

# OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



**August 25, 2019  
8:30 & 11:00 am  
“We Choose Love”**

**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 Faith Formation class each week.** Faith Formation Educational Hour is held at 9:45 am each Sunday September through May. 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](http://www.opequonchurch.org)

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
Lisa Sorrentino-Miller-----	Finance Administrator
Robert Sydnor-----	Sexton
Carole Witt-----	Director of Christian Education
Rebekah Witt-----	Youth & Young Adult Director



SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD  
August 25, 2019  
8:30 & 11:00 am  
Christian Education Sunday  
The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

THE CHURCH BELL RINGS

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Who Trusts in God Strong Abode* ..... Arr. Martin

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.**

ENTRANCE OF THE WORD AND THE LIGHT

GATHERING SONG NO. 750 ..... *Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil*

†CALL TO WORSHIP (written by Thom M. Shuman, pastor of Opequon Church, 1987-1990)

Even when we encounter people who are mean, dishonest, and hateful

**We are called to respond with that love which is true and sincere.**

God calls us to love all people as if they are our sisters and brothers,

**For God seeks to weave us into one family, tearing down all the barriers between us.**

No matter how weary we become from our loneliness, our struggles, our service,

**God challenges us to be patient, to rejoice, and to never stop praying.**

Why should we do all these things?

**Because we are God's people, called to lives that are different, and which make a difference!**

†HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 372 ..... *O for a World*

(Please be seated for prayer)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus Christ overcame evil with good so that all people might be saved from sin. Let us then confess our need for grace, confident of God's forgiveness.

## UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we hear your words, trust your promises, yet still shy away from acting with boldness, witnessing with confidence, speaking with kindness. We pass by the homeless, avoid the eyes of a street person, and shrug our shoulders at another killing. We keep our faith hidden, our prayers personal, our voices quiet, and our love restrained. Empowering God, fill us with joy in believing and with confidence in living so we may bear your light to all who are troubled or haunted by fear. Let nothing keep us from walking as faithful followers.

## MOMENTS OF SILENT PRAYER

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Jesus took up his cross for our salvation. In return for our old life of sin, he promises a new life of grace. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

### LITANY OF PARDON

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

†THE RESPONSE OF PRAISE NO. 441 ..... *Hear the Good News of Salvation*

†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

SPECIAL MUSIC..... *They’ll Know We Are Christians*

Bill Bayliss, William Heavner, Susan Homan, Lori Jones, David Witt, Jennie Wright  
Garrett Jones, pianist

### THE READING OF GOD’S WORD:

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Micah 6:6-8.....Pew Bible p. 757

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Romans 12:9-21.....Pew Bible p. 922

A SPECIAL TIME WITH CHILDREN.....“Following the Guidelines”

Nursery (Ages Infant - Age 3)

†HYMN NO. 729..... *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*

SERMON .....“Marks of the True Christian”

Pastor David R. Witt

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

### OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

#### OFFERTORY

*'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus*..... Arr. Sorenson  
(quoting *I Surrender All*)

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

#### †LITANY FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND LIFE-LONG LEARNING

There is one body and one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Creator of all...

**We give thanks for faith nurtured and nourished in this church.**

The gifts God gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers...

**We give thanks for all these gifts. Today we give special thanks for our teachers, all who love us, all who challenge and nurture us, and all who guide us in growing and learning; all who themselves are challenged to grow and learn; and all who support the teaching ministry of this covenant community.**

Teachers/Leaders: We commit ourselves to this calling. We invite God's Spirit to equip and energize us for service. Embed in our hearts and minds the capacity for discernment and wisdom. We dedicate ourselves to developing relationships of shalom in our classrooms. We open ourselves to learn from those we teach and lead. We will meditate on God's word, love generously, dream passionately, persevere boldly, and share the stories of the faith.

**Congregation: Help us to affirm and support our teachers and all who nurture and lead through our educational ministry.**

**O God, we remember our role as lifelong learners and seekers of the faith. We give thanks for all those who support the teaching and learning that takes place through our congregation. Be with all - children, youth, and adults - who will be participating this year in our mission of "prayerfully equipping disciples of all generations to be Christ's hands, heart, and feet in the world." Bless our times of study so that we may grow in faith. Bless our times of fellowship so that we may truly live as sisters and brothers in Christ in this covenant community. Bless our times of prayer and worship so that we may be enriched in our spirits and go forth and serve all people and creation. Amen.**

Based on A Litany of Blessing and Commissioning, Oakhurst Baptist Church, Decatur, Georgia, Tom Denham

# PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

## WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME

†HYMN NO. 749 ..... *Come! Live in the Light!*

†CHARGE AND BLESSING

†CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 205 ..... *Live in Charity*

**Live in charity and steadfast love.**

**Live in charity; God will dwell with you.**

†POSTLUDE

## THE SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given by the Metheny family in honor and in appreciation of all educators and students as the 2019-2020 school year begins.

