



Shenandoah Press

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A Message from our General Presbyter

March Madness is over! The March madness that is Session Minute Reading for the Clerks of our congregations!

For the four consecutive Saturday mornings in March, regional groups of clerks met together to not only read each other's minutes, but to learn from one another and fellowship around tables. The hum of voices sharing information, experiences, and questions with one another is always a delight to my ears. We have a wonderful group of dedicated Elders doing this necessary work for the church and it is my pleasure to work with them.

I hope that you will take a moment and thank your session clerk for the work that they do. In fact, let us remember to say thank you to all those who use their gifts and talents for the work of the church as together we work for God's kingdom on earth.

May Easter bring you much joy!

Blessings,

Bronwen



Shenandoah Presbytery Corporation

The Shenandoah Presbytery Corporation (SPC) oversees an investment fund for our presbytery, its churches, cemeteries, endowments, scholarships, and committees. The fund is managed by Atlantic Union Bank and is overseen by the SPC board of trustees.

SPC Board members bring diverse experience in church management and finance with a shared commitment to joining Christ's work in our community. We offer an investment resource for advice, assistance, or just as a conversation partner.

If you'd like to learn more about investing church funds or if your church already invests with us and you would like to talk through the work we are doing on your behalf, please email Rev. Dr. Tommy Carrico at finleypastortjc@gmail.com. Likewise, if you are interested in learning about offering your own expertise by serving as a board member, please be in touch!

We are always happy to discuss financial stewardship within the presbytery.

Associate General Presbyter—Nancy Meehan Yao

As I write this, the weather has been very variable...snow and ice, followed by 80 degrees and flowers blooming, followed by more snow and ice... and thunderstorms, fog...and more sun.

As people of faith, no matter the weather, no matter our circumstance, we continue to praise God in all things. Psalm 34: I says: "I will bless the Lord at all times, God's praise shall continually be in my mouth."

We do this in this Eastertide, certainly, but also in other times, days, and seasons of our lives. And we do this because we trust in our God, who raised Jesus from the dead, and who calls each of us to new life, through the Holy Spirit.

The Gospel accounts of Easter morning all include both fear AND joy, disruption of what is expected and known, and something totally new. They also including lots of running—running to tell others what they have seen, heard and experienced.

This Eastertide, and in every circumstance and season of our lives, may we share the disruptive, joyful and Good News of God's love and Jesus' resurrection.

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Amen.

Nancy



AI Goes to Church: Pastoral Wisdom for Artificial Intelligence

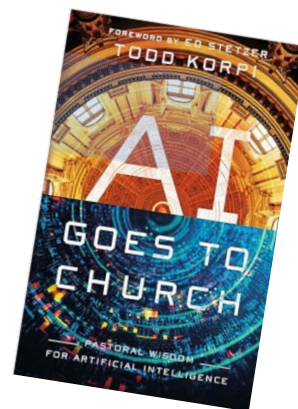
I know we have all seen, or heard stories about AI, and our lives. Maybe it pops up as you are searching for information, as you begin to write a paper, sermon or newsletter article. Like everything else, we ask how, and when, and IF the use of AI applies to our lives as faith communities. At the February Presbytery meeting, we broke into discussion groups to talk about AI and the church. We had some great discussion and want to further that deep conversation and discernment.

In May, we will begin a book study, via zoom, using Todd Korpi's book *AI Goes to Church: Pastoral Wisdom for Artificial Intelligence*. We will meet for 4 Thursday evenings in May: May 7, 14, 21 and 28, beginning at 7:00 pm.

Individuals and church groups are welcome to attend! The book may be purchased through any bookstore/online book retailer.

Watch for the email in the next few days for the registration link.

For any questions, please contact Nancy Meehan Yao, assocgp@shenpres.org, or 540-236-2609.



Celebrating the First Sunday in Lent Together with Worship, Seed-Packing & Lunch in Waynesboro



Rev. April Cranford, Westminster Church
Rev. Tommy Carrico, Finley Memorial Church
Rev. Jennifer Davis Sensenig,
Director of Church Relations, Society of St. Andrew,
Rev. Amy Fetterman, Waynesboro Second Church,
Rev. Samantha Coggins, Waynesboro First Church

On Sunday, February 22, five congregations came together at First Presbyterian Church Waynesboro for worship, lunch, and a hands-on seed packing mission that produced 4,193 garden seed packets. Some seeds will remain at Embrace Community Center, while the rest will be shared with farmers growing food for neighbors facing hunger. Despite the weather, 93 participants attended the joint event and filled the morning with warmth, laughter, and meaningful fellowship. Many thanks to Rev. Jennifer Davis Sensenig at the Society of St. Andrew, and everyone who made this joyful gathering possible.



Article submitted by April Cranford and Samantha Coggins

Photos by Jessie Hale: Silk Wheat Photography



Hunger Funds Update

submitted by Sara Holben, for Hunger Funds Subcommittee

Even as we enter Spring and all its promise of “new things,” many of our partners who receive our Cents-ability Hunger Funds tell us that the only “new thing” they see is the increase in need among people struggling to feed their families every day.

Our partners at the Mountaineer Food Bank wrote a thank you to the presbytery for our donations in 2025 and told us that last year...



“As families faced delayed benefits, lost wages, and increased uncertainty, demand for food assistance rose sharply. Despite these obstacles, Mountaineer Food Bank met growing needs by providing more than 19 million meals to individuals and families experiencing hunger. This impact was only possible because of your compassion and steadfast commitment to our mission.

