

# 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

611 N 2450 E / PO Box 1499, St. George, UT 84771

Website: [gspcsg.org](http://gspcsg.org)

435-628-9158

Email: [office@gspcsg.org](mailto:office@gspcsg.org)

## March 2025

Volume 20, Issue 3

### In This Issue

- 1 Rev. Ralph Clingan Announces Retirement  
Prayer Concerns; Ruling Elders Monthly Scriptures; Welcome New Members; Newsletter Deadline; Worship Schedule; Pledge and Building Fund Updates; Treasurer's Report
- 2 Rev. Ralph's Food for Thought  
Prayer Corner; Strand of Pearls Prayer Chain; Healing Prayer Offered Weekly; Oasis of Blessing Prayer Group; Christian Education
- 3 Congregational Growth & Care; Deacons; Fellowship; Mission/Outreach
- 4 Mission/Outreach, continued; Session News; Stewardship; Worship
- 5 Change is Upon Us
- 6 March Lectionary; April Lectionary
- 7 April Lectionary, continued; Congregation News
- 8 March calendar
- 9 Regularly Scheduled Activities; Flowers; Online Giving; Church Contact Information/Leadership
- 10
- 11

## Church Staff

**Rev. Dr. Ralph Clingan**  
Pastor

**Ruth Ann Horvath**  
Clerk of Session

**Mary Contreras**  
Church Secretary

**Paul Wiens**  
Music Director / Bell Choir Director

**Kathy Brown**  
Chancel Choir Director

**Aaron Lund**  
Organist/Pianist

**Virginia Hunt**  
Strand of Pearls Prayer Chain

**Chris Schleiter**  
Website / Newsletter Editor

## Rev. Ralph Clingan Announces Retirement

At the Session meeting on Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, our Pastor, Rev. Ralph Clingan, announced that it was his intention to retire on June 30, 2025. He quoted Ecclesiastes 3: "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven," stating that after a long period of prayerful discernment, he had determined that it was time for this season of his life to end and a new one to begin. Session approved his Honorable Retirement and thanked him for his service. It was an emotional meeting both for Rev. Ralph and all of the members of Session. We will hold a celebration of his time with us as we get closer to June 30<sup>th</sup>. We will hold a congregational meeting on June 29<sup>th</sup> to formally dissolve his call as our Pastor.

Rev. Ralph sent a letter to each member of our congregation that was delivered on Monday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. In it, he expressed his gratitude to all of the Good Shepherd family.

Rev. Ralph was called as our third Pastor on November 1, 2005, and has served our congregation faithfully for nearly 20 years. As he noted, "In the 20 years I have served the Lord in serving you we have witnessed and lived through, with the Lord's help, the Great Recession, wars around our world, and a worldwide pandemic. We have laughed, cried and prayed together." The next few months will be an opportunity to remember our time together and give thanks to the Lord that Ralph has been a part of our faith journey.

Rev. Mirjam Haas-Melchior, Executive Presbyter of the Presbytery of Utah was also present in the meeting to offer guidance on what lies ahead for us.

The next step in our church life will be to hire an interim pastor. Rev. Haas-Melchior noted that there are very few specialist interim pastors available and has recommended someone to Session. Session members have begun the process of considering candidates and are working to have someone in place by the beginning of August, at the latest. Elder Ray Snipes is leading the Session in the search for the interim pastor. Should we not have an interim pastor in place when Rev. Ralph retires, we will utilize supply ministers to fill the gap.

From July 1<sup>st</sup> through the middle of 2026 we will be in a period of recovering from the loss of Rev. Ralph's service to our congregation, a period of mourning, if you will, and a period of discernment of God's purpose for our congregational mission going forward.

In mid-2026, the congregation will elect a Pastor Nominating Committee whose charge will be to seek candidates to be our next called Pastor, vet those candidates and ultimately, with God's guidance and the approval of the congregation, call Good Shepherd's fourth Pastor.

Every church goes through this process periodically and it is now our season for doing so. We wish Rev. Ralph health, success and happiness in his retirement and thank him for his service to our congregation and God's church.

