



The Opequon Spirit

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

September 2021

WORSHIP IN SEPTEMBER

8:30 am In-Person
11:00 am In-Person & Livestream

Sunday, September 5th

Psalm 125, James 2:1-17
Sermon: "Moved to Action"
Communion, CCAP

Sunday, September 12th

Psalm 19, James 3:1-12
Sermon: "Using Our Words"

Sunday, September 19th

Back to Church: "Hope Is Here!"

Psalm 1, James 3:13-4:3, 7-8
Sermon: "Guided into Wisdom"

Sunday, September 26th

Psalm 124, James 5:13-20
Sermon: "People of Prayer"
Four Cents a Meal

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR BURNEICE WITT

Please join us for a Memorial Service celebrating our mom and Nana on Sunday, September 26 at 4:00 pm. A video of Burneice with family and friends through the years will be shown in the Gathering Area prior to and following the service. We respectfully request that all attendees please wear masks.

The Witt Family

WITH GRATITUDE FOR YOUR GIFTS...
WE ENCOURAGE YOUR CONTINUED
FINANCIAL SUPPORT!

NOTES FROM THE PASTOR:

"Old School Still Works"

"We are invited to get to know God, invited to be God's friends. We are invited to live in God's presence, a blessing that has no end. We are invited to know our Creator, what a marvelous mystery. You are invited. (I'm invited?) You are invited. (I'm invited!) We are invited, we're all invited. Won't you come along with me?" *We Are Invited*, VBS Song

"Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard John's witness and followed Jesus. The first thing he did after finding where Jesus lived was find his own brother, Simon, telling him, 'We've found the Messiah' (that is, "Christ"). He immediately led him to Jesus." John 1:42-43

Dear Friends in Christ,

I wish I could sing for you the song I've quoted above. It is wonderful! I learned it and then taught it to children at Vacation Bible School at our church in Waynesboro one summer. I love what it says about God, about God's invitation extended to us, and about our invitation extended to others. The word "invitation" has always stood out to me. Invitations represent hospitality, kindness, often inclusivity and sometimes grace. That is certainly true of Christ's invitation to us, an invitation to embrace the forgiveness, love, and new life he offers. And, as revealed through John's witness, an invitation that is then passed on from follower to follower, seeker to seeker. That sounds like some thoughtful and intentional steps to take, on the way to radical hospitality, one of our priorities as a church.

At our WOW service in July at the picnic shelter, six people attended who had never been to worship at Opequon church before.

And each of those people had been invited by someone else! What a great gift and celebration of hospitality. When I was reflecting on this with folks at our Visioning meeting a couple of weeks later, I noted, "So I guess this means old school still works." Old school? Yes, verbally asking someone, person-to-person, to come along to a fellowship gathering, VBS, faith formation, our men's, women's or youth group, Tai Chi, LOGOS, a class or meeting, and worship may be "old school" but let me tell you, it is still the most effective means to include others! For years, as I have heard people tell how they came to Opequon, as our session has asked new members how they heard about Opequon, we have been told, "_____ invited me!" Personal invitation, yes, old school; but it continues to be a way we reach people, to share with them what and who is meaningful to us. While "old school" doesn't work at all in many instances, when it comes to being Christ's faithful witnesses to the hope he brings, the old school of extending an invitation is still the way to go.

Of course, during these COVID days, the intent or focus of our invitations may be quite different. We may tell someone not only about traditional worship and gatherings inside, but also about outdoor worship, outdoor or smaller group gatherings, ZOOM meetings and classes. COVID has indeed born new ways of interacting, new ways of doing things, and introduced us to opportunities for being together that we never would have imagined (for example, "Snack & Chat" each Wednesday at 12 noon via ZOOM!). So, don't stop inviting people. Don't pause from being an "old school witness." Tell others that "hope is found here," with Christ and with Christ's people.

Together in Christ's Service,

David

JUST THINKIN'

Rain is falling as I write this. I have waited a long, long time for an old-fashioned rainy day. Today is it, and I even had some of my appointments canceled this morning so I can truly listen to the raindrops and allow them to refresh me as well as our gardens.

For weeks now Bill and I have been watering each night, checking the Weather Channel in hope of rain. We have had a few sudden spurts, the type of shower they have in Florida every day at 3:00. Ours, sadly, have lasted less than 5 minutes. Other areas have been better watered but the same mountain that makes cell phones fuzzy and keeps us from needing to shovel snow seem to be working overtime this summer. Clouds reach the border of our area, split and water Wardensville, and then move on, leaving us thirsty.

Today, however, is the kind of day that will green August lawns and fill the bird bath. How we have needed this. The refreshment of the drops on the lawn seems to restore my spirit, as well.

I remember being a child and running all over the lawn in a bathing suit on days like this. The grass became beautifully slippery. I was not concerned about falling much then. My friends and I would jump in the blow-up pool and then just sprint all over as we tried to dodge the drops. We never succeeded, but that was a big part of the fun. Later, wrapped in fuzzy towels, we would drink Kool-Ade and laugh. Once we warmed up, back into the rain we would go. Puddles were a gift then. Splashing was joy.

