



# 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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## September 2020

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## Church Staff

**The Rev. Dr. Ralph Clingan**  
Pastor

**Dick Higgins**  
Visitation Pastor

**Ruth Ann Horvath**  
Clerk of Session

**Candy Hurlbut**  
**Susan Holecheck**  
Church Secretaries

**Barbara McConnell**  
Music Director

**Stephen Talley**  
Organist

**Rev. Dolores Wiens**  
Prayer Chain

**Chris Schleiter**  
Website / Newsletter Editor

## COVID-19 Restrictions Updated

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

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

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

### Worship

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

### Bible Studies

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

### Virtual Fellowship

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

### Sunday School is BACK

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

The most up-to-date information can be found on our website, [gspscs.org](http://gspscs.org).

### Prayer Concerns

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

Shirley Craig	Isaiah Ramquist
Cheryl Mansfield	Joan Kupczyk
Rex and Sue Lunquist	Mary Peterson
Susie Licher	Emily Penzari
Darlene Baxter	Scott and Holly Wiens
Mary and Tom Contreras	Larry Laubscher
The family of Norma Beckman	
The family of Jane O'Donnell	
Duane and Robin Fielding and 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

### October Newsletter Deadline

September 23, 2020

### Worship Schedule

**Sunday by 10:30 am**  
Worship  
Sermon Network

**11:30 am**  
Virtual Fellowship  
Zoom

### Ruling Elders Monthly Scriptures

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

The scriptures for August were:

Rev. Ralph	Psalms 134	I wait for the Lord
Elder Ruth Ann Horvath	1 Chron. 16:11	Worship
Elder Leslie Lintz	Isaiah 40:31	Hope in the Lord
Elder Alan Paige	Romans 5:1-5	Peace with God
Elder Judy Oar	Galatians 6:9	Do not give up
Elder Chris Schleiter	Romans 5:1-5	By faith
Elder Bill Somplatsky-Jarman	Genesis 1:31	Very good
Elder Jan Hirschi	Phil. 2:2-4	Complete joy
Elder Eric Westland	Romans 12:12	Joyful hope
Elder Barbara McConnell	James 5:13-15	Pray
Elder Gloria McGilloway	Psalms 134	Praise in the night

### Thanks to our Volunteers

Flowers		Nursery
<b>August</b>		
September 6	<b>If you ordered flowers, we will use your flowers during a service once we resume worship services.</b>	<b>Canceled</b>
September 13		
September 20		
September 27		
<b>September</b>		
October 4	<b>If you ordered flowers, we will use your flowers during a service once we resume worship services.</b>	<b>Canceled</b>
October 11		
October 18		
October 25		

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

### Treasurer's Report

#### General Fund as of July 31 Month of July

Receipts	\$ 10,593.05
Expenditures	\$ 16,557.98

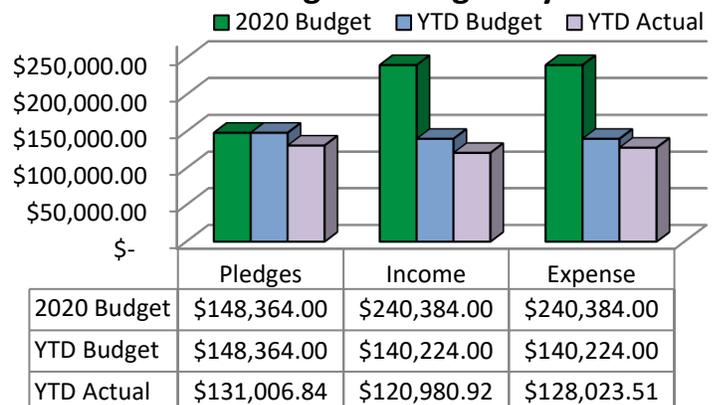
#### 2020 YTD Budget vs Actual

YTD Budgeted Receipts	\$ 140,224.00
Actual Receipts	<b>\$120,980.92</b>
YTD Budgeted Expenditures	\$ 140,224.00
Actual Expenditures	<b>\$128,023.51</b>

#### Fund Balances

General Fund	\$ 34,872.17
Building Fund	\$ 48,010.26
Memorial Fund	\$ 3,093.64
Reserve Fund	\$ 45,548.27
Russia Mission Fund	\$ 8,723.05
Bequests	\$ 73,972.86

#### 2020 Budget Through July 31



## Rev. Ralph's Food for Thought

*And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.*

*Romans 5:1-5 NRSV*



Recently in private conversation with a member of our congregation, in words of assurance, I stated firmly my belief that we will get through these days, and God will walk us through to better days that I am positive are coming. The parishioner's response was "I hope so."

