



# The Opequon Spirit

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

## JULY 2020

### WORSHIP IN JULY

9:00 am Livestreamed Worship

11:00 am Morning Worship

(Reservations Required-Restrictions Apply)

6:30 pm Outdoor Worship (WOW)

(July 12 and 26 – Restrictions Apply)

### PLEASE NOTE:

Our re-entry plan is all part of a trial period and experience – the Session, under the advisement of the Church Staff, Worship, Safety, and Health Teams may change the schedule, the details, or the restrictions at any time. **We strongly encourage those who are most compromised and those who are not able to adhere to the restrictions to stay home, stay safe, and worship with us through livestream.**

### July 5

Pre-Service Music Concert by William Heavner  
Genesis 24 (selected verses),  
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30  
Sermon: "Great Love Stories"  
Home Communion at 9:00 am

### July 12

Psalm 119:105-112  
Sermon: "A Walk in the Dark"  
(Outdoor Worship at 6:30 pm)

### July 19

Genesis 28:10-19a,  
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43  
Sermon: "Them and Us"

### JULY 26

Genesis 29:15-28, Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52  
Sermon: "A Treasure Hunt"  
Four Cents A Meal  
(Outdoor Worship at 6:30 pm)

### COLLECTING FOR CCAP



### SCHOOL SUPPLIES

### STAFF SCHEDULES THIS MONTH

Carole & David Witt -----July 10-19  
Vacation

### ONLINE GIVING ENHANCEMENTS COMING SOON

Improvements are coming soon to enhance the ability to give to OPC online. You'll be able to:

- Give to multiple funds (the list of available funds to which you can give will change throughout the liturgical year to include various Special Offerings).
- Pay by eCheck (ACH) or with a debit or credit card. An eCheck is a transfer directly from a checking or savings account.
- Give on a one-time basis or setup recurring payments
- Give by Text right from your phone

When these enhancements are ready to go, we'll let you know via email and bulletin announcements. In the meantime, online giving can still be done though the church website ([www.opequonchurch.org](http://www.opequonchurch.org)) and look for the Donate Now button on the home page.

## NOTES FROM THE PASTOR:

Dear Friends in Christ,

During the week of June 16, twenty different people joined together via ZOOM for our adult VBS class on Paul's letter to the Galatians. We enjoyed a simple Bible study of the six chapters of the letter; we didn't have a curriculum or a study book. I called it "Faith, Freedom, and Fruit." The conversation and interaction we shared each night was superb. We all have come a long way in understanding and using ZOOM, as this technology brought us together and helped us dig deeply into God's word to the Galatians, God's word to us, a word about faith, freedom, and fruit. We were reminded that the early Christians in the region of Galatia had lost sight of grace, were "devouring" each other and "spiritually beating each other up," and that the traditionalists had seized on the issue of circumcision as a requirement for faith in the living God. While God welcomed all, they set forth obstacles. So, the apostle Paul did not hesitate to write to them, to provide instruction and correction in no uncertain terms!

On our closing night, we explored chapters 5 and 6 of this formative letter. We discussed how the Spirit moves within us and among us and produces the fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. In chapter 6, Paul's summary and closing comments direct us, *"<sup>9</sup> So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. <sup>10</sup> So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith...<sup>14</sup> May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. <sup>15</sup> For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything!"*

In this difficult season of challenging days of virus and strife, of heartfelt introspection as individuals and a community, we hear these

words anew and afresh. That was quite evident as we discussed our current context considering the scriptures. We endure and persevere. We do what is right and do not give up. We work for the good of all and demonstrate care and concern for the community of faith. We get out of the way so the Spirit can move and produce fruit that will bring us together as a people. In looking at verse 15, we may replace circumcision or uncircumcision and fill in the blanks with any other words that divide us ("For neither \_\_\_\_\_ nor \_\_\_\_\_ is anything; but a new creation is everything!"). But, the key, the focus, is to keep "the main thing the main thing," to ground and center our lives on the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is working in this world, through messages and movements. Let's join God in this adventure of new creation.

I invite you to read and dig deeply into Galatians, my friends. These are powerful words for us today that will nurture faith, freedom, and fruit.

Together in Christ's Service,

*David*

Remember  
OPC  
in  
Your Will



### CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Please note: The Church Office will be closed on Monday, July 6<sup>th</sup> for the Independence Day holiday.

