rebekah Witt
<i>Director of Music</i>	Susan Homan
<i>Organist</i>	William Heavner
<i>Facilities Coordinator</i>	Robert Sydnor
<i>Nursery Supervisor</i>	Laurie Carver
<i>Faith Community Nurses</i>	Bill Martin, Mike Nutry, Pat Williams

To reach a staff member or if a pastoral concern arises, contact the church office or note who is out of the office and email one of the pastors directly and we will respond in a timely manner.

INFORMATION FOR OUR GUESTS

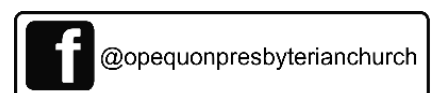
To get the most out of your visit, may we recommend you familiarize yourself with the following:

- **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 four.
- **Worship Bags are available for children ages 3 – kindergarten.** These bags are in the back of the Sanctuary. Please return the bag and supplies to the basket when you are leaving.
- **Restrooms and a coat rack** are located off the Gathering Area, just outside the Sanctuary.
- **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.

Access our Online Giving at
www.opequonchurch.org/giving
or scan the QR code here:



Follow us on Facebook:



A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Reformation Sunday

October 27, 2024 – 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Volunteer Appreciation Sunday; 4 Cents A Meal

***Thank you for taking the time to silence your phones before we begin the Worship Service.**

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

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

† = All who are able, please stand.

Bold print = All in unison.

✠ WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME ✠

PRELUDE.....*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

Arranged by: Lani Smith

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

ENTRANCE OF THE WORD & THE LIGHT

THE CHURCH BELL RINGS

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

†GATHERING SONG.....*You Are My Hiding Place*

***You are my hiding place.**

You always fill my heart with songs of deliverance,

whenever I am afraid, I will trust in you, I will trust in you.

Let the weak say, "I am strong in the strength of the Lord." [* repeat]

"I will trust in you."

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, take refuge in the Lord, for God is good.

From the storms and struggles of life we come to take refuge.

Come, rejoice in the Lord, for God will provide peace for you.

From fear and anxiety, we come to find peace.

Come, open your hearts to the Lord and you will be blessed.

Thanks be to God for the many ways in which we are blessed. Amen and Amen.

†OPENING HYMN No. 620.....*Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to his feet your tribute bring;

ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore his praises sing:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

**Praise him for his grace and favor to his people in distress;
praise him still the same as ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness.**

**Father-like, he tends and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows;
in his hands he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely yet his mercy flows.**

**Angels, help us to adore him; you behold him face to face.
Sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and
space:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.**

(Please be seated for prayer.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

The God of mercy hears our cries. Let us confess our failings and needs to each other and to the one who commands us to come and be healed.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We think that we want to be healed of our blindness, gracious God, but actually we have become so comfortable in our darkness that we fear the light. It is as though we are living in a cave, and rather than take a risk to face the light, we prefer to face the dark wall. Give us courage to take risks which will result in not only our own transformation, but also the transformation opportunities for others. Forgive our stubborn insistence on living in darkness. Take our hands and lead us to the light.

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Turn and see the light of God's love. It is lavished upon you. You have been healed and made whole in God's love. Be at peace and rejoice!

LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

†RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 610 (v. 1, 2) *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

**O for a thousand tongues to sing my dear Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of God's grace!**

**The name of Jesus charms our fears, and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears, brings life, and health, and peace.**

†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..... *God is Our Refuge and Strength*

By: Allen Pote

God is our refuge and strength; a present help in time of trouble. Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though the waters roar and foam, we will not fear. Come and behold the work of the Lord, the awesome acts of God. He is in the midst of his people, in all the earth. He is the Word, we are his hands, He will lead us. He is the air, we are his song. We will celebrate his presence all the day long. He is the rain, we are the stones, He will cleanse us. He is the air, we are his song, We will celebrate his presence all the day long. God is our refuge and strength. A present help in time of trouble. Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though the waters roar and foam, we will not fear. We will not fear. We will not fear. We will not fear.

THE READING OF GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Job 42:1-6, 10-17.....Pew Bible p. 424

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Mark 10:46-52.....Pew Bible p. 823

CONVERSATION WITH ALL AGES..... "We Are the Church"

Nursery (Infants – Age 4)

"VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR"

†HYMN No. 442*Just As I Am, without One Plea*

**Just as I am, without one plea
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou biddest me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come; I come!**

**Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come; I come!**

**Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come; I come!**

**Just as I am, thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down;
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come; I come!**

☞ **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD** ☞

OFFERING OF TITHES & GIFTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC..... *Just As I Am*
Arranged by: Mark Hayes

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

Holy God, bless our offerings with healing that comes from your work and our hands, heart, and feet. We give with joy and thanks for what we have, in the name of Jesus, our Savior and Healer. Amen.

