



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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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 Schleter

Website / Newsletter Editor

The Merry (and Busy) Month of December Kicks Off

As usual, December will be a VERY busy month. Beginning on December 1st with the kickoff of Rev. Ralph's Annual Tacky Tie and Sweater Contest and culminating on Christmas Eve with our traditional worship service, there is something in December for everyone.

Rev. Ralph began his annual Advent lesson series on November 25th. These lessons, using a Kerygma curriculum, centering on the Letter to James will continue on December 2nd, 9th and 16th. All lessons will be held in the CE Building at 5:45 pm. Please bring a small dish to share and learn more about this liturgical season.

Sunday, December 8th Rev. Ralph, Cindy and Jeff will host their annual open house from 3:00 to 6:00 pm.

On Sunday, December 15th at 7:00 pm, the choirs will perform their annual Christmas concert in our Sanctuary. You can get a preview during worship that morning. This is a wonderful program and we hope you will all join us.

On December 22nd, we will hold our Stated Congregational Meeting after worship to elect officers for next year and approve the Terms of Call for Rev. Ralph. We will dedicate our pledges for 2020 during the service, as well.

Our potluck Christmas Celebration will be held on the 22nd in Conklin Hall. Bring hors d'oeuvres or snacks to share and we'll sing some Carols of the season.

At 7:00 pm on Christmas Eve we will anticipate the birth of our Savior with our Candle Light Worship, and we'll wrap up the Christmas season with worship on Christmas morning.

We hope you will join us in celebrating this most joyous season!

Rev. Ralph Announces Annual Tacky Tie and Sweater Contest

Consider yourselves warned. Once again, in 2019, Rev. Ralph is challenging the men of the congregation to find and wear to church the TACKIEST Christmas ties they can find and the women of the congregation to wear their TACKIEST Christmas sweater. The winners will receive a special prize.

All women's entries must be publicly identified as being "Tacky" to avoid any unfortunate misidentification of a treasured family or handmade heirloom. Ladies, you can pick up a sticker from Hawk to indicate that your sweater is, in fact, an entry into this year's contest.

We can't wait to see what you've found!



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	Pat Sater
Steve Talley	

Our sister congregation in Dorogobuzh, Russia
Those Serving Our Country

Welcome New Members

Adele & Ray Snipes

If you are interested in joining our fellowship, please see Rev. Ralph or Session Clerk LaVerna Metzger

January Newsletter Deadline

December 23, 2019

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 November were:

Rev. Ralph	Hebrews 10:23-25	Hold fast
Elder La Verna Metzger	1 John 1:9	Forgiveness
Elder Scott Florence	Romans 8:28	Called
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	Romans 12:5	Members
Elder Bill Somplatsky-Jarman	Matthew 25:31	Glory
Elder Jan Hirschi	Philippians 4:6	Clearly
Elder Eric Westland	Luke 1:37	God's Word

Thanks to our Volunteers

Flowers		Nursery
December		
December 1	Ed & Cheryl Mansfield	Jennifer P
December 8	Dick & Nancy Higgins	Donna Beasley
December 15	Charlotte Phipps	Available
December 22	Donna Beasley	Available
December 29	Chris Schleiter	No Nursery – 5th Sunday
January		
January 5	Available	Jennifer P
January 12	Available	Donna Beasley
January 19	Available	Available
January 26	Available	Available

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

Treasurer's Report

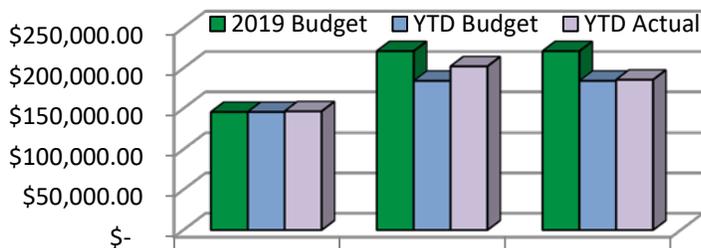
General Fund as of October 31, 2019 Month of October

