

The book cover features a top section with a stylized American flag, showing stars on the left and stripes on the right. Below this, the title and date are centered in a blue serif font. The bottom two-thirds of the cover is a photograph of a garden. A stone path leads from the foreground through a white picket fence to a stone archway covered in pink roses. The scene is bathed in the warm, golden light of a sunset or sunrise, with trees and a bright sun visible in the background.

**Opequon Presbyterian Church**

*"Hymnody Over the Past 250 Years"*

**July 5, 2026**

# OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

217 Opequon Church Lane  
Winchester, VA 22602

[www.opequonchurch.org](http://www.opequonchurch.org)

540-662-1843

[office@opequonchurch.org](mailto:office@opequonchurch.org)

<i>Pastor</i> .....	David R. Witt
<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 &amp; Young Adult Ministries</i> .....	Rebekah Witt
<i>Director of Music</i> .....	Susan Homan
<i>Organist/Pianist</i> .....	Garrett Jones
<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

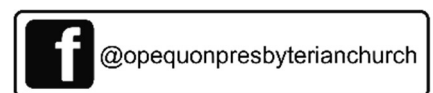
To get the most out of your visit, may we recommend you familiarize yourself with the following:

- **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 children under the age of 5.
- **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](http://www.opequonchurch.org/giving)  
**or scan the QR code here:**



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# A 10:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

*Sixth Sunday After Pentecost – Communion; Special Music*

- ☞ **Thank you for silencing your phones before we begin the Worship Service.**
- ☞ **As the music of the Prelude begins, we invite you to take a moment to quietly focus your heart and 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 the offering plate.

† = All who are able, please stand.

**Bold print = All in unison.**

## ☞ WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME ☞

PRELUDE..... *Isle of Hope, Isle of Tears*  
By: Brendan Graham; Arr. by: John Leavitt

THE CHURCH BELL RINGS  
GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PIANO/ORGAN DUET ..... *God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand*

ENTRANCE OF THE WORD & THE LIGHT

†GATHERING SONG No. 337 (v. 1, 4) ..... *My Country, 'Tis of Thee*

**My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty,  
of thee I sing:**

**land where my fathers died,  
land of the pilgrims' pride,  
from every mountainside  
let freedom ring.**

**Our fathers' God, to thee, author of liberty,  
to thee we sing.**

**Long may our land be bright  
with freedom's holy light;  
protect us by thy might,  
great God, our King.**

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Lord, we are your people.

**We are also the people of this land.**

We seek to bring about your kingdom.

**We also seek to be good citizens of this country.**

Sometimes it's not difficult to reconcile these goals;

**At other times we have a hard choice between allegiance to God or Caesar.**

Help us to put our patriotism and our faith in perspective, O God.

**Remind us that you love peoples of all nations,**

That you are not necessarily on any one country's side.

**And help us also take an active role in improving our country.**

For we believe that our love of freedom can lead us to your justice,

**And that a world of peace and compassion can come about through your grace.**

†OPENING HYMN No. 385 (v. 1, 2) .....*All People That on Earth Do Dwell*

**All people that on earth do dwell,**

**sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;**

**him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell.**

**Come ye before him and rejoice.**

**Know that the Lord is God indeed;**

**without our aid he did us make;**

**we are his folk; he doth us feed,**

**and for his sheep he doth us take.**

(Please be seated for prayer.)

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

Knowing that we are not all we should be, but confident of God's love and mercy, let us confess our sins before God and one another. Let us pray...

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful Savior, our best intentions, our most concentrated willpower, our greatest exertion and effort are no match for the power of sin. We do the very thing we do not want to do and fail to do what is good and right and just. We feel the guilt of our plight and are exhausted by continually trying to do better and be better. Into our weaknesses and stresses you come, to do for us what we could never do for ourselves. In faith and gratitude, we place ourselves and our country in your loving and merciful hands, trusting not only in your forgiveness but also in your power to transform, to renew and free us to follow your path, through Christ our Lord.**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Jesus spoke words that, no matter how many times we hear them, have more meaning than we can fully grasp: This is my body broken for you and my blood poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Let us receive all that Christ offers to us and be thankful. Amen.

## LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

†RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 188 (v. 1, refrain) ..... *Jesus Loves Me*

**Jesus loves me! This I know,  
for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to him belong.  
They are weak, but he is strong.**

[refrain] **Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
The Bible tells me so.**

†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 ☞

### THE READING OF GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Psalm 33:13-22 ..... *The Message*

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Matthew 11:25-30 ..... *The Message*

CONVERSATION WITH ALL AGES..... "How We Learn with Music"

Nursery (Infants – Age 4)

# "American Hymnody Over the Past 250 Years"

(Please remain seated.)

## THE FIRST GREAT AWAKENING

Special Music ..... *The Liberty Song*

Words by: John Dickenson; Music by: William Boyce  
Rich Smith

Hymn 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.**

## THE SECOND GREAT AWAKENING

Hymn No. 649 (v. 1, 2, 6)..... *Amazing Grace*

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,  
that saved a wretch like me!**

**I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved.**

**How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!**

**The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,  
the sun forbear to shine;**

**but God, who called me here below, will be forever mine.**

## THE THIRD GREAT AWAKENING

Hymn No. 354 (v. 1, refrain, 3)..... *Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory*

**Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;  
he is trampling out the vintage**

**where the grapes of wrath are stored;**

**he has loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword.**

**God's truth is marching on.**

[refrain] **Glory, glory hallelujah! Glory, glory hallelujah!  
Glory, glory hallelujah! God's truth is marching on.**

**In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,  
with a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me;  
as he died to make us holy, let us live to make all free,  
while God is marching on. [refrain]**

## THE GOLDEN AGE OF HYMNODY

### Hymns from the Four Corners

*Holy, Holy, Holy!*

*Abide With Me*

*It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

*Nearer, My God, to Thee*

*Just As I Am*

Hymn No. 839 (v. 1, refrain, 2) ..... *Blessed Assurance*

**Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!**

**O what a foretaste of glory divine!**

**Heir of salvation, purchase of God,**

**born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.**

[refrain] **This is my story; this is my song,  
praising my Savior all the day long;  
this is my story; this is my song,  
praising my Savior all the day long.**

**Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
angels descending, bring from above  
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.** [refrain]

POEM OF HYMNS ..... "A Soldier's Life. Daily Routine told in Hymns"

(Excerpt from: "Part of The 'Soldier's Daily Routine' by an Unknown Serviceman, 1916" | The National Archives)

Thom Picciuto

*6.30a.m. Reveille – "Christians Awake"*

*6.45. Hut Parade – "Art Thou Weary"*

*7.0. Breakfast – "Meekly wait and murmur not"*

*8.15. Company Officers Parade – "When He Cometh"*

*8.45. Manoeuvres – "Fight the Good Fight"*

*9.30. Company Orders – "Oft in Danger, Oft in Woe"*

*10.30. Kit Inspection – "All things bright and beautiful"*

*11.15. Swedish Drill – "Here we suffer grief and pain"*

*1.0p.m. Dinner – "Come, ye thankful people, come"*

*2.15. Rifle Drill – "Go, labour on"*

*3.15. Lecture by Officer – "Tell me the old, old story"*

*4.50. Dismiss – "Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow"*

*5.0. Tea – "What means this eager anxious throng?"*

*6.0. Free for the night – "O Lord, how happy we shall be"*

*6.30. Out of bounds – "We may not know, we cannot tell"*

*7.0. Route march – "Onward Christian soldiers"*

*8.45. Zeppelin Raid Drill – "We plough the fields and scatter"*

*10.0. The Last Post – "Peace, perfect peace"*

*10.15. Lights out – "All are safely gathered in"*

*10.30. Guard inspection – "Sleep on, beloved, sleep"*

## THE FOURTH GREAT AWAKENING

Hymn ..... *I'd Rather Have Jesus*

**I'd rather have Jesus than silver or gold;  
I'd rather be His than have riches untold;  
I'd rather have Jesus than houses or lands.  
I'd rather be led by His nail-pierced hand**

