OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



October 25, 2026

Reformation Sunday

OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH **www.opequonchurch.org**
217 Opequon Church Lane 540-662-1843
Winchester, VA 22602 office@opequonchurch.org

Pastor ..... David R. Witt
Parish Associate ..... Tracie Martin
Church Office Administrator ..... Rachel Lesink
Church Finance Administrator ..... Ken Smiy
Director of Christian Education ..... Carole Witt
Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries ..... Rebekah Witt
Director of Music ..... Susan Homan
Organist/Pianist ..... Garrett Jones
Facilities Coordinator ..... Robert Sydnor
Nursery Supervisor ..... Laurie Carver
Faith Community Nurses ..... Bill Martin, Patty Klinefelter, 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
or scan the QR code here:

Follow us on Facebook:
@opequonpresbyterianchurch

8:30 AM & 11:00 AM SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Twenty-second Sunday After Pentecost – 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.

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† = All who are able, please stand. **Bold print = All in unison.**

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE.....*Sing Creations Music On*
By: Stephen Paulus

THE CHURCH BELL RINGS
GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ENTRANCE OF THE WORD & THE LIGHT
†GATHERING SONG No. 363 (v. 1, 4) ..... *Rejoice, the Lord Is King!*

Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come
and gather all the saints to their eternal home.
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

†CALL TO WORSHIP
Be still! We come to quiet ourselves in this haven of holiness.
Be still and know that God is our Hope, our Help, our Refuge, and our Redeemer.
We come to discern the Word that can set us free.
Be still and know that God is our Hope, our Help, our Refuge, and our Redeemer.
God has made a new covenant, writing His law in our hearts.
We will know the truth, and the truth will make us free

†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

Friends, as we gather our thoughts into quietness, we confess our sins to the One who knows us best. We know ourselves chosen, adopted as children of God. We dare to believe that you and I are part of a plan conceived before the foundation of the universe. But are we living as God's children? Are we honoring our inheritance? We know ourselves called, but we're so easily distracted. We know ourselves loved, but we balk at the cost. Come, friends, let us confess our sins to the Lord.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord, you are our Creator, we are the work of your hands; you are our Shepherd, we are your flock; you are our Redeemer, we are the people you bought back; you are our God, we belong to you. We confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. We pray in Christ's name. Amen.

(Moments of Silent Prayer)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Friends, our God has poured out grace upon grace, freely, in great abundance, even on you, even on me, although we never earned it and don't deserve it. In Christ we are made new; all your sins and mine crumble away. In Christ we are forgiven, lavished with gift upon gift, and released into hope to live for praise and for glory.

LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

†RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 643 (v. 3) ..... *Now Thank We All Our God*
All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,
to Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,
the God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.

†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..... *With All Your Heart*
By: J. Paul Williams & Joseph M. Martin

More love to Thee, O Christ; more love to Thee. Hear Thou the prayer I make on bended knee. This is my earnest plea: more love, O Christ to Thee. More love to Thee, more love to Thee, more love to Thee! Come, love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, with all your strength. Come, love the Lord your God with all your heart. As Christ has taught us, we must learn the way of love. There is no greater law in earth or heav'n above. Love your neighbor. Love him as yourself. This we know is God's command, love and grace, His perfect plan. Do this and live! Come love the Lord with all your heart. Love is patient. Love is kind. Love is not boastful, never rude. Love is not proud but is always humble. God's love rejoices in the truth. This is my earnest plea: More love, O Christ to Thee; with all my heart, more love to Thee! More love to Thee!