## JUST THINKIN'

Getting ready to re-enter the OPC sanctuary for worship and to begin some small efforts at in-building programming is turning out to be an exciting undertaking. Pastor David has long insisted that the Opequon Church never closed over COVID. He has been correct. We prove every day that the church is not limited to our building. OPC people are keeping in touch, calling each other, helping with grocery shopping, drive-by visiting, and I cannot even say what else - and have been since COVID became a serious concern. We can and should be proud of the ways this church is serving our community.

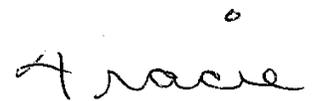
What, you say? I have not been delivering meals. I have not been doing this outreach. How can I be proud? Well, my friend, you are mistaken. While it is true that not all of us have been shoppers, delivered meals, or played the organ for live streaming, all of this has been a church-wide, prayer supported effort. Have you prayed for those who are driving? Do you support the church financially even though you are in the building less often? Have you looked at our grounds and thanked God for the people who continue to mulch and plant? Have you thanked someone for a Tuesday lunch? Have you been thankful in any way?

I think it is all too easy to see only those who are out in front as supporters of OPC. We are blessed with many who are happy to be the organizers, deliverers, and teachers. We are also, thank God, blessed with many who are willing to take direction, fold newsletters, and check on others. Many of these faithful people are less visible. What is important, however, is that we all are here, serving as we can. We all give what we have and somehow God provides the increase needed to keep things moving. I write daily emails. I would have run out of topics for these emails long ago if it were not for the many who write back with interesting stories, poems, and comments. Where would we have seen the "Singing Cousins," if Jim

Baccary had not shared that photo? Patricia Ferguson's poetry made me appreciate Memorial Day differently and she made me hungry for chocolate, although it doesn't take a lot of suggestion for me to want that sweet. All of this is supported by prayer. We do not know exactly who is praying or when, but we do know for sure that things would never be happening so well without them.

I have watched with interest and pride as this congregation has traversed this COVID time. Session has acted carefully and well. Their decisions have taken into consideration many opinions, which they carefully gathered. I am not aware of any other congregation being so inclusive where decision making is involved, and I am in touch with clergy all over the country.

We talk about OPC's radical welcome. When I discuss that, I generally am talking about welcoming guests and new folks. What I and possibly you, have been overlooking is the radical hospitality we are currently offering to each other. There will be a great need for that as we re-enter the sanctuary. The restrictions made necessary by COVID will be irritating. So far neither staff, nor Session, nor I have found means to avoid that. The joy of at least being in the sanctuary and waving at each other, however, will start a process that will eventually bring us back to something we can recognize and enjoy. Keep praying, my friends, this, too shall pass.



## SAFE CHURCH EDUCATION SESSION

The Laurel Center will present another Safe Church Education Session on July 12 at 12:15pm via Zoom. The topic is, "How Sexual Offenders Groom Children: What Every Adult Needs to Know." Parents, Staff, & Volunteers working with children/youth are encouraged to attend. Not suitable for younger children.

## **SESSION HIGHLIGHTS JUNE 16, 2020 STATED MEETING**

- The Session's June meeting was held via ZOOM.
- The Session spent considerable time discussing when and how to begin re-entry to in-person worship at Opequon. The discussion was informed by the responses to the telephone survey of the congregation, a variety of medical, governmental, and religious resources, and a joint meeting of the Worship, Health, Safety, and Congregational Care Ministries.
- The survey responses show that Opequon has a diverse congregation with diverse views. Session tried to take these views into consideration in developing a plan forward. This plan is described fully in a letter to the congregation which is reported in this newsletter.
- Instead of a picnic at the Community Garden this year, Session approved an "open house" with all safety precautions to be observed.
- Under current conditions, Session reluctantly withdrew its approval of the use of the church van for Camp Paddy Run transportation.
- Christian Education Ministry has delivered 40 "VBS in a Bin".
- The additional AED has arrived.
- Evangelism reported that the sign "You are now entering the Mission Field" as you leave the grounds, originally proposed by Dick Crane, has been installed.
- The Building & Grounds Team reported that our old kitchen stove has been sold and removed; the two new stoves will arrive momentarily.
- Painting of the Sanctuary is scheduled.
- 92 reservations for the Father's Day Fellowship Meal have been received.
- Stewardship & Finance reported that, thanks to the generosity of OPC

members, our financial condition remains strong in the midst of the pandemic.

- On the recommendation of the Personnel Team, Session made the position of Director of Youth and Young Adults a 30 hour/week position, adding responsibilities for IT Support, and to be reviewed in nine months.
- The Pastor reported that the weekly deliveries of meals will go on hiatus in July.
- In keeping with past practice, Session decided to skip its July meeting, while recognizing it may be necessary to call a ZOOM meeting before August.

