OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

217 Opequon Church Lane, Winchester, VA 22602 540-662-1843

www.opequonchurch.org



The Ordination, Installation, and Commissioning of New Officers

INFORMATION FOR OUR GUESTS

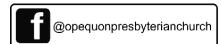
To get the most out of your visit, may we recommend you familiarize yourself with the following:

- 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:



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Pastor	David R. Witt
Associate Pastor	Julia H. Burkley
Parish Associate	Tracie Martin
Church Office Administrator	Rachel Lesink
Church Finance Administrator	Ken Smiy
Director of Christian Education	Carole Witt
Youth & Young Adult Director	Rebekah Witt
Director of Music	Susan Homan
Organist	William Heavner
Sexton	Robert Sydnor
Nursery Supervisor	Laurie Ćarver
Faith Community NursesBill	

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Third Sunday After Epiphany

January 21, 2024 - 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Installation Sunday; Blood Pressure Checks; Youth Bake Sale

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

Please complete the Friendship Folder and pass it along during the greeting. PRAYER REQUEST forms are inside the pew holders – please place in offering plate.

† = All who are able, please stand.

Bold print = All in unison.

SOLUTION SERVICE SER

PRELUDE

Tune: "Pomp and Circumstance"; Adapted by: William Heavner

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

ENTRANCE OF THE WORD & THE LIGHT THE CHURCH BELL RINGS GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

†GATHERING SONG No. 743 O God, You Are My God

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.

I will seek you in the morning, and I will learn to walk in your ways. And step by step you'll lead me, and I will follow you all of my days.

†CALL TO WORSHIP

God called to Jonah to get up, go to Nineveh and proclaim God's word.

But Jonah refused, until God called a second time.

God is persistent. God believes in those whom God has called.

Jesus called the disciples by the lakeshore.

They left their families and jobs to follow Jesus.

Lord, give us the courage to follow you all of our lives.

Bless our worship and our service as we glorify and honor you.

†OPENING HYMN No. 170 You Walk Along Our Shoreline

You walk along our shoreline where land meets unknown sea. We hear your voice of power, "Now come and follow me. And if you still will follow through storm and wave and shoal, then I will make you fishers but of the human soul."

You call us, Christ, to gather the people of the earth. We cannot fish for only those lives we think have worth. We spread your net of gospel across the water's face, our boat a common shelter for all found by your grace.

We cast our net, O Jesus; we cry the kingdom's name; we work for love and justice; we learn to hope through pain. You call us, Lord, to gather God's daughters and God's sons, to let your judgment heal us so that all may be one.

(Please be seated for prayer.)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Trusting in the promise of grace, let us pour out our hearts before God, first uniting in our prayer of confession, then pausing for moments of silent prayer.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Great God, Jesus awakened the disciples to a new life-changing purpose that caused them to drop it all and follow him. You call us here from our everyday work in this very busy world. Have we dropped it all to follow you? Or have we ignored your call to serve with what with have, through what we do? Have we said, "Not now, Lord. I can't. I just can't." Awaken us, we pray. Forgive our hesitance and negligence. Show us how to leave everything behind and with our lives to proclaim the good news — for your kingdom is drawing near. Make us into your vessels that carry your message of love, that we might, with others, turn around, see, and believe.

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Do not be afraid. God is with you! That is good news. You do not have to go through life alone, wondering if anyone cares about you or knows your heart. God knows and God loves you. Rejoice in this truth for what it is, has always been, and will continue to be. God's love for you is eternal.

LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God. We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

†PASSING OF THE PEACE (Please share this prayer with those near you.) May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

COMMISSIONING OF TRUSTEE (11:00 AM)

№ WE HEAR GOD'S WORD <

[congregation joins]

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name. Let me turn and follow you and never be the same. In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show. Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

HYMN No. 720Jesus Calls Us Jesus calls us: o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea; day by day his sweet voice soundeth saying, "Christian, follow me."
Jesus calls us from the worship of the vain world's golden store, from each idol that would keep us, saying, "Christian, love me more."
In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and pleasures, "Christian, love me more than these."
Jesus calls us: by thy mercies,

Jesus calls us: by thy mercies, Savior, may we hear thy call, give our hearts to thine obedience, serve and love thee best of all.

SERMON....."Called for a Purpose"

Pastor David Witt

>> WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD ◆

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

Merciful God, you have saved us for a purpose. We dedicate these gifts as we dedicate our lives to you, that you will make us fishers of people. Call us again and again to be Christ's hands, heart, and feet in the world as we listen for your summons to serve. And bless and empower us and these gifts for your ministry. In Jesus' name. Amen.