THE READING OF GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Psalm 46:1-3, 8-11 ..... Pew Bible p. 450
NEW TESTAMENT READING: Matthew 22:34-46 ..... Pew Bible p. 804

CONVERSATION WITH ALL AGES....."A Puzzle"
Nursery (Infants – Age 4)

†HYMN No. 353 ..... *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*
My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;

I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

[refrain] **On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;**
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness seems to hide his face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil [refrain]

His oath, his covenant, his blood
support me in the whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way,
he then is all my hope and stay. [refrain]

When he shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in him be found,
dressed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne. [refrain]

SERMON......"Reformed & Still Reforming"
Pastor Tracie Martin

~ WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD ~

CELEBRATING OUR VOLUNTEERS & 2026 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

OFFERING OF TITHES & GIFTS
OFFERTORY MUSIC..... *You Do Not Walk Alone*
By: Elaine Hagenberg

†THE DOXOLOGY (Hymnal No. 606) & PRAYER OF DEDICATION
Lord, we don't own any of this. We are stewards of what you have entrusted to us. Everything here was yours before it was ours. We give it back gladly. Use it for the work of this church and the good of our community and your world, through Christ our Lord. Amen

†THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH ..... *The Apostles' Creed*
I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;

on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. 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. 305..... *Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!*

Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns supreme,
empowering us to catch the vision, dream the dream!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Let courage be our friend; let wisdom be our guide,
as we in mission magnify the Crucified!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Come sing, O church in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
For Christ the Lord has triumphed o'er the ages long!
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

POPPIN' INTROIT ..... *Popcorn* By: Paul Harris
STEWARDSHIP POPS

†CHARGE & BLESSING
†CLOSING RESPONSE ..... (Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH)

God's Word alone shall be our light,
Through darkest hour, through fiercest fight;
By grace we stand, in Christ made free,
All glory, Lord, belongs to Thee.

†POSTLUDE

CALLED MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

The Session of Opequon Presbyterian Church calls for a meeting of the congregation on **Sunday, November 8**, at **10:45 AM** for the purpose of hearing the report of the Nominating Committee and proceeding to elect new officers. The committee will nominate the following: four Ruling Elders (**Rebekah DesMarais, Andy Homan, Jack Marquis, Sheyenne Ervin**); five Deacons (**Debbie Bender, Ben Brooks, Mary Elson, Judy Gaines, Judy Moody**); and one Trustee (**Thom Picciuto**). Nominations may also be made from the floor with the prior consent of the person nominated. Please join us for this opportunity of electing leadership as you exercise your privilege and responsibility as members of Opequon Church.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Pat DeButts
Brenda Steffens
June Windle Family
Cindy Sousa
Cheryl DeCeault
Sara Frey
Aliah Farquhar
Mary Hood
Hurricane Victims
Ben Costello
Family of Frank Crosen
Family of John Prosser
Bob Baird & Family
Ben Barnes & Family
Hanley Ervin Family
Pope Leo XIV
Katie Happel
Dale & Marsha Barley
Gwen Moyer
Will St. Pierre
Carol Fries
Joan Patton
Clayton Carbaugh
Al Schollenberger
Gary Rutherford
Vern Gamble
Chick Doroffee
Nepal Disaster
Rick Ours
Judy Gaines
Bill Gesell
Lorin & Bill Goulart
Kraig Hawkins
Roger Callis
Tim & Katherine Loftis
Jim Keeler
Marcia Jaureguizar
Lyn Warren
Linda Swiger
Mike Shade
Mo & Heide Mohler
Marge & Tim Higgins
Susan Arthur
Tammy Mowery Earhart
Dan Cammer
Middle East War
Lori Jones & Stephen Armstrong
Mike & Trish Crawford
JoAnne Farrell
Judy Camper
David Lewis
All Struggling with Mental Illness
Nancy Kerns
Jewish & Muslim Victims Worldwide
Cindy Corell
Katie Wolf
Ukraine
Ethiopia Church Mekane Yesus

THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY & THEIR FAMILIES

Caleb Smith, Kaylynn Tavenner, 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

OUR SCHOOL OF THE WEEK

Staff & Students at Daniel Morgan Intermediate School in Winchester, VA

SCHEDULE & ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THIS WEEK

TODAY – October 25

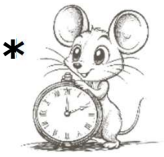
Reformation Sunday; Volunteer Appreciation Sunday; 4 Cents A Meal

8:30 AM Worship – Sanctuary
9:45 AM GIFT Event – Memorial Sanctuary
11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary & Livestream
12:15 PM Chili Cook-Off – Fellowship Hall
1:30 PM Scouting "Duty to God" – Memorial Sanctuary