I think it is good to remember those times of childhood freedom and fun. I was not worried about catching something if I played with friends. That something would almost certainly be a cold at worst. Colds would pass quickly. Later, when Polio became a threat, my confidence in my parent's ability to keep me safe was untarnished, so even that scourge was not my concern.

Today, I find myself in a completely different place. It is hard to discern when and where I should worry. There are so many needs clangin in my head that it feels impossible to discern when and where I am needed. Nadia Bolz-Weber writes in a recent blog, "I just do not think our psyches were developed to hold, feel and respond to everything coming at them right now; every tragedy, injustice, sorrow and natural disaster happening to every human across the entire planet, in real time every minute of the day." (The Corners, August 18, 2021)

I listen to the news and cry for people in Afghanistan. I read about the challenges facing children returning to school and want to make things OK. I go on social media and am told that I am not, cannot, can never be enough. Anything I can think of doing is just not going to make a difference. Is it any wonder people are tired, depressed, burned out? Not one of us can even be part of fixing everything. It is simply not possible.

Years ago, I learned that burning out comes from feeling that what one can do is not appreciated and feeling that one can never do enough. This is hard enough, but what are we to do when it is completely evident to even the most casual observer that everyone we know is also burned out? How do we heal our sad, damaged souls when things are beyond chaotic, beyond overload? Where is the simple prayer that fixed everything when I was 8? Where is the warm, fuzzy towel that will warm my spirit enough to let me go back into the storm?

Sadly, I am now a grown up. Even worse, I am an older adult. It is up to me to do what I can when I can.....even when that means warming my own towel. I simply cannot fix everything in the ways I want. Trying to discern what is mine to do and what is better left to someone else that confounds me.

Last evening, Session met to plan for OPC's near-future. They needed to decide what we

will do and when about recent changes in COVID. This is not mine. They have led this church well and will continue to do so. On the news, I see planes full of refugees fleeing Afghanistan. I read of people falling from flying planes because somehow they thought they could hold on to the wheels and get to safety. My heart breaks, but this is not mine to control either. Someone needs to act. That someone is not me.

I am reminded of the old joke where a man says he makes all of the large decisions in the family and his wife makes the small ones. His wife decides what they will buy, where they will live and how they will spend their money. He decides whether NATO is a good or bad thing, whether or not to annex Mexico, and who should sit on the Supreme Court. Bill used to tell that one often.

I think the most important thing to remember is that we are am not alone. I belong to a community; a community of faith, a community of fellow workers, and we all strive together. Somehow this gathering of opinions and decisions is remarkably effective.

I did not make today's rain. I can not end grief or trouble or even stress, in most circumstances. I can, however, be part of solutions. I can and do pray – a powerful thing in this world. I can encourage those who are tasked with making hard decisions. I can continue to discern what is and is not mine to say or to do. I can accept refreshment when it is offered, and once I have greened up a bit, I can return the favor, as well.

Grace **CHURCH STAFF NOTES**

Reminders...

- The church office is open from 9:00 am-2:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Those are Officer Administrator Susan Ritter's hours.
- Sexton Robert Sydnor works from 7:00 am-3:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

- DCE Carole Witt and Pastor David Witt are off on Fridays. Pastor Tracie is normally in the church office on Friday mornings.

This Month...

Pastor David will be attending the Stewardship Kaleidoscope Conference in Cincinnati from September 13-15, leaving right after worship on Sunday, September 12. Please contact Pastor Tracie during that time with pastoral concerns.

LETTER FROM SESSION

Dear Friends and Members of Opequon Presbyterian Church,

At our meeting on Tuesday evening, we amended our current guidelines for gatherings within the church building to bring them into agreement with current CDC guidelines. Per CDC guidelines, masks are recommended indoors for all individuals, including vaccinated people; masks are required for unvaccinated people. Because of close proximity and the inability to mask, eating indoors in large groups in small areas will also be prohibited. As always, with a review at each session meeting, we will monitor the current conditions within our church and community and make adjustments as needed. We appreciate your cooperation, flexibility, and support. We will strive to care for all people as we love our neighbors.

The Session

Pastor David Witt, Moderator

Elder Susan Ritter, Acting Clerk of Session

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

August 17, 2021 Stated Meeting

- Session updated the response to the COVID pandemic by recommending masks for vaccinated individuals per CDC guidelines.
- The Nursery will re-open September 12, 2021.
- Roots & Shoots was featured in newspaper articles August 9, 2021 in both The

Winchester Star and The Northern Virginia Daily.