Hope is an important word in the Bible, it is used 187 times, that's a lot! And in the New Testament the word is defined as a God given and grounded expectant and certain trust and faith.

Our world and culture define the word with no such firm grounding or certainty. Hope in our common day use has an invisible "maybe" attached.

To put it simply Christian Hope versus modern hope is to know so as opposed to what might be.

These days we might in our times of fear or exhaustion be tempted to find ourselves wondering if our lives will ever return to some form of normalcy, and of course when?

Our Christian faith calls us not only to lean upon our hope in the Lord for our strength, but to look beyond the present to a day that is coming and someday will arrive. I greatly look forward to that day. But, just as firmly in my faith, I trust in it's coming. Because I trust in the Lord who shall lead us there, together.

I have Hope, and you can as well.

"I hope so."?

We know so.

*In Christ,  
Rev. Ralph*

### **Reopening Guidelines Developed**

While we await our area's going to the Green designation so that we may safely return to worship, our Health Ministry, Worship Committee and Session members have developed guidelines and process for doing just that when the time comes. They have also begun to prepare our buildings for that occasion. We will endeavor to keep everyone informed of when this may happen as conditions in our area change.

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

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

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

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

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

## Prayer Corner



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

**I Don't Want to Die!** The cardiologist, coming from a patient's room spied me in the hallway and moved quickly to my side. His face was ashen. "I've just had to tell Jamil, that he is dying. He's not taking it well; can you go in and talk with him?" I knew 32-year-old, Jamil quite well from his many hospitalizations for congestive heart failure. He valued my prayers, but his New Age theology was all over the map. Jamil did not qualify for a heart transplant and a previous experimental surgery had failed. While assuming that he would be grieving, nothing could have prepared me for the sight and sounds I saw and heard as I entered the room. Jamil, curled up in a fetal position was whining, "I don't want to die, I don't want to die; it's so cold and clammy and dark, I don't want to die." I took Jamil's hand and looked into eyes filled with stark terror. When he realized my presence, he repeated, "I don't want to die, I know what it's like to die." He went on to tell how during his surgery, one year ago, his heart had stopped on the table. He described leaving his body, hovering above himself and then being compelled down a long, dark tunnel into another place. Jamil repeated, "It's so cold and clammy and dark." "Jamil," I asked, "Do you know Jesus?" "Yes, but I don't want to die!" "Jamil, do you know that Jesus is the light of the world? Do you know that in His light, darkness is dispelled?" Jamil looked at me with interest, now. I went on, "Do you know that You can invite Jesus into your heart, and he will flood you with light so that you will never be in darkness?" Jamil shook his head. "Would you like to invite light into your darkness?" Jamil said that he wanted this, but he didn't know how. With my help, Jamil prayed confessing his sins and need for a Savior; he invited Jesus into his heart and asked to be filled with light. A transformation occurred before my very eyes. Jamil's eyes were shining, his face filled with light and peace and joy, his relaxed body stretched out on the bed. He lay there for quite a while and then he said softly, "I'll be all right now. I'll be just fine." Twenty-four hours later, Jamil died peacefully.

*Rev. Dolores*

### **Cluster of Prayer and Praise continues via Zoom**

The Cluster of Prayer and Praise will meet via Zoom on September 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm. All are welcome. Call or text Rev. Dolores at 630-890-8343 to request a Zoom invitation.

## News from the Russia Mission

On August 13<sup>th</sup> we had a wonderful Zoom call with Pastor Sergei, his family and several members of his church. Anne Patten, Scott Florence, Gloria McGilloway and Kathie Greear (all the way from Maine) joined Chris Schleiter and Rev. Ralph as we shared events in our lives with our Russian brothers and sisters. They are back worshipping together at the church, although only church members are allowed to attend. As we are, they are looking forward to the day when life returns to "normal." Thanks, as always, go to Ellen and Al Smith for translating.