## **RE-ENTRY PLANS**

*"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."* John 13:34-35

Dear Members & Friends of Opequon Church,

At Opequon Church, we love one another. We enjoy seeing each other and being together. We cherish our worship life. We are devoted to fellowship, education, and mission. We seek to take discipleship seriously. Because of our Opequon personality, our "DNA," these last months have been especially difficult for us. We have struggled to be the church in new ways, according to a new rhythm. Thankfully, through the gift of technology, through the dedication of church staff, leaders, and members, the ministry of Opequon Church has never shutdown or closed. Honestly, in many ways, through your support and generosity, it has thrived. Once again, we take comfort and inspiration from the example of the earliest believers, who "spent much time together in the temple" *and* "broke bread at home...with glad and generous hearts" (Acts 2:46). We remember the good news of the gospel: "And day by day the Lord added to their number

those who were being saved” (Acts 2:47). We have discovered that God’s goodness and grace cannot be canceled.

**At a meeting of the session on Tuesday, June 16, we, the elders, after thoughtful discussion and prayerful deliberation, having considered input and recommendations from the congregation, several of our ministry teams, health care professionals, and guidelines from church and government sources, approved the following re-entry plan:**

- Beginning Sunday, June 28 – 6:30 pm  
Outdoor Worship at the Picnic Shelter/Lawn
  - ✓ Approximately 40 minutes in length
  - ✓ Please bring your own lawn chairs
  - ✓ Restrictions Will Apply: Minimum 6’ social distancing; no singing; no restrooms on the property will be available; have a mask available for unanticipated interaction less than 6’

Outdoor worship through summer months on Sunday evenings – June 28, July 12, July 26, August 9, August 23, weather permitting

- Beginning Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 am Livestreamed Full Worship Service (only Worship Team present)
  - ✓ Our current livestreamed worship will be available to you at 9:00 am or any time after
  - ✓ This is the service that the congregational surveys overwhelmingly indicated must be our priority and must continue as is.

11:00 am In-Person Worship

- ✓ 45-minute service with restrictions for all worshipers
- ✓ Minimum 6’ social distancing at all times inside the building
- ✓ Wearing face masks mandatory for entrance to the building and must always be worn in the building

- ✓ No congregational singing or spoken responses
- ✓ Advanced registration and reserved seating for worship each week through phone call or Sign-Up Genius
- ✓ Limited seating capacity in Sanctuary (75)
- ✓ Printed bulletins on pews
- ✓ Restrooms available one person at a time

- Small groups are being allowed to gather on our church grounds at this time, if they too observe the restrictions.
- This is all part of a trial period and experience – the Session, under the advisement of the Church Staff, Worship, Safety, and Health Teams may change the schedule, the details, or the restrictions at any time. We would strongly encourage those who are most compromised and those who are not able to adhere to the restrictions to stay home, stay safe, and worship with us through livestream.

As our congregation moves toward re-entry, we acknowledge that we cannot accommodate each person’s individual desires but will do what we believe is best for the congregation. We acknowledge that we will not please everyone, but we will seek to value everyone as a child of God. As we shared in a previous letter, we may make mistakes along the way. There will surely be awkward moments as we adjust to new protocols and practices. There will be times of frustration, disappointment, and grief. Our focus must be, however, on our love for one another, our care for one another’s well-being and for the good of the community where we live, work, and serve. Let us be faithful, then – to God and to one another – as we receive the gifts and work through the challenges of this time in the life of our congregation and world. Let us remember that we are the hands, heart, and feet of Christ wherever we go and wherever we are.

Together in Christ’s Service,  
The Session  
Opequon Presbyterian Church

## FAITH FORMATION CLASS VIA ZOOM!

Join the Spiritual Growth Faith Formation Class each Sunday at 9:30 am. This class, facilitated by Dave Richards, uses the *Feasting on the Word* curriculum, which explores the weekly scripture readings from worship. Anyone may join the class, not simply those who have been a part of it before. Learn and grow and fellowship together! A ZOOM link will be sent each week by email, along with a resource sheet. Plan ahead for this uplifting time each Sunday.