- Mission will have a September Food Drive.
- Building & Grounds shared a detailed report from Alan McKay about the maintenance and plans for the Memorial Garden. Mike Wygant has added and replaced memorial bricks in this garden so that they are all current.
- Session approved the moving of \$100,000 from the Susan Lee Bequest to the Endowment Fund.
- Technology is using the new Point-Tilt-Zoom camera that is able to "get over the back of the congregation's heads" and is going to seek quotes to replace the existing 15-year-old Audio Mixer.
- Personnel is working with the APNC and the applicants for the Office Administrator position.
- Lisa Reed (Worship Team) discussed October 10, 2021 Organ Dedication Concert.
- Visioning is working through the Five Pillars and will meet with Technology and Communications in September.
- The following items were approved unanimously via email vote in July and August 2021:
 - Funding of tree/stump removal
 - Continuing Education/Conference September 12-15 for Pastor David.
 - \$1100 Gift to the Friends of the Gore Home (Ethiopia) from the Susan Lee Bequest funds.
 - Postpone the Confirmation Class to 2022-2023.
 - Approve a new LIFT Faith Formation program.



SEPTEMBER

MINISTRY TEAM NIGHT

Tuesday, September 7, 2021
Hybrid Meeting – In Person & ZOOM
Fellowship Hall
Devotions—6:30 pm
Ministry Team Meetings—7:00 pm

FALL USHERS

- 1st Sundays, 8:30 AM – Graham Taylor, Steve Bock
1st Sundays, 11:00 AM – Mike & Fran Jeffries, Vicki Crites, Vern Gamble
2nd Sundays, 8:30 AM – Mike & Wendy Wygant, Pat Williams, Alex Plumb
2nd Sundays, 11:00 AM – Bill Robinson, Kyle Homan
3rd Sundays, 8:30 AM – Terry Hartman, Heide Mohler
3rd Sundays, 11:00 AM – Andy Homan, Joel Witt, Joe Seaton
4th Sundays, 8:30 AM – Betty Chicklo, June Malone
4th Sundays, 11:00 AM – Annemarie Matthews, Carolyn & Gary Rutherford



SENIOR OUTREACH MINISTRY

Join us in spreading kindness to our neighbors who live in low-income housing on **September 12 at 12:15pm**. Let Rebekah Witt know if you'd like to participate. Donations welcome: Paper towels, toilet paper, low-sodium vegetables, tuna & chicken cans, pudding cups, fruit cups, soup cans, 2-in-1 shampoo & conditioner, and soap.

COLLECTING FOR CCAP IN SEPTEMBER



Peanut Butter & Jelly

THE FAIR TRADE EQUAL EXCHANGE Kiosk

is full and waiting for you to purchase your coffee, tea, or candy bars. **PLEASE! DO NOT LEAVE CASH IN THE KIOSK.** Put your payment in an envelope and place it in the offering plate (if you purchase on a Sunday) or give it to Susan in the Office. If using a check, write *Coffee Exchange* on the Memo line. As always, thank you for your support of this Mission project.



Another note: **Volunteers are needed for the 8:30 am Sunday service every 4th Sunday to tend to the Coffee Exchange Table.** You will not need to give change or hold money. All payments should be put in an envelope and placed in the offering plate. Customers are also encouraged to pay online if they don't have their checkbook. Please just write down on the provided notepad the kind of product, quantity and purchaser's name. The table will be set up and taken down, so the volunteer will not need to do this.

NEWS FROM THE EVANGELISM CORNER

Hope is Here!

You're warmly invited to join us in worship September 19th for Back to Church Sunday! You may come in person for our 8:30 am or 11:00 am service following current safety precautions, or Livestream beginning at 11:00 and anytime afterwards at your convenience. The National Back to Church theme for this year is "Hope is Here" based on Romans 15:13. Do come and hear how God remains our HOPE in these days of continuing

challenge. May we be the Church sharing His love with those around us!

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13 NIV

NEWCOMERS' SEPTEMBER SOCIAL UPDATE

Regretfully, we need to postpone the September 19th gathering planned for the many Newcomers we are blessed to have at Opequon. Be on the lookout for a rescheduled date to share in this time of getting to know others who've joined our Church Family throughout the pandemic. We're so happy you've connected with us as the Body of Christ at Opequon! With great excitement we look forward to a time of fellowship as we get to know each other in the near future!

HEALTH MINISTRY NEWS



Per CDC guidance – Delta Variant

CDC recommends that people with moderately to severely compromised immune systems receive an additional dose of mRNA COVID-19 vaccine at least 28 days after a second dose of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.

CDC is also recommending a third COVID shot of Pfizer or Moderna after September 20 and at least eight months after your second dose.

Per CDC guidance – Delta Variant

On July 27, 2021, CDC released updated guidance on the need for urgently increasing COVID-19 vaccination coverage and a recommendation for everyone in areas of substantial or high transmission to wear a mask in public indoor places, even if they are fully vaccinated. CDC issued this new guidance due to several concerning developments and newly emerging data signals. First is a reversal

in the downward trajectory of cases. In the days leading up to the guidance update, CDC saw a rapid and alarming rise in the COVID case and hospitalization rates around the country. In late June, our 7-day moving average of reported cases was around 12,000. On July 27, the 7-day moving average of cases reached over 60,000. This case rate looked more like the rate of cases we had seen before the vaccine was widely available.

