



# 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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## February 2021

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## Church Staff

**The Rev. Dr. Ralph Clingan**

Pastor

**Ruth Ann Horvath**

Clerk of Session

**Candy Hurlbut**

Church Secretary

**Barbara McConnell**

Music Director

**Stephen Talley**

Organist

**Rev. Dolores Wiens**

Prayer Chain

**Chris Schleiter**

Website / Newsletter Editor

## Souper Bowl of Caring Goes Virtual

On February 8<sup>th</sup>, the Kansas City Chiefs (sorry Bills fans) and Tampa Bay Buccaneers will take to the field in Tampa for Super Bowl LV. Normally that would mean that we would be bringing our food and cash donations to church for the Souper Bowl of Caring. With no live worship, we needed to find another way to participate in this annual event.

For 2021, Good Shepherd's Souper Bowl of Caring is going virtual and we've extended the dates until February 19<sup>th</sup> in order to give everyone a chance to participate. Here's how it will work:

- We have set up a food drive through [yougivegoods.com](http://yougivegoods.com) that allows you to purchase items for the Soup Kitchen at Switchpoint and have them delivered directly to the Soup Kitchen. Most of the items we have had donated over the years are available for purchase and, although prices are a bit higher than purchasing in the grocery store or at Costco, delivery is included. To use this option, just visit [yougivegoods.com/gspcsg](http://yougivegoods.com/gspcsg), scroll to the bottom and click Shop Now. When you have finished adding items to your cart, click on the shopping cart icon in the bottom right corner to check out.
- If you prefer to shop in person, we can make that work, as well. You can drop off your donations in the large storage tote outside the door to the CE Building at any time. If you have more than a few items, you can give Chris Schleiter (435-619-2843) orCarolynn Thomas (435-817-8288) a call and we'll make arrangements to meet you at church to collect your donations. Carolynn has even offered to come to your house to pick up donations if that is more convenient for you.
- Cash donations can be made through our Vanco donation page by entering the amount of your donation in the Community Soup Kitchen box. You can give by credit card or from your bank account. If you donate by credit card, please consider checking the box on the checkout page indicating that you would like to add 3% to help cover the credit card service fees that the church pays.
- Cash donations may also be made using your bank's Bill Pay service or by mailing or dropping off a check. Be sure to use PO Box 1499, St. George UT 84771-1499 as the payment/ mailing address. Please make your checks payable to the church and include "Souper Bowl of Caring" on the memo line. We'll consolidate all of the cash donations and deliver them to the Soup Kitchen.

With the generosity that all of you show, we expect another banner year and look forward to the 2022 Souper Bowl of Caring when we will be able to come together to help those in our area who need so much.

## COVID Vaccinations Available for Those 70 & Over

The Southwest Utah Health Department has opened up the COVID-19 vaccination program to those residents 70 and over. You will need to make an appointment to be vaccinated. Please see the Parish Health Ministry article for more detailed information.

### 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

Molly Bass	Ron Smith
Emily Penzari	JoAnna Overkamp
Bonnie McGaha	Meta Morrison
Jan Hirschi	Tom & Mary Contreras
Marge Ramquist	Barbara Schultzman
Peter Safreno	Jim Safreno
Patti Babb & Family	Jim Crowe
Nancy Higgins & Family	

Caregivers in our area, state and nation  
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

### March Newsletter Deadline

February 19, 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 January were:

Rev. Ralph	John 3:16-17	God so loved
Elder Ruth Ann Horvath	Romans 12:2	Will of God
Elder Leslie Lintz	Psalms 98:1	A new song
Elder Alan Paige	1 Samuel 18:14	Lord with him
Elder Chris Schleiter	Matthew 6:19-21	Treasure in Heaven
Elder Bill Somplatsky-Jarman	Mark 1:16-17	Follow me
Elder Eric Westland	Proverbs 4:25-26	Your ways will be sure.
Elder Barbara McConnell	Romans 12:9-12	Confident hope
Elder Gloria McGilloway	Psalms 100	A joyful noise

### Thanks to our Volunteers

Flowers		Nursery
<b>February</b>		
February 7	<b>If you ordered flowers in 2020, we will use your flowers once we resume worship services.</b>	<b>Canceled</b>
February 14		
February 21		
February 28		
<b>March</b>		
March 7	<b>If you ordered flowers in 2020, we will use your flowers once we resume worship services.</b>	<b>Canceled</b>
March 14		
March 21		
March 28		

