



Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church

A Stephen Ministry Congregation
A Member of the Virgin River Presbyterian Fellowship
Serving Southern Utah since 1988

Partner Congregation to the Evangelical Baptist Church of Dorogobuzh, Russia



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November 2020

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Church Staff

The Rev. Dr. Ralph Clingan

Pastor

Dick Higgins

Visitation Pastor

Ruth Ann Horvath

Clerk of Session

Candy Hurlbut

Susan Holecheck

Church Secretaries

Barbara McConnell

Music Director

Stephen Talley

Organist

Rev. Dolores Wiens

Prayer Chain

Chris Schleter

Website / Newsletter Editor

COVID-19 Restrictions Continue

We continue to observe restrictions to our movement and social interactions and will continue to do so for some time to come. Restrictions placed on us by state, county and city officials continue to be part of our everyday lives.

Even as businesses reopen, the state and the Southwest Utah Health Department (swuhealth.org) continues to recommend that we remain at home as much as possible. That is especially true for those over the age of 65 and those with underlying health conditions. When we are out and about, and with cases and hospitalizations on the rise in our area, health experts continue to urge us to wear face coverings and maintain social distancing.

Knowing that the virus is most virulent in those over 60 and those with underlying medical conditions (most of our congregation), we will continue to worship, study the Bible and join in fellowship remotely for some time to come. As Rev. Ralph has said each Sunday during our recorded church service, "We will resume our normal activities only when the Southwest Utah Public Health Department deems it safe to do so without restrictions."

Worship

We continue to share worship each Sunday through a recorded service that we make available on our Sermon Network site. We publish both a bulletin and lyrics for the hymns sung during the service so everyone can join in from home. To access the weekly service, visit our website, gspcsg.org, and you will find a link to our Sermon Network page on the homepage where the Sunday worship schedule normally appears.

Bible Studies

While we can't meet in person due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Internet allows us to gather virtually to study the Word of God. All of our regular weekday Bible Studies will be held online using Zoom Video Conferencing. To join one of our weekday Bible Studies using Zoom, please email Rev. Ralph for an invitation. The Bible Studies are a way for all of us to continue to learn about our Lord and to share time together.

Virtual Fellowship

Since we are not worshiping at church each Sunday, we also are not gathering for Fellowship after worship – at least not in person. Like our Bible Studies, Rev. Ralph hosts a "Virtual Coffee Hour" every Sunday at 11:30 am. This fun event has been well attended since our shut down in March. Attire and choice of beverage are completely up to you. To join our Virtual Fellowship using Zoom, please email Rev. Ralph for an invitation.

Sunday School is BACK

We resumed both Adult and Children's Sunday School on September 6th via Zoom. The adult class is studying the Fall 2020 edition of *The Present Word* series. The theme for this quarter is "Loving for One Another. Please email Rev. Ralph if you would like an invitation to join the Adult class and Charlotte Phipps if you would like to join the children's class.

The most up-to-date information can be found on our website, gspcsg.org.

Prayer Concerns

"Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it" John 14:13-14

Joan Kupczyk	Isaiah Ramquist
Peter Safrano	Ed Mansfield
Cheryl Mansfield	Mary Peterson
Emily Penzari	
Mary Laubscher & Family	
The Family of Dorothy Nichols	

Our partner congregation in Dorogobuzh, Russia
Those Serving Our Country

Welcome New Members

If you are interested in joining our fellowship, please see Rev. Ralph or Session Clerk Ruth Ann Horvath

December Newsletter Deadline

November 23, 2020

Worship Schedule

Sunday by 10:30 am
Worship
Sermon Network

11:30 am
Virtual Fellowship
Zoom

Ruling Elders Monthly Scriptures

Each month at our stated Session meetings, our Minister of Word and Sacrament and Ruling Elders are invited to share any scripture that has spoken to their hearts in the previous month as part of their report. Rev. Ralph encourages our congregation, as part of their prayer life for the congregation, our Session and Pastor, to review their selections and continue to uphold them and one another in prayer.

