



# 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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## January, 2020

### Volume 15, Issue 1

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## Church Staff

### The Rev. Dr. Ralph Clingan

Pastor

### Dick Higgins

Visitation Pastor

### LaVerna Metzger

Clerk of Session

### Candy Hurlbut

### Susan Holecheck

Church Secretaries

### Barbara McConnell

Music Director

### Stephen Talley

Organist

### Deborah Stone

Prayer Chain

### Chris Schleiter

Website / Newsletter Editor

## New Elders and Deacons for 2020

With the coming of the New Year, we say goodbye to some of our Elders and Deacons and welcome our new church officers.

We thank Mary Contreras, Scott Florence, Susan Holecheck, LaVerna Metzger, Carolynn Thomas for their service on Session.

In 2020, three previous Session Elders will return to Session. Ruth Ann Horvath will return as Clerk of Session, Barbara McConnell will return as Elder for Worship and Chris Schleiter will return as Elder for Mission/Outreach.

With Scott reaching the end of his six year limit on Session, Alan Paige will take over Grounds and with Susan Holecheck reaching the end of her three-year term, Leslie Lintz will be the new Elder for Stewardship.

Two Deacons, Adele Kinkel and Mitzi Rak resigned this year and Josie Marsh reached the end of her three-year term.

We welcome Marjorie Bayle, Russ and Luisa Estlack, Mona Johnson and Sue Lundgreen as new Deacons for 2020. Marjorie will be the Deacon for Green Valley Parish, Russ, Luisa and Sue will be replacing Josie in Hurricane Parish (our largest Parish) and Mona will be the Deacon for Ivins Parish. The list of Deacons and their Parishes is on page 4.

Thanks to Elder Mary Contreras and the nominating committee for their good work during 2019.

This year's Nominating Committee will be moderated by Eric Westland, representing Session, with Tineke Ingold representing the Deacons and Scott Florence, Nancy Higgins and Anne Patten representing the congregation. We could use a couple of more Deacons so if you are interested in serving, please contact a member of the 2020 Nominating Committee.

We will be ordaining and installing Elders and Deacons during worship on January 5<sup>th</sup> and hope that you will join us in extending our congratulations to our new Elders and Deacons.

## Tacky Tie and Sweater Winners Announced

As you know, each year Rev. Ralph invites the men of the Congregation to show off their tackiest Christmas ties and the ladies their tackiest Christmas Sweaters.

Congratulations to this year's winners, Steve Talley and Aimee Gilmore. Each of these lucky winners received an autographed photo of Ralph the Baptizer, distant descendant of John the Baptizer, and a collectible 1990 Presbyterian Hymnal.

With only 50 weeks to go until next year's contest, now is a good time to begin looking for next year's entry.

### 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*

Jan Hirschi	Ed Mansfield
Roger Kitzman	Josie Marsh
Joe Borden	Preston Hughes
Dottie Malcomson	Barbara Schultzman
Faye Gray	Dorothy Nichols
Joe Borden	Shirley Craig
Melissa Beckman	Brett Schroeder
Steve Talley	Jack Ewing
The Skinner Family	

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

### February Newsletter Deadline

January 23, 2020

### Worship Schedule

**8:45 – 9:00 am**  
Morning Prayer and Communion  
Sanctuary

**9:00 – 9:45 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 December were:

Rev. Ralph	John 3:16-17	God's Love
Elder La Verna Metzger	1 John 1:9	Forgiveness
Elder Scott Florence	Isaiah 55:3	Listen for God
Elder Gloria McGilloway	Psalm 121	Our help
Elder Susan Holecheck	Luke 6:37-38	Forgive
Elder Judy Oar	Ecclesiastes 9:17	Wisdom
Elder Carolynn Thomas	Colossians 3:15	Peace
Elder Bill Somplatsky-Jarman	Luke 2:7	Birth of Jesus
Elder Jan Hirschi	Colossians 3:12	God's Chosen
Elder Eric Westland	1 Timothy 1:15-17	Sinners Saved

### Thanks to our Volunteers

Flowers		Nursery
January		
January 5	<i>Available</i>	Jennifer P
January 12	<i>Available</i>	Donna Beasley
January 19	<i>Available</i>	<i>Available</i>
January 26	<i>Available</i>	<i>Available</i>
February		
February 2	<i>Available</i>	Jennifer P
February 9	Donna Beasley	Donna Beasley
February 16	<i>Available</i>	<i>Available</i>
February 23	<i>Available</i>	<i>Available</i>