### 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

- Ann Hogan
- Molly Bass
- Tineke Ingold
- Peggy Graber & Family
- Alicia Kitzman & Family
- Wayne Bartlett & Family
- Tom & Mary Contreras & Colton
- The victims of the California wildfires
- The victims of flooding throughout the country
- Our partner congregation in Dorogobuzh, Russia
- Those Serving Our Country
- Cheryl Mansfield
- Ann Abbott
- Barbara Schultzman

### Welcome New Members

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

### April Newsletter Deadline March 23, 2025

### Worship Schedule

- 8:30 – 8:45 am  
Morning Prayer and Communion  
Sanctuary
- 8:45 – 10:00 am  
Adult Education  
CE Building
- 10:30 am  
Children's Sunday School  
CE Building
- 10:30 am  
Worship  
Sanctuary
- 11:45 am  
Fellowship Time  
Conklin Hall

### 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 February were:

- |                        |                    |                        |
|------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Rev. Ralph             | Philippians 1:3-11 | In my heart            |
| Elder Ruth Ann Horvath | Matthew 6:10       | Your will be done      |
| Elder Chris Schleiter  | Ecclesiastes 3:1   | Time for everything    |
| Elder Alicia Kitzman   | Matthew 3:31-34    | Do not worry           |
| Elder Mary Contreras   | Isaiah 40:31       | Hope in the Lord       |
| Elder Tom Contreras    | Philippians 4:6-7  | By prayer and petition |
| Elder Ruthanne Skinner | Romans 5:1-2       | Justified by faith     |
| Elder Ray Snipes       | 1 John 4:7-8       | love one another       |

### 2025 PLEDGES

**Goal**  
**\$199,987**  
**Received through 12/29**  
**\$172,120 (89.2%)**  
**Still Needed**  
**\$20,867**

We appreciate ALL donations. Pledges help us to plan for our expected income for the year.

### BUILDING FUND

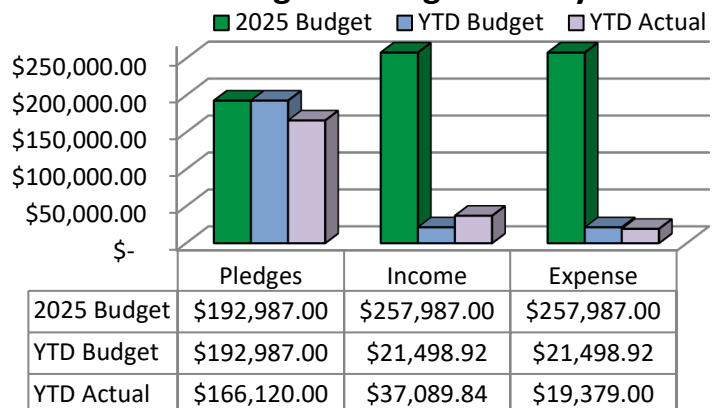
**Goal**  
**\$384,000**  
**Received to Date**  
**\$334,679**  
**Still Needed**  
**\$49,320**

Your donations to the Building Fund allow us to maintain and enhance our facilities.

### Treasurer's Report

General Fund as of January 31		
Month of January		
Receipts	\$	37,089.84
Expenditures	\$	19,379.00
January Net	\$	<b>17,710.84</b>
2025 YTD Budget vs. Actual		
YTD Budgeted Receipts	\$	<b>21,498.92</b>
Actual Receipts	\$	<b>37,089.84</b>
YTD Budgeted Expenditures	\$	<b>21,498.92</b>
Actual Expenditures	\$	<b>19,379.00</b>
YTD Net	\$	<b>17,710.84</b>
Fund Balances		
General Fund	\$	57,439.63
Building Fund	\$	51,760.15
Memorial Fund	\$	8,360.53
Bequests	\$	52,060.48
Reserve Fund	\$	82,886.11
Reynolds Family Bequest	\$	93,468.72
Mission Reserve	\$	28,541.67
Russia Mission Fund	\$	4,610.35

### 2025 Budget Through January 31



## Rev. Ralph's Food for Thought

*I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all, in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now. For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus. For it is only right for me to feel this way about you all, because I have you in my heart,*

Philippians 1:3-7



I have always been moved by Paul's affection-filled letter to the church in Philippi. The love and closeness that bound them together in Christ is evident. In my thinking, much the same way I feel about you and the journey we have shared.

The past couple of years have marked, for me, a couple of milestones - seasons, if you will - in my life and ministry. The year 2023 was the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in and for the Presbyterian Church, USA. This year is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my being called as Pastor of the Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church. Last month was the 68<sup>th</sup> time I travelled with you around the Sun (my birthday).

In the 20 years I have served the Lord in serving you we have witnessed and lived through, with the Lord's help, the Great Recession, wars around our world, and a worldwide pandemic. We have laughed, cried and prayed together.

You have walked with me and prayed with me through some of the most difficult times in my life. You have celebrated with me in some of my most joyous. You all have been my family.

This has been a wonderful and joyous season and I shall forever be grateful for the honor and opportunity to serve our Lord Jesus Christ in serving with you. It has been my honor and joy to have been your Pastor.

Yet, in this past year I have been in prayerful discernment of the journey that our Lord has called us to. I believe it is His will and my time for this season in my life to come to an end, and a new one to begin. It is time for this season, as Pastor of the Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church, to end and for both of us to enter a new season of promise and hope.