“In 2025, our food bank drivers traveled more than 49,000 miles to deliver food to neighbors and partner agencies across the 48 counties we serve. Their dedication ensured that children, seniors, veterans, and all families had reliable access to nutritious food, no matter the distance.”

If you're looking for information or ideas on how to get involved with Cents-ability - check out our website at: <https://shenpres.org/cents-ability/>

You'll find information, ideas, and even a Can-wrapper you can use to put a reminder on your table at home (or at your church each time you gather for a meal) that it only takes a few cents a day to help make a difference in someone's life.

Every cent we give makes a difference. Let's “spring forward” with our donations in 2026 to help end hunger.



Shenandoah Presbytery Churches Certified as Earth Care Congregations



Three of our churches have certified as Earth Care Congregations by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s Presbyterian Hunger Program through February 2027: **Shepherdstown, Trinity, and Winchester First**. The Earth Care Congregation certification is designed to recognize churches that take seriously God's charge to “till and keep” the garden, that is our shared common home.

Since 2010, this PC(USA) program certifies and celebrates environmental ministry across four major areas of a congregation's life: worship, education, facilities, and outreach in the community. This program currently has 4.5% of all PC(USA) congregations and continues to grow each year.

Earth Care Congregations exist as important examples for congregations across the country. One of the goals of this program is to inspire churches to care for God's earth in a holistic way, through integrating earth care into all aspects of their church life. By the time a church has recertified for several years, the earth care ethic becomes ingrained in a congregation's culture, spreads to the surrounding community, and impacts the personal lives of individual church members. Obtaining this status speaks to the serious commitment that our named churches have made to care for God's earth.

Shepherdstown, Trinity, and Winchester First are just three of the 373 congregations in 42 states that chose to dedicate themselves to intentional care of God's earth this year. This denominational program for churches has lasted longer and been more successful than some other models we've seen and the individual churches that deserve all the credit for the success of the program. Our Earth Care Congregations are vital parts of their communities and inspirational witnesses to caring for God's creation and we are so grateful for their presence in the world,” says Jessica Maudlin, Associate for Sustainable Living and Earth Care Concerns for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Part-time Parish Associate Opequon Presbyterian Church

Opequon Presbyterian Church is seeking a Part-Time Parish Associate (up to 20 hours per week) to help extend the pastoral care ministry of the congregation.

Working collaboratively with the Pastor, Parish Associate, Board of Deacons, and lay volunteers, this position focuses on pastoral visitation, care coordination, and strengthening the congregation's network of relational and spiritual support.

Primary responsibilities include:

- Home, hospital, hospice, and assisted-living visitation
- Supporting members and families during times of illness, grief, and life transition
- Coordinating congregational care ministries and volunteer visitors
- Encouraging and equipping lay leadership in care and discipleship ministries

Opequon values a team-based and shared ministry model, where clergy and lay leaders work together to extend pastoral presence throughout the congregation.

Applicants should be ordained ministers, elders, or deacons in good standing within the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) or a denomination in full communion with PC(USA) with demonstrated gifts in pastoral care and relational ministry.

For more information or to request the full position description, contact: Opequon Presbyterian Church – Winchester, VA

Email: office@opequonchurch.org

Phone: 540-662-1843



Annual Men's Summit Presbyterian Men of the Mid-Atlantic Massanetta Springs Camp and Conference Center, July 17-19th 2026

We are excited to invite men of all ages to attend our annual Men's Summit! Our theme this year is:

Strength for Today, Vision for Tomorrow; Brothers Working Together in God's Kingdom

"Let Your Light Shine Before Others so that They May See Your Good Works and Give Glory to Your Father who is in Heaven"
Matthew 5:16 NRSV

For more information, or to register, [click here](#).



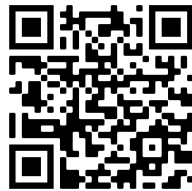


**SHEN PRES YOUTH
RETREAT**

OCTOBER 16-18, 2026

Grades 6-12 at Massanetta Springs

Contact Colleen Stearns at colleen@fpcwinc.org with questions



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Thanks to Alonzo Myers (See 1Kings 10:1)

08-09-2006

SOLOMON IS PUT TO THE TEST

**PRESBYTERY OF
SHENANDOAH**

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Shenandoah Presbytery

A Community of Christ for Worship, Nurture and Mission

SHENANDOAH PRESBYTERY is a covenant body where:

- CONGREGATIONS are empowered to be centers for mission
- PEOPLE OF GOD are equipped to be Disciples of Christ in a challenging world
- CHURCH LEADERS and members are nurtured and strengthened for service
- OPEN COMMUNICATION and information are used constructively and creatively to keep us connected



Dates to Remember!

April 2026

- 1 - CCVT 11:00 am
- 2 - CRE Oversight 4:00 pm
- 8 - CPM 10:00 am
- 9 - COM 9:30 am
at Bridgewater Church
- 15 - CNCD 1:00 pm
- 16 - CPA 1:30 pm
- 18 - CMO 9:30 am
- 21 - Nominations 10:30 am
- 28 - CPC 10:00

Other Dates

- 6 - Office Closed for Easter
- 7 - Oasis Event
- 16 - Pastors' Meeting 12:00 pm
- 23 - Shenandoah Press Deadline

* Unless otherwise noted, all meetings will be held via Zoom.