Signup for Flowers on the board between the Narthex and Conklin Hall or on our Website [gpscsg.org](http://gpscsg.org)

### Treasurer's Report

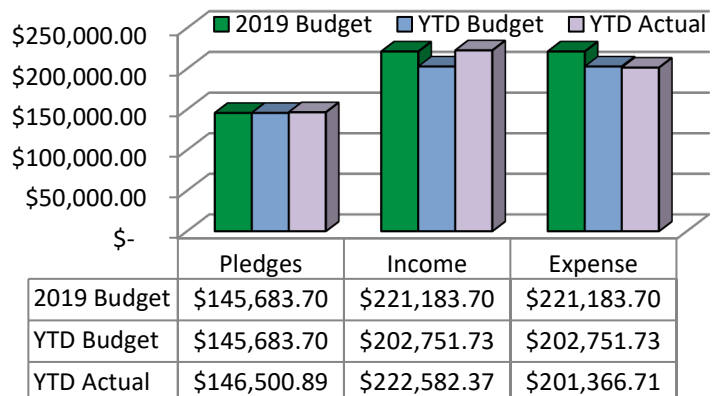
#### General Fund as of November 30, 2019 Month of November

Receipts	\$ 20,888.98
Expenditures	\$ 16,668.36
<b>2019 YTD Budget vs Actual</b>	
YTD Budgeted Receipts	\$ 202,751.73
Actual Receipts	<b>\$222,582.37</b>
YTD Budgeted Expenditures	\$ 202,751.73
Actual Expenditures	<b>\$201,366.71</b>

#### Fund Balances

General Fund	\$ 35,023.02
Building Fund	\$ 35,946.21
Memorial Fund	\$ 2,189.80
Reserve Fund	\$ 45,331.30
Russia Mission Fund	\$ 3,253.05
Bequests	\$ 73,760.12

#### 2019 Budget Through November 30



## Rev. Ralph's Food for Thought

*Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them, and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away."*

*And He who sits on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new."*

*Revelation 21:1-5 New American Standard Bible (NASB)*



When I consider the ending of an old year and the beginning of a new year I often think of this text from Revelation. In these words, written in dark and hopeless times, are the sounds and vision of hope for not just brighter days but the brightest of new days. A new day where God Himself will be with his people, and all that hurts or harms shall be no more of this world's existence.

I remember as a child looking forward to the New Year almost as much as Christmas day. While Christmas seemed to always surpass my expectation, New Year's always fell far short. I would always awaken to the New Year and would note that it was completely identical to the old one! How disappointing!

I would like to think that with my advancing age a little wisdom might have crept into my life. To this point, I have come to realize that for a New year to be truly new it involves seeing things in a new light and in a new way. Perhaps with the eyes of faith open, I may begin to

see what new things God is doing in my life and what new ways my Lord is leading me to His promised Kingdom. It really all comes down to faith and the willingness to begin each new day of each new week of each new month of each new year in the presence of my Lord, listening for his voice in all that we do as the body of Christ. And, doing the things that Christians do to open their eyes. The reading of Scripture, prayer, worship, fellowship and mission, will indeed determine what is to come.

With the gift of this New Year it is my prayer that we all may enter with open eyes and joyful hearts in anticipation of what our Lord is preparing for our journey together in 2020.

A Very Happy and Blessed New Year to you all!

*In Christ,  
Rev. Ralph*

PS ... Cindy and I would like to thank everyone for the gifts and kind words extended to us this Advent/Christmas season. You all continue to bless our lives richly. We are especially grateful for the anonymously given red vest left at our home during our annual open house. With the possibility that this gift was unintended, it is currently hanging in the Narthex to be retrieved by its owner. 😊

### **\*\* 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 keep in mind that with the federal laws that went into force several years ago, 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.

So, 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 there and unable to assist or offer pastoral care.