At February's meeting of the Session, I asked for the approval of my Honorable Retirement as Pastor of the Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church, effective June 30, 2025, and that a congregational meeting be called June 29, 2025, for the purpose of dissolving the pastoral relationship between us.

This season has been a wonderful journey that I shall forever be grateful for to our Lord Jesus Christ, and to you!

*With a heart full of Christian love,  
Rev. Ralph*



### **\*\* Home Communion \*\***

If you have difficulty getting to worship and would like to have the Pastor serve you the Lord's Supper at home, please call the church office (435-628-9158).

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

With the federal laws that govern the privacy of medical records, hospitals no longer can give out any information about 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 you or offer pastoral care.

## Prayer Corner



### A Quote from Henri J.M. Nouwen in his book, With Open Hands:

Praying is not simply some necessary compartment in the daily schedule of a Christian or a source of support in a time of need nor is it restricted to Sunday mornings or mealtimes. Praying is living. It is eating and drinking, action and rest, teaching and learning, playing and working. Praying pervades every aspect of our lives. It is the unceasing recognition that God is wherever we are, always inviting us to come closer and to celebrate the divine gift of being alive.

These are reasons members of our Prayer Chain pray for your concerns and requests.

Maybe...some of you would like to join us?

*Virginia Hunt*

### Strand of Pearls Prayer Chain

The Pearls on our Strand continue to pray actively for those for whom requests have been made as they come in. Updates and thanksgivings are appreciated and will be passed on.

Please call, email or text your requests to Virginia Hunt [marorva@mac.com](mailto:marorva@mac.com) or 714-955-1167, and indicate whether you wish the request to remain confidential. Otherwise, it will be included in the GSPC prayer list in the newsletter.

### Healing Prayer Offered Weekly

Healing prayer and anointing are offered every Sunday morning at the conclusion of the Worship Service in the Chapel. A Stephen Minister will be available to offer healing prayer for all who desire it.

### Oasis of Blessing Prayer Group

The Oasis of Prayer meets every other Monday afternoon from 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm. We briefly meet as a group at the beginning and then spread out through the space to spend time sitting in the presence of the Lord, praying in silence and listening to the Spirit. Our prayers are focused on our church leadership, our church community, and the wider community of St. George. We invite all to join us in prayer. For information on the meeting place, please contact Rev. Dolores Wiens (630-890-8343).

### Christian Education

*"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction."*  
Proverbs 1:7

Our ongoing classes and Bible studies continue to be held at the same time and place. They are:

- Our Monday night pot-luck Bible Study will continue until Holy week. We're studying the book of Revelations from the Kerygma program – and eating very well, I might add.
- Adult Sunday school meets on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am in the Christian Education building. Ruth Ann Horvath leads discussions exploring the spring quarter topic - Costly Sacrifices.
- Children's Sunday School is taught by Charlotte Phipps and meets each Sunday at 10:30 am in the CE building.
- Monthly Women's Bible Study meets the third Monday of each month and is exploring Princesses of the Bible.
- Our two weekly women's Bible studies are led by Pastor Ralph. They meet on Tuesdays at 11:00 am in the Desert Vista Room of the Legacy Village, and 11:00 am on Wednesdays at the Starbucks Café in Barnes & Noble.
- The weekly men's bible study, led by Pastor Ralph, meets on Thursdays at 11:00 am and is held at the Bishop's café on Sunset.

Please Note that Alan Dull is teaching a Bible Study class at Sterling Court Assisted Living every other Tuesday at 3:00 pm. We are welcome to attend. Please contact Alan if you're interested in attending so he can have material for you.

Please join us at one of these studies. Learning and growing in our faith has transformative power and helps us to live a life that aligns with God's teaching. There is so much to know. Please - give us your input! Any area of study you'd like to see us offer? Email me at [Celesteren@aol.com](mailto:Celesteren@aol.com) or text to 818-370-7892.

*Celeste Renta*

## Congregational Growth & Care

We have finalized the dates and topics for our first two Lunch and Learn programs of 2025 in our year of "Inquiring Minds Want to Know."

On Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, a representative from the Washington City police department will talk about our personal and environmental security, **Keeping Safe Begins with ME**. We will learn what steps we can take to prevent violation of our personal space and property and how perpetrators are sought and apprehended by our local law enforcement personnel. With the increase in population of our area, no one is exempt from becoming a victim of crime but there are preventive measures that can be taken to increase our safety.

Our second Lunch and Learn event, **Lunch with Ka-Wai**, will be held on Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> and will feature our own Ka-Wai Yu talking about his life in China and his journey to becoming a world-class cellist and educator. We all have been blessed by the beautiful music Ka-Wai has shared numerous times during our services and look forward to learning about the cello, as well.

Mark the dates on your calendars - March 19<sup>th</sup> and May 7<sup>th</sup>, from Noon to 1:00 pm. Why not consider inviting others to join you for the interesting and informative presentations? Bring your sandwich. Treats and beverage are provided.