ORDINATION & INSTALLATION OF RULING ELDERS & DEACONS (11:00 AM) Litany

There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.

God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.

Together we are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

Statement of Ordination & Installation
Presentation of The Ruling Elders & Deacons
Constitutional Questions of The Ruling Elders & Deacons
Constitutional Questions of The Congregation
Prayer of Ordination & Laying On of Hands
Welcome To Ministry

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

SOLUTION SOD'S NAME №

O speak, and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee that where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be. And, Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end; O give me grace to follow, my Master and my friend.

†CHARGE & BLESSING

In my life, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.

In my life, Lord, be glorified today.

In your church, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.

In your church, Lord, be glorified today.

†POSTLUDE

NOTES ON TODAY'S MUSIC

This morning's prelude is a tune often used in the U.S.A. for commencement exercises, but in most nations of the British Commonwealth, it is the patriotic anthem, "Land of Hope and Glory," which nearly replaced "God Save the Queen" as the British national anthem. This dignified tune composed by Edward Elgar in 1901, sets two other hymn texts. One is titled "Forward, Shoulder to Shoulder" and the other is a musical setting of Psalm 119: 65-72. It begins: "Do good to your servant according to your word, Lord. Teach me knowledge and good judgment, for I trust your commands." This morning, the offertory is a prayerful hymn, which by its title, invites the Holy Spirit into the singer's heart.



We are Called Forth to Love & Serve the Lord

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given by Becky's Crafters in honor of our newly ordained and installed officers and those currently serving on Session.

The rose in the Sanctuary this morning announces the birth of Evelyn Grace Kroft, granddaughter of Robin Cooke and Bill Thomasson, who was born on January 2, weighing 7 pounds, 6 ounces. She was the first baby in Minot, ND born in the new year! Congratulations! We celebrate this gift of new life with you.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Jewish & Muslim Victims Joyce Griffiths Liz Martin Peggy Myer Worldwide June Windle Nick Corvino Fred Johnston Nathan Windle **Angie Cain** Aliah Mike Shade Curt & Nancy Budny Clay Knick Art Littman Marge & Tim Higgins Martha Jackson Rick Ours Dan Fleming Tim Loftis Carole Fox Georgia Ricketts **Terry Williams** Lillian Hanks Nancy Roberts Katie Happel Katie Schmidt

Dwayne Joan Aylor Michael Weller Jane Holsinger Graham Taylor Parker Plumb

Charlie Marple Family Norma Windle Albanese Maui Sandy Widell Stephen Armstrong Cindia Stewart

Patty Klinefelter Lori Jones

Carole Schwantes Carlene Lemasters

Nancy Burkley Valarie Foley Rick Friedrichsen Cindy Weeks

Lynn Rosamila José LaMont Jones

Bereaved Israelites & Cindy Correll Palestinians Douglas Dicks

idy Weeks Kennedy Ransom sé LaMont Jones Ukraine

Cindy Correll Ethiopia Church Mekane

Rich Valenti

Ray Anderson

Nancy Kerns

Douglas Dicks Yesus Carol Nutry

№PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY & THEIR FAMILIES

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

SCHEDULE & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THIS WEEK

TODAY – January 21

Ordination, Installation & Commissioning of New Officers; Congregational Meeting; Blood Pressure Checks; Youth Bake Sale

8:30 AM Worship – Sanctuary

9:45 AM Faith Formation – Bageant Room

10:40 AM **Congregational Meeting** – Sanctuary

11:00 AM Worship with the Ordination, Installation & Commissioning of

New Officers – Sanctuary & Livestream

THIS WEEK

Monday: 1:00 PM Disciple Bible Study – Bageant Room

6:00 PM Windsong Open House – Sanctuary

Tuesday: 3:00 PM TVOR Gathering

5:30 PM Highland Food Pantry

Wednesday: 12:00 PM Music at Noon - Sanctuary

4:30 PM LOGOS (Theme: "Winter Storm Warning Night")
6:30 PM Worship on Wodnesday (WOW) Sanstuary

6:30 PM Worship on Wednesday (WOW) – Sanctuary

7:15 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary

Thursday: 10:30 AM Tai Chi – Memorial Sanctuary

10:30 AM WANC Lunch – Fellowship Hall

6:00 PM Fellowship Book Club – Bageant Room

Friday: 9:00 AM Newsletter Assembly – Bageant Room

11:00 AM Java with Julia Open House - Julia Burkley's home

NEXT SUNDAY – January 28, 2024

Four Cents A Meal; GIFT Event; Annual Report Submissions Due Scriptures: Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Mark 1:21-28; Sermon: "Our Unclean Spirits"