The scriptures for October were:

Rev. Ralph	Phil. 3:12-16	Press on
Elder Ruth Ann Horvath	1 Peter 3:13-15	Do not fear
Elder Leslie Lintz	Matthew 6:26	Worth more
Elder Alan Paige	James 1:5-6	Ask God
Elder Chris Schleter	Psalm 33:12	His own
Elder Bill Somplatsky-Jarman	Phil. 4:8	These things
Elder Jan Hirschi	Psalm 46:1	Refuge
Elder Eric Westland	Galatians 6:9	Doing good
Elder Barbara McConnell	Romans 15:5-6	Encouragement
Elder Gloria McGilloway	1 Thess. 5:16-18	All people

Thanks to our Volunteers

Flowers	Nursery
November	
November 1	
November 8	
November 15	
November 22	
November 29	Canceled
December	
November 6	
November 13	
November 20	
November 27	Canceled

Signup for Flowers on the board between the Narthex and Conklin Hall or on our Website gspcsg.org

Treasurer's Report

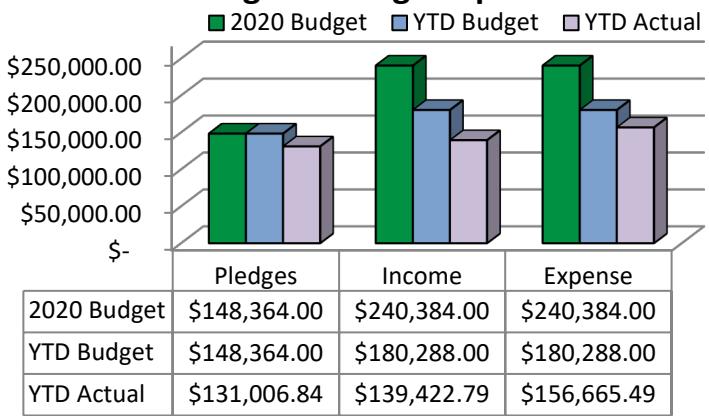
General Fund as of September 30 Month of September

Receipts	\$ 8,480.05
Expenditures	\$ 14,621.34
2020 YTD Budget vs Actual	
YTD Budgeted Receipts	\$ 180,288.00
Actual Receipts	\$139,422.79
YTD Budgeted Expenditures	\$ 180,288.00
Actual Expenditures	\$156,665.49

Fund Balances

General Fund	\$ 23,716.63
Building Fund	\$ 49,030.36
Memorial Fund	\$ 2,231.45
Reserve Fund	\$ 45,559.87
Russia Mission Fund	\$ 8,773.05
Bequests	\$ 73,991.71

2020 Budget Through September 30



Rev. Ralph's Food for Thought

God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change and though the mountains slip into the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains quake at its swelling pride. Selah.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, The holy dwelling places of the Most High. God is in the midst of her, she will not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns. The nations made an uproar, the kingdoms tottered; He raised His voice, the earth melted. The LORD of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our stronghold. Selah.

Come, behold the works of the LORD, who has wrought desolations in the earth. He makes wars to cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; He burns the chariots with fire. "Cease striving and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth." The Lord of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our stronghold. Selah.

Psalm 46 NASB



Without question, along with the 23rd Psalm, the 46th Psalm is right up there in notoriety. The Reformer, Dr. Martin Luther, used the 46th Psalm as the basis for his most famous hymn, "*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*." Luther wrote that hymn during a time of national crisis and fear. In the face of uncertainty Luther pointed to this Psalm as a reminder of with whom our comfort and hope reside. The key phrase being that "*the Lord of hosts is with us*". God is with us.

Since the early part of this year we as well have found ourselves in a time of crisis and fear. The earth has changed and how we live in it has changed as well - dramatically. It is not a difficult thing to let ourselves slip into feelings of fear and apprehension as to just what more tomorrow may bring.

Hear again those words of hope and promise, God is both our refuge and strength, we will not fear.

And to remember our Lord and Savior's words to us from the conclusion of the Gospel of Matthew, "*And Lo, I am with you always, even to end of the age.*" Matthew 28:20 NASB

Perhaps there might be a few of you that hear these words and think to yourselves, "easier said than done." I would direct your attention to the tenth verse of Psalm 46, "*Cease striving and know that I am God.*" Another way to translate this verse, "*Stop trying to be God and let God be God.!*"

Great words for all of us living through a challenging time. However, these words can and will carry us to certain and better times, for that is where our gracious and loving God is taking us, together

*In Christ,
Rev. Ralph*

**** Home Communion ****

If you have difficulty getting to worship and would like to have the Visitation Pastor or Pastor serve you the Lord's Supper at home, please call the church office (628-9158).