We have written about the Growing Our Future sub-committee under the leadership of Guy Schultzman. Their work continues as we seek ways to introduce Good Shepherd to new residents in our community. For the details about Session's approval of the first steps proposed by the committee, please refer to the Clerk's Report in this March edition of the Newsletter submitted by our Clerk of Session, Ruth Ann Horvath.

*Alicia Kitzman*

## Deacons

Your Deacons held their annual joint meeting with Session on February 15<sup>th</sup>. During our breakout session, we shared the role of a Deacon in our church with our new and returning Deacons. We look forward to serving you this year!

I am your contact for the Deacon Shed which is full of items you may need. We have walkers, crutches, wheelchairs, and raised toilet seats. If you need anything from the shed, please give me a call. My phone number is 801-541-7444.

*Peggy Graber, Moderator*

## Fellowship

I hope you bought lots of cookies at the Valentines Cookie Sale!!

The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner is coming up March 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm in Conklin Hall. Volunteers are needed to help cook. Please sign up on the sheet in Conklin Hall.

Our Ash Wednesday Service will be at Shepherd of the Hills Methodist Church at Noon on March 5<sup>th</sup>, with a soup lunch provided. Please sign up on the sheet in Conklin Hall, so they will know how many are coming for lunch.

Thanks to all who help with preparing and serving and cleaning up after the fellowship time.

The Book Club meets the last Thursday of the month at 12:00 Noon in the CE Building. If you are interested in joining them, please come and bring a sack lunch. They discuss the current month's book then choose the book for the following month. The meeting lasts just one hour. We enjoy getting to know each other's viewpoints on the books we read. Please join us!

Remember...there is no fellowship without YOU!!

*Mary Contreras*

## Mission/Outreach

**Operation Christmas Child:** Thanks to everyone who packed boxes last year. We have learned that our boxes are on their way to needy children in Mexico. It's not too early to begin gathering items for this year's boxes so keep an eye on sales for items that you might want to include in a box.

**Souper Bowl of Caring:** Thanks, too, to everyone who brought food and cash to church on February 9<sup>th</sup> for the annual Souper Bowl of Caring. We collected 497 food items, weighing 366 pounds, and \$1,352, all of which was

## Mission/Outreach, continued

donated to Solomon's Porch. Pastor Jimi Kestin joined us at the start of worship on February 16<sup>th</sup> to talk about what services Solomon's Porch provides and how our donations make a difference to the hungry in our area.

**Solomon's Porch Sundays:** Just a reminder that the first Sunday of each month is designated Solomon's Porch Sunday. On those Sundays we collect food and money for Solomon's Porch and their indispensable programs for those in our area experiencing food insecurity. Please bring non-perishable food and money donations to church and place them in the boxes in the Narthex on the first Sunday of the month. They deeply appreciate everything our church does to help them, and we hope to have Pastor Jimi join us for a word of thanks in the near future.

*Chris Schleter*

## Session News

Session held their monthly meeting on February 9, 2025. The following actions were taken:

- Heard a report from the Growing Our Future Subcommittee:
  - A survey of the members will begin with an e-mail survey during the week of February 10. Paper copies of the survey will be available at future worship services for those who don't participate on-line.
  - Specifications for a postcard marketing campaign to new residents moving into the area will be prepared for quotes in the near future and presented for Session. Results of research and quotes shall be brought to the Session for approval prior to implementation.
- Held an Executive Session with Rev. Dr. Mirjam Haas-Melchior, Executive Presbyter of the Presbytery of Utah.
  - Accepted the Honorable Retirement of Rev. Dr. Ralph Clingan as Minister of Word and Sacrament of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church effective June 30, 2025.
  - Approved to set a Called Congregational Meeting on June 29, 2025, at 11:30 am with Rev. Dr. Mirjam Haas-Melchior serving as Moderator of that meeting.
- Other actions: Approved the appointment of Ruthanne Skinner as Commissioner to the Presbytery for 2025 in Session Meeting held on January 12, 2025.

The next meeting of the Session will be Sunday, March 9, 2025, at 12:00 Noon in the CE Building.

*Ruth Ann Horvath, Session Clerk*

## Stewardship

As important as our financial support for the church and its programs is, stewardship is about more than money. As I mentioned from the pulpit on February 9<sup>th</sup>, there are several committees that offer opportunities to become involved in the work of our church. I hope you will read about their work as they report to you in this newsletter and consider joining one or more.

But now, with the imminent retirement of our pastor of the last 20 years, our need for everyone to step up, lean in, and help out is even greater. We will have an interim pastor to lead us through this transition, but they will need our help and guidance, too. No matter how good our interim pastor is, it is unlikely that he or she will do all that Ralph has done for us. So please pray for our church during this time of transition and listen for the Holy Spirit asking for your help in the work of our church and the caring for all of you who make it up.