Second, new data began to emerge that the Delta variant was more infectious and was leading to increased transmissibility when compared to other variants, even in vaccinated individuals. This includes recently published data from CDC and their public health partners, unpublished surveillance data that will be publicly available in the coming weeks, information included in CDC's updated Science Brief on COVID-19 Vaccines and Vaccination, and ongoing outbreak investigations linked to the Delta variant. Delta is currently the predominant strain of the virus in the United States

The Delta variant is highly contagious, more than 2x as contagious as previous variants. Some data suggest the Delta variant might cause more severe illness than previous strains in unvaccinated persons. In two different studies from Canada and Scotland, patients infected with the Delta variant were more likely to be hospitalized than patients infected with Alpha or the original virus strains.

Unvaccinated people remain the greatest concern: Although breakthrough infections happen much less often than infections in unvaccinated people, individuals infected with the Delta variant, including fully vaccinated people with symptomatic breakthrough infections, can transmit it to others. CDC is continuing to assess data on whether fully vaccinated people with asymptomatic breakthrough infections can transmit.

However, the greatest risk of transmission is among unvaccinated people who are much more likely to contract, and therefore transmit the virus. Fully vaccinated people with Delta

variant breakthrough infections can spread the virus to others. However, vaccinated people appear to be infectious for a shorter period: Previous variants typically produced less virus in the body of infected fully vaccinated people (breakthrough infections) than in unvaccinated people. In contrast, the Delta variant seems to produce the same high amount of virus in both unvaccinated and fully vaccinated people. However, like other variants, the amount of virus produced by Delta breakthrough infections in fully vaccinated people also goes down faster than infections in unvaccinated people. This means fully vaccinated people are likely infectious for less time than unvaccinated people.

COMING SOON



**Flu shots to be offered at
OPC in OCTOBER**

**Stay tuned for upcoming
dates!**



THE LATEST IN LOGOS

We kick off September with our **LOGOS Staff Orientation on September 1, 5:30pm** at the Picnic Shelter. (NOTE the CHANGE IN LOCATION) A full dinner meal is provided along with all the fun planned as we get on track for this LOGOS year. All LOGOS staff are asked to attend.

REGISTRATION for our new LOGOS year remains open as we move closer to our **opening night on September 15** with the theme "**Orange YOU Glad it's Time for LOGOS!**" It's a night to wear as much ORANGE as you can! This is our 24th year of LOGOS and we are more excited than ever! Our overall theme is "Won't You Be My

Neighbor"! We are returning to our in-person, weekly LOGOS schedule with safety measures in place. Register now during the 'regular rate' period of time. Registration is easy- stop by the LOGOS booth in the Gathering Area or go to our website (www.opequonchurch.org) and complete the form. LOGOS will be held on Wednesdays, beginning September 15, 4:30-7:15pm. It is open to all K-12 young people.

WORSHIPPING WITH CHILDREN

It is wonderful to have children worship with their families each Sunday morning. There are several things available to help make worship more meaningful for our children. Please feel free to use any of these-

*Two kinds of children's bibles are available for use during worship: The Action Bible and Growing in God's Love Story Bible. Children can pick one up as they enter the sanctuary and return it to the 'bible bin' as they leave.

*Worship Bags are available with coloring sheets, a bookmark, a prayer rock, and crayons. Children can pick up a bag on their way in (they are in the back of the sanctuary) and drop it back in the basket as they leave to be replenished for the next week.

*Lord's Prayer Booklets are scattered about in the pew racks. These help children learn this important prayer and can be colored during worship. A colorful poster is included in each one for the child to take home.

*Children's Worship bulletins are especially geared towards children ages 7 and older. These are folded booklets that can be found in the children's worship bags basket.

*Parenting in the Pew are small binders located along the back of the sanctuary as well. These are for parents to take home, look through and use as they wish.

OBJECT LESSON FOR KIDS THIS MONTH

An important word for all of us, no matter our age, is 'WELCOME'. This month's children's object lesson focuses on this special word and

features the verse from Mark 9:37. Elementary children will receive this lesson in the mail with some good things to do and think about at home as you look at this scripture text. God calls us to be WELCOMING people to others.

SOMETHING NEW IS ABOUT TO BEGIN...
And it is exciting for ALL ages! We are offering an intergenerational class experience on **Sunday mornings at 9:45am in the Fellowship Hall**. It is called "**LIFT**"- Learning in Faith Together! Stories of the bible will come alive in creative, relevant, and practical ways as we experience hands-on interactive experiences. Some of the topics that we will have the privilege of learning about are Brave Women and Men in the Bible, God's Messages, and the Birth of Jesus. There will be time for wondering, connecting, and relating the stories to our own lives of faith all in a fun atmosphere for every age. It all begins on September 12. There is a PLACE FOR YOU! You are the most important part of it all! Come join in and get a Sunday LIFT!