Receipts	\$ 13,498.75
Expenditures	\$ 16,280.33
2019 YTD Budget vs Actual	
YTD Budgeted Receipts	\$ 184,319.75
Actual Receipts	\$202,273.39
YTD Budgeted Expenditures	\$ 184,319.75
Actual Expenditures	\$185,668.35

Fund Balances

General Fund	\$ 31,568.70
Building Fund	\$ 35,240.47
Memorial Fund	\$ 2,189.80
Reserve Fund	\$ 45,247.15
Russia Mission Fund	\$ 3,324.35
Bequests	\$ 77,684.25

2019 Budget Through October 31



	Pledges	Income	Expense
2019 Budget	\$145,683.70	\$221,183.70	\$221,183.70
YTD Budget	\$145,683.70	\$184,319.75	\$184,319.75
YTD Actual	\$146,500.89	\$202,273.39	\$185,668.35

Rev. Ralph's Food for Thought

*And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,
"Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased."
Luke 2:9-14 New American Standard Bible (NASB)*



It couldn't possibly have anything to do with my advancing years that I neither remember the professor or the class from my seminary days. But, what I do remember is his invaluable advice which I have followed throughout my career. That advice was "If you fight Christmas you will lose!"

In a previous community that I served as a pastor, a colleague from another church and denomination decided one year to ignore such wise advice, and he decided to forbid any decorating or decorations until Christmas day itself. I am positive his name continues to be mentioned this time every year. But, now mentioned by only a few since his tenure was very short.

Let's face it, Christmas has in our world taken on a life of its own. In today's world the first carols and snowmen appear now in a local stores before Halloween. The holiday is celebrated by almost everyone everywhere with Santa being ever more prominent; and, with time, overwhelming both manger and child.

However, to a degree my former colleague was correct in trying to keep the two church seasons Advent (the 23 days before Christmas) and Christmas itself with a different focus. Advent remembers the first coming and looks forward to the second coming of Christ. While Christmas celebrates the birth itself.

There is the old familiar saying, "If you can't beat them, join them." If we can't find Jesus in the popular and secular Christmas season, perhaps we should bring him with us by joining the season and enjoying the season while looking far beyond December 25th to God's promised coming day. Let that hope fill our hearts with cheer that will last 365 days a year.

I have argued that for the body of Christ the true Biblical text for Christmas is found in neither Matthew or Luke, but instead in John:

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His [a]only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.

John 3:16-17 New American Standard Bible (NASB)

A very happy and Blessed Advent, Christmas and New Year to you all!

*In Christ,
Rev. Ralph*

Open House – December 8th

Please join Cindy, Jeff and me as we hold our annual Christmas Open House on Sunday, December 8th from 3:00 to 6:00 pm. Plan to bring a beverage and something to share and join everyone in the joy of the holiday season.

**** 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.

News From the Russia Mission

Thanks to everyone who joined us to write (in Russian cursive, no less) Christmas cards for the orphans in Russian. As I wrote to Olga when I sent the cards, "our Russian cursive may not be readable but it should express our love for the children and, in any case, give them a good laugh". We sent 40 cards to Pastor Sergei and 54 to Pastor Victor for the orphans in the Smolensk area. Start practicing writing in Russian – we're going to do it again next year.

Beginning on December 1st and continuing until the 22nd, there will be a card in Conklin Hall for everyone to sign wishing Pastor Sergei, his family and congregation a Merry Christmas. Since they use the Orthodox calendar, they will celebrate Christmas on January 6th, so we have plenty of time to get the card to them before "their" Christmas.

Chris Schleter

Congregation News

2020 Pledge Drive Continues

In order to fund our budget for 2020, we continue to ask for pledges to support the mission of the church. Our need for next year is \$146,714. Through the last Sunday in November we have received just less than \$47,700 in pledges or about 32% of our needs for next year. If you have already pledged, we thank you. If you have not yet made a pledge, please prayerfully consider doing so. Our mission depends on you!