### **Belarus Ukraine and Russia Mission Network Conference**

The Presbyterian Russia Mission Network is renaming itself to the Presbyterian Belarus, Ukraine, and Russia Mission (BURM) Network. This change reflects the increased outreach to this entire region and the interest of our partners to address common Christian issues. The first conference for BURM partners is also a first in the history of our relationships -- it will be a VIRTUAL conference. The good news is that you can participate from the comfort and safety of your own home!

We have three topics that are very important to the region to discuss during the conference:

- Marginalized People
- Environmental/Climate Change
- Peacemaking with Youth

Privacy is a concern for some of our Russian speakers, so we will ask for everyone's church affiliation. The conference is at no cost. But we would love for you to make a donation so that we can pay the interpreter and provide an honorarium to the speakers.

If you would like to register for the conference, please email Chris Schleiter or Rev. Ralph and we'll send you the information. We look forward to having you with us.

## Buildings

August has been a quiet month, as you might have expected.

Chris and I have been building a new audio/visual control center in the rear of the church. You may in the past have noticed Chris in the back each Sunday morning faithfully monitoring the sound system at a surplus kindergarten desk, turned sideways and stretching to see what is going on up front. To help alleviate his neck strain, we built something proper at a slightly raised height which will not only suit our audio needs better, but also provide space for video if we choose to head in that direction in the future.

We'll also be adding some oak strips across the back wall to help keep the chair backs from digging into the softer sheetrock.

*Blessings,  
Eric Westland*

## Christian Education

For the first time since March, our Sunday Schools will resume beginning September 6<sup>th</sup> via Zoom. At 8:30 am, Children's Sunday School will meet. Then, at 9:00 am, Adult Sunday School will resume meeting. **All are invited.** If you wish to join in on the Adult Sunday School class, please contact Rev. Ralph for an invitation. For Children's Sunday School, please contact Charlotte Phipps and she will send you an invitation.

The Adult class will use the Fall 2020 edition of the widely popular curriculum *The Present Word*. The theme for September through November is "Loving for One Another." Throughout the whole quarter, we are reminded that we are to love one another as God loves us. The first month focuses on the struggles of love to prevail despite harsh and negative circumstances. In October, lessons will center on love for the stranger, the poor and enemies. Finally, the last segment explores how believers love by serving, looks at the abiding love of God through the Holy Spirit, reveals the expression of God's love in the formation of the early Christian community, and tells of the love of neighbor as fulfillment of the law of God. All sessions involve thoughtful exploration of Scripture and prayer. In addition, resources for personal meditation and reflection will be distributed to participants.

September traditionally starts the programmatic year for congregations. But we know all too well that 2020 is not an ordinary year. Even so, September on the church calendar is full of special themes. Many are centered on education and literacy. Others celebrate the gifts of Native Americans, people living with disabilities, caretakers of God's creation, new immigrants and new believers. We have much to celebrate in this year like no other.

*Bill Somplatsky-Jarman*

## Church Growth

Who would have thought, six months ago, that we would be away from our beloved church? A lot can happen during that time even when we're home doing nothing. When we're away from our friends, we may become lonely or bored. There is a remedy for those conditions. Serve others. Really! The Bible tells us to do just that. But, how do we serve others during this time of COVID-19? Make phone calls, take part in Zoom meetings, send cards, run errands for those who can't do things for themselves, and visit friends (while wearing masks and remaining socially distant, of course). If you like to do crafts, make small items to give as gifts. It's amazing how much better you'll feel if you give of your time and talent to others. What else can you do? Pray! Hand your physical and emotional burdens to God. He hears you and He loves you. He will take care of you. Honest!

*Blessings  
Jan Hirschi*

## Deacons

As deacons, we try to stay in touch with each Parish member. We send cards, write e-mails, and call. This is a two-way communication, so please call your Deacon if you need our help with a problem or just want to talk.