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

### Treasurer's Report

#### General Fund as of December 31 Month of December

Receipts	\$ 26,678.05
Expenditures	\$ 20,348.86

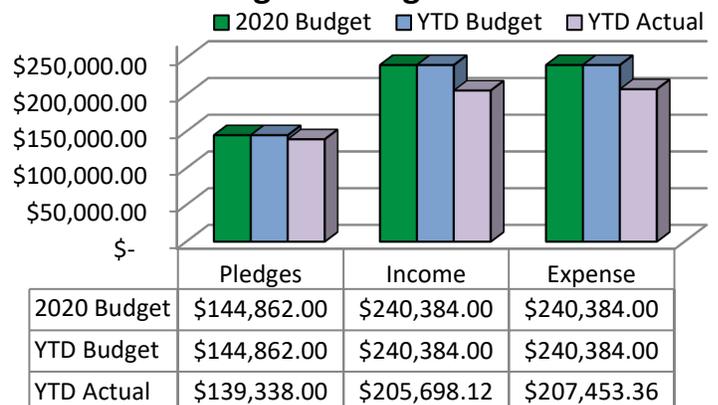
#### 2020 YTD Budget vs Actual

YTD Budgeted Receipts	\$ 240,384.00
Actual Receipts	<b>\$205,698.12</b>
YTD Budgeted Expenditures	\$ 240,384.00
Actual Expenditures	<b>\$207,453.36</b>

#### Fund Balances

General Fund	\$ 34,729.99
Building Fund	\$ 51,424.57
Memorial Fund	\$ 3,261.45
Reserve Fund	\$ 45,597.47
Russia Mission Fund	\$ 8,223.05
Bequests	\$ 83,058.75

#### 2020 Budget Through December 31



## Rev. Ralph's Food for Thought

*Blow a trumpet in Zion, And sound an alarm on My holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, For the day of the Lord is coming; Indeed, it is near, A day of darkness and gloom, A day of clouds and thick darkness.*

*As dawn is spread over the mountains, So there is a great and mighty people; There has never been anything like it, Nor will there be again after it To the years of many generations. "Yet even now," declares the Lord, "Return to Me with all your heart, And with fasting, weeping, and mourning; And tear your heart and not merely your garments." Now return to the Lord your God, For He is gracious and compassionate, Slow to anger, abounding in mercy*

*Joel 2:1-2, 12-13 (NASB)*



Regarding the church year and its seasons, for us the season of Lent, which leads to Holy Week and the Resurrection, begins with Ash Wednesday. This year Ash Wednesday falls on February 17<sup>th</sup> and, in the tradition of the 20-21 pandemic, more than likely will be virtual.

The observance of Ash Wednesday has been a tradition that comes from the earliest days of the Christian Church. For us as Presbyterians the service was a casualty of the Protestant Reformation and began to find a home again with us in the last half of the last century as Presbyterians, along with our other Protestant families began to observe church seasons, including Lent.

The ashes used are the burnt remains of the palms left over from Palm Sunday's preceding year. A colleague of mine quipped that as Presbyterians we should use the ashes from the preceding year's annual report!

One of the texts that traditionally has always been used on Ash Wednesday is the text from the Prophet Joel.

The words are powerful, a cry to prepare for God's coming day. A day of judgement for God's people, a day to fear in knowledge of who we are and where we have failed to be and live as God has called us to. A day of honesty with ourselves and be fearful of the judgment we deserve. All is lost.

And in the midst of that day's arrival God declares; "Even now draw near to me."

Even now, God holds grace, compassion and forgiveness for us! Even now.

On Ash Wednesday, that is exactly what we are doing and how we begin the journey of Lent. We accept the invitation, we draw near, and begin to prepare our lives for the coming Resurrection morning, our Lords, and our own.