[refrain] **Than to be the king of a vast domain  
or be held in sin's dread sway.  
I'd rather have Jesus than anything  
this world affords today.**

Hymn No. 339 (v. 1, 2)..... *Lift Every Voice and Sing*

**Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,  
ring with the harmonies of liberty.  
Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies;  
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song  
full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;  
sing a song  
full of the hope that the present has brought us.  
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,  
let us march on, till victory is won.  
Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,  
felt in the days when hope unborn had died.  
Yet, with a steady beat, have not our weary feet  
come to the place for which our parents sighed?  
We have come  
over a way that with tears has been watered;  
we have come,  
treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,  
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last  
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.**

## MODERN TRENDS

Special Music ..... *Let There Be Peace on Earth*

By: Sy Miller & Jill Jackson  
David Witt

Hymn No. 452..... *Open the Eyes of My Heart*

**Open the eyes of my heart, Lord.  
Open the eyes of my heart;  
I want to see you; I want to see you;  
Open the eyes of my heart, Lord.  
Open the eyes of my heart;  
I want to see you; I want to see you;  
to see you high and lifted up,  
shining in the light of your glory.  
Pour out your power and love  
as we sing "Holy, holy, holy."  
Holy, holy, holy. Holy holy, holy.  
Holy, holy, holy, I want to see you.**

**☞ WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD ☞**

OFFERING OF TITHES & GIFTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC..... *We Shall Overcome*  
African American Spiritual; arr. William Farley Smith

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

**Gracious God, accept these gifts as signs of our desire to serve you.  
Make of our offerings instruments of peace and grace in the world.  
Use them to heal the sick, and to bring comfort to the  
brokenhearted, comfort for the afflicted, justice for the oppressed  
and good news to all. And let all that we do and all that we are be a  
foretaste of your reign on earth, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

COMMISSIONING OF YOUTH MISSION WORKERS

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer (Hymnal p. 35, we say "debts" and "debtors" in the prayer)

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread & Cup

Communion Music..... *I Dream a World*  
Music by: André J. Thomas

Closing Communion Prayer

☞ **WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME** ☞

Transcending All Eras

†CLOSING HYMN ..... *God of Grace and God of Glory*

**God of grace and God of glory,  
on Thy people pour Thy power;  
Crown Thine ancient church's story;  
Bring its bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
For the facing of this hour,  
For the facing of this hour.**

**Lo! the hosts of evil round us  
Scorn Thy Christ, assail Thy ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us  
Free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
For the living of these days,  
For the living of these days.**

**Set our feet on lofty places;  
Gird our lives, that they may be  
Armored with all Christ-like graces,  
Pledged to set all captives free.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
That we fail not them nor Thee!  
That we fail not them nor Thee!**

†CHARGE & BLESSING

†CLOSING RESPONSE ..... *God Bless America*

**God bless America, land that I love,  
Stand beside her and guide her  
Through the night with a light from above;  
From the mountains to the prairies,  
To the oceans white with foam,  
God bless America, my home, sweet home.  
God bless America, my home, sweet home.**

†POSTLUDE

## **COMMUNION TODAY WILL INVITE YOU FORWARD**

We will come forward to the communion table to receive the sacrament this morning. Each section of pews should move to the left as directed by the ushers. Gluten-free bread is available in the center section. Please see an usher for assistance. Please come forward, receive a piece of bread handed to you and eat immediately. Receive a small cup of wine (red) or grape juice (white) and drink immediately, taking your used cup back to your pew and placing it in the cup holder. Return to your seat by the right aisle of your section.

Elders/Deacons serving during the service today are: Winter Brooks, Ben Brooks, Nancy Picklap, Mike Wygant, Jennie Wright, and Larry Donovan.

### **SANCTUARY FLOWERS**

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given by Bill Martin in honor of his wife, Tracie, on the anniversary of our wedding 57 years ago today!