## THE LATEST IN LOGOS

Are we going to have LOGOS beginning in September? How can we do that and what will it be like? This coming September will mark the beginning of our 23<sup>rd</sup> year of LOGOS at OPC! We are so thankful for this great ministry that has had a long life here at OPC. These questions on most everyone's minds are truly relevant and practical! The leadership team is working on various plans for different scenarios of LOGOS. As we move through the summer, what we will be able to do will become clearer for us and we will share the plans with you as soon as possible. We do know that the theme for our new LOGOS year is "WE ARE ONE" and many great weekly themes are on the calendar. Some special events evenings for LOGOS youth will be planned and the making of a new LOGOS banner will be in the works. We will make the most and best out of the year ahead. Watch for more information about our upcoming year!



## WANT TO KNOW ABOUT VBS IN A BIN?

The photos here offer you two glances of our VBS bins. The bin is

11"x 16" packed with six days worth of activities and supplies, each focusing on a different Fruit of the Spirit. Ten teams went on a delivery BLITZ on June 14, delivering the bins to 44 homes. Almost immediately, happy, and grateful responses began coming back to us as children and families discovered the VBS Bin on their front porch and began to explore the contents. We received photos and

videos of children enjoying the activities and sharing the goodies they found among the items in the bin. Many



thanks to all who took time to read the materials in the bin and help young ones carry through in doing the things provided. Photos and comments enabled us to stay connected with others throughout this fun summer week. May we all demonstrate love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, gentleness, goodness, humbleness, and self-control.



## MEN OF OPEQUON THIS MONTH

The Men of Opequon (MOO) will meet on **Monday, July 13<sup>th</sup>** at the Pitcock Memorial Shelter at 6:00 pm, practicing social distancing. Please bring your own dinner from Chick-fil-A, home, or elsewhere. Let us enjoy seeing each other in person and sharing conversation while eating our own meal. All men are invited!



## **GOD-LOVING OPEQUON WOMEN**

GLOW is Opequon's multi-aged Women's group that meets monthly to build friendships and enjoy heart-warming activities together. We were able to safely spend some time together in the picnic shelter last month as we chatted, enjoyed some jokes, munched on our sandwiches, and had some great conversation.

We will come back together NEXT MONTH on **Tuesday, August 11 at 6:00 pm.** Please note the earlier time. Weather permitting, we will meet in the Pitcock Memorial Shelter. Bring a bag dinner. We will have devotions and look at a 'Women's Group Idea List' to share our thoughts. All ages of women are invited. The time spent at GLOW is sure to lift your spirits and put a smile on your face.

### **OLDER ADULT HAPPENINGS**

Summer is here! Think about some of your own favorite summertime activities. Maybe it used to be going barefoot in the grass or wading in a creek, swimming, playing croquet, catching fireflies, getting ice cream, or playing in a sandbox. Have fun reminiscing about what summertime was like for you. Enjoy flowers and green grass as you get outdoors or enjoy a view from a window. Sip a cold lemonade or glass of iced tea. There is much goodness in summer!

Our Happy Days event this month was meant to be our annual White Elephant game with the theme "Christmas in July". Be on the lookout for your White Elephant game item and have it ready! We will be doing this game as part of our December Happy Days Christmas celebration later this year! When considering the gift you will bring for the game, keep two things in mind; the game is more balanced when all gifts are age-appropriate, and consider if your gift is something that you would like to end up with.

We will look forward to this game in December.

The Coin Jar (an outreach project of Happy Days) has been lonely here at OPC waiting for us to return to our gatherings. If you have any coins lying around at home and want to get them 'out of the way,' feel free to put them in a Ziploc bag and drop them off in one of the outdoor bins by the church entrance doors. Please place a note in the baggie saying it is for Happy Days Coin Jar. We will retrieve bags of coins from the bins daily and add them to our jar. This will help our jar grow a little while we are not physically able to gather. Thank you!

### **YOUTH GROUP (Grades 6-12)**

We will now be gathering every other week outside at church/in the Picnic Shelter for physically-distanced games and activities. This will take place on Tuesday's at 9:30-10:45 am. Check your email for more information.

### **YOUNG ADULTS (Ages 18-35)**

Bible Study will meet on Zoom every other week. Check your email for the link and other details.



All are invited to join our Zoom group "Collector's Show and Tell" as we share what we collect and how we got started collecting. Our Zoom meeting will be on Friday, July 17, at 1:00 p.m. The meeting notice will be sent out the week of July 13 via the church e-mail. If you have questions please contact Becky Proctor at [beckyproc@comcast.net](mailto:beckyproc@comcast.net).