**** Pastor's Note Regarding Hospital Visitation ****

Please be advised that, due to COVID-19 restrictions, I am unable to visit anyone in any of our area medical facilities. Once things return to normal, please keep in mind that with the federal laws that govern the privacy of medical records, hospitals are no longer allowed to give out any information regarding patients to visitors, including clergy. Unless a visitor requests a specific name, the hospital desk is not allowed to give out any information, including religious affiliation.

If you or a family member is hospitalized please alert the Pastor, your Deacon or the church office. Otherwise, we will not be informed of your presence in the hospital and will be unable to assist or offer pastoral care.

Prayer Corner



"And all things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive." Matthew 21:22

When Delores asked me to write something regarding my faith walk, I was somewhat hesitant as I typically don't like doing this sort of thing and I'm not so good at it. But, then I took it on as a self-reflection exercise. Besides, what else am I going to do - leave the safety of my COVID Cave and go outside? I don't think so.

I have been a Christian since my infant baptism, except for the times I haven't. I went to Sunday school, twice-weekly confirmation classes for three very long years and all the rest of the stuff. However, I have also had several periods in my life, some lasting years, where I put our Lord away, out of sight.

In hindsight, I don't know why I did this. Most likely, it was a combination of foolishness, not feeling right about myself and a feeling that I was in charge of my life. Hopefully, I am over that. But, if I have learned anything, it is that our Lord is always there to welcome me back. In some ways I feel like I have lived at times as both brothers in the parable of the prodigal sons.

If I had to define one moment that transformed my Christian life it was a Sunday in church, and the focus of the sermon was that we are saved by grace - we cannot earn salvation. I was in my 30's and somehow I had missed that foundational concept of our faith for over three decades. Did I mention three long years of confirmation classes? I don't know if that qualifies as a "born again" moment. But, it released decades of guilt and grew my faith immensely. This indeed is the greatest news of all for all of us.

Eric Westland

Cluster of Prayer and Praise continues via Zoom

The Cluster of Prayer and Praise will meet via Zoom on November 11th at 1:30 pm. All are welcome. Call or text Rev. Dolores at 630-890-8343 to request a Zoom invitation.

Rev. Dolores

New Executive Presbyter for Utah

At the October 12th meeting of Presbytery the commissioners approved the appointment of Rev. Mirjam Haas-Melchoir as the new Executive Presbyter of the Presbytery of Utah. She will replace Rev. Jeff Silliman, who has retired. Let's meet our new Executive Presbyter.



Howdy y'all! I am delighted to introduce myself to the Utah Presbytery.

My name is Mirjam Haas-Melchior. Born and raised in Germany I was ordained in 2008 – shortly before my husband Daniel Haas and I, together with our four month old daughter, moved to Provo. There my husband served the Provo Community United Church of Christ for 6 years until he received a call to Rosenberg, Texas. In those six years I became acquainted with the Presbyterian Church. Springville Community Presbyterian Church took me in as their Youth leader. There I learned to minister in American churches until I received my own call here in Texas and I became a full member of the PC(USA).

Very early in my teenage years I learned that God's world is so much bigger than just my home town. And my heart for the oikumene, the world-wide church, grew. During my high school years, I went to school in France. After my high school graduation I became a mission co-worker to the Philippines. There I met people from all over the world, and amongst other things I met people from the Young Adult Volunteer Program of the PC(USA).

After ordination God again called us and we followed, and we are now here in the United States for over 12 years. We grew our family and are now five German-Americans with a dog, cat, two guinea pigs and two mice. I kept my German accent and added a bit of the Texan accent to it. I am a big Trekkie fan and nobody can convince me that there is a better captain than Captain Janeway. The same for my love for James Bond movies: "Skyfall" is just the best!

Now I am excited to give back to the Utah Presbyterian Church by serving its congregations, pastors and members to be a strong presence in Utah.

Buildings

Vicky and I have been away most of the month traveling to see family, so I have not been around to do much, church-building wise.

Plans continue to be developed on how we can reopen in the safest possible manner. But, the latest reports in Washington County show conditions getting worse, not better, so we will continue to plan.