## 2020 Deacons

Bloomington Hills	East Bloomington	Sun River	Old St. George	Dixie Downs / Santa Clara	Ivins	Pine Valley	Green Valley	Red Cliffs	Washington	Hurricane	Deacons
Sandy Paige	Vicky Westland	Candy Hurlbut	Jeff Clingan	Tom & Vici Noble	Mona Johnson	Tineke Ingold	Marjorie Bayle	Ann McLuckie	Ka-Wai Yu	Russ & Luisa Estlack	Virginia Hunt
703-9272	435-414-1960	435-879-9394	435-705-8692	673-4232	408-621-8144	574-3614	435-699-4985	680-1062	812-340-2184	275-8315	714-955-1167
										Sue Lundgreen	
										773-368-3054	
Cunningham	Baloga	Clark	Baxter	Ard	Everitt	Beckman, M	Henderson	Babb	Carlson	Abbott	Bayle
Delgado	Bartlett	Gray	Combes	Arganbright	Florence	Lithgow	Jakubczak	Clouse	Cover	Borden	Clingan, J
Freeman	Bass	Horvath	Kellejan	Baker	Kitzman	Malcomson	Kinkel	Ewing	Gordon	Crowe	Estlack
Gibbons	Beasley	Kirkland	Lobato	Contreras, L	Routh, T	Peters	Morgan, M	Fine	Goudie	Drennan	Hurlbut
Graber	Bemis	Larson	Morgan	Contreras, M	Thomas, C	Ramquist	O'Donnell	Holecheck	Jimenez	Higgins	Ingold, T
Jentzer	Carney	Mansfield	Oar	Craig	Wiens	Schroeder	Perkins	Huyo-A	Jordy	Hirschi	Johnson
Linden	Dunham	McGaha	Sheneman	Gearhart			West	Kwako/Rice	Klein	Hogan	Lundgreen
Mowery	Laubscher	Patten	Starrett	Lindley			Wheeler	Larsen, L	Lucky	Hunt	McLuckie
Otness	Lintz	Prinselaar	Willard	McConnell, B				Linn	Miller	Lamb	Noble
Phipps	Smith	Seefeld	Wille't	McConnell, N				Metzger	Morrison	Lawson, R	Paige
Plante	Wilson			McGilloway				Peterson	Robinette	Marsh	Westland
Reid (Hawk)				Milford				Stewart	Sater	Moeller	Yu
Snipes								Tighe	Sauret	Overkamp	
Thomson								Wick	Schleter	Safreno	
									Schultzman	Shonkwiler	
									Smpltsky-Jrmn	Stone	
										Whitton	

## Congregation News

### A Message From the Visitation Pastor

It has been a blessing to me to serve as our church's Visitation Pastor for the past four years. Please advise me how I may better serve our members that for one reason or another cannot come to regular worship services.

*Blessings  
Dick Higgins*

### Thanks from the Salvation Army

Words are not adequate to say thank you for what our church family did again this year to help those less fortunate. Your support over the last 20 years is an example of living as Christ taught us to live (Matthew 25:40). A heart felt thanks from the Salvation Army and myself.

*Blessings,  
Dick Higgins*

### Friday Men's Bible Study Coming Back

Some of you may remember there used to be a men's bible study on Friday mornings. We're going to bring in the New Year by re-starting (resurrecting?) this bible study. Please join Rev. Ralph and those who are able to rise and shine for a generous helping of eggs, bacon, coffee and God's word at 7:30am at Bishop's Cafe in Washington starting on January 10<sup>th</sup>.

Blessings and hope to see you there!

*Scott Florence*

### New Website is Live

After several months of development the new version of our Website, [gspcsg.org](http://gspcsg.org) is live. The content has been updated, the site has a fresher look and is more mobile friendly and you can, once again, send emails to Rev. Ralph or the church office directly from the site. If there is anything that doesn't work or just doesn't look right, please send me an email through the site. Just go to About Us then down to click on Contact Us and click on email our Website editor at the bottom. I hope you enjoy the new site and find it useful.

*Chris Schleter*

## Buildings

December has been a relatively quiet month for your building committee. The heating of the buildings seems well regulated and this being our first winter after investing in additional insulation, our energy usage has diminished a bit.

Please keep church security in mind during low-use times. If you go out a locked door, make sure it latches behind you by giving it a tug from the outside. Unlatched doors and windows continue to be an occasional issue, although it's getting better 😊.