*In Remembrance:*

*Dr. Gerald "Mac" McNichols*

*November 21, 1943 - June 27, 2026*

*"I am the resurrection and the life," says the Lord.  
"Those who believe in me shall live, even though they die,  
and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die."*

*- John 11:26-26*

## "Isle of Hope, Isle of Tears"

Words & Music by: Brendan Graham; Arranged by: John Leavitt

*On the first day of January, eighteen ninety-two,  
they opened Ellis Island  
and they let the people through.  
And the first to cross the threshold  
of the isle of hope and tears  
was Annie Moore from Ireland  
who was all of fifteen years.  
Isle of hope, isle of tears, isle of freedom, isle of fears.  
But it's not the isle you left behind.  
That isle of hunger, isle of pain,  
isle you'll never see again,  
But the home is always on your mind.  
In her little bag she carried all her past and history,  
and her dreams for the future in the land of liberty.  
And courage is the passport  
when your old world disappears,  
'cause there's no future in the past  
when you're fifteen years.  
Isle of hope, isle of tears, isle of freedom, isle of fears.  
But it's not the isle you left behind.  
That isle of hunger, isle of pain, isle never see again,  
but the isle of home is always on your mind.*

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## PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Carole Witt	Chrissy Schmitt	Rick Ours
Marsha Bennett	Kimberley Meyers	Jolissa Matthews
Lyn Warren	Jace Hartman	Riley Fitzgerald
Carol Schempp	Bud & Becky Proctor	David Goode
Venezuela	Robin Owens	Lori Jones & Stephen Armstrong
Mac McNichols Family	Xavier	Mike & Trish Crawford
Vickie Forrest & Family	Rich Reifsnyder	Pastor Kristin Whitesides
Marsha Bennett	Annemarie Matthews	Judy Gaines
Gary McDowell	Mike Shade	Tim Loftis
Michael Smyser	Karen Lemons & Family	Lynne Rosamilia
Don Ratcliff	Bonnie Triplett	JoAnne Farrell
Gary DuBrueler & Family	Jenna Boyer	Katie Happel
Darlene Kent	Vern Gamble	Judy Camper
Baby Aleta Family	Al Schollenberger	Candi Gardner
Lucinda Cullers	Cheri Norris	David Lewis
Krista Bowen Family	Betty Gano	David DesMarias
Ben Costello	Brad & Denise Lincoln	Megan Tschappat
Nathan Ruggles Family	Mo & Heide Mohler	Charlotte Rosamilia
June & Nathan Windle	Jay Horne	All Struggling with Mental Illness
Dawn Williams	Marge & Tim Higgins	Nancy Kerns
Richard McCracken	Susan Arthur	Jewish & Muslim Victims Worldwide
Robin Cooke	Tammy Mowery Earhart	Cindy Corell
Hilda Zalonis	Mary Bremer	Katie Wolf
Carol Nutry	David Emery	Ukraine
Ella Unrath	Dan Cammer	Ethiopia Church Mekane Jesus
Ben Weber	Middle East War	
Linda Swiger	Our Soldiers	
Sara Frey	Nathan Smith & Tracy	
Chick Doroffe	Roger Murphy	
Joan Patton	George & Carole Schwantes	

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

Robert Littman, Cameron Lloyd, 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, Michael White, Ben Jensen, Gavin Eanes, Eli Keaton

## SCHEDULE & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THIS WEEK

### **TODAY – July 5 (Independence Day Weekend)**

#### ***"Hymnody Over the Past 250 Years"***

*Special Music; Communion*

10:00 AM	Worship – Sanctuary & Livestream
11:15 AM	Fellowship Time – Gathering Area
11:15 AM	Opie's Playhouse – Playground
Afternoon	Youth Leave for Mission Trip

### **THIS WEEK**

Monday:	9:30 AM	Older Adult Planning Team – Bageant Room
	5:30 PM	Windsong Open House – Sanctuary/Gathering Area
Wednesday:	12:00 PM	Happy Days – Fellowship Hall
Thursday:	10:30 AM	Tai Chi – Memorial Sanctuary/Picnic Shelter

### **NEXT SUNDAY – July 12**

*Scriptures: Psalm 65; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23*

*Sermon: "Sowing Seeds"*

10:00 AM	Worship – Sanctuary & Livestream
11:15 AM	Fellowship Time – Gathering Area
12:15 PM	Senior Outreach Ministry
1:30 PM	Visitation for Mac McNichols – Gathering Area
2:00 PM	Memorial Service for Mac McNichols – Sanctuary
	Memorial Reception – Gathering Area

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### **OPIE'S PLAYHOUSE MEETS ON THE PLAYGROUND – Today**

All families with young children are invited to join us for some summer fun and fellowship immediately after service today on the playground. In the event of rain, we will meet in the Memorial Sanctuary.

