

volunteers

Thank You

love

community

celebrate

hands on

service

nonprofit

youth

group

skills

program

change

compassion

senior

vibrant

honor

action

service

business

communities

build

hope

diverse

family

thanks

heart

prosperous

difference

retired

mission

corporate

traditional

emergency

friends

action

action



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>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>Interim Organist/Pianist</i>	Laura Swartz
<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

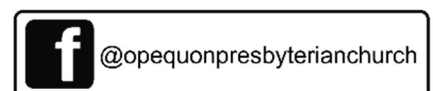
To get the most out of your visit, may we recommend you familiarize yourself with the following:

- **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

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost – Reformation Sunday; Volunteer Appreciation Sunday; 4 Cents A Meal

- ☞ **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..... *Processional on A Mighty Fortress*

By: Martin Luther; arr. Wilbur Held
Laura Swarartz

ENTRANCE OF THE WORD & THE LIGHT

THE CHURCH BELL RINGS

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENTS FOR MISSION: CAT – "Congregational Assessment Tool"

†GATHERING SONG (x2) *We Are the Body of Christ*

**One heart, one Spirit, one voice to praise you,
we are the body of Christ.**

One goal, one vision: to see you exalted.

We are the body of Christ.

†CALL TO WORSHIP

You have called us to this place, O Lord.

Each one of us is unique, with differing gifts and talents.

Yet each talent represented here is valuable in God's realm.

Lord, help us find ways in which to use our talents for healing and hope.

Come, let us praise the Lord who has called us here.

Let us open our hearts and spirits to God's word for us.

†OPENING 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.**

(Please be seated for prayer.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Since all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, we all are called to confess our shortcomings, trusting in God's grace. Let us join in our unison prayer of confession followed by moments of silent prayer.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

It is so easy for us, Lord, to diminish the gifts you have given us. We have come to believe that either we are experts in some areas or we know nothing. Each of us has been given special talents and gifts that can be used to help others, but for some reason we have chosen not to use these gifts, deciding that they are unimportant or not needed. Forgive us when we make decisions not to act. Help us look at the blessings that you have poured into our lives and to discover the special talents that we have. Open the doorways to service and let the gates swing wide as we go forth to serve you in this world.

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

If it had not been for the Lord, who reached out to us, we would have perished in our own selfishness. If it had not been for the Lord, who healed our wounds, we would have succumbed to pain and sorrow. Each one of us has been blessed with unique talents. The Lord has need of our talents, our energies, our spirits in the world in which we live. Place your trust in God's loving guidance and open your hearts to serve God. All thanks be to God for the many ways in which our lives have been blessed.

LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

†RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 591 (refrain, v. 1, refrain)..... *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!*

[refrain] **Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!**
Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

O God, to whom shall we go?

You alone have the words of life.

Let your words be our prayer and the song we sing:

hallelujah, hallelujah! [refrain]

†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: 1 Samuel 7:3-14.....Pew Bible p. 218

NEW TESTAMENT READING: 1 Peter 4:7-11Pew Bible p. 985

CONVERSATION WITH ALL AGES..... "A Stone Named Ebenezer?"
Nursery (Infants – Age 4)

†HYMN No. 694 *Great God of Every Blessing*

**Great God of every blessing, of faithful, loving care,
you are the fount of goodness, the daily bread we share.
How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start:
sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.**

**Your Word is our salvation, the source of endless grace,
in death and life extending your covenant embrace.
In Christ we are one body; each member has a part:
sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.**

**Your Spirit is our teacher, the light that guides our search,
transforming broken people into the holy church.
For feeding us with mercy, for wisdom you impart:
sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.**

SERMON..... "With Whatever Gift"
Pastor David Witt

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

OFFERING OF TITHES & GIFTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC..... *A Mighty Fortress*
By: Martin Luther; arr. Laura Swartz

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

**Bountiful God, all that we can offer you stems from your generosity.
May the gifts that we return to you become a blessing for your
whole community, enriching and empowering us for the work to
which you call us. And may we be the hands, heart, and feet of
Christ in this new week. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & 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. 475..... *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