Church Photo Directories are Available

We began distributing the new church photo directory at Fall Festival in October and hope that all who have received it are enjoying it and finding it useful. If you have not yet received your copy; please see Chris Schleter, and he'll be happy to provide you with one. If you don't live in the area and would like to have a copy, please email newsletter@gspcsg.org or call the church office, and we'll be glad to mail one to you. Please include your name and full address in the email to be sure we have your information correct.

Stated Congregational Meeting December 22nd

On December 22nd, we will hold our Stated Congregational Meeting after worship to elect officers for next year and approve the Terms of Call for Rev. Ralph. Please plan to stay with us after worship for this important event in the governance of our church.



Buildings

During the last month, our aging AEDs (Automatic Electronic Defibrillators) were replaced with new ones. A big thank you to the Parish Health Ministry for looking into finding the units that will best serve us. If you don't already know, one AED is located in the CE Building and the other is in the Chapel, adjacent to the Narthex. They are designed to be as easy as possible to operate and will walk the user through each step.

I have been working my way cleaning and reorganizing stored items in Conklin Hall and our outside storage building. So far, so good with several new storage racks put to good use. During December, I hope to continue by sorting and organizing the Christmas decorations.

You may also notice in the coming month that we have some new door sensors and Wi-Fi cameras installed to help monitor unlatched doors. The equipment is neither sophisticated or expensive. But, it will help us keep the building secure when unoccupied.

*Blessings,
Eric Westland*

Christian Education

Launching this January 5th will be new Adult Sunday School theme. Honoring God, part of The Present Word series, will be team-taught by a stellar lineup of DeEtte Delaney, Ruth Ann Horvath, Gloria McGilloway and Rev. Ralph Clingan. The Present Word is a celebrated adult Bible study produced by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in partnership with four other Protestant denominations. Come join every Sunday morning at 9:00 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.

Meanwhile, as we are in the season of Advent, the Advent study continues on Monday evenings, and special themes populate the church calendar. December 1st, is World AIDS Day, and Presbyterian HIV/AIDS Awareness Sunday. December 10th is Human Rights Day and December 12th begins the National Gun Violence Prevention Sabbath Weekend, an event held annually on the weekend nearest the December 14th anniversary of the Sandy Hook mass shooting.

Bill Somplatsky-Jarman

Church Growth

As 2019 comes to a close, let us pause and give thanks for our amazing church family. We are so thankful for each and every one of you. We'll miss those we've lost this year, and we are so excited about those who have joined us. Thanks to those who participated in this year's Fall Festival and those who contributed to our church cookbook. May you have a most blessed Christmas and an even better New Year.

Jan Hirschi

Deacons

The copies of The Daily Bread for the next three months are on the table in the Narthex to be picked up and enjoyed. The Deacons have supplied them this year for our interested members. We will no longer be providing them in 2020; so if you wish to continue using them, you will need to have them sent directly to your home.

The final Deacon of the Month for December is Candy Hurlbut. A thank you to all our deacons who served this year as Deacons of the Month. We'll have new Deacons for 2020, and we will tell you more about them in January.

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

Thank you to all who assisted with our Thanksgiving Luncheon, and to those of you that were able to join in the celebration of all of our blessings. The food was delicious and the fellowship was wonderful.

Now we can look forward to our Christmas Brunch which is fast approaching. Time sure seems to be flying by, so let's continue to enjoy our outstanding fellowship gatherings.

Gloria McGilloway

Mission/Outreach

Advent Food Drive: Each year we take the month of December to gather as many canned goods as possible to support those who are hungry. Each Sunday you are encouraged to review the list of canned goods that are needed and place them in the Narthex. Between Christmas and New Year's they will be distributed to the Community Soup Kitchen and Solomon's Porch Foursquare Fellowship so that their cupboards will be full and many will enjoy wonderful warm meals during our cold Winter. Please donate as many canned goods as you are able.

Soup Kitchen Food Drive Donations: Our November donations to the Soup Kitchen included 50 pounds of food and paper goods and \$235 cash. They are so appreciative of every can of food and dollar we give to them. So many hungry folks in St George benefit from the hot meals served at the Soup Kitchen. The first Sunday of each month is "Donations to Soup Kitchen Sunday".