### The RALLY DAY 'GIFT' EVENT!

A favorite day in the life of the church is often RALLY DAY. Come see for yourself why this is true!

**Today, 9:45 am** when we celebrate with the theme-

### **FRUIT FOR ALL**

Children, youth, adults will be sharing in one fantastic time-

**\*Enjoy Fruit Kabobs, Fruit cup, Fruit Juice, and Muffins!**

**\*See 'Fruit Illusions', Fruit Mazes, & *Stick-to-It* Fruit Competition.**

**\*Explore what it means to bear good fruit; John 15:1-8.**

**\**Fruitful* table conversations and blessings.**



## STAFF SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

Please note that Carole and David Witt will be out of the office traveling on Thursday, returning on Friday. Tracie Martin will be away from Friday through Labor Day.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
August 25-September 1, 2019

**TODAY**

8:30 am: Morning Worship, Four Cents a Meal, Fair Trade Coffee  
9:45 am: Rally Day "GIFT" Event—Fellowship Hall  
11:00 am: Morning Worship, Four Cents a Meal, Fair Trade Coffee  
12:30 pm: Motel Ministry  
4:30 pm: Newcomers' Social—Fellowship Hall

**THIS WEEK**

Monday: FEAST Group—6:00 pm—Fellowship Hall  
Sing! Shenandoah—6:00 pm—Sanctuary  
Tuesday: Hands & Hearts—10:30 am—Assembly Room  
Highland Food Pantry—5:30 pm  
Visioning Team—7:00 pm—Bageant Room  
Wednesday: Bereavement Group—10:00 am—Assembly Room  
TVOR Lunch—12:00 Noon  
Choir Practice—7:00 pm—Sanctuary  
Thursday: Tai Chi—1:00 pm—Gathering Area  
Saturday: Jubilee Kitchen—10:00 am—First Presbyterian Church

**NEXT SUNDAY**

Morning Worship—8:30 & 11:00 am  
Faith Formation Classes for All Ages—9:45 am  
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16, Luke 14:1, 7-14  
Sermon: "Welcome to the Table"  
Communion, CCAP Offering

**ATTENDANCE, SUNDAY, AUGUST 19<sup>TH</sup>:**  
8:30—95    11:00—106

## PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

John Hess	Katie Teets	Helen Potter
Augie	Vicki Earnshaw	Ed & Esther Duetsch
Joseph Burton	Bryce Newlin	Steve Bock
Marj Praml	Shirley Williams	Frances Pitcock
Amanda Fletcher	Shannon Conner	Women & Children of Domestic Violence
Helen	Casey Carr	Families of Children, Youth & Young Adults with Special Needs
Sally Robinson Family	Nancy Kerns	Jim Butler
Jesse Montgomery	Ted Reed	Tamatha Hasse
Rick Myer	Barbara Branson	Tom Ganoe
Anne Brown	Scott Jackson	Disaster Relief Agencies
Jon & Judy Smith	Julia Pugh	Nathan Windle
Cindy Weeks	Martha McCracken	Kes Mersha
Katie & Cora Saunders	Bill Ralston	Heather Leake
Colin Hunter	Daniel Crites	Megan McCord
Greg Schmidt	TK Tandy III	Jane Lewis
El Paso & Dayton Shootings	Jennie Wright	Doug Koch
Cathy Dillow	Dan Thompson	Illubabor Bethel Synod of Church Mekane Yesus
Eugene Garrett	Division in Our Country	Rachel & Michael Weller
Trip	Cliff and Jane Rodgester	Doug Dicks
Karen Jones	Isaiah Truman	
Brad Metheny	Phil Pingley	
Charlie Clevenger	Joe Lingo	
Destiny	Edgar Tufts	
Steven	Brad Treece	
Gilroy & Brooklyn Shootings	Connie & Libby Burch	

## PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY SERVICE

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

LET'S CELEBRATE TOGETHER!

### **NEWCOMERS' SOCIAL**

TODAY - 4:30 pm – Fellowship Hall

Refreshments & Fellowship Honoring You!  
All New Members from 2018-2019 are invited!  
Sponsored by our Evangelism Team

## LOGOS REGISTRATION IS AVAILABLE TODAY!

Registration is available for our upcoming 22<sup>nd</sup> year of LOGOS at Opequon set to begin September 18. Take advantage of “Early Bird Registration” with a discounted fee through the month of August when including a payment of at least ½ of the fees. Stop by the LOGOS display in the Gathering Area for easy, speedy registration. Look for the “SHINE JESUS SHINE” signs that reflect our theme for the upcoming year. GO LOGOS!