**Come, thou Fount of every blessing;
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of God's unchanging love!**

**Here I raise my Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.**

**O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.**

†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

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Marge Rowe	Dave Rusch	Sparky Gomez
Dennis Boyd	Cor & Agnes	Judy Gaines
Katie Happel	Kamerman	Megan Tschappat
Carol Kellick	Drew & Andrew	Pastor Kristin
Joyce Williamson	Paterson	Whitesides
Dale Barley	Jean Klein	Judy Orndorff
Judy Camper	Geanie Henley	Lyn Warren
Mac McNichols & Family	Krista Strukoff (DeCeault)	Lori Jones & Stephen Armstrong
Suellen Knowles Family	Scarlett Kibler	Ken Johansen
Danny & Nancy Breese	Nancy Budny & Family	Charlotte Rosamilia
Darrell Griffiths	Alyce Callahan	Jeff Erhardt
John & Carol Zeigler	Al & May	Clay Knick
Candi Gardner	Schollenberger	Susan Arthur
Pat Williams	Rick Ours	Bill Gesell
Roger Murphy	Mike Crawford	Susan Kelican
Bill Robinson	Sylvia Morgan	All Struggling with Mental Illness
Darrell Griffiths	Mark Everly	June & Nathan Windle
Carol Tubbs	Jane Holsinger	Bereaved Israelites & Palestinians
Federal Government Workers	Art Friedrichsen	Tim Loftis
George Schwantes	David Lewis	Mike Shade
Carole Schwantes	Cindy Millard	Jewish & Muslim
Tedrow Family	Violence in America	Victims Worldwide
Rudolph Family	Sara Frey	Cindy Correll
Dakota Stickley	Marcia & Mike	Nancy Kerns
Krista Bowen	Jaureguizar	Kennedy Ransom
Lacey Costello	David DesMarias	Ukraine
Rick Henry	Aaron Snyder	Ethiopia Church
Kaeden Faulkner	Gaza Famine	Mekane Yesus
	Brenda Steffens	
	Cathy Jones	

✿ **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, Eli Keaton

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given with love by Kitty Bird and Robin in loving memory of our empowering ladies who came before us – Birdie Jeffries Hill, Aileen Hill Bonnett, Maude Grove Hockman, and Kitty Bonnett Hockman.

In Remembrance:

Suellen Grant Knowles

March 27, 1941 – October 2, 2025

*“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

In Remembrance:

Paula McNichols

April 6, 1943 – October 18, 2025

*“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

SCHEDULE & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THIS WEEK

TODAY – October 26

Reformation Sunday; Volunteer Appreciation Sunday; 4 Cents A Meal

8:30 AM	Worship – Sanctuary & Livestream
9:45 AM	GIFT Event – Fellowship Hall
11:00 AM	Worship – Sanctuary
3:30 PM	Officer Training – Bageant Room
5:00 PM	Young Adult Bonfire – Basketball Court

THIS WEEK

Monday:	9:30 AM	Adult Trip
	4:00 PM	Discipleship Team – Bageant Room
	6:00 PM	Windsong Halloween Party – Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall
	7:00 PM	Astronomy Club – Assembly Room
Tuesday:	12:00 PM	TVOR Gathering
	1:30 PM	Spiritual Gifts Class – Bageant Room
	5:30 PM	Highland Food Pantry
Wednesday:	4:30 PM	Logos (Theme: <i>Bring a Friend to <u>Trunk & Treat Night</u></i>)
	7:15 PM	Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary
Thursday:	10:30 AM	Tai Chi – Memorial Sanctuary
	6:45 PM	Micah 6:8 Faith Formation Class – Bageant Room
Saturday:	* Remember the time changes tonight! *	

NEXT SUNDAY – November 2

Daylight Saving Time Ends; All Saints Sunday; Communion

Scriptures: Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4, Luke 19:1-10

Sermon: "Living by Faith"



8:30 AM	Worship – Sanctuary & Livestream
9:45 AM	Faith Formation – Bageant Room
9:45 AM	Opie's Playhouse – Memorial Sanctuary
11:00 AM	Worship – Sanctuary
12:30 PM	Leadership Retreat – Fellowship Hall

GIFT EVENT – TODAY @ 9:45 AM (Fellowship Hall)

Come join in the great experience as all ages gather together for a terrific time! The theme this morning is based on a children's book titled "**Maybe God is Like That Too.**" When a young boy wonders where to find God in his city, his grandma reminds him that he just needs to know where to look. It turns out God's spirit is at work all around him. Come enjoy this special story, a yogurt bar and breakfast sandwiches and thought-provoking conversation, surprising inspiration along with lots of laughter woven throughout. Your day is bound to be enriched by your time at GIFT. Everyone is invited!