*Ray Snipes*

## Worship

Join us for the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper March 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm in Conklin Hall. All the pancakes, scrambled eggs and sausages you can eat!!

Plan to attend the Ash Wednesday Service March 5<sup>th</sup> Noon at Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church. Lunch will be served following the service. For those who can't make it to the service, Rev. Ralph will be in the Sanctuary on Ash Wednesday from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm to perform the imposition of the ashes for anyone wishing to attend.

We continue to be blessed with our music program at GSPC and we are thankful for Kathy Brown and Paul Wiens for their leadership with our choirs and for Aaron Lund's talent at the keyboard and organ.

Many thanks to all who participate in worship as Ushers!

If you have questions or concerns about Worship, please contact me.

*Ruthanne Skinner*

## Change is Upon Us

With the announcement of Rev. Ralph's coming retirement, change has been on the minds of everyone associated with Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church. Changing pastors creates feelings of loss: loss of a friend, loss of routine, loss of the comfort that having a long-term leader creates. It creates uncertainty. It forces us to look at ourselves and find ways to cope and to move forward. Change is inevitable. No pastor stays with a church forever and we have been blessed by God to have Rev. Ralph as our pastor for nearly 20 years. We will have a period of uncertainty and feelings of loss, just as the church did when Rev. John Mahon left us, but we will move forward and, with God's guidance, overcome our sense of loss and find peace, joy and purpose again.

At each month's Session meeting, Rev. Ralph asks a member of Session to present a devotional on a topic suggested to them by the Holy Spirit during the month. Elder Chris Schleter presented the devotional at the February meeting. It was entitled "Change is Good". In this time of change in our Church life, we thought you might like to read what he shared.

### Change is Good

In Ecclesiastes 3, we learn that "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, ...You know the rest.

Have you ever taken a moment to notice the beauty in the change of seasons? Think about it. With each season, there is something to appreciate and celebrate. Springtime announces the end of Winter. It represents the beginning of hope and new life. With plants blossoming and a shift into warm weather, Spring is a time to appreciate the newness in nature. After Spring, there's Summer. Many would say it represents freedom and relaxation. Vacations, the blaring sun, and an abundance of outdoor activities is what this season brings. Some may even say it brings about new energy and the urge to get active.

After Summer, there's Autumn or Fall. This time of the year often represents preparation, preservation, and comfort. Fall often brings about a sense of comfort. A shift from hot weather to just right warmth coupled with the beautiful colors' leaves turn, baking, apple cider, and harvest time is what this season is often associated with. Last but not least, Winter. Often associated with bitterly cold weather, hot cocoa, snow, giving, family gatherings, and the gleeful holiday season. Each time of the year brings something to look forward to and celebrate.

Each year, nature shows us how and why change is necessary. So why are we so reluctant to face and accept it? When you think about it, you realize that all of nature's changes depend on God. As each season begins and ends, things that come about with them are natural, and each of them depends on God's care and grace. Could you imagine if there were only one season to experience? What would things look like? Would we be able to experience this portion of God's grace and beauty?

Change is inevitable. It's unavoidable. It brings about the unexpected, things we didn't plan for. Whether good or bad, it comes with something new. It pushes us out of our comfort zone. It forces us to adjust to circumstances we may or may not have been ready for. However, no matter how ready or reluctant we are to make or embrace change, one thing is for certain: God is with us every step of the way. I believe what we fail to realize is that God orchestrates the changes in our lives for His glory and our good. We do this because we tend to make our plans and trust in them. When we do this, we create the outcome we desire. When things don't go the way we anticipate we become disheveled. This shouldn't be. Why? Because as believers our trust should be in God and our will should be His will, changes and all.

God is aware of all that goes on in our lives. He creates the plans; He creates the changes. Shifts in life are a part of His plan. Whether we like it or not, we all know God's plans are always best.



## Lectionary Readings for March

Date	Old Testament	Epistle	New Testament
Sunday, March 2 Transfiguration of the Lord	Exodus 34:29-35 Psalm 99	2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2	Luke 9:28-36 (37-43)
Wednesday, March 5 Ash Wednesday	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 <i>or</i> Isaiah 58:1-12 Psalm 51:1-17	2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
Sunday, March 9 1st Sunday in Lent	Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16	Romans 10:8b-13	Luke 4:1-13
Sunday, March 16 2nd Sunday in Lent	Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 Psalm 27	Philippians 3:17-4:1	Luke 13:31-35 <i>or</i> 9:28-36
Sunday, March 23 3rd Sunday in Lent	Isaiah 55:1-9 Psalm 63:1-8	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	Luke 13:1-9
Sunday, March 30 4th Sunday in Lent	Joshua 5:9-12 Psalm 32	2 Corinthians 5:16-21	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