*In Christ,  
Rev. Ralph*

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

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

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

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

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

## Prayer Corner

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



I was raised in the Episcopal Church, and two of my earliest memories are sitting on a woman's lap (I think, my Sunday School teacher) as we sang "Jesus Loves Me" and being a little angel in the Christmas play in church. I was 4 or 5 at the time, certainly pre-kindergarten age. I attended Sunday School through the 9<sup>th</sup> grade, at the end of which I was confirmed by the Bishop along with my classmates. I remember thinking as I left the railing before the altar (sorry, Ralph!) that I had expected to feel different after being confirmed, and I was disappointed that everything seemed the same. After being confirmed, I stayed in the church for the full morning service instead of

leaving half-way through for Sunday School class. Once I graduated from high school, I was allowed not to attend church if I so chose, and I DID so choose, with the occasional exception of Christmas Eve. I didn't look back for years.

What I remember most is that no one ever really talked to me about what Christianity was all about, what faith and Grace are. My parents went to church religiously ( 😊 ) but they never talked about Jesus, His message, or why we even went to church. We just did. And I had to wear a dress-up dress and a light veil (which I hated). I was never encouraged to read the Bible, although I had been given one by my grandmother, but unfortunately, as a very young child, I made scribbles in it (with a pen!), and it was taken away from me. I do still have this Bible, but it is the King James version so I seldom read it. These days I prefer a more accurate, modern translation.

But surprise! God had other plans for me! Around my 40<sup>th</sup> birthday, Dave told me he wanted to start going to church. He was raised in the Presbyterian Church in American Fork, and he said he missed church. I was astounded and (of course) reluctant, but we found a Presbyterian Church in Saratoga Springs, New York, and began attending. I found I really liked it a lot more than the more formal Episcopal Church. Before we could really become fully involved in that church's activities, we moved to the Montgomery, Alabama, area, although we did a few things like chaperoning a junior high dance in the church hall—THAT was an experience! Those kids were tough! We joined another Presbyterian Church in Montgomery, and it was there that we finally became active Christians, both of us serving on the Session, Dave did the accounts payable, I sang in the choir and participated in the Logos program. Through adult Sunday School there, I began to understand what it meant to be a Christian, and I loved my church community. I cried when I left choir practice there for the last time. I never dreamed that God had an even more loving church family for me here in St. George, where I would read the Bible (willingly!), attend all sorts of interesting classes, become a Stephen Minister and Leader, help with the Parish Health Ministry, serve on Session and as a Deacon, and sing in the choir. If I had been told when I was 25 that all this would happen, I would have laughed myself silly. I bet God smiled, knowing what plans He had for me! My church family IS my family, and I thank God for them every day. I know that all my life God was with me, loving me even though I was so resistant and rejecting. He never gave up on me, although I ignored Him for years. What a blessing He is to me! May I in turn be a blessing to others.

*Elder Anne Patten*

## News from the Russia Mission

Several of you have asked why Rev. Ralph is praying only for our Mission Co-Worker, Ellen Smith, each Sunday. Al retired in November and they have moved back to Wisconsin. Ellen is still doing what she's always done but instead of doing it from Berlin, she is working from home in the USA. We wish for Al a joyous retirement and pray for Ellen's continued mission in Eastern Europe.

We received word from Paster Sergei that they used our Christmas donation as intended. They held a Christmas party for 20 children, 5 of whom were new to the church and they have installed the indoor toilet!

We continue to pray for their church family and their mission.



## Buildings

The buildings continue to receive very light use, but all is well.

The HVAC modifications are almost completed, we are just waiting for some back-ordered parts. It will certainly be complete before we can meet in the sanctuary again.

One smoke alarm was beeping, so we replaced the batteries, twice. A closer examination showed that the manufacturing date was written in Roman numerals, so I replaced them all with new ones.

Other than that, just a little project here and there.

*Blessings,  
Eric Westland*

## Christian Education

Lent 2021 begins with Ash Wednesday on February 17<sup>th</sup>. A time of spiritual reflection, renewal, and resetting our moral compass, the Lenten journey helps us focus on the love of God and the gift of God's grace. The Lenten Devotional from Presbyterians Today has a theme: God's Gift of Shalom Makes Us One. During the 40 days and six Sundays prior to Easter, the devotional explores aspects of Shalom: justice, peace, healing, hope, repairing, and reconciliation.

More good news: this 2021 Devotional will be available on-line at [www.pcusa.org/2021lent](http://www.pcusa.org/2021lent).