I have had contact with all of our outside user groups regarding their possible plans. But, at this time we really don't have anyone using the buildings. I think most of us keep looking for possible solutions to be able to meet again in person. But, these efforts have been very frustrating as the enemy is invisible and potentially deadly.

Some of us are taking online classes regarding the risks associated with in-person worship and our plan continues to be reexamined as new information regarding the virus becomes available.

Hopefully, soon. I miss you all.

*Blessings,
Eric Westland*

Christian Education

November begins some new opportunities. A study of the Beatitudes will begin on Monday, November 2nd, and continue on Monday evenings at 6:00 pm through December 7th. Rev. Ralph is leading the exploration and discussion of the famous eight blessings by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount. It is not too late to join so contact Rev. Ralph for a Zoom invitation.

Adult Sunday School continues to explore the central theme of "Love for One Another." In the concluding month of the study, we focus on "Godly Love Among Believers" in several New Testament passages. The Gospel of John elaborates on how believers love by serving and portrays Jesus' explanation of the intertwining love of God for Jesus and for those who abide in Christ. First John clarifies the abiding love of God through the Holy Spirit, which makes it possible for us to love one another. Acts reveals the expression of the love of God in the formation of the early Christian community by the workings of the Holy Spirit. James tells of the love of neighbor as the fulfillment of the law of God.

In December, the Winter Quarter begins with an examination of God's call in stories from the New Testament. The greatest call came to Jesus while other calls led to the extension of Christian ministry into the known world. The first section begins with Jesus' heritage and looks more deeply into the story of Jesus' birth, including the witness of the Magi to Jesus' call as the Messiah, and John the Baptist's call as well.

Special Sundays in November include Caregiver Sunday on the 7th, Hunger and Homelessness Sunday on the 14th, and in the runup to Thanksgiving, Sunday the 21st focuses on the Matthew 25 call to eradicate systemic poverty.

Bill Somplatsky-Jarman

Church Growth

The other day I received a card in the mail from a beloved friend from church. I eagerly opened the card feeling my spirits soar. It was like getting a hug from that very special person. I've been the fortunate recipient of numerous cards in the past several months. Each has evoked that same feeling of love.

Sending a card is so easy! It's not necessary to write volumes. Just a line or two expressing a cherished memory or recent thought. By sending a card, you're saying, "I care about you, You're on my mind." Don't have or can't mail a card? A phone call is equally welcome. Contact with a friend or acquaintance will make both of you feel better. Try it.

Jan Hirschi

Deacons

As I am writing the Deacons' article for this newsletter, my house is decorated for Halloween even though we're not sure about having any Trick or Treaters. This fact pretty much expresses 2020 - a trick rather than a treat year.

Thankfully, as our Deacons have been contacting you, most of our members are doing okay and staying positive as we continue to follow the health directives.

Deacons, continued

Remember we are here to treat you and definitely not to trick you. Please call your Parish Deacon with any special needs or questions.

John and Peggy Gruber are our contacts for the Deacon Shed which is full of items you may need. We have everything from walkers to crutches to wheelchairs to raised toilet seats. If you need anything from the shed, please give John a call at 801-541-7444, and he'll work with you to get you what you need.

You are cared about and prayed for even though we can't meet together.

*In Christian love and fellowship,
Your Deacons*

Fellowship

Conklin Hall, the Kitchen and Pantry are all clean and ready for our restart, whenever that may be. It gives me a strange feeling to stop in to check on things while knowing that the date is still a mystery. I look forward to the Sunday when we can once again enjoy fellowship in person.

Please consider joining in on our virtual fellowship via Zoom every Sunday at 11:30 am! No need to stay for the hour – just sign in to let us know how you are doing. Contact Rev. Ralph for the access information.

*With love through Jesus Christ,
Gloria McGilloway*

Mission/Outreach

Mark your calendars. We will pack at least 60 shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child on November 6th. If you would like to help Carolynn Thomas, Donna Beasley, Liz Larsen, Marge Linn and me pack the boxes, join us in Conklin Hall at 10:00 am, and we'll make short work of it. Everyone is welcome to help - the more the merrier. Of course if you would prefer to pack your own boxes, we have plenty of boxes for you to fill. If you would like to have some, please let Carolynn or me know and we'll make arrangements to get them to you. If you already have filled your shoeboxes, please bring them to church by November 20th. If no one is at the church when you arrive you may leave filled shoeboxes in the plastic tub at the entrance to the CE Building.