## NEW STOVES INSTALLED AND IN USE!

After several months of review and consideration, two new electric stoves for the church kitchen were purchased from Spichers Appliances and delivered on Wednesday, June 17. The identical GE Profile stoves each contain upper (one rack) and lower ovens (two racks, convection), four stovetop burners and warming area, and front touch controls. The stoves and ovens received an excellent opening workout on Saturday and Sunday, June 20-21, as the Father's Day takeout meal was prepared. We had every part of the stoves running simultaneously, and we didn't have one problem! The lunchtime meal with 92 people served, raised over \$500 toward the cost of the stoves. We thank Carole Witt for organizing the meal, Carole and David Witt for cooking the meal, Rebekah Witt and Laverne Cooper for joining them in packing and serving, and our many happy bakers who prepared various desserts.



## HEALTH MINISTRY NEWS

During this pandemic, many of us have been challenged with being the caregiver for our loved ones. You may be caring for your children, siblings, grandparents, neighbors, or parents. So I thought you may be inspired by this prayer.

### The Caregiver's Prayer

Lord, make me an instrument of healing care this day.

Where there is sorrow, let me incline my heart in empathy.

Where there is fear, let me speak quiet assurance.

Where there is anxiety, let me breathe calm.

Where there is despair, let me bring promise of hope.

Where there is doubt, let me hold gentle certainty.

Where there is pain, let my presence be like soothing balm.

Divine Spirit, grant me energy sufficient to do what is required of me.

Grant me wisdom with the moment and endurance with the need.

Make me a steady source of compassion, enfolding the other, enfolding myself.

May my caregiving be rooted less in control and more in surrender,

less in contact doing and more in resolute being, less in pride and more in humility.

May I embrace whatever joys come my way; many or few, may they be enough.

May I find meaning in this role I serve, and fulfillment in how I serve it.

May I always remember that healing means becoming more whole, whatever the form. May I never forget that healing is ultimately always a gift.

For you, Lord, are the source of it all.

And for that reason I make this prayer humbly, gratefully, hopefully, confidently.

Amen

*The Thoughtful Caregiver* by James Miller

The following is an excerpt from the National Institutes of Health:

Driving a car can give you freedom. But it's also one of the riskiest things you do every day. More than 36,000 people died in car accidents in the U.S. in 2018. Millions more are injured each year. Many things can make driving risky. Speeding, not paying full attention to the road, and driving while tired all increase your chances of a crash. Drinking or using drugs can be especially dangerous. Fortunately, there are things you can do to keep yourself and others safe while in the car. Researchers are working to understand what causes crashes and how to prevent them.

### Distracted Driving

You have likely seen ads reminding you to keep your eyes on the road. With cell phones

and screens everywhere, distracted driving has become a major problem. "Because we're so phone driven, the tendency is when somebody calls us or texts us, we want to respond immediately," says Dr. Bruce Simons-Morton, an NIH expert on teen driving. To drive safely, we have to overcome that powerful impulse, he explains. Texting can take your eyes off the road for seconds at a time. In just five seconds, you travel the entire length of a football field at 55 miles per hour. Distraction is not limited to phones. It's anything that takes attention away from driving the car. Eating, playing with the radio, and adjusting your navigation system all distract from safe driving. "Reaching for objects is also a big problem," says Simons-Morton. You may take your eyes off the road when you reach for your sunglasses or something in the seat next to you. People of any age can give in to distractions while driving. Many adults admit to texting, answering calls, and other dangerous behaviors. That is a problem because teens are modeling their parents' actions as they learn to drive.

### Older Drivers

Younger drivers are not the only group at greater risk of crashes. As you age, physical and mental changes can make driving more dangerous. "There's a number of changes that happen in our vision as we grow older," says Dr. Cynthia Owsley, who studies the impact of aging on vision at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Eye diseases, such as glaucoma, naturally get worse with age. Older adults are also more likely to have certain eye conditions that affect sight, like cataracts and age-related macular degeneration. Problems distinguishing an object from its background, called contrast sensitivity, are also common. "Think of looking through a dirty windshield: Everything looks kind of washed out," Owsley says. Vision problems can also affect your ability to see to the side, or peripheral vision. This can make it harder to see cars in the lanes next to you. For older adults, changes in the brain can make driving riskier, too. Owsley and others have

shown that cognitive decline—problems with memory and other brain functions—increases the likelihood of a car crash. Changes in physical ability, such as strength and reflexes, can also make driving more dangerous as you age. But getting older does not necessarily mean you have to stop driving. "I think the public worries about older drivers, but actually most older drivers are quite safe," Owsley says. It's older drivers with visual and cognitive impairments that are at greatest risk. If you are concerned about an older person's driving, it's important to start a conversation with them. Experts advise watching for the signs that driving is getting unsafe, like getting lost on familiar routes, experiencing a near-miss, or receiving a traffic ticket.