As you consider your giving for 2020, I would encourage you to continue your support of the building fund. While we paid off the mortgage last summer, we need to build up a reserve for expenses we know are coming. Exterior painting and CE window replacement are examples, but the big one is that we probably have \$60,000 of air conditioners that are coming up on their 20th birthday. Your continued support will mean having the funds in place for when the need arises.

*Blessings,  
Eric Westland*

## Christian Education

Christmas is behind us, and 2020 brings new Sunday School curriculum and a Men's Bible Study. Lent will be here before we know it, and there will be a Lenten Study and a new daily devotional.

Meanwhile, here is something to ponder from Howard Thurman's *Jesus and the Disenfranchised*: "The awareness that a person is a child of the God of religion, who is at one and the same time the God of life, creates a profound faith in life that nothing can destroy. Nothing less than a great daring in the face of overwhelming odds can achieve the inner security in which fear cannot possibly survive. It is true that a person cannot be serene unless he or she possesses something about which to be serene. Here we reach the high-water mark of prophetic religion, and it is of the essence of the religion of Jesus of Nazareth. Of course God cares for the grass of the field, which lives a day and is no more, or the sparrow that falls unnoticed by the wayside. God also holds the stars in their appointed places, leaves his mark in every living thing. And he cares for me! To be assured of this becomes the answer to the threat of violence—yea, to violence itself. To the degree to which a person knows this, she or he is unconquerable from within or without." (thanks for this quote to Rev. Roger Gench, retired pastor of New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington, DC).

Don't forget that on January 5<sup>th</sup> we will be beginning a new Adult Sunday School theme: Honoring God, part of The Present Word series. The Present Word is a celebrated adult Bible study produced by the Presbyterian Church (USA) in partnership with four other Protestant denominations. Join us every Sunday morning at 9:00 am, following the morning Prayer/Communion service in the CE Building as we explore "who we are and what the human situation means, grow as the children of God rooted in the Christian community, live in the Spirit of God in every relationship, fulfill our common discipleship in the world, and abide in the Christian hope," one of the goals of the curriculum.

*Bill Somplatsky-Jarman*

## Deacons

Your Deacons send you warm greetings for the new year of 2020. We hope to continue to be more visible and involved with our church members and friends.

As was reported on page 1, we have four new Deacons in 2020. We are thankful for their stepping up to help cover all of our parishes.

If you have an illness or are recovering from surgery, our Deacon Shed is full of items you may need. We have everything from walkers to crutches to wheelchairs to raised toilet seats. If you need to borrow anything from the shed, please contact Dick Babb (688-1120), and he will make arrangements to get you what you need.

We thank you for the opportunity to serve you and the Lord; and hope that if there is anything you need, you will let us know.

*In Christian love and fellowship,  
Your Deacons*



## Fellowship

Boy the holiday season zoomed by and 2020 is here. We have enjoyed such wonderful fellowship this year, and I look forward to continuing that trend.

Our Christmas Brunch was, as always, a delicious event. We enjoyed many interesting dishes and (surprise) great desserts. Thank you to all who contributed in any way. Special thanks to Steve for playing and Barbara for leading our carol sing. It was a truly inspiring way to conclude our celebration.

*Gloria McGilloway*

## Mission/Outreach

First, thanks to Carolyn Thomas for serving as the Mission/Outreach Elder for 2019. I can now take my "Sherpa" nametag off and put my "Elder" nametag back on.

**Advent Food Drive:** Thanks to everyone who contributed to our Advent food drive. A special thanks to the Cub Scouts who's challenge brought in more food than we could have hoped for. As this edition of the newsletter is being written we still have one more Sunday for donations. I'll update you on the final stats next month.

**Change for Change:** Is your loose change getting heavy in your pocket or purse? Is that coin dish at home overflowing with coins? Bring all that loose change with you to church on Sunday and place it in the brown donation box in the Narthex. The contents of the box will be going to the bank on December 30<sup>th</sup> and I'll let you know how much we donated to the DOVE Center next month. Our Change for Change recipient for 2020 will be Youth Futures.

**November C.R.O.P. Walk:** The final numbers are in from the C.R.O.P. Walk and, as a community, we raised \$5,000 to combat hunger both here in St. George and around the world. Of the total, \$1,250 went to our local charity, Solomon's Porch. As usually happens, Good Shepherd led the pack with \$940 in donations. Thanks to everyone who walked and/or donated. Time to get in shape for next year's C.R.O.P. Walk which will be on November 14<sup>th</sup>.