This blessing from Numbers 6:24-26 we pray for each of you: "*The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.*"

Just as a reminder, John and Peggy Graber are our new contacts for the Deacon Shed. 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 anything from the shed, please give John a call at 801-541-7444, and he'll work with you get you what you need.

*In Christian love and fellowship,  
Your Deacons*

## Fellowship

Wow! It sure is hot by anyone's standard. Yes, but it is a dry heat – also too dry by anyone's standard. Stay cool as much as you can and drink plenty of water.

During our hiatus I have been cleaning and reorganizing the kitchen and pantry. Yes, once again you will need to look at the labels on the drawers and cabinet doors to find what you need.

If you have any items that you wish to donate, please check with me first. I found 24 spatulas, 12 pie servers and dozens of other serving items. We do not need any more. We also have plenty of plates and bowls to fit our needs.

Please consider joining in on our virtual Fellowship on Sunday at 11:30 am. It is great fun and you never know what topic may come up. Email Rev. Ralph for an invitation.

*With love through Jesus Christ,  
Gloria McGilloway*

## Mission/Outreach

With the cancellation of the St. George Marathon, the 2020 C.R.O.P Hunger Walk has also been cancelled. We look forward to walking together on Saturday, November 13, 2021!

Even though the C.R.O.P Walk for this year is OFF, Operation Christmas Child is ON. Although we are not worshipping together, we will continue our tradition of filling shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Carolynn Thomas reports that we have received many items for the boxes. But we can always use more. Carolynn plans to do a box packing day in November. Of course if you would prefer to pack your own boxes, we have plenty of boxes for you to fill. If you would like to have some, please let Carolynn or me know and we'll make arrangements to get them to you.

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

*Peace and Blessings  
Chris Schleiter*

## Parish Health Ministry

In recent months, you have heard, and we have written at length, about all things COVID-19; and, in this article we'll stray a bit from that topic, but not too far, so don't remove your lab coats just yet! It's time for the newly discovered scientist in you to be turning your thoughts toward a more familiar subject - Flu Season! Who knew thinking about Seasonal Influenza would seem like recalling a previous visit to an old friend? However, as you are aware, one of the great unknowns is how we might be affected in the upcoming flu season because it most certainly will coincide with the continuing or recurrent presence of SARS-CoV2. It is hoped, as it appears might be the case in Australia already in their flu season, that our current mitigation procedures of sanitizing, distancing and wearing masks will contribute to reducing our number of cases of flu. Of crucial importance, will be for anyone over six months of age, and barring contraindications, to have the flu vaccine.

The standard vaccines this year are either Trivalent - derived from two Influenza A viruses and one Influenza B virus, or Quadrivalent - derived from two Influenza A viruses and two Influenza B viruses, which might offer an extra level of protection. Only the vaccine given nasally is made from live viruses. While you could have what appear to be symptoms of the flu after having the vaccine (fever, soreness, aches or nausea), it is merely your body hard at work making antibodies to the virus and will pass in a couple of days. The injectable A and B vaccines are made from dead viruses and cannot cause flu. The CDC does not express a preference for either injectable; and, while most prevalent will be the Quadrivalent, what you receive will depend on what your provider has chosen to give. Both have been licensed for people over 65. While having the vaccine may not convey complete immunity from the flu, it can reduce its severity should you fall victim. Because the Influenza virus is totally different from the SARS-CoV-2 virus, administration of the flu vaccine will help reduce the prevalence of illness caused by flu viruses and will assist in differentiating between the two. The overriding benefit of vaccinating the population against flu will be to reduce hospital and ICU visits and stress already experienced by our overworked healthcare systems.

The usual onset of flu season can be as early as the beginning of October, peaking in January and lasting through March. It takes at least two weeks after having the vaccine to attain protection, but antibody production may continue for an additional two weeks until it begins to wane at around three months post injection, thus the need for an annual vaccine. While we are unable to predict when we might experience flu season in St George, as long as there are flu shots available, they may be given anytime during that season. This year, because of the possible impact of COVID-19

## Parish Health Ministry, continued

during the Fall months, it is recommended that vaccination occur during September until the end of October. According to COVID-19 guidelines, it will be safe to get your shot. But, to minimize contact time, it is advised that you make an appointment for wherever you plan to receive it. If you should contract the flu, or worst case be diagnosed with COVID before having your flu vaccine, it is recommended that you still get the shot when your provider has declared you recovered because it will offer protection from circulating flu viruses you might not yet have experienced.