You can contact a driving assessment clinic as well. Winchester Medical Center has a driving clinic. These clinics can provide a professional evaluation of a person's driving ability. If driving is no longer safe, work with the older adult to develop a plan for getting around without a car.

Whether you are a new driver or have been driving for decades, it's important to think about safe driving. The good news is that advances in car design and safety technology are helping protect you behind the wheel. You can also do several things to reduce your risk of an accident. Always stay alert. Resist the urge to text or talk on the phone.

*"Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety."*  
Proverbs 11:14

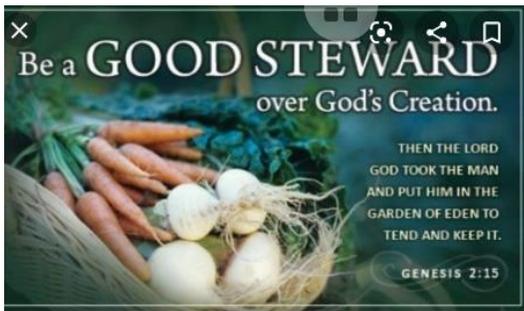


### COMMUNITY GARDEN

So far this year, just over 50 pounds have been harvested from the garden! We are so happy to have worked out a system to provide

both the Highland Food Pantry and the

Sherando Food Pantry with fresh produce. We are extremely thankful to have a dedicated group of volunteers that helped us reach this point, but as always, we welcome new faces. If you are interested in helping, the SignUpGenius page can be found on the home page of the church's website. Anyone volunteering for the first time will be contacted by the gardener on call that week to meet at the garden to be shown where things are and what to do. Volunteers are asked to sign in and out in the binder on the counter in the shed. Hand sanitizer and gloves are located on the counter as well; however, we encourage volunteers to bring their own gloves if possible. There are also opportunities on the SignUpGenius to pick up and deliver produce to the Highland Food Pantry on Tuesday mornings and to the Sherando Food Pantry on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of every month at 5:45 pm. Volunteers can deliver with no contact by popping their trunk and having a pantry volunteer remove the bags of produce. If you have any questions, please contact a lead gardener or the garden administrator at [graysonmoyer7@gmail.com](mailto:graysonmoyer7@gmail.com).



### COMMUNITY GARDEN GALS

Dear Friends,

Jesus healed the sick, fed the hungry and cared for the homeless. We are called to work as Christ's hands, heart, and feet in the community garden, planting seeds, caring for the plants, and harvesting so we can feed the hungry, poor, and homeless in our community. The garden is God's creation. He calls us to

care for it so that we, as good and faithful stewards of his creation, can extend God's love to those in need.

We invite you to visit the Community Garden at Hedgebrook Farm to see what is growing, to enjoy God's beautiful work of art, and to know that our team of folks, both OPC'ers and others from beyond our church family who are called to tend the garden, are caring for God's creation to reach those in need. Contact the garden administrator, Grayson Moyer ([graysonmoyer7@gmail.com](mailto:graysonmoyer7@gmail.com)) or one of the Garden Gal Leaders, if you would like a personal tour. We practice safe social distancing and provide hand sanitizer.

Dana, Robin, & Joelle

### OUTREACH THROUGH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Opequon's engagement in mission is strong! Your food, in-kind, and financial donations are appreciated and may be brought to the church during weekly office hours. Bins are located outside. We are especially supporting...

- Our Motel Ministry—There is a need for donations such as dish sponges, dish soap, laundry detergent pods, dryer sheets, tooth brushes, toothpaste, razors, shaving cream, cracker packs, granola bars, oatmeal packs, boxes of easy mac & cheese, and ramen noodle packs.
- Highland Food Pantry (non-perishables)
- Sherando Food Pantry (canned chicken, canned chili with meat, canned spaghetti & meatballs, canned fruit & vegetables, soup, dry cereal)
- Bright Futures, feeding the children of Winchester and Frederick County (e.g. 100% Juice Boxes, granola bars, cup of soups, cracker packs, boxes of oatmeal packets)

## 21-DAY RACIAL JUSTICE CHALLENGE

This challenge invites us to do something every day to raise awareness about the destructiveness of racism and encourage action in response to that awareness. The PC(USA) has joined several nonprofits, organizations, and school systems in adapting the challenge for our use. Go to this link to participate...<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/Matthew-25/racism/>

## EGG CARTON BIN NOW OUTSIDE

A bin for egg cartons for Highland Food Pantry is now outside of the office entrance, available for drop-off each day during office hours. The pantry still needs the egg cartons for weekly distribution.