ADULT TRIP TO SHEPHERDSTOWN TOMORROW

The adult trip to Shepherdstown and the Bavarian Inn is set for **tomorrow** morning. Those who have reserved a seat on this trip are asked to be here (meet in the Dell Room) at **9:30 AM**. We will have a brief introduction to the day and then load up and head on our way.

TRUNK & TREAT EVENT – WEDNESDAY

We will be holding a TRUNK & TREAT event within our Logos night **THIS Wednesday, October 29, 5:00-5:45 PM**, in the back parking lot. This is a fantastic way for children to enjoy a safe Halloween event. All children are welcome! Come on out to see all the fun trunk themes and decorations, play some games, and get some treats. Bring a bag or bucket to collect your treats in. If you have any questions, please ask Carole Witt.

STAFF SCHEDULE NOTE FOR THIS WEEK

October 30 – November 1: David & Carole Witt – out of town

OPIE'S PLAYHOUSE MEETS NEXT SUNDAY

Opie's Playhouse will meet again next **Sunday, November 2, 9:45 – 10:45 AM**, in the Memorial Sanctuary. Please join us for fun, friends, and fellowship at this Sunday morning playgroup. Families with infants, toddlers, and elementary aged children are all welcome.

PREPARING FOR ADVENT!

Advent will be here before we know it! We are preparing now as many people are writing to share thoughts and reflections that will be part of our treasured Advent Devotional. A FEW MORE WRITERS are NEEDED. We are inviting you to consider contributing to our Advent Devotional by sharing your own thoughts and reflections in writing for one of the Advent day's readings. The theme for the devotional is "OFFERING HOPE AND PEACE." Ponder these things: How do you offer hope and peace to someone else? How do you feel hope and peace yourself? What brings you hope and peace? Writings need to be submitted to Carole Witt by **November 16**. The Advent Devotional booklet will be prepared and ready for the first Sunday of Advent. Please consider writing, sharing your thoughts and reflections. If you are willing to write or have questions, contact Carole Witt (dce@opequonchurch.org).

THANKSGIVING BANANA BOXES ARE HERE!

More than 25 banana boxes are in the hallways and on the porch waiting for adoption! 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 16**. Bless and thank you for helping!

WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR TODAY

8:30 AM Worship

Liturgist: Shannon Brannon

Beadle: Jim Horner

Door Greeters: Kathi Lehnhard, Alyce Callahan

Ushers: Betty Chicklo, June Malone, Alyce Callahan, Sam Shaffer

Livestream: Susan Ritter, Max Agbayani

Building Steward: Mike Butler

11:00 AM Worship

Liturgist: Ben Weber

Beadle: Bill Wellman

Door Greeters: Bonnie Pitzer, Bill & Maureen Wellman

Ushers: Annemarie Matthews, Dennis Boyd, Aubrey McGunnigle, Logan McGunnigle, Emily Russell

Acolyte: Aubrey McGunnigle

WORSHIP NOTES & REFLECTIONS

Notes on Today's Music

✂ How is today's music a witness to the scriptures?

Notes on Today's Prayers

✂ Where and for whom do I need to focus my prayers this week?

Notes on Today's Conversation with All Ages

✂ What does the name "Ebenezer" mean? What is that important?

Notes on Today's Scripture & Sermon

✂ What do you do when you feel like you have nothing to contribute?

✂ In what ways does Peter's mention of the "end of all things is near" influence how we should live our lives today?

✂ How can we practically show "fervent love for one another" in our communities?

✂ What are some barriers to hospitality, and how can we overcome them?

✂ What is your "whatever gift" that you have received?

✂ How can you use your gifts to serve others?

✂ How will you glorify God in the week ahead?

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