Operation Christmas Child: Many thanks to everyone who filled the 110 Christmas Child shoeboxes during our annual support of this amazing project. Just think of all those children throughout the world who will enjoy their first gift and learn of Jesus love for them and their families. It took many hands to accomplish this tremendous amount of generosity. Throughout 2020 the Mission Outreach Committee will be encouraging all of us to gather items to place into the shoeboxes next Fall.

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. At the end of the year these coins will be counted and donated to the DOVE Center.

November C.R.O.P. Walk: Our participation in the annual C.R.O.P. walk was a great success. Preliminary numbers show total donations of \$3,935.00 of which \$890, or 25.9% were from our church. Our church's seven walkers completed the nearly 6 mile walk along with walkers from many other churches and faiths within our community.

Carolynn Thomas

Parish Health Ministry

December Brown Bag Luncheon: *Holiday Blues Make Me Sad.* We encourage you to attend our last Brown Bag Luncheon of 2019 when we will be discussing how to cope with feelings of sadness or grief that you or someone you know may be experiencing during this festive holiday time. Grief experiences may be in our past or perhaps be more recent but the result is the same – at what should be a joyous time of year, we just can't bring ourselves to relate to that joy. Join us on Wednesday, December 4th, at Noon. Reverend Ralph will be our presenter, and we will think about and discuss this important topic.

We will have beverages and dessert for you and look forward to seeing you and your friends.

New AED Equipment: Thanks to a member of our committee, Vicky Westland and approved by Session, we now have two new AED (Automated External Defibrillator) devices. Vicky researched AED's and those purchased were selected because their operating systems seemed to be particularly easy to be used by a non-professional. Information about vital signs during an event is recorded, saved, and available to treating physicians. One AED device is located in a box on the right wall in the Chapel in the sanctuary building. The second device can be found in a box in the Christian Education building on the right hand wall just past Rev. Ralph's office. The AED emergency boxes also contain blood pressure monitors and Narcan Nasal Spray that anyone may administer to counteract the life-threatening effects of a suspected opioid overdose. Don't wait until an emergency occurs and knowing where to retrieve the

Parish Health Ministry, continued

equipment might help save a life. Take a moment to check out the exact location of the AED boxes and their contents. And should you be involved in such an emergency – don't forget to CALL 911!

Flu Shots: It's not too late to get your FLU SHOT if you have not already done so.

Statistics show that reported cases of flu are increasing. The shot IS effective and if you are 65 or older, ask for the high dose shot, which is formulated to better trigger your immune system. In addition to Tamiflu and Relenza; there is a new anti-viral med, Xofluza, and if it is given within the first 48 hours of diagnosis, may shorten the severity and length of flu illness. It goes without saying that any treatment sought should be with the approval of your medical provider.

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: We have hosted two meetings in the last three months: John and Kathy Whitton introduced themselves. Ask John to show you his pictures of sailing, especially the aerial view of the whale following his sailing vessel. We also heard from Leslie Lintz who knew she wanted to be a professional French horn player from an early age. She explained the development of the horn and explained the growth into more complex parts. They are fun people and very spiritual. In November, we heard from Rev. Ralph, Scott Florence and Chris Schleiter who presented the annual Russian Mission Report. The Senior Ministry always serves soup and dessert at these meetings. We try to theme the menu to the topic.

Card Party: Our Backgammon game is improving. Our Bridge table suffers from the absence of Jane O'Donnell. We have been unable to fill her place; and, with many prayers, hope she returns in January. We will not be meeting in December.

Brain Health: There is no convincing evidence to recommend daily dietary supplements for brain health in healthy older adults. They are likely a waste of your money. Evidence based steps we can take for brain health include:

- Be social
- Stay active
- Get enough quality sleep
- Be stimulated with activities such as volunteering, learning new skills, taking ICL classes at Dixie.

Oh, and eating heart-healthy diet and drinking 4 to 6 cups of water a day. For lots of information on staying sharp, check out this website: stayingsharp.aarp.org.