## AMAZONSMILE

Good news! AmazonSmile is now available in the Amazon Shopping app on iOS and Android mobile phones.

AmazonSmile customers can now support Opequon Presbyterian Church in the Amazon shopping app on iOS and Android mobile phones! Simply follow these instructions to turn on AmazonSmile and start generating donations.

1. Open the Amazon Shopping app on your device
2. Go into the main menu of the Amazon Shopping app and tap into 'Settings'
3. Tap 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to complete the process

## ZOOM SUPPORT

Visit ZOOM.com to learn more about how to use the ZOOM video conferencing and meeting program. There is a support page in the upper right corner where you can watch helpful videos.



## JoEllen & Lydia Delamatta

5915 Highdale CIR Apt G  
Alexandria, VA 22310

## Max Agbayani and Rebecca Coryell

were united in marriage by Pastor David Witt on June 13 here in OPC's Sanctuary. The couple celebrated at a picnic in the Pitcock Memorial Shelter before leaving for their new home in Georgia! Congratulations, Rebecca & Max! Their new address is 355 Chadds Walk, Athens GA 30606



**Rick Bean and Candy Strosnider** were married on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Congratulations! The happy couple now resides at 191 Job RD  
Inwood WV 25428-4652

## NOTES OF GRATITUDE

Thank you for bestowing on me the honor of Female Older Adult of the Year. What a humbling experience this has been, and it is hard to even try to express my appreciation in words. Your cards, phone calls, and e-mails have been overwhelming to say the least. It is truly an honor to be part of an amazing church family and to serve at Opequon. I will cherish this honor always. God is good - all the time.

Becky Proctor

Dear Opequon Family

For a number of years, I have been privileged to compile and collate the nominations for Opequon's Older Adult of the Year. Every year I am in awe of the actions for the church of those nominated. They are truly giants who serve and have served this special congregation well for decades. I am truly humbled to have been placed in their company. Thank you so very much.

Sincerely,  
Stephen A. Brown

**SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT**  
**May 2020**

<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>2020 Budget</b>	<b>Net Expenses</b>		<b>Budget Balance Remaining</b>
		<b>Current Month</b>	<b>Net Expenses Year to Date</b>	
Administrative Ministry	491,600	43,746	194,187	297,413
Christian Education Ministry	13,550	469	3,750	9,800
Congregational Care Ministry	1,400	(50)	(78)	1,478
Evangelism Ministry	2,350	462	737	1,613
Fellowship Ministry	3,500	10	1,018	2,482
Mission Ministry	60,750	8,753	20,190	40,560
Worship Ministry	7,250	(530)	325	6,925
Capital Expenses	114,250	0	28,751	85,499
	<b>694,650</b>	<b>52,860</b>	<b>248,881</b>	<b>445,769</b>

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2020 Budget</b>	<b>Current</b>		<b>Budget Balance Remaining</b>
		<b>Month</b>	<b>Year to Date</b>	
Envelope Offerings	683,000	65,313	278,507	404,493
Loose	5,300	20	1,046	4,254
Other (PPP Loan Proceeds)		46,700	46,700	(46,700)
<b>Total Operating Income from Offerings</b>	<b>688,300</b>	<b>112,033</b>	<b>326,253</b>	<b>362,047</b>

<b>Adjustments to Income</b>				
Checking Account Interest (Regular Checking Only)		56	198	
Room/Facility Usage		0	0	
Wedding Fees		0	0	
Amazon Smile Program		5	26	
Manse Rental Income, net		1,250	4,900	
<b>Operating Income After Adjustments</b>		<b>113,344</b>	<b>331,377</b>	
<b>Operating Expenses</b>		<b>52,860</b>	<b>248,881</b>	
<b>Cash Receipts in Excess of (Less than) Cash Disbursements</b>		<b>60,485</b>	<b>82,496</b>	

<b>First Bank Operating Checking</b>	
General Funds in Operating Checking	94,778
Restricted Funds in Operating Checking	88,891
LOGOS Funds in Operating Checking	7,649
<b>Balance in First Bank Operating Checking</b>	<b>191,318</b>
<b>Balance in First Bank 2020 Vision Fund</b>	<b>7,321</b>
<b>Total Cash in First bank</b>	<b>198,640</b>