Since we couldn't visit them in person this summer, we will be sending some money to Pastor Sergei to assist them in providing Christmas gifts for the orphans this year.

We continue to thank all of you for your support of our Mission program.

*Peace and Blessings
Chris Schleter*

Parish Health Ministry

It seems impossible that it's time once again to think about the upcoming seasonal holidays of Thanksgiving and Christmas. This year, the temptation to set aside the precautionary lifestyles we have adopted to accommodate living with COVID-19 will be very great. Because of the possible confluence of both the COVID-19 and Influenza viruses, it will be more crucial than ever that we not let our guards down and continue to keep ourselves and others safe - mask, sanitize, and distance. The sad reality is that this year, holiday traditions, which usually involve gathering of multigenerational groups of family for long periods of time, may not be able to take place. However, if it is still your intent and that of your family to be together, there are ways to more safely provide for this to occur. It is suggested that you consider quarantining for two weeks beforehand as well as two weeks following any high-risk behavior. You might also want to ask your medical provider about being able to be tested for the virus just prior to contact with others during your travel and celebration.

It was recommended that you get your Flu Vaccine by the end of October. But, if you have not yet received it, it is never too late and most important, please protect yourself and others in this way. Influenza and COVID-19 can present many of the same symptoms, but may vary in timeline or severity. With either, there may be fever, cough, fatigue, sore throat, runny nose, body aches, nausea and vomiting and diarrhea. Loss or alteration of taste and smell is a significant symptom in the case of COVID-19. Regardless, it is best to seek medical advice early so that testing

Parish Health Ministry, continued

may take place. In the event of a diagnosis of Influenza, anti-viral medications can be initiated within 48 hours of the onset of symptoms.

Fewer people are dying because protocols for medical care have been established. Studies have demonstrated that the course of the disease may be shortened by administering Dexamethasone and Remdesivir to anyone hospitalized with the virus and not just to the most critically ill. There have been improvements in both the types of testing available and the speed with which the results are known.

Our church doors remain shuttered to worship and gathering as we have known it, and the date for re-opening is far in the future. While we have tried to make the best of our situation, it goes without saying that these past few months have created hardships for many. In the best of times, the holiday season can present emotional challenges. But, when compounded with the uncertainty of living through a pandemic, the effects can be magnified. If you find that you are feeling overwhelmed by thoughts of getting through the days ahead, there is help to be found from professionals and also from your fellow Good Shepherd Stephen Ministry members, who are trained to offer spiritual, emotional and CONFIDENTIAL care. For assistance, please call Rev. Ralph at (435) 705-1867.

From your Parish Health Ministry Committee — Thanksgiving Blessings

Alicia Kitzman

Prayer Chain

The Strand of Pearls folks are actively praying for prayer requests as they come in. Updates and thanksgivings are appreciated and will be passed on. Please call, email or text your requests to Rev. Dolores, 630-890-8343 or revdfw@icloud.com, and indicate whether you wish the request to remain confidential. Otherwise, it will be named in the GSPS prayer list.

Rev. Dolores Wiens

Senior Ministries

I received a special story from one of us who was asked to share their story. We are asking for funny events or interesting tales or spiritual experiences in your life. All of us have these stories, and we all like to hear them from our friends. It is a way to get to know someone when we aren't meeting for fellowship.

Here is their story. When this friend of ours in the congregation was three or so, she was very afraid of the bear in her closet. She couldn't sleep, kept everyone awake with her fears, and made life miserable for the family at night until her brother came up with the solution. Every night, he went into the closet in her room, thrashed around with this menacing, snarling noise and tackled the bear. Then he triumphantly dragged the bear outside and scared him away. This went on until second grade. We all know this hero of a brother and his little sis. Darlene Baxter and the Bear Slayer, Craig Wylie.

My tenure as chairman of the Senior Ministries committee has come to an end. I have three members who wish to remain on the committee, but do not want to be the Elder for Senior Ministries. Consider that we likely will not be meeting as previously with Soup and Fellowship or game afternoons for some time yet to come. The remaining task, if so, is the newsletter article and Session meetings on Zoom once a month. Please consider volunteering for this program. It is a rewarding and worthy ministry.

Be safe and God bless you richly.