We are pleased to welcome Ruthanne Skinner who joined our committee with Jane O'Donnell, Barbara West, and Cheryl Mansfield. We wish you all a safe and healthy holiday season.

Judy Oar

Session News

Session met on October 6th. Actions from the October meeting are below:

- An E-Vote passed on October 25th to replace the existing AEDs with funds from Bequests, not to exceed \$4,100.00.
- Approved changing the December Session meeting to December 1st.

LaVerna Metzger, Clerk of Session

Soup Kitchen

Our church "crew" participates in the Soup Kitchen the first Monday of each month. During the month of November volunteers included Vicky Westland, Janis Wick, Rayanne Bartlett, Eliza Elwood, Carol Somplatsky-Jarman, Marge Linn, Josie Kellejan and Judy Wallace. Donations from our church included 50 pounds of food and supplies along with \$235 in donations. 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 September 30th appears on page 2, and our Building Fund report is on page 11.

Our fall pledge campaign, "Excel in the Grace of Giving," continues. This program focuses on the importance of giving in our lives. Does someone who views giving as an obligation plead for the opportunity to give? Probably not. When giving is an obligation, we will give. But, giving as an obligation will not give us the joy or the attitude of pleading for the privilege to give as the Macedonians had (2 Corinthians 8:4). As God's people, we have both an obligation and an opportunity. Scripture is clear that we are called to give. Paul said, *"On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made"* (1 Corinthians 16:2).

The campaign will continue through the dedication of our pledges on December 15th and beyond. We ask that you prayerfully consider how you can help us by providing resources that allow us to continue to fulfill God's mission for us. We continue to thank you for your generosity.

Susan Holecheck and your Stewardship Committee

Women's Guild

Despite the small number of attendees, it was wonderful having Donia Jessop, Mayor of Hildale as our guest speaker on November 9th. She spoke of her time growing up when Warren Jeffs was still in the leadership role, and then through the years following that time right up until her run for Mayor. If you missed that meeting, never fear. Donia has assured me that she would be happy to come back and speak to us again.

It was decided at that meeting to make our annual contribution to four local charities. This year we will be contributing \$1,000 each to the Children's Justice Center, Youth Futures, Neighborhood Connections, and Assistance League of Southern Utah. We will be presenting checks to these organizations on Saturday, January 4th at 1:00pm with light refreshments to follow. There will be a meeting following this program for anyone interested in staying where we will be laying out plans for our March 28th Spring Tea. Hope you can join us!

Candy Hurlbut

Worship & Music

Alleluia, He is coming; let the Advent song begin! The Advent season is here with much activity at Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church! Please mark your calendars for the upcoming dates!

- December 15th is the annual Christmas concert to be presented at our church at 7:00 p.m. The Bell and Chancel Choirs will perform, as well as solos by Dr. Ka-Wai Yu, cello; Leslie and David Lintz, French horn; and Susan Talley, organ. Please invite your friends for this concert of beautiful Christmas music. Part of the program will be presented during the Worship service that morning.
- A candle light Christmas Eve service will be at 7:00 p.m. It will include the scripture readings of the Christmas story along with music by the Chancel choir, organ, and a brass quintet.

The worship committee wishes to thank all the volunteers who helped with "Hanging of the Greens". What a job it is and much appreciated!

We send you our Christmas greetings, and may you feel the spirit of Christ in your hearts and the love that surrounds us!

*Barbara McConnell
Director of Music*

Lectionary Readings for December

Date	Reading 1	Reading 2	Reading 3
Sunday, December 1 First Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 2:1-5 Psalm 122	Romans 13:11-14	Matthew 24:36-44
Sunday, December 8 Second Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 11:1-10 Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19	Romans 15:4-13	Matthew 3:1-12
Sunday, December 15 Third Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 35:1-10 Psalm 146:5-10 or Luke 1:46-55	James 5:7-10	Matthew 11:2-11
Sunday, December 22 Fourth Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 7:10-16 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19	Romans 1:1-7	Matthew 1:18-25
Tuesday, December 24 Christmas Eve	Isaiah 9:2-7 Psalm 96	Titus 2:11-14	Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]
Wednesday, December 25 Nativity of the Lord / Christmas Day	<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 29 First Sunday after Christmas Day	Isaiah 63:7-9 Psalm 148	Hebrews 2:10-18	Matthew 2:13-23