It seems lately that we just haven't been able to catch a break regarding the ways our lives have been rearranged and impacted and brought to a standstill. So, something as basic as deciding to have an annual flu shot offers a kind of welcome and hopeful opportunity to be pro-active. You may have read or hold conflicting opinions about the value or safety or efficacy of having the flu vaccine, and we respect that. Ultimately, after consulting with your health care provider, the decision about which path to wellness you choose to follow is yours, alone, to make.

Stay **WELL**, Stay **SAFE** and Stay **HOPEFUL!**

*Alicia Kitzman*

## Prayer Chain

People on "The Strand of Pearls," our prayer chain, are actively praying for those mentioned in prayer requests as the requests come in. Updates and thanksgivings are appreciated and will be passed on. Please call, email or text your requests to Rev. Dolores, 630-890-8343 or [revdfw@icloud.com](mailto:revdfw@icloud.com). Please indicate whether you wish the request to remain confidential, otherwise, you will be named in the GSPS prayer list.

*Rev. Dolores Wiens*

## Senior Ministries

It is with sadness and gladness that we wish our treasured Senior Ministries member, Jane O'Donnell, a sweet and tearful goodbye. She passed away August 21<sup>st</sup>, just a little over a month from the age of 103. I say gladness because she has not wanted to be here on earth for many months. When asked how she made it to 102, she replied "I never planned it." I say sadness because she was a valued friend and is missed already. She thought up ideas for our Soup and Fellowship luncheons, especially the dessert menus, and then made them. Every time, they were elegant and delicious. She was a super bridge player and made everyone laugh with her dry humor like the time when she was asked how her arms got so banged up she replied, "I fell off a bar stool" (at her island at home). She embraced life. She read national newspapers and political books and loved to make fancy meals. She was always well dressed. She was a lady. I am sure she is with her beloved husband now after many years without him. Her son, David, has been her devoted, loving and steady support since she moved here from Wisconsin 6 years ago or so. Thank you, Jane, for the fond memories and true friendship.

Answers to last month's Stump the Congregation: AP is Arlene Prinselaar, DB is Donna Baker, JC is Jeff Clingan.

Here are this month's stumpers, funny or interesting tales we may not know about our fellow church family, printed with their permission, of course.

"My wife and I bought a new VW camper in Germany in 1968 and toured Europe for six months from Scotland to Greece. People along with way were amazed to see such a vehicle." JR

"In my student teaching days in the great northern plains, we often had tremendous snowstorms. Since I didn't drive, I walked to the bus to get to school. One wintery day we had a blizzard warning. I couldn't see across the street and was afraid to get lost, so I didn't go to work. Thank goodness school was cancelled. That was a snowstorm that changed my life. I moved south." BM

"A happy memory for me was last year for my 85th birthday. A surprise party was given to me in the party room at Cliff Side restaurant. All my friends and family were waiting for me to open the door. It was a complete surprise. The room was decorated with flowers and candles for my special very memorable day. I cherish this." BW

Here's a thinker: if you take the word PRESBYTERIAN and rearrange the letters, you come up with BEST IN PRAYER. Rearrange THE EYES. Using all the letters you get THEY SEE.

*Judy Oar*

## Session News

Session held their monthly meeting on August 9, 2020. Here is a synopsis of their actions:

- Approved Minister's study leave on September 17-19, 2020 to attend Belarus Ukraine and Russian Mission Network Conference virtually.
- Discussed reopening of Worship and other Church activities with agreement to proceed with caution and consideration of the recommendations of the State of Utah, Presbytery, and Local Health Departments. Health Ministries and Buildings Committees are meeting to work out specific re-opening details for GSPC. Agreed to continue at this time with the current virtual Worship Services, Zoom Bible Studies and Zoom Fellowship Hour. More opportunities to join Zoom Christian Education Classes will begin in September.

The next meeting of the Session will be Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 pm via Zoom.