Judy Oar

Session News

Session held their monthly meeting on October 4, 2020. No actions were taken at the meeting. However, Session discussed reopening of Worship and other Church activities with agreement to proceed with caution and consideration of the recommendations of the State of Utah, Presbytery, and Local Health Departments. Due to the increased number of cases of COVID-19 in Southwest Utah, Session agreed to continue with the current virtual Worship Services, Zoom Bible Studies and Zoom Fellowship Hour and Zoom Christian Education Classes for both adults and children.

Next meeting of the Session will be Sunday, November 8, 2020 at 12:15 pm via Zoom.

Ruth Ann Horvath, Clerk of Session

Soup Kitchen

Our Church "crew" participates in the Soup Kitchen the first Monday of each month. This month our church donations included 20 pounds of food and supplies plus a \$150 donation. During the month of October volunteers included Eliza Elwood, Josie Kellejan, LaVerna Metzger, Nancy Higgins, Brian Lusby and Patti Lusby. Cooking in the Switchpoint kitchen we served over 60 hungry folks which is always just as much a blessing to the volunteers as it is to those who enjoy their lunch. A menu of Sloppy Joe's, green salad, baked beans, fruit salad and dessert was served. Those who are hungry in St George continue to come to the Soup Kitchen for our "to go" meals. Questions about the Soup Kitchen experience? Contact Carolynn Thomas 435-817-8288.

Carolynn Thomas

Stewardship

I hope everyone is enjoying this beautiful weather, staying safe, and staying healthy! As we near the holidays (!) we are all still adjusting to the new normal and finding new ways to stay connected safely. The Church continues to do fairly well financially considering our current circumstances. Although, loose offerings are down about 55% from what is budgeted. Please remember that you can continue to send in pledges and loose offerings through the Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church website or mail donations to the Financial Secretary, P.O. Box 1499, St. George UT 84771. Thank you for your continued generosity.

The Treasurer's report for June appears on page 2, and our Building Fund report is on page 11.

By now all of you should have received your annual Pledge Campaign letter. This year's campaign will be a challenge since we will not be worshiping together, likely through the end of the campaign. Your Stewardship Committee has worked hard to pare down the 2021 budget. But, frankly, there are not many areas that can absorb large cuts. Discretionary spending makes up only about 5% of our annual budget; and while we can try to reduce our fixed costs, there is only so much we can do. We believe that you want us to continue paying our employees, keep the lights on and to maintain our buildings so we don't incur major expenses down the road.

While our need for pledges for 2021 totals \$144,862, through October 25th, we have received pledges totaling only \$15,600 which is barely enough to pay our utility bills for 2021. Frankly, we need you to make your pledges as soon as possible so we have some idea of how much income we can expect and can plan for any shortages.

To make your pledge you can fill out the pledge form you received with the mailing and mail it to Financial Secretary, PO Box 1499, St. George UT 84771-1499. If we resume live worship, you can also bring your pledge form to church and drop it in the collection plate. Finally, you can make a pledge online at our Website (gspcsg.org). Select Stewardship from the main menu, then Pledge Support and click on "Make a General Fund Pledge" on the right side of the Pledge Support page.

Psalm 9:9-10 "*The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble.*"

Leslie Lintz

Worship & Music

The expression "Are we there yet?" comes to mind as we look forward to being together for in-person worship services. But, with the rise in COVID-19 cases, when that will actually happen is still an unknown! Our county, and most of Utah, is at a very high level of transmission which means we will not be able to meet because of the limit on the number of persons who can be together at any one time and place. A letter along with guideline instructions will be sent to you when the Southwest Utah Health department states it is safe to meet again.

As Rev. Ralph said at each recorded worship service, our church building is closed. But, the church is open! Please continue to listen each Sunday to the worship service on the church's website. If you are interested, you can join Rev. Ralph's Bible studies through Zoom as well as joining with others for Fellowship on Sunday mornings at 11:30 am. If you wish to join any of our Zoom events, please let Rev. Ralph know so he can send you an invitation.