*Chris Schleiter*

## Parish Health Ministry

**DECEMBER BROWN BAG LUNCHEON:** "Holiday Blues Make Me Sad." None of us is immune to experiencing the feelings of grief and sadness resulting from any life loss such as loss of a loved one, a job, a home, or even physical ability. There is no time limit for enduring these feelings, which can be overwhelming and impactful on our lives for only a brief time or for years or months to come. Our speaker, Rev. Ralph, led a discussion of what grieving can mean to each of us and proposed that there are certain truths that prevail about all forms of grief. But, they may not be experienced in a set order. Feeling sad is a natural reaction to loss and the grieving person will have to work through stages of denial, anger, bargaining, depression. Finally acceptance of the loss, while all the while receiving messages of condolence from others who may not know what to say or simply may avoid saying anything. There is no, "get over it" or "I've been there" that can erase the sense of emptiness, and no amount of self-soothing with over-indulgence in food or alcohol will make things better. The best therapy is to allow oneself time to grieve while interacting with others, seeking sunlight, and leaning on a personal faith and the support of a faith community or professional counselor.

Knowing that others have walked and are walking the same paths of grief can be comforting, and help is available. Rev. Ralph shared a video produced by CBS on their Morning Show in November with Susan Spencer, which explores the difficult task of reconciling loss in our lives. It may be accessed by doing a search for CBS, Morning Show, November 10, 2019, "With Deepest Sympathy: The complications of coping with grief." In addition, Good Shepherd Church hosts a Grief and Loss Support Group on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 6:30pm.

**FEBRUARY BROWN BAG LUNCHEON:** We have had requests to feature a discussion about living with diabetes and our February speaker is well able to be our resource person on that topic. On Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at Noon we will welcome Brent McFadden, PharmD, from Brent's Pharmacy and Diabetes Care as he speaks about "The Care and Feeding of Diabetes." He will discuss what its like to live with being a diabetic and also address the diagnosis of pre-diabetes. Plan to join us for an educational experience meant not only for those diagnosed but also for caretakers or family members of diabetics and pre-diabetics and anyone else interested in learning more about a disease, which is becoming alarmingly prevalent in our society.

## Parish Health Ministry, continued

**SAVE THE DATE!** SeniorLeaf, a Salt Lake based resource organization for Seniors, is planning to hold its first **SENIOR EXPO** in St. George at the Dixie Convention Center on Friday and Saturday, January 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. Admission is FREE and you may stay as long as you wish. Vendors will be there to offer information on such topics as insurance, hobbies, travel, financial investment and caregiver planning. You may avail yourself of FREE health screenings, play bingo or even learn to play pickleball. The Convention Center concession will be open for purchase of food should you get hungry. For more information, please call SilverLeaf at (833) MY-SENIOR.

*Alicia Kitzman*

## Prayer Chain

I would ask anyone in the congregation that would like to join in prayers for the ill, people with problems, or those with happy news like a mending body to please contact me on my cell, 632-3160.

All prayers are important.

*Deborah Stone*

## Senior Ministries

**SOUP AND FELLOWSHIP:** On Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at Noon in Conklin Hall we look forward to meeting Ann McLuckie and hearing her story. She is a wildlife biologist associated with the Division of Wildlife Resources in Hurricane. Her focus is on the tortoises and their plight. This will be so interesting when you consider the Northern Corridor. And, as always, Senior Ministry provides the lunch. Always yummy, and it will not be turtle soup. Come listen to Ann and enjoy a free lunch.

**CARD PARTY:** Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm in Conklin Hall. We need one more bridge player to continue our Bridge game. Any volunteers? Please! We have been playing Backgammon and Hearts. We have Scrabble, Yahtzee, Rummikub; plus, all available to exercise our brains and SOCIALIZE with other people. We always have fun!

**BRAIN HEALTH:** A heart healthy diet (vegetables and fruit) is a brain-healthy diet. Other evidence-based steps include SOCIALIZING, STAYING ACTIVE, GETTING ENOUGH SLEEP AND CHALLENGING, STIMULATING YOURSELF WITH MEMORIZING, VOLUNTEERING, CONTINUING EDUCATION CLASSES, etc.. Our church offers all of these with the exception of sleep.