THIS WEEK

Monday:	5:30 PM	Windsong Rehearsal & Party – Memorial Sanctuary
	6:30 PM	Boundary Training – Fellowship Hall
	7:00 PM	Astronomy Club – Assembly Room
Tuesday:	12:00 PM	TVOR Gathering
	1:00 PM	Disciple Faith Formation – Bageant Room
	5:30 PM	Highland Food Pantry
Wednesday:	4:30 PM	Logos (Theme: Bring a Friend to 'Table & Treats' Night)
	5:00 PM	Tables & Treats Event – Fellowship Hall
	6:15 PM	Confirmation Class – Bageant Room
	7:15 PM	Choir Practice – Sanctuary
	8:00 PM	Christmas Cantata Rehearsal – Sanctuary
Thursday:	10:30 AM	Tai Chi – Memorial Sanctuary
Saturday:	10:00 AM	Jubilee Kitchen – First Presbyterian Church

*** Remember the time changes back one hour tonight! ***



NEXT SUNDAY – November 1

All Saints' Sunday; Communion
Scriptures: Revelation 7:9-17; 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Sermon: "Remembering the People"

8:00 AM – 1:00 PM Car Vacuuming Fundraiser – Parking Lot & Curb
8:30 AM Worship – Sanctuary
9:45 AM Opie's Playhouse – Memorial Sanctuary
9:45 AM Faith Formation – Bageant Room & Zoom
11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary & Livestream

"GOD'S DREAM" – GIFT EVENT TODAY (9:45 AM)

GIFT Events are intergenerational experiences that are held between the two morning worship services on the 4th Sunday each month. They are joyful, interactive, and very relaxed. Come try it out **TODAY** at **9:45 AM** in the Memorial Sanctuary. There is a place at the table waiting for YOU. The theme is 'God's Dream'. This inspirational story will delight you along with the fun activities at your table and some delicious Apple Crisp, Muffins, and Applesauce. Your presence is a GIFT!

IT'S CHILI COOK-OFF TIME!
It's time for our traditional Chili Cook-Off! Be sure to bring your appetite to the Fellowship Hall **TODAY** at **12:15 PM** and enjoy an assortment of chili with all the fixins', vegetable beef soup, chicken soup, cornbread, desserts, and drinks with our OPC family and friends!

TABLES & TREATS – This Wednesday, October 28 (5:00 – 5:45 PM)
Bring the whole family and your friends and enjoy going from table-to-table in the Gathering Area. Play games, collect treats, learn about what OPC's Parish Nurses do, see a real Beekeeper, and lots more fun! Costumes are encouraged, but not necessary. If you are interested in being a "Table Host," please contact Susan Homan (shoman@opequonchurch.org) or Wendy Wygant (wygant766@yahoo.com)

OPIE'S PLAYHOUSE – Next Sunday
Opie's Playhouse is a monthly gathering specially planned for children and caregivers. Please join us next **Sunday, November 1**, at **9:45 AM** in the Memorial Sanctuary for toys, snacks, and juice for our little ones, and coffee and conversation for our adults. We will roll out the carpets, bring in the toys, and the fun begins!

THANKSGIVING BANANA BOXES
Help fill banana boxes with donations of Thanksgiving food for local families in need! Boxes contain a list of items needed and should be returned by **November 15**. Return your filled boxes to the church on a Sunday or during the designated drop-off times: **Monday, November 9 (5:00 PM – 6:00 PM)** or **Friday, November 13 (12:00 PM – 1:00 PM)**. Helpers will be available to accept and unload your boxes.

PREPARING FOR ADVENT!
You probably don't want to think about Advent yet. Of course, we haven't even had Thanksgiving! However, in preparation for Advent, we need to begin some things now. For 23 years now, we will again produce and author our own Advent Devotional. We cannot do it without YOU. We need writers! The theme of our Advent Devotional is "ADVENT INSPIRATIONS". Would you be willing to share your thoughts on meaningful Advent memories, traditions, seasonal wisdom or encouragement? Your reflections will help make our annual Advent Devotional a treasured possession. You are invited to be a writer and contribute to this year's Advent Devotional. Let Carole Witt know you are willing to write something. (dce@opequonchurch.org) All submissions are due to Carole by **November 15**.