## SERVANTS IN MINISTRY

8:30

Acolyte: Brayden Rockwell  
Beadle: June Malone  
Bell Ringers: Mo Mohler  
Greeters: Julie & Lance Pearce  
Hospitality: Betty Chicklo, June Malone  
Liturgist: Melissa Youngblood  
Ushers: Emma Abell, Mike Butler, Bailey Rockwell,  
Brayden Rockwell, Sherry Schryver, John Winn

11:00

Acolyte: Lucas Brown  
Beadle: Susanna Shade  
Bell Ringers: Breanna Daggett, Wyatt Deck, Kat Kibler  
Greeters: Susie Cherry, Grace & Sid Eadie  
Hospitality: Carole Fox, Ethan Schwantes  
Liturgist: Cora Helen Anderson  
Livestream: Rebekah Witt  
Nametags: Kail Barbe  
Ushers: Joshua Brown, Lucas Brown, Garrett Dantro,  
Jim Horner, Keith McMurdo, Joe Seaton

## COMMUNITY GARDEN NEWS

We are celebrating many successes this growing season - an amazing insectary, a ton of learning as we meet every new challenge that comes our way, and many new volunteers from the congregation as well as from community organizations. We are grateful to Miss Kitty at Hedgebrook Farm. We are grateful that Mission Ministry donated \$1,000 to the farm to purchase freon for the walk-in cooler. We are grateful to have harvested almost 750 pounds so far this year. While we are very thankful for everything that has happened so far, we are still looking forward to the rest of the season. We are currently in the process of creating the SeedMoney campaign page and will need help sharing it once the campaign starts on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Keep an eye out for all the exciting things happening in the garden and ways to get involved!

## NEW EDUCATIONAL YEAR SET TO BEGIN

With the kickoff of our new educational year this morning during Rally Day, classes are set to begin on Sunday, September 8 at 9:45 am. We are pleased to offer a children's class, confirmation and a variety of intergenerational classes open to youth and adults. Find your own niche!

- ❖ **Children's Class: for Preschool-5<sup>th</sup> Grade** Children are engaged in exciting Bible stories that reveal God's grace for us all. Interactive activities, singing and prayer, all shared with warm hospitality for ages 4 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. This class meets in Classroom #3 and uses Growing In Grace & Gratitude curriculum.
- ❖ **Confirmation Class** Confirmation Class is held for 8<sup>th</sup> graders and older youth. A team of leaders build strong relationships with these young people, sharing in relevant experiences that dig into what faith is all about. This class meets in Classroom #2. Materials for discussions come from Theocademy and Professing our Faith.
- ❖ **Hands-Heart-Feet Class** meets in the Memorial Sanctuary. They come together inside the building for study and discussion and go out to serve with hands-on mission work in the community. For study times, they will use videos from the NOOMA series.
- ❖ **The Spiritual Growth Class** meets in the Bageant Room. This class will be studying the following: The Path to the Cross to discover how faith prepares the way for Jesus & his ultimate obedience & sacrifice. Following this study will be Love Carved in a Stone: a fresh look at the Ten Commandments.
- ❖ **"Living Our Faith: An Adult Confirmation Class"** meets in the Assembly Room. In response to many requests, we will now have a confirmation class for adults! This multigenerational class will use confirmation materials, along with other resources that focus on living out our faith through daily discipleship. Special Advent and Lenten studies will be featured.
- ❖ **Micah 6:8 Class** meets in the Fellowship Hall. Micah 6:8 calls for us to, "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God." What does that look like in our local community and world today? Grounded in scripture, we will have the opportunity to explore the biblical mandate for justice.

## YOUNG ADULTS AGES 18-35

On Saturday, August 31-Let's hit the trail and go for a hike! Pack a lunch, water, and good shoes. Meet at church by 7:30 am so we can carpool.

## PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH CONNECTION GRADES 6-12

Sunday, September 8-Youth Families Kickoff in the Pitcock Memorial Shelter from 5:00-7:00 pm. Pork BBQ and dessert will be provided. Please bring a side dish to share. There will be a corn hole competition and details will be shared about the upcoming youth year. The whole family is invited to join!

### Healthy Eating



**Sunday, September 8**

Presented by Barbara Butler, Dietitian  
OPC Fellowship Hall  
12:15 pm - 1:30 pm  
Lunch Provided

### *Faith Community Nurses*

Patty Klinefelter  
Bill Martin



## WORSHIP NOTES AND REFLECTIONS

### Notes on Today's Music

How did our music this morning witness to Christ's call to me?

### Notes on Today's Prayers

How did today's prayers strengthen you as a Christian and reflect that "we choose love?"

### Notes on Today's Conversation with Children

Where can I follow Paul's guidelines?

### Notes on Today's Scripture and Sermon

Where did the "we choose love" theme originate?

What are the "marks of a true Christian" described in Romans 12?

Why might the apostle Paul have chosen to write this advice in a letter circulated to Christians in the early Church?

How do we believe, as Christians, we overcome evil?

How do we hold fast to what is good?

What can I do each week to show that I choose love? What can I do each day?