A second option to supplement your Lenten journey is a devotional from Presbyterians for Earth Care (PEC) with the theme of A New Heaven and a New Earth. Different authors will provide a daily devotion. PEC, founded in 1995, is a national, grass roots network of Presbyterians working to make caring for God's creation a central concern of the church. The devotional also will be available on-line at [www.presbyearthcare.org](http://www.presbyearthcare.org).

If you would like to join the weekly Zoom gathering, please contact Rev. Ralph for an invitation.

*Bill Somplatsky-Jarman*

## Deacons

Since we can't see you in church to greet you, or sit and chat during the Fellowship hour, your Deacons want to send you this quote from Max Lucado:

"God has sent his angels to care for you  
His Holy Spirit to dwell in you  
His church to encourage you  
and His Word to guide you."

Your Deacons continue to be here to support you.

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

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

*In Christian love and fellowship,  
Your Deacons*

## Fellowship

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

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

*With love through Jesus Christ,  
Gloria McGilloway*

## Grounds

Sometime around the end of 2020 or beginning of 2021, the four display boxes that contain the names of the individuals whose ashes have been placed in the rose garden since 1990 were vandalized. Each of the display boxes was damaged in one way or another. The plexiglass in all boxes was broken. Fortunately, none of the name plates (with engraved names), dates of birth and dates of death were damaged. I removed each display box, and presently I am in the process of repairing each box and installing new plexiglass. I have also used a wood polish and conditioner to enhance the natural wood of each display box. They do look better after spending as much as 30 summers outside in Southwest Utah. Sometimes the Lord works in mysterious ways to restore the way things were. I hope to have all display boxes back in the gazebo by early February.

*Alan Paige*

## Mission/Outreach

As you saw on the front page, the Souper Bowl of Caring is ON for 2021. We hope that you will consider making a donation to help those in our area who are suffering.

After the Session meeting in January, we distributed our annual Churchwide Mission donations for 2021. Ellen Smith received \$3,000 for her work in Russia and Eastern Europe, the Moscow Protestant Chaplaincy received \$1,000 to support their badly needed programs for drug and alcohol rehabilitation and Presbytery received for general Churchwide Mission.

*Peace and Blessings  
Chris Schleiter*

## Parish Health Ministry

The first case of SARS-CoV-2, (COVID-19) in the United States was confirmed on January 25, 2020. At that time we never could have predicted that one year later we'd be marking one year of living with its reality. Our lives have been controlled by its mysteries and no one has been left untouched by its reach. Our congregation has rejoiced when hearing stories of recovery from the virus and experienced great sadness upon learning that it claimed beloved member, Dick Higgins. Scientists have labored to unlock its secrets and our good news is that reliable vaccines are now available. In our area, many have already received at least one dose of the two vaccines that are currently approved.

If you are 70 or over and are waiting your turn to receive the vaccine, it is important to keep informed of scheduling availability through sources as the Southwest Utah Public Health Department or the St George News so you may register. Please visit the Health Department's website, [swuhealth.org/covid](http://swuhealth.org/covid), and click on the "Vaccine Information for Southwest Utah" link just under the banner at the top of the page for more information or to schedule an appointment.

People have reported little reaction to the first shot but may experience some reaction to the second. The CDC recommends that you not pre-medicate with Tylenol or Ibuprofen but these medications may be taken should you experience post-vaccine symptoms (fever, fatigue, headache, muscle ache, chills, or joint pain). To achieve maximum efficacy, it is recommended that the shot be administered into the triangular, deltoid muscle at the top of the outer aspect of your upper arm. The arm skin should not be "bunched" up which could prevent the needle from reaching the muscle instead of only fatty tissue. Studies have shown that the full effect of the Pfizer vaccine occurs about seven days after the second shot and the Moderna vaccine within ten to fourteen days. While receiving the vaccine is enormously beneficial for the individual, vaccination of the general public is key to being able to relax our current preventive measures. We will still need to wear masks, wash/sanitize hands, distance and be prudent about our person-to-person contact until such time as more are vaccinated and our case incidence is reduced. To keep informed about the latest directives and answer questions you may have about vaccines, please consult the CDC COVID-19 site for current guidelines.