Barbara McConnell

Lectionary Readings for November

Date	Reading 1	Reading 2	Reading 3
Sunday, November 1 Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost	Joshua 3:7-17 Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37	1 Thessalonians 2:9-13	Matthew 23:1-12
	<i>All Saints Day</i> Revelation 7:9-17 Psalm 34:1-10, 22	1 John 3:1-3	Matthew 5:1-12
Sunday, November 8 Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost	Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 Psalm 78:1-7	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Matthew 25:1-13
Sunday, November 15 Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost	Judges 4:1-7 Psalm 123	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	Matthew 25:14-30
Sunday, November 22 Reign of Christ / Christ the King	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 Psalm 100 or Psalm 95:1-7a	Ephesians 1:15-23	Matthew 25:31-46
Sunday, November 29 First Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 64:1-9 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19	1 Corinthians 1:3-9	Mark 13:24-37

Lectionary Readings for December

Date	Reading 1	Reading 2	Reading 3
Sunday, December 6 Second Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 40:1-11 Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13	2 Peter 3:8-15a	Mark 1:1-8
Sunday, December 13 Third Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 Psalm 126 or Luke 1:46b-55	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24	John 1:6-8, 19-28
Sunday, December 20 Fourth Sunday of Advent	2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26	Romans 16:25-27	Luke 1:26-38
Tuesday, December 24 Christmas Eve	Isaiah 9:2-7 Psalm 96	Titus 2:11-14	Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]
Friday, December 25 Nativity of the Lord / Christmas	<i>Christmas Dawn</i> Isaiah 62:6-12 Psalm 97	Titus 3:4-7	Luke 2:[1-7] 8-20
	<i>Christmas Day</i> Isaiah 52:7-10 Psalm 98	Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12]	John 1:1-14
Sunday, December 27 1st Sunday of Christmas	Isaiah 61:10-62:3 Psalm 148	Galatians 4:4-7	Luke 2:22-40



November 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All Saints Day 8:30 Children's Sunday am School via Zoom 9:00 Adult Education via am Zoom 10:30 Worship via Zoom am 11:45 Virtual Fellowship via am Zoom	2 1:00 Shawl Ministry via pm Zoom 6:00 Kerygma Bible Study on the Beatitudes via Zoom	3 Election Day 9:30 Calendar Coordinating Council Meeting via Zoom 11:00 Women's Bible Study am via Zoom 6:00 Stephen Ministry pm Supervision Group Meeting via Zoom	4 11:00 Women's Bible Study am via Zoom	5	6 10:00 Operation Christmas Child Box Packing - Conklin Hall	7
8 8:45 Children's Sunday am School via Zoom 9:00 Adult Education via am Zoom 10:30 Worship via Zoom am 11:45 Virtual Fellowship via Zoom 12:00 Session Meeting Noon via Zoom	9 1:00 Shawl Ministry via pm Zoom 6:00 Kerygma Bible Study on the Beatitudes via Zoom	10 11:00 Women's Bible Study am via Zoom	11 Veterans Day 11:00 Women's Bible Study am via Zoom 1:30 Cluster of Prayer and Praise via Zoom	12	13 7:30 Men's Bible Study via am Zoom	14 10:00 CROP Walk—am Larkspur Park—Bloomington Hills
15 8:45 Children's Sunday am School via Zoom 9:00 Adult Education via am Zoom 10:30 Worship via Zoom am 11:45 Virtual Fellowship via am Zoom	16 1:00 Shawl Ministry via pm Zoom 6:00 Kerygma Bible Study on the Beatitudes via Zoom	17 11:00 Women's Bible Study am via Zoom 6:30 Grief & Loss pm Support Group	18 11:00 Women's Bible Study am via Zoom	19	20 Deadline to Drop Off Operation Christmas Child Boxes	21
22 8:45 Children's Sunday am School via Zoom 9:00 Adult Education via am Zoom 10:30 Worship via Zoom am 11:45 Virtual Fellowship via am Zoom	23 Newsletter Deadline 1:00 Shawl Ministry via pm Zoom 6:00 Kerygma Bible Study on the Beatitudes via Zoom	24 11:00 Women's Bible Study am via Zoom	25 11:00 Women's Bible Study am via Zoom	26 Thanksgiving Day	27 7:30 Men's Bible Study via am Zoom	28
29 First Sunday of Advent 8:45 Children's Sunday am School via Zoom 9:00 Adult Education via am Zoom 10:30 Worship via Zoom am 11:45 Virtual Fellowship via am Zoom	30 1:00 Shawl Ministry via pm Zoom 6:00 Kerygma Bible Study on the Beatitudes via Zoom					

PLEASE NOTE: This calendar is subject to change.