*Judy Oar*

## Session News

Session held their monthly meeting on December 1, 2019. Here is a synopsis of their actions:

- Approved Kristin Crowe as treasurer of the Women's Guild of GSPC and as a designated signer on their checking account
- Approved the participation in a Virgin River Presbyterian Fellowship Joint Elder/Deacon Training meeting on February 8, 2020, with the place and time to be set at a later date.
- Accepted the resignations of LaVerna Metzger and Carolyn Thomas as Ruling Elders effective December 31, 2019, with appreciation.
- Approved the following slate of nominees to be submitted to the Congregation for election at the stated Congregational Meeting on December 22, 2019, following worship service: Elders: Ruth Ann Horvath, Chris Schleiter, Barbara McConnell, Alan Paige and Leslie Lintz; Deacons: Sue Lundgreen, Russ and Luisa Estlack and Mona Johnson; Nominating Committee Members: Scott Florence, Nancy Higgins, Anne Patten, and Eric Westland as Elder Chair. Appointed committees to examine new nominees.
- Approved Terms of Call for the Pastor for 2020 totaling \$110,897.00.
- Approved year end donations from the Mission Budget totaling \$5,721.49.
- Set the first Session Meeting of 2020 on Sunday, January 19, 2020, after worship services.
- Set the Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 26, 2020, after worship services.
- Approved, at a special meeting on December 22, 2019, Marjorie Bayle as a nominee for Deacon.

*Ruth Ann Horvath, Interim Clerk of Session*

## Soup Kitchen

Our church "crew" participates in the Soup Kitchen the first Monday of each month. During the month of December volunteers included Vicky Westland, Kaye Corbett, Rayanne Bartlett, Eliza Elwood, Marge Linn, Josie Kellejan and Ruth Ann Horvath. Serving over 100 hungry folks is always just as much a blessing to the volunteers as it is to those who enjoy their lunch. A Fall menu of sloppy joe's, chips, coleslaw, fruit and dessert was served. Many positive comments were received – especially for our famous "Presbyterian" coleslaw. Questions about the Soup Kitchen experience? ContactCarolynn Thomas 435-817-8288.

*Carolynn Thomas*

## Stewardship

The Treasurer's report from November 30<sup>th</sup> appears on page 2, and our Building Fund report is on page 11.

Our fall pledge campaign, "Excel in the Grace of Giving", has wrapped up. Thank you to everyone who pledged. As of December 29<sup>th</sup>, we still need about \$25,000 in pledges to meet our needs for 2020. If you have not pledged, please prayerfully consider doing so. Your pledges help us to plan and allow us to continue to serve our congregation, community and world.

Thank you for your support over the last three years. Leslie Lintz will be the new Stewardship Elder, and I wish her success going forward.

We continue to thank you for your generosity.

*Susan Holecheck and your Stewardship Committee*

## Women's Guild

A BIG "Thank You" to everyone who contributed cookies as well as those who purchased those delicious cookies at our Annual Christmas Cookie Sale following worship. Thanks to your generosity we were able to raise \$357 over those two Sundays.

Those proceeds will be added to our treasury enabling us to present checks for \$1,000 each to the Children's Justice Center, Youth Futures, Neighborhood Connections, and Assistance League of Southern Utah. Representatives from those organizations will be in Conklin Hall at 1:00 pm on January 4<sup>th</sup> to receive those donations and perhaps tell us a little bit about what they are doing for our community with light refreshments to follow. We will be having a meeting following this event for anyone interested in hearing about our upcoming events.

*Candy Hurlbut*

## Worship & Music

We are very grateful for the blessings of this past year as we welcome the New Year, 2020! Much appreciation goes to the many volunteers who assisted the worship committee throughout the year. Special thanks go to our organists, Deborah Stone and Steve Talley, as well as the ushers, Communion servers, Sanctuary committee, and all the musicians in the Bell and Chancel Choir. Our church sparkled with the beautiful decorations, thanks to the many volunteers who assisted in hanging of the greens and storing them away for the next year's Advent season. Rev. Ralph's spiritual guidance, along with the Advent lessons, made it more meaningful. (Even with including the tacky tie and sweater contest.)

We welcome back our "Snow Birds" and look forward to new events in January.

Best Wishes for a Happy New Year!