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



December 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>First Sunday of Advent Soup Kitchen Sunday</p> <p>8:45 Prayer Service am</p> <p>9:00 Adult Education am</p> <p>10:30 Communion am Worship</p> <p>11:45 Fellowship am</p> <p>12:00 Session Meeting Noon</p> <p>5:00 Bible Study @Rev. Ralph's pm</p>	<p>2</p> <p>1:00 Shawl Ministry pm</p> <p>5:45 Advent Lesson and Potluck pm</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:30 Calendar Coordinating Council Meeting am</p> <p>11:00 Women's Bible Study @ Egg & I am</p> <p>12:00 Bell Choir Noon</p> <p>3:00 Exercise with Rev. Ralph pm</p> <p>1:00 Stephen Ministry Supervision Group Meeting pm</p>	<p>4</p> <p>11:00 Women's Bible Study @ Starbucks Cafe - Barnes & Noble am</p> <p>12:00 Brown Bag Lunch Noon</p> <p>Coping with Holiday Grief & Stress – Conklin Hall</p> <p>6:30 Grief & Loss Support Group pm</p>	<p>5</p> <p>11:00 Men's Bible Study @ Village Inn am</p> <p>3:00 Exercise with Rev. Ralph pm</p> <p>3:45 Chancel Choir pm</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Second Sunday of Advent</p> <p>8:45 Prayer Service am</p> <p>9:00 Adult Education am</p> <p>10:30 Worship am</p> <p>11:45 Fellowship am</p> <p>11:45 Blood Pressures am Taken</p> <p>11:45 Women's Guild Christmas Cookie Sale am</p> <p>3:00 Open House at to Rev. Ralph's pm</p> <p>6:00 Home pm</p> <p>5:00 Bible Study @Rev. Ralph's pm</p>	<p>9</p> <p>1:00 Shawl Ministry pm</p> <p>5:45 Advent Lesson and Potluck pm</p>	<p>10</p> <p>11:00 Women's Bible Study @ Egg & I am</p> <p>12:00 Bell Choir Noon</p> <p>3:00 Exercise with Rev. Ralph pm</p>	<p>11</p> <p>11:00 Women's Bible Study @ Starbucks Cafe - Barnes & Noble am</p>	<p>12</p> <p>11:00 Men's Bible Study @ Village Inn am</p> <p>1:30 Parish Health Ministry Meeting pm</p> <p>3:00 Exercise with Rev. Ralph pm</p> <p>3:45 Chancel Choir pm</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Third Sunday of Advent</p> <p>8:45 Prayer Service am</p> <p>9:00 Adult Education am</p> <p>10:30 Worship – Dedication of 2020 Pledges am</p> <p>11:45 Fellowship am</p> <p>5:00 Bible Study @Rev. Ralph's pm</p> <p>7:00 Choirs' Christmas Concert pm</p>	<p>16</p> <p>1:00 Shawl Ministry pm</p> <p>5:45 Advent Lesson and Potluck pm</p>	<p>17</p> <p>11:00 Women's Bible Study @ Egg & I am</p> <p>12:00 Bell Choir Noon</p> <p>3:00 Exercise with Rev. Ralph pm</p>	<p>18</p> <p>11:00 Women's Bible Study @ Starbucks Cafe - Barnes & Noble am</p> <p>1:00 Senior Ministries Card Party – Conklin Hall pm</p> <p>6:30 Grief & Loss Support Group pm</p>	<p>19</p> <p>11:00 Men's Bible Study @ Village Inn am</p> <p>3:00 Exercise with Rev. Ralph pm</p> <p>3:45 Chancel Choir pm</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Fourth Sunday of Advent</p> <p>8:45 Prayer Service am</p> <p>9:00 Adult Education am</p> <p>10:30 Worship am</p> <p>11:45 Congregational am Meeting</p> <p>11:45 Christmas Brunch am</p> <p>5:00 Bible Study @Rev. Ralph's pm</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Newsletter Deadline</p> <p>1:00 Shawl Ministry pm</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Christmas Eve</p> <p>11:00 Women's Bible Study @ Egg & I am</p> <p>12:00 Bell Choir Noon</p> <p>3:00 Exercise with Rev. Ralph pm</p> <p>7:00 Christmas Eve Worship</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Christmas Day</p> <p>11:00 Women's Bible Study @ Starbucks Cafe - Barnes & Noble am</p>	<p>26</p> <p>11:00 Men's Bible Study @ Village Inn am</p> <p>3:00 Exercise with Rev. Ralph pm</p> <p>3:45 Chancel Choir pm</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>8:45 Prayer Service am</p> <p>9:00 Adult Education – Gloria McGilloway teaching am</p> <p>10:30 Worship – Dick Higgins preaching am</p> <p>11:45 Fellowship am</p> <p>5:00 Bible Study @Rev. Ralph's pm</p>	<p>30</p> <p>1:00 Shawl Ministry pm</p>	<p>31</p> <p>11:00 Women's Bible Study @ Egg & I am</p> <p>12:00 Bell Choir Noon</p> <p>3:00 Exercise with Rev. Ralph pm</p>				