In the unlikely event that we resume in-person worship during November, please check the church website gspcsg.org for the latest information on what events will be held via Zoom and what events will be held live.



Regularly Scheduled Activities

Soup Kitchen Sunday – Contributions of food, supplies and cash – 1st Sunday of each Month (**Canceled**)
Women's Bible Study and Fellowship – last Monday of each month at 11:30 am in Conklin Hall (**Canceled**)
Praise & Prayer – second Wednesday of each month at 1:30 pm in the Sanctuary (**Via Zoom**)

Shawl Ministry	Monday	1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	(Via Zoom)
Exercise with Rev. Ralph	Tuesday	3:00 pm to 3:30 pm	(Canceled)
	Thursday	3:00 pm to 3:30 pm	(Canceled)
Men's Bible Study	2 nd & 4 th Friday	7:30 am to 8:30 am	(Via Zoom)
Open Bible Study	Sunday	5:00 pm to 6:00 pm	(Canceled)
	Thursday	11:00 am to 12:00 Noon	(Canceled)
Women's Bible Studies	Tuesday	11:00 am to 12:00 Noon	(Via Zoom)
	Wednesday	11:00 am to 12:00 Noon	(Via Zoom)
Choir Rehearsals	Tuesday	2:00 pm Bell Choir	(Canceled)
	Thursday	3:45 pm Chancel Choir	(Canceled)



Building Fund Update

When we took out our mortgage, we estimated that we needed \$384,000 in order to pay off the mortgage and have the resources to meet our needs for maintaining and improving our facilities. Now that our mortgage has been retired, we can turn our attention to several major maintenance items and improvements that need to be addressed over the next several years. These projects, totaling more than \$145,000, need to be funded. We still need your help.

Through October 25th we have received pledges towards our third campaign totaling **\$56,100** and additional cash donations of **\$36,685** giving us a total for all three campaigns of **\$287,848** or about **75.0%** of our **\$384,000** goal.

Thanks to everyone who has made a pledge to the third campaign. If you haven't pledged, please prayerfully consider making a pledge to help us ensure that our facilities remain in top notch condition and to allow us to make some needed improvements.

Church Contact Information

Office Hours	Wed 9:15 am – 1:00 pm
Office Phone/Fax	435-628-9158
Office Email	office@gspcsq.org
Pastor's Office Hours	Mon to Thu – 9:15 am – 10:30 am 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
	2 nd & 4 th Weeks by Afternoon Appointment Only
Pastor's Cell	435-705-1867
Pastor's Email	pastor@gspcsq.org
Prayer Chain	Rev. Dolores Wiens 630-890-8343
Music Director	Barbara McConnell
Website	gspcsq.org
Newsletter email	newsletter@gspcsq.org
Website / Newsletter Editor	Chris Schleter
Information on Stephen Ministry	www.stephenministries.org



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An electronic version of this newsletter is available on our website.

Church Leadership 2020

Session		
Class of 2020	Jan Hirschi Bill Somplatsky-Jarman Eric Westland	435-680-1012 Church Growth 502-689-6030 Christian Ed 435-625-1399 Building
Class of 2021	Ruth Ann Horvath Gloria McGilloway	435-922-5271 Clerk of Session 610-349-6045 Fellowship Senior Ministries
	Chris Schleter	435-619-2843 Mission/Outreach
Class of 2022	Leslie Lintz Barbara McConnell Alan Paige	412-403-9980 Stewardship 435-862-4822 Worship 435-703-9272 Grounds

Deacons

Parish	Deacon	Phone
Deacons	Virginia Hunt – Moderator	714-955-1167
Bloomington Hills	Sandy Paige	703-9272
Dixie Downs/Santa Clara	Tom & Vici Noble	673-4232
East Bloomington	Vicky Westland	435-414-1960
Green Valley	Marjorie Bayle	435-699-4985
Hurricane	Russ & Luisa Estlack	275-6365
	Sue Lundgreen	775-368-3054
Ivins	Mona Johnson	408-621-8144
Old St. George	Jeff Clingan	435-705-8692
Pine Valley	Tineke Ingold	574-3614
Red Cliffs	Ann McLuckie	680-1062
Sun River	Candy Hurlbut	435-879-9394
Washington	Ka-Wai Yu	812-340-2184

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