## **Wellness Concern of the Month - HEART HEALTH**

While our world is being filled with all things COVID, maintaining personal health habits should not be neglected. Nurturing our heart's health should become a routine part of our self care. Coronary heart disease is the most common form of heart disease and the choices we make will affect whether our hearts are given the chance to function at peak

## Parish Health Ministry, continued

performance. Having poor cardiovascular health puts one at increased risk for other severe illness including type 2 diabetes, hypertension, obesity, certain cancers and even COVID complications. The following risk factors for heart disease have been identified and, in partnership with your healthcare provider, its never too late to modify and mediate their impact:

- High Blood Pressure - A pressure reading over 140/90 is considered hypertension.
- High Cholesterol - Medical consultation will determine expectations of blood levels to be maintained and can be reached with life-style modification and medication.
- Stress - Training in meditation and relaxation techniques, exercise, counseling and interaction with friends and family can be beneficial.
- Smoking - Programs, medications and counseling can assist in helping a smoker to quit.
- Poor Sleep Patterns - During proper sleep, the body repairs and works to maintain good brain, cardiac and physical health. Chronic sleep deprivation can lead to development of disease, including heart disease, diabetes and stroke. Better sleep may be realized through exercise, dietary modification, environmental measures, and practicing pre-sleep quiet time.
- Poor Dietary Habits - Hippocrates said, "let food be thy medicine," and we also have heard, "we are what we eat." Adherence to an Eating or Dietary Plan rather than a DIET is easier to achieve. The DASH diet plan is a good place to start and information about it can be found online or through your doctor's office.

HAVING A HEART SHOWS LOVE - LOVE YOUR HEART!

*Alicia Kitzman*

## Prayer Chain

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

*Rev. Dolores Wiens*

## Session News

Session held their monthly meeting on January 10<sup>th</sup> via Zoom, as well. Here is a synopsis of the actions taken in January:

- Session Members agreed that since all the same conditions regarding the pandemic still exist, there will be no changes at this time to the present scheduled activities.
- Approved the adoption of a resolution stating that a portion (\$4,000) of the Pastor's Reimbursable Expenses be covered within the Health Reimbursement Arrangement Plan for the year 2021.
- Authorized Alan Paige to obtain contracts for annual tree and pampas grass trimmings.
- Approved, as per the approved 2021 General Fund Budget, to distribute the following: \$3,000 to Ellen Smith, \$1,000 to support the Moscow Protestant Chaplaincy's programs for drug and alcohol rehabilitation, and \$1,500 to Presbytery for general Churchwide Mission.
- Appointed Carolynn Thomas as Treasurer for 2021.
- Appointed Ruth Ann Horvath as Session Clerk for 2021.
- Appointed Gloria McGilloway as Commissioner to the Presbytery for 2021.
- Approved the dates of Stated Session Meetings on the second Sunday of each month following worship service in the Christian Education Building or via Zoom Webcast in 2021 and January 2022.
- Approved the following Communion dates: the first Sunday of each month during 2021 and January 2022, Early Prayer/Communion Services each week during 2021 and January 2022, Maundy Thursday Agape Service, and to authorize the Visitation Elder to distribute communion to the shut-ins in 2021 and January 2022.
- Organizational meeting of the Corporation was held on January 10, 2021. Election of 2021 Corporate Officers were as follows: Chris Schleiter was elected as Chairperson, Eric Westland was elected as Vice-Chairperson, Ruth Ann Horvath was elected as Secretary, and Carolynn Thomas was elected as Treasurer.

The next meeting of the Session will be Sunday, February 14, 2021 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 75 pounds of food and supplies plus a \$160 donation. During the month of January volunteers included Eliza Elwood, Josie Kellejan, Marge Linn, LaVerna Metzger and Patti and Brian Lusby. Cooking in the Switchpoint kitchen we served over 100 hungry folks which is always just as much a blessing to the volunteers as it is to those who enjoy their lunch. A menu of creamy chicken noodle soup, fruit, chips, boiled egg and yogurt was served. Those who are hungry in St George continue to come to the Soup Kitchen for our "to go" meals. Questions about the Soup Kitchen experience? Contact Carolynn Thomas 435-817-8288.

*Carolynn Thomas*

## Stewardship

Thanks to everyone who helped to make 2020 a fairly "normal" year financially. While donations were down a lot, expenses were also down as most of our activities were moved online or canceled. We ended 2020 with a net loss of only \$1,755.