NEW MEMBER RECEPTION & RECOGNITION (8:30 AM)

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** ☞

†CLOSING HYMN No. 275..... *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

**A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.
Our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe.
His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.**

**Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,
were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he.
Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.**

**And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.
The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him.
His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure.
One little word shall fell him.**

**That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth.
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also.
The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still.
His kingdom is forever.**

†CHARGE & BLESSING

†CLOSING RESPONSE No. 748..... *Go with Us, Lord*

**Go with us, Lord, and guide the way
through this and every coming day,
that in your Spirit strong and true
our lives may be our gift to you.**

†POSTLUDE

WELCOME TO THE OPEQUON FAMILY

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER! (8:30 AM)

We rejoice today as we welcome Dale Anderson to the Opequon Church family. May God bless and enrich her life as we share the journey of faith and service together. Please reach out and welcome Dale.

NOTES ON TODAY'S MUSIC

This morning's prelude dates from the early years of the Protestant Reformation and was authored by the great reformer, Martin Luther. The text is based on the opening lines of Psalm 46, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." On this Reformation Sunday, it is very fitting that the organ and piano together lead us into worship with this "Battle Hymn of the Reformation." As the service concludes, all voices join, sending us forth with this same powerful hymn. The offertory, in contrast to the boldness of the prelude and closing hymn, is quiet and introspective – at first. The reflective opening develops from a prayer of surrender to an affirmation and celebration of acceptance.



SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given by Kitty Bird, Jackie, Shannon, Megan, Nicholas, and Griffin in loving memory of Kitty Bonnett Hockman, "Meme." We miss you every day!!! You were such a wonderful great grandmother – grandmother – and mother – a wonderful 98 years – always smiling and never complained and a lady of great faith.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Tracie Martin	Verna Saar	Kourtney Haake
Stephen Armstrong & Lori Jones	Terry Cornwell	Jackie Witt
Tim & Kathy Hoffman	Cathy Jones	End to Gun Violence
Bill Robinson	Luther George	Tim Loftis
Heidi McMurdo & Family	Nora Coryell	Richard & Pat Young
Quick Family	Art & Wendy Littman	Nancy Roberts
Chelsea, Lafe, Judie	Hurricane Helene	Al & May Schollenberger
Terry McKay & Family	All First Responders	Clay Knick
Marge Higgins	Elmer Denmon	Nathan Windle
Zack Skrocki	Gail Crane	Those Suffering from Mental Illness
Lynne Rosamilia	Rick Ours	Roger Murphy
Krista Bowen	Clay	June Windle
Katie Geris	Rob Alkire	Mike Shade
Robby Fletcher	Tim G	Jewish & Muslim Victims Worldwide
Amanda & Alex Bock	Katie Happel	José LaMont Jones
Crystal Baker	Jean Smith	Cindy Correll
Marty Neely	Jeannie Wright	Douglas Dicks
Conner & Sarah Rinehart Berson	Matthew Ours	Rich Valenti
Todd Bennett	Cora Helen Anderson	Nancy Kerns
Linda Bock	Jeannie Rathman	Kennedy Ransom
Jace Hartman	Bettye Stirn	Ukraine
Selena Littman	Tom Homan	Ethiopia Church Mekane
Hurricane Milton	Bereaved Israelites & Palestinians	Yesus
	Curt Budny	

🌀 PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY & THEIR FAMILIES 🌀

Cameron Andrew Veach, Kayleen Paquette, Kelly Klimek, Jacob & Tiffani Peoples, Sawyer Phillips, Joshua Blake, Max Crane, Andrew Crane, Thomas Crane, Jacob Heavner, Samuel & Julia Phillips, Brandon Michael, Michael White, Ben Jensen, Gavin Eanes

SCHEDULE & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THIS WEEK

TODAY – October 27

Reformation Sunday; Volunteer Appreciation Sunday; 4 Cents A Meal

- 8:30 AM Worship – Sanctuary & Livestream
9:45 AM GIFT Event – Memorial Sanctuary
11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary
12:15 AM Chili Cook-Off – Fellowship Hall
5:45 PM Youth Hayride & Pumpkin Carving – West Oaks (meet at OPC)