## Lectionary Readings for April

Date	Old Testament	Epistle	New Testament
Sunday, April 6 5th Sunday in Lent	Isaiah 43:16-21 Psalm 126	Philippians 3:4b-14	John 12:1-8
Sunday, April 13 Passion/Palm Sunday	<i>Liturgy of the Palms</i> Luke 19:28-40 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 <i>Liturgy of the Passion</i> Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16	Philippians 2:5-11	Luke 22:14-23:56 <i>or</i> Luke 23:1-49
Monday, April 14 Monday of Holy Week	Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 36:5-11	Hebrews 9:11-15	John 12:1-11
Tuesday, April 15 Tuesday of Holy Week	Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 71:1-14	1 Corinthians 1:18-31	John 12:20-36
Wednesday, April 16 Wednesday of Holy Week	Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 70	Hebrews 12:1-3	John 13:21-32
Thursday, April 17 Maundy Thursday	Exodus 12:1-4 (5-10) 11-14 Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19	1 Corinthians 11:23-26	John 13:1-17, 31b-35
Friday, April 18 Good Friday	Isaiah 52:13-53:12 Psalm 22	Hebrews 10:16-25 <i>or</i> Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9	John 18:1-19:42

Continued on next page





## Lectionary Readings for April, continued

<p>Saturday, April 19 Easter Vigil</p>	<p><i>A minimum of three Old Testament readings should be chosen. The reading from Exodus 14 should always be used.</i>          Genesis 1:1-2:4a          Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26          Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18, 8:6-18, 9:8-13          Psalm 46          Genesis 22:1-18          Psalm 16          Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21          Exodus 15:1b-13, 17-18          Proverbs 8:1-8, 19-21, 9:4b-6          Psalm 19          Isaiah 55:1-11          Isaiah 12:2-6          Isaiah 61:1-4, 9-11          Deuteronomy 32:1-4, 7, 36a, 43a          Ezekiel 36:24-28          Psalm 42 and 43          Ezekiel 37:1-14          Psalm 143          Jonah 1:1-2:1          Jonah 2:2-3 (4-6), 7-9          Zephaniah 3:14-20          Psalm 98</p>	<p>Romans 6:3-11          Psalm 114</p>	<p>John 20:1-18</p>
<p>Sunday, April 20 Resurrection of the Lord / Easter Sunday</p>	<p><i>Easter Day</i>          Acts 10:34-43  <i>or</i> Isaiah 65:17-29          Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24</p>	<p>1 Corinthians 15:19-26  <i>or</i> Acts 10:34-43</p>	<p>John 20:1-18  <i>or</i> Luke 24:1-12</p>
	<p><i>Easter Evening</i>          Isaiah 25:6-9          Psalm 114</p>	<p>1 Corinthians 5:6b-8</p>	<p>Luke 24:13-49</p>
<p>Sunday, April 27 2nd Sunday of Easter</p>	<p>Acts 5:27-32          Psalm 118:14-29  <i>or</i> Psalm 150</p>	<p>Revelation 1:4-8</p>	<p>John 20:19-31</p>

## Congregation News

### **Sad News**

We are sad to announce the deaths of three of our members:

- Roger Kitzman passed away January 28<sup>th</sup>. Roger's memorial service will be April 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am in the Sanctuary.
- John Graber passed away February 15<sup>th</sup>. John's service will be April 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am in the Sanctuary.
- Rayanne Bartlett passed away February 18<sup>th</sup>. Plans for the service for Rayanne are still pending.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Alicia, Peggy, Wayne and their families.

### **Update from Presbyterian World Mission**

You may know that PCUSA has created an Interim Unified Agency to combine functions of the office of the General Assembly and the World Mission Agency. One result of this effort is that about half of the staff of World Mission were let go. Unfortunately, our mission co-worker, Ellen Smith, is included in the people who were cut.

As you can imagine, this has been very difficult for Ellen because this ministry has been her life's work. She is nearing retirement but, sadly, this change was not her choice. She is committed to continuing to support the partners as best she can as a lay member of the Eastern European Partnership Network. We thank Ellen for being instrumental in bringing Good Shepherd and the Church in Dorogobuzh together and we wish Ellen and Al health and happiness.