8:30 AM Worship – Sanctuary & Livestream

9:45 AM GIFT Event – Fellowship Hall

11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary

WE GIVE THANKS FOR OUR ELECTED LEADERS

We appreciate the faithful work and devoted service of the three Ruling Elders rotating off the Session, **Beth Barr**, **Mary Himelright**, and **Susan Ritter**, and Deacon **Bill Bender**. God's blessings be with you as we serve together in the future through new endeavors! We congratulate our re-commissioned Trustee, **Laverne Cooper**, our re-installed Deacons, **Heather Burton** and **Robin Cooke**, our newly installed Deacon, **Kathy Hoffman**, our newly ordained and installed Ruling Elders, **Rebecca Agbayani**, **Ben Brooks**, and **Jack Marquis**, and our newly installed Ruling Elder, **Marj Praml**. We pray for God's grace to abundantly abide with them. May the Lord encourage and strengthen you daily as we work together!

*Please join us in the Gathering Area after the 11:00 AM service today for a reception in their honor!

MUSIC AT NOON

This **Wednesday, January 24**, the **noon** hour will be filled with the music of our Sanctuary organ and piano. All are welcome! Church members, neighbors, and guests are invited to come and go as their schedules allow for this time of "just music." Feel free to also invite those outside our church family!

OPEN HOUSE!

Pastor Julia is all moved in and settled in her new home and would love to have you come and visit! Drop by any time **11:00 AM – 2:00 PM** on **Friday**, **January 26** for Java with Julia. Jackson (doggo), and Hazel (kitty), look forward to welcoming you! Her address is 104 Braeburn Dr, Winchester. Please park in the marked visitor parking spots right down the block.

GIFT EVENT – NEXT SUNDAY

All are welcome at the GIFT Event next **Sunday, January 28**, at **9:45 AM** in the Fellowship Hall. GIFT means "Generations in Faith Together" as all ages combine one Sunday a month for a themed intergenerational experience. The theme this month is "Once Upon a Star" with a focus on this season of Epiphany. Come hear the fascinating story of *Song of the Stars* and enjoy some special Epiphany experiences. It will be a morning of wonder and intrigue. There will be some special morning refreshments (STAR cookies, GOLD coins, and more) and thought-provoking conversation. Your day is bound to be enriched by your time at GIFT.

OPC COFFEE HOUSE & OPEN MIC

The OPC Coffee House & Open Mic previously scheduled for next Sunday, January 28, has been cancelled.

KEEPING IN STEP WITH OUR CHILD SAFETY POLICY

Everyone's safety is of utmost importance at Opequon Church. Over the years, we have worked to develop a strong Child Safety Policy. An important component of that policy is that background checks are conducted on anyone that works with children and youth through the ministries of OPC. The Opequon Safety Team feels it is crucial to do official background checks every five years. This year (2024) will be a time when we need to be contacting many of you for the five-year refresher of background checks. Please be patient and understand that this is for everyone's safety. We will be doing background checks gradually now that 2024 has begun and as we move through the early part of the year. You may be contacted and asked to complete a form which begins this renewal process. Thank you.

OPIE'S PLAYHOUSE TOYS NEEDED

We are looking for a few items that can be used for our monthly Opie's Playhouse time. Do you have any GENTLY USED play food, play dishes, baby dolls, or wooden puzzles for YOUNG children that you might be willing to donate to Opequon for Opie's Playhouse? Feel free to talk with Joanne Berson (jfberson@gmail.com) or Carole Witt (dce@opequonchurch.org) if you have any of these items to donate. We would love to hear from you.

ROOTS & SHOOTS GARDEN NEWS

Roots & Shoots is looking for volunteers to pick up produce from the garden during the growing season and deliver to the food pantries. Deliveries happen every Tuesday morning to Highland and the first and third Thursday of each month to Sherando Food Pantry.

We are also in need of a Garden Administrator to keep spreadsheet totals of the produce, be the contact for community groups who want to volunteer, and send info to the church office for the bulletin and newsletter. Grayson Moyer, our long-time Garden Administrator, is graduating from college and moving away. We are so thankful for her dedication and commitment to Roots & Shoots and we wish her the very best! To volunteer to help, contact Dana Kelly (davedana@comcast.net).