<b>Sanctuary Mortgage Principal Balance</b>	<b>804,713</b>
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JULY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 12pm Snacking 'n' Chatter' 7:15pm Young Adult Bible Study	2 1pm Tai Chi	3	4
5 CCAP Offering gain Livestreamed Worship, Communion at Home 9:30am Spiritual Growth Class via ZOOM 11am Worship	6 Church Office Closed	7 10am Staff Meeting	8 12pm Snacking 'n' Chatter' 7:15pm Young Adult Bible Study	9 1pm Tai Chi 6:30pm Sherando Food Pantry	10 David & Carole Witt on Vacation	11 =>=>=>
12 =>=>=> gain Livestreamed Worship 9:30am Spiritual Growth Class via ZOOM 11am Worship 12:15pm Safe Church Education via ZOOM 6:30pm Wonderful Outdoor Worship	13 =>=>=> 6pm MOO @ Pitcock Shelter	14 =>=>=>	15 =>=>=> 7:15pm Young Adult Bible Study	16 =>=>=> 1pm Tai Chi	17 =>=>=> 1pm ZOOMing with Becky	18 =>=>=>
19 =>=>=> gain Livestreamed Worship 9:30am Spiritual Growth Class via ZOOM 11am Worship	20	21 10am Staff Meeting	22 Newsletter Deadline 7:15pm Young Adult Bible Study	23 1pm Tai Chi 6:30pm Sherando Food Pantry	24	25 11am Karen Jones Memorial Service (Family Only)
26 & Cents a Meal Offering gain Livestreamed Worship 9:30am Spiritual Growth Class via ZOOM 11am Worship 12:15pm Motel Ministry 6:30pm Wonderful Outdoor Worship	27	28 5:30pm Highland Food Pantry	29 11:30am Staff Lunch TBD 7:15pm Young Adult Bible Study	30 1pm Tai Chi		



**WE'RE BACK!!!**

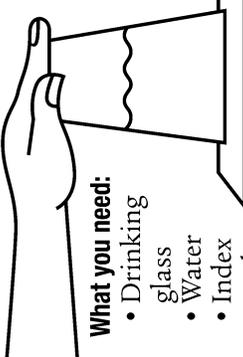
We thank **Pat Burslem** for her many years of offering the Equal Exchange Program to Opequon Presbyterian worshippers, and now there has been a change in "command". **Marj Praml** will be taking responsibility to continue offering great coffees, teas, chocolate and perhaps in the near future some other delights, all from the Equal Exchange Fairly Traded program.

Please feel free to call, text or email Marj with questions, availability of product, or product orders. The time and dates of offering products may be a little different than previously, but the main thrust is to accommodate our church customers as easily as possible. Marj's contact information is: 540-327-2667 or email at: [teachandwritemp@gmail.com](mailto:teachandwritemp@gmail.com)



# UNSEEN BUT *active*

This experiment illustrates that although God is invisible, we can see his work all around us.



**What you need:**

- Drinking glass
- Water
- Index card

**What you do:**

1. Practicing over a sink, fill the glass halfway with water. Then press the index card snugly atop the glass with one hand.
2. With the other hand, hold the base of the glass and carefully flip it over.
3. Remove your hand from the card. It should stay on the glass, without spilling the water! The invisible air in the glass creates a suction with the card, preventing the water from spilling out. Research air pressure to learn more.
4. After perfecting the trick, amaze others with it. Then talk about how God, like the air in the glass, is unseen but active.

Opequon Presbyterian Church  
217 Opequon Church Lane  
Winchester, VA 22602-2421

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

"The Opequon Spirit" is the monthly newsletter of:  
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217 Opequon Church Lane  
Winchester, VA 22602-2421  
Phone: 540-662-1843  
[www.opequonchurch.org](http://www.opequonchurch.org)



Newsletter deadline is the Wednesday after the Stated Session Meeting.  
Livestreamed Worship at 9:00 am, Sunday Worship at 11:00 am  
Faith Formation Educational Hour at 9:30 am

David Witt----- Pastor  
Tracie Martin ----- Parish Associate  
Laurie Carver ----- Nursery Supervisor  
William Heavner----- Organist  
Susan Homan----- Director of Music  
Patty Klinefelter, Bill Martin ----- Faith Community Nurses  
Catherine Richard----- Office Administrator  
Lisa Sorrentino-Miller----- Finance Administrator  
Robert Sydnor----- Sexton  
Carole Witt----- Director of Christian Education  
Rebekah Witt----- Director of Youth & Young Adults/IT Support

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