March 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> 11:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal am
<b>2</b> <b>Solomon's Porch Sunday</b> 8:45 Prayer Service with am Communion 9:00 Adult Education am 10:30 Communion am Worship 10:30 Children's Sunday am School & Nursery 11:45 Fellowship am	<b>3</b> 1:00 Shawl Ministry pm <b>5:30 Winter Bible Study pm &amp; Potluck</b>	<b>4</b> <b>Shrove Tuesday</b> 11:00 Women's Bible Study am @ Desert Vista Room of the Legacy Village 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon 3:00 Exercise with Rev. pm Ralph <b>5:30 Shrove Tuesday pm Pancake Supper</b> <b>6:30 Grief &amp; Loss pm Support Group</b>	<b>5</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b> <b>11:00 Ash Wednesday am Service</b> 11:00 Women's Bible Study @ Starbucks Cafe - Barnes & Noble 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon <b>6:30 Ash Wednesday pm Imposition of Ashes</b>	<b>6</b> 11:00 Men's Bible Study @ am Bishop's on Sunset 2:00 Exercise with Rev. pm Ralph 2:45 Chancel Choir Rehearsal pm	<b>7</b> 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon	<b>8</b> 11:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal am
<b>9</b> <b>1st Sunday in Lent Daylight Savings Time Begins - Spring Forward</b> 8:45 Prayer Service with am Communion 9:00 Adult Education am 10:30 Worship am 10:30 Children's Sunday am School & Nursery 11:45 Fellowship am <b>12:00 Session Meeting Noon</b>	<b>10</b> 1:00 Shawl Ministry pm <b>3:00 Oasis of Blessing pm Prayer Group</b> <b>5:30 Winter Bible Study pm &amp; Potluck</b>	<b>11</b> 11:00 Women's Bible Study am @ Desert Vista Room of the Legacy Village 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon 3:00 Exercise with Rev. pm Ralph	<b>12</b> 11:00 Women's Bible Study @ Starbucks Cafe - Barnes & Noble 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon	<b>13</b> 11:00 Men's Bible Study @ am Bishop's on Sunset 2:00 Exercise with Rev. pm Ralph 2:45 Chancel Choir Rehearsal pm	<b>14</b> 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon	<b>15</b> 11:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal am
<b>16</b> <b>2nd Sunday in Lent</b> 8:45 Prayer Service with am Communion 9:00 Adult Education am 10:30 Worship am 10:30 Children's Sunday am School & Nursery 11:45 Fellowship am <b>11:45 Blood Pressures am Taken</b> <b>12:00 Worship Noon Committee Meeting</b>	<b>17</b> 1:00 Shawl Ministry pm <b>5:30 Winter Bible Study pm &amp; Potluck</b>	<b>18</b> 11:00 Women's Bible Study am @ Desert Vista Room of the Legacy Village 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon 3:00 Exercise with Rev. pm Ralph <b>6:30 Grief &amp; Loss pm Support Group</b>	<b>19</b> <b>9:30 Stephen Ministry am Supervision Group Meeting</b> 11:00 Women's Bible Study @ Starbucks Cafe - Barnes & Noble 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon <b>12:00 Lunch &amp; Learn - Noon Home Safety &amp; Security</b>	<b>20</b> 11:00 Men's Bible Study @ am Bishop's on Sunset 2:00 Exercise with Rev. pm Ralph 2:45 Chancel Choir Rehearsal pm	<b>21</b> 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon	<b>22</b> <b>11:00 Joyce Otness am Memorial Service</b> 1:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal pm <b>6:00 Interfaith pm Harmony Night</b>
<b>23</b> <b>3rd Sunday in Lent Newsletter Deadline</b> 8:45 Prayer Service with am Communion 9:00 Adult Education am 10:30 Worship am 10:30 Children's Sunday am School & Nursery 11:45 Fellowship am	<b>24</b> <b>11:30 Women's Bible Study &amp; Fellowship am</b> 1:00 Shawl Ministry pm <b>3:00 Oasis of Blessing pm Prayer Group</b> <b>5:30 Winter Bible Study &amp; Potluck pm</b>	<b>25</b> <b>9:30 Calendar Coordinating Council Meeting am</b> 11:00 Women's Bible Study am @ Desert Vista Room of the Legacy Village 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon 3:00 Exercise with Rev. pm Ralph	<b>26</b> 11:00 Women's Bible Study am @ Starbucks Cafe - Barnes & Noble 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon	<b>27</b> 11:00 Men's Bible Study @ am Bishop's on Sunset <b>12:00 Book Club Noon</b> 2:00 Exercise with Rev. pm Ralph 2:45 Chancel Choir Rehearsal pm	<b>28</b> 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon	<b>29</b> 11:30 Bell Choir Rehearsal am
<b>30</b> <b>4th Sunday in Lent</b> 8:45 Prayer Service with am Communion 9:00 Adult Education am 10:30 Worship am 10:30 Children's Sunday am School & Nursery 11:45 Fellowship am <b>12:00 Snack &amp; Chat Noon with Rev. Ralph</b>	<b>31</b> 1:00 Shawl Ministry pm <b>5:30 Winter Bible Study &amp; Potluck pm</b>					

PLEASE NOTE:

Rev. Ralph will be attending the Presbytery Pastor's Retreat from March 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>.