ADULT FAITH FORMATION RESUMES...

With a brand-new curriculum for our Sunday morning Faith Formation Hour!

Follow Me: Biblical Practices for Faithful Living will be featured in our "Living Our Faith Class," facilitated by Pastor Witt. It is based on practices Jesus did and taught us to do as faithful followers. We'll meet at 9:45 am in the Assembly Room starting on Sunday, September 12. Think about it – plan to join us!

GIFT EVENT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26; 9:45AM FELLOWSHIP HALL

GIFT means "Generations in Faith Together" as all classes combine one Sunday a month for a themed intergenerational experience. The theme this month is **RAINBOW FISH**. This story has a universal message about a beautiful fish who learns to make friends by

sharing his most prized possessions! Come play games, hear the touching story, explore and wonder together. Take home goodies will be provided and your day will be enriched by your time at GIFT.

YOUTH GROUP GRADES 6-12 September 12-Senior Outreach Ministry 12:15pm



SEPTEMBER 19-YOUTH FAMILIES' KICKOFF, 5:00PM

VIDEO TEAM

Do you like writing scripts, acting, or sharing creative ideas? Rebekah Witt is starting a Video Team that will film short promotional videos & commercials to share within the Opequon Family and on social media. Youth & Adults are welcome to join. Let her know if you're interested or have questions at wittrebekah2@gmail.com.

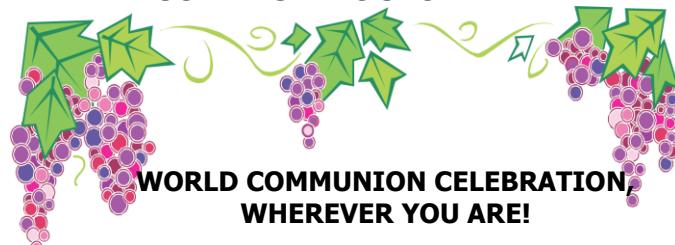


"SNACKIN' & CHATTIN"

Wednesdays in September
12:00-12:45 pm
Have a snack at home/in office
Talk & Pray with Others via
ZOOM



COMING IN OCTOBER...



WORLD COMMUNION CELEBRATION, WHEREVER YOU ARE!

Sunday, October 3 – 8:30 & 11:00 am
plus
"Bread Event"
Watch for Details!



EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT!

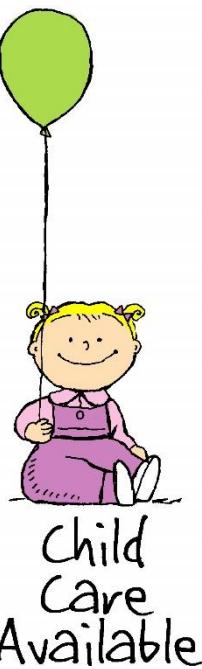
The Nursery is finally opening back up on Sunday, September 12th! We'll be open for both services and for the Faith Formation hour in between for children 3 years old and younger.

Both Alicia Campbell and I are vaccinated and will be wearing masks. We are both CPR certified and can't wait to see all our friends!

Please remember a change of clothing, diapers, and wipes for your child. If they are with us during Faith Formation time, pack a small snack too. Please keep any personal items at home and be sure that everything is marked with your child's name.

See you soon!

Laurie Carver



MOO!



MEN OF OPEQUON KEEPS PICNICKING THIS MONTH

The Men of Opequon (MOO) will meet on Monday, **September 13th at the Pitcock Memorial Shelter at 6:00 pm**, practicing social distancing. Please bring your own dinner from Chick-fil-A, home, or elsewhere. We enjoyed a great picnic there in August, so now we'll gather, sharing conversation while eating our own meal. We'll have devotions and dedicate our offering for our adopted child at the Gore, Ethiopia children's home. All men are invited!

GLOW: GOD-LOVING OPEQUON WOMEN

Opequon's women's group known as GLOW gathers each month for devotions, special projects, friendship boosts, and lots of laughter. We had a grand time creating our Ice Cream Sundaes last month! This month,

the women will meet on **Tuesday,**

September 14 at 6:00pm in

the Fellowship Hall.

We will be assembling a TREAT BIN for the staff at Orchard View



Elementary School. We like to show support to the staff at our church's neighborhood school. Any OPC woman is invited to contribute to the Treat Bin. Below is a list of suggested items that we would like to fill the bin with. If you are able, choose a few items and bring them to GLOW on September 14 or leave them with Carole Witt before that day. WE will tag each item with a kind note and pack it up to be delivered to the school. We will have some great fun as we do this random act of kindness.