Rev. Ralph will be on vacation from December 25th through December 31st.

Please contact Dick Higgins (435-879-0253) or Anne Patten (773-4307) with any concerns.

This calendar is subject to change. Always check the church website gpscsg.org for the latest information.

Regularly Scheduled Activities

Soup Kitchen Sunday – Contributions of food, supplies and cash – 1st Sunday of each Month

Women's Bible Study and Fellowship – last Monday of each Month at 11:30 am in Conklin Hall

Shawl Ministry	Monday	1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	Conklin Hall
Exercise with Rev. Ralph	Tuesday	3:00 pm to 3:30 pm	Conklin Hall
	Thursday	3:00 pm to 3:30 pm	Conklin Hall
Open Bible Study	Sunday	5:00 pm to 6:00 pm	Rev. Ralph's Home
	Thursday	11:00 am to 12:00 Noon	Village Inn
Women's Bible Studies	Tuesday	11:00 am to 12:00 Noon	The Egg & I
	Wednesday	11:00 am to 12:00 Noon	Starbuck's Café @ Barnes & Noble
Choir Rehearsals	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 October 20th we have received pledges towards our third campaign totaling **\$54,100** and additional cash donations of **\$24,785** giving us a total for all three campaigns of **\$273,948** or about **71.3%** 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	office@gspcsg.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@gspcsg.org
Prayer Chain	Deborah Stone 435-632-3160
Music Director	Barbara McConnell
Website	www.gspcsg.org
Newsletter email	newsletter@gspcsg.org
Website / Newsletter Editor	Chris Schleiter
Information on Stephen Ministry	www.stephenministries.org

Church Leadership 2019

Session Elders

Class of 2019	Mary Contreras	673-9745	Worship
	Scott Florence	574-2383	Grounds
	Susan Holecheck	702-265-8666	Stewardship
Class of 2020	Jan Hirschi	680-1012	Growth
	Bill Somplatsky-Jarman	502-589-6030	Christian Ed
	Eric Westland	625-1399	Building
Class of 2021	LaVerna Metzger	385-242-8622	Clerk of Session
	Gloria McGilloway	610-349-6045	Fellowship
	Judy Oar	702-241-6227	Senior Ministries
	Carolynn Thomas	817-8288	Mission/Outreach

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	414-1960
Green Valley		
Hurricane	Josie Marsh	435-772-1030
Ivins		
Old St. George	Jeff Clingan	705-8692
Pine Valley	Tineke Ingold	574-3614
Red Cliffs	Ann McLuckie	680-1062
Sun River	Candy Hurlbut	879-9394
Washington	Ka-Wai Yu	812-340-2184



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

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