*Ruth Ann Horvath, Clerk of Session*

## Soup Kitchen

Our church "crew" participates in the Soup Kitchen the first Monday of each month. This month our church donations included 20 pounds of food and supplies plus a \$300 donation. During the month of August volunteers included Eliza Elwood, Vicky Westland, Josie Kellejan, Nancy Higgins, Brian Lusby and Patti Lusby. This was our second month cooking in the Switchpoint kitchen. Serving over 60 hungry folks is always just as much a blessing to the volunteers as it is to those who enjoy their lunch. A menu of Taco Soup, green salad, chips, fruit salad and dessert was served. Those who are hungry in St George continue to come to the Soup Kitchen for our "to go" meals. Questions about the Soup Kitchen experience? ContactCarolynn Thomas 435-817-8288.

*Carolynn Thomas*

## Stewardship

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

September is here already, and fall is just around the corner! It will be nice to have some cooler temperatures! I would like to share an excerpt of a great article I read: "6 Stories about Giving in the Bible" by Tod MicMichen (the full article can be found at <https://pushpay.com/blog/6-giving-stories-in-the-bible/>).

"Sharing stories of people doing both good and great things inspires others. When it comes to giving, people can often feel shame and inadequacy. However, the Bible reveals great nuggets from people who lived attainable, generous lives on a daily basis. I recently read through the Gospel of Luke and was captured by these stories of generosity. Jesus introduces us to men and women, both mature and immature in their faith. He describes both real and fictional characters engaged in very normal activities; still, they manage to live abundantly generous lives. Some of these characters are expected, while others are rather unexpected. Here are some giving stories from the Bible about people that Jesus knew and wants us to know."

### **THE CALLED GIVER (LUKE 9:3, 10:4)**

Luke 9:3 and 10:4 introduces us to an extreme giving request of Jesus. He called His early disciples, over 80 of them, to give up everything for the sake of a short-term mission trip. He sent them all out into the harvest, to share the good news and help people with their needs. Jesus called them to go, take nothing, not a dime or a change of clothes, not even a snack. We are called to support Jesus both out of our means and at times by giving up all that we have.

Don't worry, you won't be the first or last person Jesus asks or sends out—just one of many who have learned to enjoy the adventure.

Your generosity is greatly appreciated. You can continue your giving on the Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church website, [gspcsq.org](http://gspcsq.org), or you may mail donations to P.O. Box 1499, St. George, UT 84771.

*Leslie Lintz*

## Lectionary Readings for September

Date	Reading 1	Reading 2	Reading 3
Sunday, September 6 Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Exodus 12:1-14 Psalm 149	Romans 13:8-14	Matthew 18:15-20
Sunday, September 13 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Exodus 14:19-31 Psalm 114 or Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21	Romans 14:1-12	Matthew 18:21-35
Sunday, September 20 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Exodus 16:2-15 Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45	Philippians 1:21-30	Matthew 20:1-16
Sunday, September 27 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost	Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16	Philippians 2:1-13	Matthew 21:23-32

## Lectionary Readings for October

Date	Reading 1	Reading 2	Reading 3
Sunday, October 4 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19	Philippians 3:4b-14	Matthew 21:33-46
Sunday, October 11 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost	Exodus 32:1-14 Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23	Philippians 4:1-9	Matthew 22:1-14
Sunday, October 18 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost	Exodus 33:12-23 Psalm 99	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	Matthew 22:15-22
Sunday, October 25 Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost	Deuteronomy 34:1-12 Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17	1 Thessalonians 2:1-8	Matthew 22:34-46

## Visitation Pastor

I would guess that during these uncertain times of the COVID-19 virus causing cancellations, postponements, and general uncertainty that we are all pretty tired of it. It has been very frustrating for me because I enjoy visiting with our church family and yet feel limited to phone contacts out of respect to everyone's health.