Suggested Items to contribute: Cute post-it notes, Notepads, Cardstock of varying colors, Fancy printer paper, Bulletin board borders, Salty snack bags, Keurig cups, Earbuds, Little bins and trays for organizing, Chocolates, Command strips, Washi tape, Dry Erase markers, Glue sticks, Tissue packs, Colored pencils, Colored pens, Highlighters, Pointers for teachers, Stickers, Clipboards, Dunkin Donuts gift card.

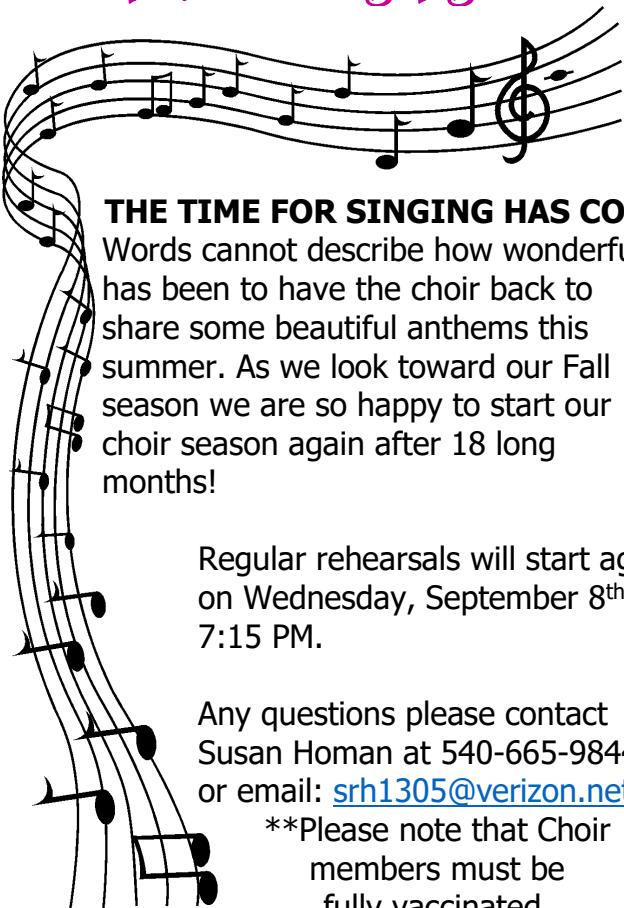
OLDER ADULT HAPPENINGS

You have persevered through the dog days of August and now we welcome September! It is very exciting that the Older Adult Planning team met in August to get back on track in offering Happy Days gatherings for our older adults. **Happy Days, a monthly older adult fellowship time, will resume on**

Wednesday, September 8 at noon in the Picnic Shelter. It's a "Back to Happy Days" event! You are invited to bring your own BROWN BAG LUNCH and any photo of yourself from your school days. Chilled bottled water will be available for everyone. We will enjoy 'lunch and recess' as we eat and play some back-to-school games including a 'find-a-word', school days jokes, and more. All older adults are invited to come and join in this fantastic fellowship time in our beautiful picnic shelter!

The Older Adult Planning team will meet again on Monday, September 13 at 9:30am in the Bageant Room to talk about future plans for Happy Days gatherings. This meeting is open to any older adult who would like to come. Coffee and a morning take-home treat will be provided.

Happy Days Are Coming Again!



THE TIME FOR SINGING HAS COME

Words cannot describe how wonderful it has been to have the choir back to share some beautiful anthems this summer. As we look toward our Fall season we are so happy to start our choir season again after 18 long months!

Regular rehearsals will start again on Wednesday, September 8th @ 7:15 PM.

Any questions please contact Susan Homan at 540-665-9844 or email: srh1305@verizon.net.

**Please note that Choir members must be fully vaccinated.



THE FLOWER CALENDAR

Please consider donating flowers for our Sunday worship in memory or honor of someone or an event. You may sign up by contacting the church office or using the FLOWERS link at opequonchurch.org to the online sign up. The following dates are open in the next two months:

September 19

October 17 October 24 October 31



ZOOMING WITH BECKY IN SEPTEMBER

We will be making a **greeting card** via Zoom on **Friday, September 24, at 1:00 p.m.**

The deadline for sign-up is Friday, September 10. Once signed up, you will then receive a kit of the materials needed prior to the step-by-step instructions on September 24; arrangements for delivery of the kits will be made. If interested, please contact Becky Proctor at 540-868-8149 or e-mail at beckyproc@comcast.net with questions or to sign up.

Dear OPC,

Many thanks for the meals, cards, and prayers after my fall that put me in the hospital. Thanks to David for the visit. Ray and I are truly blessed to be a part of Opequon.