In Remembrance:
June Windle
September 12, 1935 – October 18, 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

CAR VACUUMING FUNDRAISER – November 1

Fall is here and we all want our vehicles to be clean once again! Pull up to the church parking lot curb **NEXT SUNDAY, 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM**. The Youth will have shop vacs ready, and you'll see the satisfaction that comes from a freshly vacuumed carpet. Please remove small objects from the floor of your vehicle. Donations will support Youth Mission Trips & Camps/Conferences. Thank you!

WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR TODAY

8:30 AM Worship

Liturgist: Rebekah DesMarias
Beadle: Carroll Youngblood
Door Greeters: Pam Olsen, Gretchen Rusch, Dave Rusch
Ushers: Betty Chicklo, June Malone, Alyce Callahan, Hunter Frey, Hailey Frey, Sam Shaffer
Acolyte: Hunter Frey
Building Stewards: Jamie Brannon, Shannon Brannon

11:00 AM Worship

Liturgist: Kyle Homan
Beadle: Judy Moody
Door Greeters: Tiny Sizemore, Bonnie Pitzer
Ushers: Annemarie Matthews, Dennis Boyd, Pat Heavner, Aubrey McGunnigle, Logan McGunnigle, Emily Russell
Acolyte: Aubrey McGunnigle
Livestream: Susan Ritter, Rebekah Witt

WORSHIP NOTES & REFLECTIONS

Notes on Today's Music

✍ How did today's music witness to your faith? Did it energize you?
✍ Are there hymns you miss singing?

Notes on Today's Prayers

✍ What personal prayers would you add to those said during worship today?
✍ Do you find it easier to pray aloud or silently?

Notes on Today's Conversation with All Ages

✍ What parts of the PC USA insignia feel most important to you? Why?

Notes on Today's Scripture & Sermon

✍ What would it mean to love God with your whole self?
✍ Would your approach to God change?
✍ Would God's approach to you change?

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Ranch flavor is the new ketchup. In fact, Ranch is so popular that Heinz has introduced "Kranch" – a ranch flavored ketchup. It is said to be selling well. Here at OPC, we go through almost as much Ranch dressing as chocolate pudding – which is a lot – and we don't even add any tomatoes! At OPC, popcorn is often served in a big bowl for everyone to enjoy, just as "Radical Hospitality" emphasizes welcoming all people into community. If you want extra flavor and want to think everyone will like it, choose Ranch.

When you think about it, Ranch flavor is just one way OPC welcomes people. We greet them at the door, make sure we can welcome them by name with name tags for all, and there is always someone to help folks feel at home. When they enter the church, they see people of all ages chatting, laughing, and handing our bulletins… and, today, they even get Ranch flavored popcorn!

HOW TO MAKE RANCH POPCORN

Ingredients:

- **½ cup Popcorn Kernels**
- **Butter or Neutral Cooking Oil** (for popping & coating; sunflower oil works well)
- **Ranch Seasoning** (powdered buttermilk, garlic powder, onion powder, dried dill, parsley, chives, salt, black pepper)
- Optional (for extra flavor): **Soy Sauce, Worcestershire Sauce, Smoked Paprika, or Grated Parmesan**

Pop the Corn:

- Use a stovetop pot, air popper, or microwave to pop the popcorn.
- If popping on a stovetop…
  - Heat the oil on medium and add 2 or 3 test kernels and wait until they pop.
  - Add the rest of the kernels and shake occasionally.
  - Remove the pot from the heat when the popping has slowed. (Do not wait until the popping stops or things will burn.)

Prepare the Seasoning:

- Mix the ranch seasoning ingredients in a small bowl.
  - Pre-mixing allows the flavors to meld.
- Sprinkle seasoning directly onto your bowl of hot popcorn and gently stir to evenly coat the popcorn.
  - If the seasoning does not appear to be sticking, a little drizzle of melted butter or a neutral oil will help.