If there is anything I may do to help anyone; particularly our members who can't get out on their own, please let me know. My contact information is: Cell phone 435-669-1569, and email [qlehunter@gmail.com](mailto:qlehunter@gmail.com)

*Blessings  
Dick Higgins*

## Worship & Music

As Rev. Ralph has stated in the recorded worship services, we will be able to resume our services in our building when Washington County moves to a green level. The Worship, Building, and Health Ministries committees are preparing our building for that time. In order to meet again in person, we must follow the guidelines recommended by the CDC. In order for you to be informed, a letter will be sent to you with the opening date and time along with a copy of the guidelines for our church. We all look forward to when we can meet again!

Please continue to listen each Sunday to the recorded service. You will find it on the church's website, [gpscsq.org](http://gpscsq.org). We extend our appreciation to all who prepare our recorded weekly services, and especially to Rev. Ralph, Chris Schleiter, and Steve Talley. You can also join Rev. Ralph's Bible studies through Zoom as well as joining with others for Fellowship on Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m.

*"Hope says God can, Faith says God will!"*

*Barbara McConnell*

## September 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
		<b>9:30 am Calendar Coordinating Council Meeting via Zoom</b> <b>11:00 am Women's Bible Study via Zoom</b>	<b>11:00 am Women's Bible Study via Zoom</b>			
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Soup Kitchen Sunday</b> <b>8:30 am Children's Sunday School via Zoom</b> <b>9:00 am Adult Education via Zoom</b> <b>10:30 am Communion Worship via Zoom</b> <b>11:45 am Virtual Fellowship via Zoom</b>	<b>Labor Day</b> <b>1:00 pm Shawl Ministry via Zoom</b> <b>6:00 pm Kerygma Bible Study on the Parables via Zoom</b>	<b>11:00 am Women's Bible Study via Zoom</b> <b>6:00 pm Stephen Ministry Supervision Group Meeting via Zoom</b>	<b>11:00 am Women's Bible Study via Zoom</b> <b>1:30 pm Cluster of Praise and Prayer via Zoom</b>		<b>7:30 am Men's Bible Study via Zoom</b>	
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>8:30 am Children's Sunday School via Zoom</b> <b>9:00 am Adult Education via Zoom</b> <b>10:30 am Worship via Zoom</b> <b>11:45 am Virtual Fellowship via Zoom</b> <b>12:00 Noon Session Meeting via Zoom</b>	<b>1:00 pm Shawl Ministry via Zoom</b> <b>6:00 pm Kerygma Bible Study on the Parables via Zoom</b>	<b>11:00 am Women's Bible Study via Zoom</b>	<b>11:00 am Women's Bible Study via Zoom</b>			
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>8:30 am Children's Sunday School via Zoom</b> <b>9:00 am Adult Education via Zoom</b> <b>10:30 am Worship via Zoom</b> <b>11:45 am Virtual Fellowship via Zoom</b>	<b>1:00 pm Shawl Ministry via Zoom</b>	<b>11:00 am Women's Bible Study via Zoom</b>	<b>11:00 am Women's Bible Study via Zoom</b> <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>		<b>7:30 am Men's Bible Study @ Bishop's</b>	
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>			
<b>8:30 am Children's Sunday School via Zoom</b> <b>9:00 am Adult Education via Zoom</b> <b>10:30 am Worship via Zoom</b> <b>11:45 am Virtual Fellowship via Zoom</b>	<b>1:00 pm Shawl Ministry via Zoom</b>	<b>11:00 am Women's Bible Study via Zoom</b>	<b>11:00 am Women's Bible Study via Zoom</b>			

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**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 **(Canceled)**  
**Women's Bible Study and Fellowship** – last Monday of each month at 11:30 am in Conklin Hall **(Canceled)**  
**Praise & Prayer** – second Wednesday of each month at 1:30 pm in the Sanctuary **(Via Zoom)**

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



## 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 August 23<sup>rd</sup> we have received pledges towards our third campaign totaling **\$56,100** and additional cash donations of **\$35,304** giving us a total for all three campaigns of **\$286,468** or about **74.6%** of our **\$384,000** goal.

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

## Church Contact Information

Office Hours	Wed 9:15 am – 1:00 pm
Office Phone/Fax	435-628-9158
Office Email	<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	Rev. Dolores Wiens 630-890-8343
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	Church Growth
	Bill Somplatsky-Jarman	502-689-6030	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	435-703-9272	Grounds

### Deacons

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



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