Patricia Ferguson



CONTACT information



Travis & Katie5 Morgan
119 Forest Ridge Rd
Winchester, VA 22602-6600

JoEllen Delamatta
5714 Hollow Oak Ln Apt 101
Centreville, VA 20121-4574

Lance & Julie Pearce
114 Williamson Rd
Winchester, VA 22602-7403



WE EXPRESS OUR CHRISTIAN LOVE AND SYMPATHY

Bobby Smith, long-time, beloved member of Opequon, died suddenly August 17. 2021. Please pray for Harriet, their daughters, Leann Smith Praigg and Amy Smith-Gittman, and the whole Smith-Goode-Walker Family. Cards may be sent to Harriet Smith, The Village at Orchard Ridge, 400 Clocktower Ridge Dr. Apt 416, Winchester, VA 22603.

Melanie Heishman's mother, Cynthia Perry, died August 20, 2021. Please keep Melanie and Tim in your prayers. Condolences may be sent to:

Melanie & Tim Heishman, 218 Fairfield Drive Winchester, VA 22602.

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

John 11:24-25

SHADE FAMILY NEED

Susanna and Mike Shade have struggled to find very limited weekend assistance. They need an individual for 30 minutes between 10 AM and 4 PM on Saturdays and Sundays. NO medical training is necessary and NO heavy lifting! If you could help, please call Susanna Shade at 540-550-7150.

Roots & Shoots Garden News



As of August 17th, 938.32 pounds were donated from the garden, and there will definitely be more to come! An article about the garden was published in the Northern Virginia Daily on the 8th and the Winchester Star on August 10th; did you see it? If not, you can search "Opequon Church Garden" on their websites and look for the article. The picture above is from the article. We are incredibly thankful for everyone who has volunteered in the garden from building the raised beds to delivering produce. If you are interested in helping water, the SignUpGenius page can be found on the home page of the church's website. If you have any questions, email graysonmoyer7@gmail.com.

NON-PERISHABLES & CANNED GOODS

OPEQUON CHURCH
HUNGER AWARENESS & ACTION
MONTH

SEPTEMBER FOOD DRIVE

To Benefit:
Opequon Blessing Box
Sherando & Highland Food Pantries
School Backpack Program
Senior Outreach Ministry

DROP OFF DURING OFFICE HOURS & SUNDAYS

Opequon Presbyterian Church
Financial Summary for the period ended

- 2 -

July 31, 2021

	Annual Budget (2021)	Current Month Actual	Year to Date Actual	Annual Remaining	Budget % of Annual Used
Income					
410000 Offering Income	637,500	46,907	395,697	241,803	62.07%
420000 Other Income	750	49	358	392	47.76%
Total 400000 Income	638,250	46,956	396,055	242,195	62.05%
Expenses					
500000 Personnel Costs					
510000 Installed Pastors	175,603	10,858	74,735	100,868	42.56%
520000 Other Ministerial Staff	119,772	9,580	67,181	52,591	56.09%
530000 Administrative Staff	99,757	7,574	52,109	47,648	52.24%
Total 500000 Personnel Costs	395,132	28,012	194,026	201,106	49.10%
600000 Other Ministries					
610000 Christian Education	13,100	824	4,569	8,531	34.88%
620000 Congregational Care	1,400	(185)	(884)	2,284	-63.12%
630000 Evangelism	2,500	90	1,290	1,210	51.60%
640000 Fellowship	3,450	161	523	2,927	15.16%
650000 Mission	60,750	5,195	31,575	29,175	51.98%
660000 Worship	6,500	837	3,789	2,711	58.29%
Total 600000 Other Ministries	87,700	6,921	40,863	46,837	46.59%
Total 700000 Church Administration	106,775	7,522	74,785	31,990	70.04%
Total Expenses	589,607	42,456	309,673	279,934	52.52%
Net Operating Income (Expense)	48,643	4,500	86,382	(37,739)	177.58%
920000 Other Income	16,000	2,376	10,312	5,688	64.45%
930000 Other Expenses	117,747	9,722	78,982	38,765	67.08%
Net Other Income (Expense)	(101,747)	(7,346)	(68,670)	(33,077)	67.49%
Income Greater Than (Less Than) Expenses	(\$53,104)	(\$2,847)	\$17,712	(\$70,816)	-33.35%