THIS WEEK

- Monday: 8:00 AM Roots & Shoots Garden Work
 5:00 PM LOGOS Leadership Team Meeting – Bageant Room
 6:00 PM Windsong – Sanctuary
 7:00 PM Sacred Spaces – Memorial Sanctuary
Tuesday: 9:30 AM Newsletter Mailing Assembly – Bageant Room
 1:30 PM Faith Practices – Bageant Room
Wednesday: 11:30 AM Staff Lunch
 4:30 PM LOGOS (Theme: Trunk or Treat Night)
 5:00 PM Trunk or Treat Event – Back Parking Lot
 7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary
Thursday: 10:30 AM Tai Chi – Picnic Shelter/Memorial Sanctuary
Saturday: * **Remember the time changes tonight!** *

NEXT SUNDAY – November 3

Daylight Savings Time Ends; All Saints' Sunday; Communion
Scriptures: Ruth 1:1-18, Mark 12:28-34 Sermon: "The Bottom Line"



- 8:30 AM Worship – Sanctuary & Livestream
9:45 AM Faith Formation – Bageant Room
9:45 AM Opie's Playhouse – Memorial Sanctuary
9:45 AM Kitchen Focus Group – Fellowship Hall
11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary

IT'S TIME FOR THE CHILI COOK-OFF!

Be sure to bring your appetite to our annual Chili Cook-Off **TODAY** at **12:15 PM** in the Fellowship Hall and enjoy an assortment of chili with all the fixins', cornbread, desserts, and drinks with our OPC family and friends!

STAFF SCHEDULING NOTES

- October 28-30: Julia Burkley – Continuing Education
October 28-30: Rebekah Witt – Vacation
November 1-2: David & Carole Witt – Out of Town

GIFT EVENT – TODAY @ 9:45 AM (Memorial Sanctuary)

GIFT means "Generations in Faith Together" as all ages come together one Sunday a month for a themed intergenerational experience. The theme this month is "**The Good for Nothing Tree.**" This inspiring and hopeful children's book focuses on how sometimes we are ready to give up on something and other times we love something/someone so much that we are patient enough to see what happens! Come enjoy some warm cinnamon buns, fruit, and cereal, along with this tender story, some thought-provoking conversation, and some good old plain FUN. Your day is bound to be enriched by your time at GIFT.

TRUNK & TREAT EVENT

Trunk and Treat is a fun, safe way to celebrate the Halloween holiday. This year, a Trunk and Treat Event is being held within the LOGOS evening on **October 30, 5:00 – 6:00 PM**, in the back parking lot (weather permitting) LOGOS children and youth will be part of this event and it is ALSO OPEN to any other children and grandchildren of OPC! Come enjoy the creative themes of each trunk, fun games, many treats and music. Costumes on children are welcome. Please no gory or violent related costumes. Questions? Ask Carole Witt.

OPIE'S PLAYHOUSE MEETS NEXT SUNDAY

Opie's Playhouse will meet next **Sunday, November 3, 9:45 AM – 10:45 AM**, in the **Memorial Sanctuary**. This is a time of fun and fellowship planned especially for our families with young children. We will have toys and games for children elementary age and under and snacks/drinks for all. You may also drop your children off at Opie's Playhouse for an hour of supervised playtime while you attend Sunday morning Adult Faith Formation classes. We hope you will come play with us!

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL WRITINGS NEEDED

We have been authoring our OWN Advent Devotionals for MANY years. They are treasured collections of the thoughts of Opequon's people and a **true gift to the congregation**. It is time for us to begin preparing for this year's devotional. Our theme for this devotional is "ADVENT PRAYERS" and uses the key words of HOPE – JOY – PEACE – LOVE for readings throughout the four weeks of Advent. Would you be willing to write a PRAYER for Advent focusing on one of the four key words? You are invited to do so. Please let Carole Witt know (dce@opequonchurch.org). All writings are due to Carole by **November 15**.

THANKSGIVING BANANA BOXES ARE HERE!

Banana boxes are in the hallways and on the porch! Help us fill them with donations of Thanksgiving food for families in need. Each box contains a list of items needed and more details. Filled boxes should be returned by **Sunday, November 17**. Bless you and thank you for helping those in need!

THANKSGIVING FEAST FOOD DONATIONS NEEDED

The annual Thanksgiving Feast will be on **Sunday, November 17**, for our whole congregation. Our Opequon Youth host this event and appreciate your help in donating items needed for a Thanksgiving meal. Please visit the sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area. As the Youth serve you a full turkey dinner on the day of the Feast, they appreciate your monetary donations that will go completely towards their Christmas service project, Midnight Gladness, which supports families during the holidays. Plan to come and be a part of this great time of gratitude. No need to make a reservation. Questions? Contact Rebekah Witt (rwitt@opequonchurch.org).