*Barbara McConnell  
Director of Music*



## Lectionary Readings for January

Date	Reading 1	Reading 2	Reading 3
Sunday, January 5 Second Sunday of Christmas	Jeremiah 31:7-14 Psalm 147:12-20	Ephesians 1:3-14	John 1:(1-9) 10-18
Monday, January 6 Epiphany of the Lord	Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14	Ephesians 3:1-12	Matthew 2:1-12
Sunday, January 12 Baptism of the Lord	Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 29	Acts 10:34-43	Matthew 3:13-17
Sunday, January 19 Second Sunday after the Epiphany	Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 40:1-11	1 Corinthians 1:1-9	John 1:29-42
Sunday, January 26 Third Sunday after the Epiphany	Isaiah 9:1-4 Psalm 27:1, 4-9	1 Corinthians 1:10-18	Matthew 4:12-23

## Lectionary Readings for February

Date	Reading 1	Reading 2	Reading 3
Sunday, February 2 Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany	Micah 6:1-8 Psalm 15	1 Corinthians 1:18-31	Matthew 5:1-12
Sunday, February 9 Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany	Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12] Psalm 112:1-9 [10]	1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]	Matthew 5:13-20
Sunday, February 16 Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany	Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Psalm 119:1-8	1 Corinthians 3:1-9	Matthew 5:21-37
Sunday, February 23 Transfiguration of the Lord	Exodus 24:12-18 Psalm 2 or Psalm 99	2 Peter 1:16-21	Matthew 17:1-9
Wednesday, February 26 Ash Wednesday	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12 Psalm 51:1-17	2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

## More Congregation News

### **By-Laws Change to be considered at Annual Meeting**

Last year's General Assembly made a change to the Book of Order as it relates to the composition of Nominating Committees. Previously multiple Session Elders were not permitted to serve on the Nominating Committee at the same time. That restriction was removed from the Book of Order. Our By-Laws contain that restriction and it needs to be removed. We will consider amending the By-Laws at the Annual Corporate Meeting on January 26<sup>th</sup>.

The updated text is:

The committee shall have at least three other members from the congregation at large. These members shall be nominated by the previous nominating committee or the congregation. ~~If nominated by the previous nominating committee, the other members shall not be actively serving ruling Elders.~~

## January 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> <b>New Year's Day</b> 11:00 am Women's Bible Study @ Starbucks Cafe - Barnes & Noble 12:00 Noon Prayer Over the City - Tabernacle 6:30 pm Grief & Loss Support Group	<b>2</b> 11:00 am Open Bible Study @ Village Inn 3:00 pm Exercise with Rev. Ralph 3:45 pm Chancel Choir	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 10:00 am Take down Christmas decorations 12:00 Noon Women's Guild Meeting
<b>5</b> <b>Soup Kitchen Sunday</b> 8:45 am Prayer Service 9:00 am Adult Education 10:30 am Communion Worship - Install Elders & Deacons for 2020 11:45 am Fellowship 12:00 Noon Deacon Meeting 5:00 pm Bible Study @Rev. Ralph's	<b>6</b> <b>Epiphany of the Lord</b> 1:00 pm Shawl Ministry 6:00 pm Stephen Ministry Supervision Group Meeting	<b>7</b> 9:30 am Calendar Coordinating Council Meeting 11:00 am Women's Bible Study @ Egg & I 2:00 pm Bell Choir 3:00 pm Exercise with Rev. Ralph	<b>8</b> 11:00 am Women's Bible Study @ Starbucks Cafe - Barnes & Noble 12:00 Noon Soup & Fellowship - Ann McLuckie - Conklin Hall	<b>9</b> 11:00 am Open Bible Study @ Village Inn 3:00 pm Exercise with Rev. Ralph 3:45 pm Chancel Choir	<b>10</b> 7:30 am Men's Bible Study @ Bishop's	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> <b>Baptism of the Lord</b> 8:45 am Prayer Service 9:00 am Adult Education 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Fellowship 11:45 am Blood Pressures Taken 5:00 pm Bible Study @Rev. Ralph's	<b>13</b> 1:00 pm Shawl Ministry	<b>14</b> 11:00 am Women's Bible Study @ Egg & I 2:00 pm Bell Choir 3:00 pm Exercise with Rev. Ralph	<b>15</b> 11:00 am Women's Bible Study @ Starbucks Cafe - Barnes & Noble 1:00 pm Senior Ministries Card Party - Conklin Hall 6:30 pm Grief & Loss Support Group	<b>16</b> 11:00 am Open Bible Study @ Village Inn 3:00 pm Exercise with Rev. Ralph 3:45 pm Chancel Choir	<b>17</b> 7:30 am Men's Bible Study @ Bishop's	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 8:45 am Prayer Service 9:00 am Adult Education 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Fellowship 12:00 Noon Session Meeting 5:00 pm Bible Study @Rev. Ralph's	<b>20</b> <b>Martin Luther King Day</b> 1:00 pm Shawl Ministry	<b>21</b> 11:00 am Women's Bible Study @ Egg & I 2:00 pm Bell Choir 3:00 pm Exercise with Rev. Ralph	<b>22</b> 11:00 am Women's Bible Study @ Starbucks Cafe - Barnes & Noble	<b>23</b> <b>Newsletter Deadline</b> 11:00 am Open Bible Study @ Village Inn 3:00 pm Exercise with Rev. Ralph 3:45 pm Chancel Choir	<b>24</b> 7:30 am Men's Bible Study @ Bishop's	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 8:45 am Prayer Service 9:00 am Adult Education 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Annual Congregational Meeting 11:45 am Fellowship 5:00 pm Bible Study @Rev. Ralph's	<b>27</b> 11:30 am Women's Bible Study & Fellowship 1:00 pm Shawl Ministry	<b>28</b> 11:00 am Women's Bible Study @ Egg & I 2:00 pm Bell Choir 3:00 pm Exercise with Rev. Ralph	<b>29</b> 11:00 am Women's Bible Study @ Starbucks Cafe - Barnes & Noble	<b>30</b> 11:00 am Open Bible Study @ Village Inn 3:00 pm Exercise with Rev. Ralph 3:45 pm Chancel Choir	<b>31</b> 7:30 am Men's Bible Study @ Bishop's	