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
5 Communion--CCAP•Offering 8:30A•In-Person•Worship 11A•In-Person-&•Live-Stream•Worship	6 Church•Office•Closed	7 9A•Staff•Meeting 10A•Newcomers•Class 6:30P•Ministry•Night•In-Person•Fellowship•Hall	1 12Noon Snack'n Chat 5:30P•LOGOS•Staff NO-Choir•Rehearsal	2 10:30A•Tai•Chi•@•Shelter 12P•Fellowship•Team•@•Garden 6:30-8:00P•Sherando•Food•Pantry 7P•Ageism•Book•x	3 10P•x	4 x
12 8:30A•In-Person•Worship 9:45A•Faith•Formation 11A•In-Person-&•Live-Stream•Worship 12:30P•Senior•Outreach•Ministry 3P•PS150/BGM•Rehearsal---Memorial•Sanctuary	13 9:30A•Older•Adult•Planning 6P•MOO @•Shelter	14 9:30A•Tuesday•Morning•Mission 6P•GLOW @•Fellowship•Hall	15 12Noon Snack'n Chat 4:30P•LOGOS 7:15P•Choir•Rehearsal x	16 10:30A•Tai•Chi•@•Shelter 6:30-8:00P•Sherando•Food•Pantry 7P•Ageism•Book•x	17 x	18 x
19 8:30A•In-Person•Worship 9:45A•Faith•Formation 11A•In-Person &•Live-Stream•Worship 5P•Youth•Kickoff•@•Shelter	20 12P•Life•Goes•On	21 10A•Staff•Meeting 7P•Session•Meeting x	22.....NEWSLETTERDEADLINE 12Noon Snack'n Chat 4:30P•LOGOS 7:15P•Choir•Rehearsal x	23 10:30A•Newcomers•Shelter 10:30A•Tai•Chi•@•Shelter 7P•Ageism•Book•x	24 x	25 x
26.....4-Cents-A-Meal•Offering	27	28 5:30P•Highland•Food•Pantry	29 12Noon Snack'n Chat 4:30P•LOGOS 7:15P•Choir•Rehearsal x	30 7P•Ageism•Book•x 10:30A•Tai•Chi•@•Shelter x	1 x	2 x



ORGAN DEDICATION CONCERT SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 10TH

Nearly 18 months after it was initially scheduled, we can finally anticipate a date certain for the dedication and celebration of our new Rodgers sanctuary organ. Delayed but certainly not diminished, as the renowned, nationally known organist, Dan Miller will be in concert in our sanctuary. Our thanks to R. A. Daffer, Church Organs, Inc., for their generosity in underwriting this artist for the concert and an outreach workshop for other local organists. It's not likely that anyone knows the Rodgers organ better than Dan Miller who is instrumental in product development for the Rodgers Corporation. (If you are thinking you know Dan Miller, you are probably thinking of the local Dan Miller who was recently organist at First Baptist.) *Bill Heavner*

Dan Miller



RODGERS ORGAN DEDICATION CONCERT

October 10th - 4:00 pm

Free will offering to benefit the Winchester Area Temporary Thermal Shelter

ORGANIST WORKSHOP

COLORS OF THE ORGAN

October 9th | 10am - Noon

RSVP to smcbride@dafferorgans.com by 10/6

OPEQUON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

217 Opequon Church Lane
Winchester, Virginia

The Rodgers Organ

Three Manuals, 39 Stop Organ, Stoptab Console, 282 total voices, and a multi-channel audio system.

The Artist

A church organist since age fifteen, Dan Miller has served at Calvary Church in Charlotte, North Carolina; at Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, he served as assistant organist to Diane Bish. Mr. Miller holds a Church Music Diploma from Moody Bible Institute. He majored in organ performance at the American Conservatory of Music, holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Florida Atlantic University, and a Master of Music degree in Organ Performance from Winthrop University. Mr. Miller holds the distinguished position of Product Manager at Rodgers Instruments LLC, one of the world's leading organ builders, in Hillsboro, Oregon.

The Workshop

Mr. Miller will present a dedication concert and also a workshop titled "Colors of the Organ". The workshop will cover many topics, including registration, repertoire, the use of orchestral voices, console management, and an in depth organ demonstration. Lunch will be provided after the workshop. Both the workshop and lunch are free of charge!



R.A. Daffer Church Organs, INC.

ESTABLISHED 1977

For More Information contact:

Steve McBride, Representative | 484.886.8215 | SMcBride@DafferOrgans.com

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

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Opequon Presbyterian Church
217 Opequon Church Lane
Winchester, VA 22602-2421
Phone: 540-662-1843
www.opequonchurch.org

Newsletter deadline is the Wednesday after the Stated Session Meeting.
Sunday Worship at 8:30 and 11:00 am
Spiritual Growth Class at 9:45 am
Office Hours are 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Monday thru Friday

David Witt ----- Pastor
Tracie Martin ----- Parish Associate
Carole Witt ----- Director of Christian Education
Rebekah Witt ----- Director of Youth & Young Adults
William Heavner ----- Organist
Susan Homan ----- Director of Music
Susan Ritter ----- Office Administrator
Ken Smiy ----- Financial Administrator
Robert Sydnor ----- Sexton
Laurie Carver ----- Nursery Supervisor
Patty Klinefelter, Bill Martin, Lori Henley,
Mike Nutry, Pat Williams ----- Faith Community Nurses

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DATES TO SAVE:

- ✓ October World Communion Sunday – Sunday, October 3rd
- ✓ October Ministry Team Night – Tuesday, October 5th
- ✓ Organ Dedication Concert – Sunday, October 10th
- ✓ "Trunk & Treat"/Garden Event – Saturday, October 23rd
- ✓ October G.I.F.T. Event – Sunday, October 24th
- ✓ Reformation Sunday, Sunday, October 31st