Please contact Anne Patten (435-619-6005) with any pastoral concerns.

This calendar is subject to change. Always check the church website [gpscsg.org](http://gpscsg.org) for the latest information.

## Regularly Scheduled Activities

**Solomon's Porch Sunday** – Contributions of food, supplies and cash for Solomon's Porth – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each Month  
**Women's Bible Study and Fellowship** – last Monday of each month at 11:30 am in Conklin Hall  
**Al-Anon Meetings** – Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 12:00 Noon in the CE Building

<b>Shawl Ministry</b>	Monday	1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	Conklin Hall
<b>Exercise with Rev. Ralph</b>	Tuesday	3:00 pm to 3:30 pm	Conklin Hall
	Thursday	3:00 pm to 3:30 pm	Conklin Hall
<b>Men's Bible Study</b>	Thursday	11:00 am to 12:00 Noon	Bishop's Grill on Sunset
<b>Women's Bible Studies</b>	Tuesday	11:00 am to 12:00 Noon	Desert Vista Room of the Legacy Village
	Wednesday	11:00 am to 12:00 Noon	Barnes & Noble Cafe
<b>Choir Practices</b>	Thursday	2:45 pm Chancel Choir	Sanctuary
	Saturday	11:30 am Bell Choir	Sanctuary

### Flowers

Thanks to those who provide our flowers for worship!

March	
February 2	<b>Mary Contreras</b>
February 9	<i>Available</i>
February 16	<i>Available</i>
February 23	<i>Available</i>
March 30	<i>Available</i>
April	
April 6	<i>Available</i>
April 13	<b>Mary &amp; Tom Contreras</b>
April 20	<i>Available</i>
April 27	<i>Available</i>

Sign up for Flowers on the bulletin board between the Narthex and Conklin Hall or on our website [gspscg.org](http://gspscg.org)

### Online Giving

Did you know that you can donate to the church using your credit card? All you need to do is visit our Online Giving page at Vanco.

-On your computer, visit <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z4DK/home>

On your smartphone or tablet, **Scan this QR Code.**



On the giving page, click the button on the appropriate fund to set up a one-time or recurring donation, or to make a payment.

**We thank you for your continued support!**

## Church Contact Information

Office Hours Wed. 9:00 am - 1:00 pm  
 Office Phone/Fax 435-628-9158  
 Office Email [office@gspscg.org](mailto:office@gspscg.org)

Pastor's Office Hours Mon to Thu – 9:15 am – 10:30 am  
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Weeks by Afternoon Appointment Only

Pastor's Cell 435-705-1867  
 Pastor's Email [pastor@gspscg.org](mailto:pastor@gspscg.org)

Strand of Pearls Prayer Chain Virginia Hunt  
714-955-1167

Music Director Paul Wiens  
 Chancel Choir Director Kathy Brown

Website [gspscg.org](http://gspscg.org)  
 Newsletter email [newsletter@gspscg.org](mailto:newsletter@gspscg.org)  
 Website / Newsletter Editor Chris Schleter

Information on Stephen Ministry [www.stephenministries.org](http://www.stephenministries.org)

## Church Leadership 2025

### Session

Class of 2025	Celeste Renta	818-370-7892	Christian Ed
	Ruthanne Skinner	541-510-5660	Worship
	Tom Contreras	530-440-8484	Building/Grounds
Class of 2026	Alicia Kitzman	435-272-4614	Growth & Care
	Ray Snipes	435-414-4286	Stewardship
Class of 2027	Ruth Ann Horvath	435-922-5271	Clerk of Session
	Mary Contreras	435-229-8753	Fellowship
	Chris Schleter	435-619-2843	Mission/Outreach

### Deacons

Parish	Deacon	Phone
Deacons	Peggy Graber	801-541-7444
	Moderator	
Bloomington	Candy Hurlbut	435-879-9394
Bloomington Hills	Terri Morgan	801-641-8538
Hurricane	Sue Lundgreen	773-368-3054
Quail Creek	Sal Arredondo	775-790-6344
Red Cliffs	Linda Fucone	208-561-1211
Santa Clara/Ivins	Tineke Ingold	435-574-3614
Sun River	Curt Whatley	435-599-2639
Washington	Jeff Clingan	435-705-8692



Scan this QR code on your Smartphone or Tablet to visit our website.

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

Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church  
611 N 2450 E  
PO Box 1499  
Saint George UT 84771-1499

Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE PAID  
ST. GEORGE, UT  
PERMIT NO. 675

**If you are not a member of the church and no longer wish to receive our newsletter, please let us know by emailing [newsletter@gspcsg.org](mailto:newsletter@gspcsg.org) and we will remove you from our mailing list. Thank you.**

**gspcsg.org**

The newsletter is also available on our website