Turning to 2021, our pledges to date are only about \$5,500 short of meeting our budget. With uncertainty as to how much we will receive in loose offerings during 2021, it is still important that we hit our goal. If you have made a pledge, we thank you. If you have not yet pledged, please prayerfully consider doing so, either through our website, [gspcsg.org](http://gspcsg.org) or by mailing your pledge to the church.

Please remember that you can continue to make donations of pledge payments and loose offerings through the Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church website ([gspcsg.org](http://gspcsg.org)) or mail donations to the Financial Secretary, P.O. Box 1499, St. George UT 84771-1499. Thank you for your continued generosity.

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

Thank you for your continued generosity during these difficult times.

*Leslie Lintz*

## Worship & Music

We are beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel with the vaccine now available to many of our congregants. We hope and pray it will begin a recovery from the pandemic and good health to all. We all realize we must have faith in our Lord as we begin to see an end to this virus.

We observe the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday, February 17th. The service will be recorded as are the Sunday worship services. They will be available on the church's website. We encourage all to tune in! Hopefully, it will not be long before we are able to worship together in person.

We feel much appreciation to Rev. Ralph for his spiritual leadership during this trying time, to Chris Schleiter for recording the weekly worship services, and Steve Talley for the beautiful organ music.

Best wishes for a most welcome and brighter days ahead!

*Barbara McConnell*

## Congregation News

### **Dick Higgins mourned**

We are sad to report that Elder and Visitation Pastor Dick Higgins passed away on Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup>. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Nancy and the family. Dick's service will take place once we are able to return to live worship.

### **Lenten Study Series begins February 22<sup>nd</sup>**

The Monday Evening Lenten Bible Study will begin on February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 pm and run through until the Monday before Holy Week, March 22<sup>nd</sup>. The class will initially be held through Zoom and if you would like to join please send a request to either Rev. Ralph or the church office.

The study will be the Kerygma Series, Hosanna: A Spiritual Journey through Holy Week and will explore the main texts in all four Gospels and in Paul's writings relating to Holy week of Jesus life and resurrection.

## Lectionary Readings for February

Date	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
Sunday, February 7 Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany	Isaiah 40:21-31 Psalm 147:1-11, 20c	1 Corinthians 9:16-23	Mark 1:29-39
Sunday, February 14 Transfiguration of the Lord	2 Kings 2:1-12 Psalm 50:1-6	2 Corinthians 4:3-6	Mark 9:2-9
Wednesday, February 17 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
Sunday, February 21 First Sunday in Lent	Genesis 9:8-17 Psalm 25:1-10	1 Peter 3:18-22	Mark 1:9-15
Sunday, February 28 Second Sunday in Lent	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Psalm 22:23-31	Romans 4:13-25	Mark 8:31-38

## Lectionary Readings for March

Date	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
Sunday, March 7 Third Sunday in Lent	Exodus 20:1-17 Psalm 19	1 Corinthians 1:18-25	John 2:13-22
Sunday, March 14 Fourth Sunday in Lent	Numbers 21:4-9 Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22	Ephesians 2:1-10	John 3:14-21
Sunday, March 21 Fifth Sunday in Lent	Jeremiah 31:31-34 Psalm 51:1-12 or Psalm 119:9-16	Hebrews 5:5-10	John 12:20-33
Sunday, March 28 Passion/Palm Sunday	<i>Liturgy of the Palms</i> Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 <i>Liturgy of the Passion</i> Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16	Philippians 2:5-11	Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark 15:1-39 (40-47)
Monday, March 29 Monday of Holy Week	Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 36:5-11	Hebrews 9:11-15	John 12:1-11
Tuesday, March 30 Tuesday of Holy Week	Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 71:1-14	1 Corinthians 1:18-31	John 12:20-36
Wednesday, March 31 Wednesday of Holy Week	Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 70:1-5	Hebrews 12:1-3	John 13:21-32

## A Few Interesting Facts About Presbyterians

- The first American Presbytery was founded in Philadelphia in the year 1706, and since then, Presbyterians have played an important role in American culture.
- King George called the American Revolution "the Presbyterian Revolution" because so many Presbyterian ministers were influential in starting and supplying American independence. At least eleven of the fifty-six signers of the Declaration of Independence were Presbyterians.
- Woodrow Wilson, Dwight D. Eisenhower, and Ronald Reagan are among ten Presbyterian presidents of our country. Abraham Lincoln, though he never joined any church, regularly attended the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington during his years as president.