OPC T-SHIRT ORDERS

Here at OPC, we often say "we strive to be the hands, heart, and feet of Christ." In addition to the many ways in which we demonstrate that daily, we now have the opportunity to proclaim that motto on a much-asked-for OPC shirt. Thanks to Pastor Julia's design efforts, we can place orders for matching light blue t-shirts. The shirts are available in Youth XS to Adult 4XL sizes. Size samples and order forms are in the Gathering Area. You may also order online: <https://forms.gle/Yh1yqzPUcuK8gbPb6>. The actual cost will be determined by the total number of shirts ordered, but is expected to be between \$15 and \$22. The order deadline is **November 31**. What a great way to advertise our growing church and its core values! Please email Ben Brooks (bbrooks@wcps.k12.va.us) with any questions.

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR HURRICANE RELIEF

Upon the recommendation of our Mission Team and approval of Session, a special offering for Hurricane Relief has been authorized. All monies will be directed to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), the agency of our church that provides direct relief to victims. PDA focuses on Pray, Act, Give. We are praying; we are acting by sending 35 personal hygiene kits to Church World Service; and we are giving through this offering and through the \$2,100 that Mission has approved from its budget for relief. **Please use the white special offering envelopes that are found in the pews and mark all checks to be designated for this offering with 'Hurricane Relief.'** Gifts may also be contributed online. Thank you for helping those in need.

OPC NURSERY HELP

The Personnel Team is looking for someone who would be willing to be a back-up team member for the nursery in case Laurie or Alicia are out sick or are on vacation. This would be an hourly-paid position when you are filling in on Sunday mornings, from 8:00 AM until after the 11:00 AM service, and only when needed. If there are no children for the 11:00 AM service, then nursery staff may leave. If you have any questions or are interested or know someone who may be interested in the position, contact Shannon Brannon (jsbrannon@comcast.net or 540-539-3269).

WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR TODAY

8:30 AM Worship

Liturgist: Ellen Cunningham

Beadle: Tom Tandy

Door Greeters: Mike & Trish Crawford, Tom & Rhoda Tandy

Hospitality Greeters: Bill & Debbie Bender

Ushers: Betty Chicklo, June Malone, Alyce Callahan, Mason Vandertoorn

Acolyte: Mason Vandertoorn

Bell Ringer: Mo Mohler

Livestream: Susan Ritter, Brad Jordan

Building Stewards: Steve & Heather Burton

11:00 AM Worship

Liturgist: Sara Gomez

Beadle: Ron Smith

Door Greeters: Sara Gomez, Bonnie Pitzer

Hospitality Greeters: Ben Brooks

Ushers: Annemarie Matthews, Brent Miller, Dennis Boyd, Adelyn Astorino, Aubrey Astorino, Greer Birchenough

Acolyte: Adelyn Astorino

WORSHIP NOTES & REFLECTIONS

Notes on Today's Music

✂ How does our music today witness to God as our refuge and strength?

Notes on Today's Prayers

✂ Where will you focus your prayers this week? For yourself? For others? For the world?

Notes on Today's Conversation with All Ages

✂ How are you a part of the church and the hands, heart, and feet of Jesus?

Notes on Today's Scripture and Sermon

✂ How does the hymn, "Just As I Am," speak to you?

✂ How do you acknowledge your need for God?

✂ How do you respond to Jesus' question, "What do you want me to do for you?"

✂ What particular vision do you seek? What do you want to understand?

✂ When you see and understand, how will that insight pull you closer to following Jesus?

✂ Where do we discover who we really are?

The following songs are reprinted / streamed with permission obtained from CCLI with Church Copyright License® #1622560 and CCLI Streaming Plus License™ #CSPL142660:

"Go with Us, Lord" Mary Jackson Cathey, Thomas Tallis. Words: © 1990 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved.

"You Are My Hiding Place" Michael Ledner © 1981 CCCM Music; Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing. All rights reserved.

The following songs are reprinted / podcast / streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #742171:

"A Mighty Fortress" Martin Luther, arr. Lani Smith © 2013 Lorenz Publishing Co., a division of the Lorenz Corporation. All rights reserved.

"God is Our Refuge" Allen Pote, Jay Johnson © Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved.

"Just As I Am, Without One Plea" William B. Bradbury, arr. Mark Hayes © 2013 Lorenz Publishing Co., a division of The Lorenz Corporation. All rights reserved.

"Just as I Am, without One Plea" Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1834; Music: William Batchelder Bradbury, 1849; harm. The Hymnbook, 1955 © 1955, ren. 1983 John Ribble (admin. Westminster John Knox Press). All rights reserved.

All other music for this service is found in the public domain.