2024 MEDICAL MISSION – MEDICAL SUPPLIES

Our Medical Mission Trip Team is collecting over-the-counter medical supplies listed below **now through January 28** to bring to the Dominican Republic. Expiration dates for all donated items MUST be AFTER 3/31/2025. Please place items in the black and yellow tubs in the Gathering Area. To support our team financially, visit our MMI fundraising page at https://mmiorg.app.neoncrm.com/MMIOPC (see the January newsletter for

https://mmiorg.app.neoncrm.com/MMIOPC. (see the January newsletter for more details)

Vitamins (NOT gummy; adult / prenatal / children's; with / without iron)
Acetaminophen (adult / children's)
Ibuprofen / Motrin (adult / children's)
Naproxen / Aleve
Omeprazole / Pantoprazole
Pepcid / Famotidine

Flonase / Nasacort
Moisturizing Eye Drops
Voltaren Gel / Icy Hot
Triple Antibiotic Ointment
Claritin / Zyrtec / Allegra (adult /
children's)
Selsun Blue / Dandruff Shampoo
Urine Test Strips

CHURCH OFFICE/STAFF SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

➤ January 22-28: David Witt & Rebekah Witt — continuing education

To reach a staff member or if a pastoral concern arises, contact the church office (540-662-1843 or office@opequonchurch.org) or please note who is away and email one of the pastors directly and we will get back to you in a timely manner.

CALLED MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

The Session of Opequon Presbyterian Church calls for a meeting of the congregation **today, January 21, 2024**, at **10:40 AM** in the Sanctuary. The purpose of the meeting is to approve proposed changes to the church's Deacon/Congregational Care Ministry, changes that have been approved and recommended by Session. The recommendation is:

- 1. The number of active deacons be doubled from six (6) to twelve (12).
- 2. The normal deacon term would change from two years to three years.
- 3. Initially, the expanded number of active deacons would include four (4) deacons serving one-year terms; four (4) deacons serving two-year terms; and four (4) deacons serving three-year terms. Two of the current four deacons will serve one year terms; the other two current deacons will serve two year terms. One new deacon will be elected to a one year term; one new deacon will be elected to a two year term; three new deacons will be elected to three year terms.
- 4. There would be a two-term limit.
- 5. Instead of individually ordained deacons as we have now, the deacons would now comprise a Board of Deacons/Diaconate.
- 6. The Diaconate would have designated Co-Moderators and a designated Secretary.

"The ministry of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and sound judgment should be chosen for this ministry." — Book of Order: G-2.0201

Background: The Office of Deacon was renewed and revived at Opequon in 2007 with the election and ordination of four deacons. That was later expanded to six deacons in 2014. This newly proposed expansion reflects the need for more deacons within a growing church where congregational care has increased and expands the leadership base. It formalizes the overall structure with a diaconate. And, it allows for a diversity of gifts, with some deacons focusing on leadership roles while others will focus on serving and helping.

Please be present for this meeting as active participants in the life of Opequon Church, exercising your right and responsibility of membership.

2024 CHURCH OFFICERS THE SESSION—ELDERS

Ann Smith		
Class of 2024		
Steve F. Bock Jr		
Class of 2025		
Shannon Brannon		
Class of 2026		
Rebecca Agbayani		
DEACONS		
Winter Brooks		
TRUSTEES		
Laverne Cooper, Vice Chair		

WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR TODAY

8:30 AM Worship

Liturgist: Ellen Cunningham **Beadle:** Brenda Steffens

Door Greeters: Brian & Brenda Steffens **Door Greeters**: Ben & Winter Brooks

Ushers: Terry Hartman, Heide Mohler,

Mason Vandertoorn, Jordan Hartman,

Jace Hartman

Acolyte: Mason Vandertoorn

Bell Ringer: Mo Mohler

11:00 AM Worship

Liturgist: Vern Gamble Beadle: Judy Moody

Ushers: Andy Homan, Joel Witt,

Kevin Reed, Shiloh Ervin, Wyatt Ervin

Acolyte: Shiloh Ervin

Livestream: Susan Ritter, Brad Jordan

WORSHIP NOTES & REFLECTIONS

Notes on Today's Music

> How did today's music witness to God's call to you?

Notes on Today's Prayers

> Where do I need to focus my prayers this week?

Notes on Today's Conversation with All Ages

> How did Jesus' followers sense his awesomeness?

Notes on Today's Scripture and Sermon

- > How does God meet us where we are?
- > When has God's call been clear? Urgent? Persistent?
- > How does Jonah feel?
- > When have you resisted God's call?
- > How do the fishermen feel?
- > How have you responded to God's call on your life?
- ≥ Is God's call to us today urgent? If so, how?