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## February 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> 1:00 Shawl Ministry via pm Zoom	<b>2</b> <b>9:30 Calendar am Coordinating Council Meeting via Zoom</b> 11:00 Women's Bible Study am via Zoom <b>6:30 Grief &amp; Loss pm Support Group- CE-Building</b>	<b>3</b> 11:00 Women's Bible Study am via Zoom	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 8:45 Children's Sunday am School via Zoom 9:00 Adult Education via am Zoom 10:30 Communion Worship am @ Sermon Network 11:45 Virtual Fellowship via am Zoom	<b>8</b> 1:00 Shawl Ministry via pm Zoom	<b>9</b> 11:00 Women's Bible Study am via Zoom	<b>10</b> 11:00 Women's Bible am Study via Zoom <b>1:30 Cluster of Praise pm and Prayer via Zoom</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 7:30 Men's Bible Study via am Zoom	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> <b>Transfiguration of the Lord</b> 8:45 Children's Sunday am School via Zoom 9:00 Adult Education via am Zoom 10:30 Worship @ Sermon am Network 11:45 Virtual Fellowship am via Zoom <b>12:15 Session Meeting pm via Zoom</b>	<b>15</b> <b>Presidents Day</b> 1:00 Shawl Ministry via pm Zoom	<b>16</b> <b>Shrove Tuesday</b> 11:00 Women's Bible Study am via Zoom <b>6:00 Stephen Ministry pm Supervision Group Meeting via Zoom</b> <b>6:30 Grief &amp; Loss pm Support Group- CE-Building</b>	<b>17</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b> 11:00 Women's Bible am Study via Zoom <b>11:00 Ash Wednesday am Service via Zoom</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> <b>First Sunday in Lent</b> 8:45 Children's Sunday am School via Zoom 9:00 Adult Education via am Zoom 10:30 Worship @ Sermon am Network 11:45 Virtual Fellowship via am Zoom	<b>22</b> 1:00 Shawl Ministry via pm Zoom <b>6:00 Lenten Bible Study pm via Zoom</b>	<b>23</b> 11:00 Women's Bible Study am via Zoom	<b>24</b> 11:00 Women's Bible Study am via Zoom	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 7:30 Men's Bible Study via am Zoom	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> <b>Second Sunday in Lent</b> 8:45 Children's Sunday am School via Zoom 9:00 Adult Education via am Zoom 10:30 Worship @ Sermon am Network 11:45 Virtual Fellowship am via Zoom						

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**This calendar is subject to change. In the unlikely event that we resume in-person activities during February, please check the church website [gpscsg.org](http://gpscsg.org) for the latest information on what events will be held via Zoom and what events will be held live.**

**A Few Interesting Facts About Presbyterians, continued**

- Presbyterians were active in the abolition of slavery and were at the forefront of the civil rights movement. As early as 1946, the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America (PCUSA) adopted the concept of "non-segregated church in a non-segregated society."
- Famous Presbyterians include actors John Wayne and Jimmy Stewart, late-night talk show host David Letterman, author Mark Twain, and astronaut John Glenn. Fred Rogers, better known as "Mr. Rogers" was an ordained Presbyterian minister.
- Presbyterians value education very highly. There are over 80 Presbyterian-related colleges in the United States.

## 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 **(Canceled)**

<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 have turned 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 27<sup>th</sup> we have received pledges towards our third campaign totaling **\$56,100** and additional cash donations of **\$44,810** giving us a total for all three campaigns of **\$295,973** or about **77.1%** 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
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 2021

### Session

Class of 2020 (Continuing)	Bill Somplatsky-Jarman Eric Westland	502-689-6030 435-625-1399	Church Growth Christian Ed Building
Class of 2021	Ruth Ann Horvath Gloria McGilloway	435-922-5271 610-349-6045	Clerk of Session Fellowship Senior Ministries
	Chris Schleiter	435-619-2843	Mission/Outreach
Class of 2022	Leslie Lintz Barbara McConnell Alan Paige	412-403-9980 435-862-4822 435-703-9272	Stewardship Worship 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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**The newsletter is also available on our website [gspcsg.org](http://gspcsg.org)**