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

## Regularly Scheduled Activities

**Soup Kitchen Sunday** – Contributions of food, supplies and cash – 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

<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>	Friday	7:30 am to 8:30 am	Bishop's
<b>Open Bible Study</b>	Sunday	5:00 pm to 6:00 pm	Rev. Ralph's Home
	Thursday	11:00 am to 12:00 Noon	Village Inn
<b>Women's Bible Studies</b>	Tuesday	11:00 am to 12:00 Noon	The Egg & I
	Wednesday	11:00 am to 12:00 Noon	Starbuck's Café @ Barnes & Noble
<b>Choir Rehearsals</b>	Tuesday	2:00 pm Bell Choir	Sanctuary
	Thursday	3:45 pm Chancel Choir	Sanctuary



## 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 December 22<sup>nd</sup> we have received pledges towards our third campaign totaling **\$56,100** and additional cash donations of **\$25,620** giving us a total for all three campaigns of **\$276,783** or about **72.1%** 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 Thu 12:00 Noon – 2:00 pm
Office Phone/Fax	435-628-9158
Office Email	<a href="mailto:office@gspcsq.org">office@gspcsq.org</a>
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	<a href="mailto:pastor@gspcsq.org">pastor@gspcsq.org</a>
Prayer Chain	Deborah Stone 435-632-3160
Music Director	Barbara McConnell
Website	<a href="http://gspcsq.org">gspcsq.org</a>
Newsletter email	<a href="mailto:newsletter@gspcsq.org">newsletter@gspcsq.org</a>
Website / Newsletter Editor	Chris Schleiter
Information on Stephen Ministry	<a href="http://www.stephenministries.org">www.stephenministries.org</a>

## Church Leadership 2020

### Session

Class of 2020	Jan Hirschi	435-680-1012	Growth
	Bill Somplatsky-Jarman	502-589-6030	Christian Ed
	Eric Westland	435-625-1399	Building
Class of 2021	Ruth Ann Horvath	435-922-5271	Clerk of Session
	Gloria McGilloway	610-349-6045	Fellowship
	Judy Oar	702-241-6227	Senior Ministries
	Chris Schleiter	435-619-2843	Mission/Outreach
Class of 2022	Leslie Lintz	412-403-9980	Stewardship
	Barbara McConnell	435-862-4822	Worship
	Alan Paige	435-817-0718	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
Invins	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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