### **SUMMER FUN BOOKLET FOR KIDS AND FAMILIES**

Booklets titled 'Simple Activities to do in the Car' are available for families to take and use this summer as you do any traveling. It is loaded with lots of pure fun for everyone in the car! The booklets are available in the Gathering Area. Help yourself.

## **OLDER ADULT TEAM MEETING**

The Older Adult Planning Team meets **tomorrow** morning at **9:30 AM** in the Bageant Room. This team discusses plans for Happy Days gatherings, day trips and special events. The meeting is open to any older adults who would like to attend.

## **HAPPY DAYS GATHERING**

The monthly older adult fellowship time known as 'Happy Days' will be held this **Wednesday, July 8**, at **12:00 noon** in the Fellowship Hall as we celebrate America's 250th Birthday. We will enjoy some patriotic songs, patriotic poems, and of course some good wholesome jokes. Chicken and drinks are provided for lunch. Please bring a covered dish item to share. All older adults are welcome. Come enjoy the friendships, and this great celebration.

## **RECIPES STILL NEEDED!**

We are still collecting recipes for Opequon's "A Place at the Table Cookbook!" Do you have a recipe that you want to be included in the cookbook? Handwritten or typed recipes may be placed in Marj Praml's mailbox near the church office or you may also email your recipes to Cindy Sousa (casousa260@gmail.com). Visit display in the Gathering Area for more details.

## **ARE YOU INTERESTED IN DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY?**

In recent years, we had great success with a Disciple Fast Track Study which is adapted from the widely renowned Disciple Bible Study. The fast track is a viable option for busy people seeking to fit a comprehensive study of the bible into their schedule. It is 24 weeks, broken down into two 12-week sessions. Each session includes video insights from engaging presenters and wonderful group conversation all within 75-90 minutes. We are gauging interest in beginning a new Disciple Fast Track class. If you would like more information or are interested, please let Carole Witt know. (dce@opequonchurch.org)

## **COLLECTIONS FOR CCAP**

Throughout **July**, we will be collecting school supplies in the Dell Room for CCAP. Thank you for your contributions and supporting our community!

## **COMING SOON: Lemonade on the Lawn**

Join us on **July 26**, after the worship service, for a fresh cold glass of lemonade and some catching up with each other! We invite you to wear yellow for "Lemonade Sunday!"

## 10:00 AM WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR TODAY

**Liturgist:** Shannon Brannon

**Beadle:** Bob Aylor

**Door Greeters:** Bob Aylor, Joan Aylor

**Ushers:** Mike Jeffries, Fran Jeffries, Mike Nutry, Will Baker,  
Liam Pingley-Guzman, Sophia Pingley-Guzman

**Acolyte:** Will Baker

**Livestream:** Susan Ritter, Max Agbayani

**Building Stewards:** Betty Chicklo, June Malone

## WORSHIP NOTES & REFLECTIONS

### Notes on Today's Music

- ✎ Where did you feel God speaking to you in the music today?
- ✎ Did you recognize all of today's hymns?

### Notes on Today's Prayers

- ✎ Where do I need to focus my prayers this week?
- ✎ Where do you feel led to act based on today's service?
- ✎ What prayers do you have that you left unspoken?

### Notes on Today's Conversation with All Ages

- ✎ What hymns taught you about faith? Who introduced you to them?

### Notes on Today's Scripture & Sermon

- ✎ Where do you feel God is calling our country?
- ✎ How can our church respond to this call?
- ✎ What is your part?