



Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church

A Stephen Ministry Congregation
Serving Southern Utah since 1988

Partner Congregation to the Evangelical Baptist Church of Dorogobuzh, Russia



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Church Staff

Rev. Celeste Lasich
Interim Pastor

Celeste Renta
Clerk of Session

Mary Contreras
Church Secretary

Bradin Wilhelmsen
Choirs Director

Aaron Lund
Organist/Pianist

Virginia Hunt
Strand of Pearls Prayer Chain

Chris Schleter
Website / Newsletter Editor

Mission Study Meetings Completed

Meetings for the Mission Study wrapped up on May 17th and 20th. In these meetings Rev. Celeste shared what we have learned through the first three sets of meetings and looked for guidance from the congregation on what we would like to see in our future.

In the final meetings, she presented a PowerPoint that summarized the findings from the first meetings:

- **Washington County Characteristics**
 - Steadily Growing
 - New residents tend to be active retirees and remote workers
 - Countless natural assets
 - Parks and trails
 - Thriving arts communities
 - Safe, scenic environment
 - Interfaith cooperation
- **Most Frequently Named Characteristics of Good Shepherd**
 - Music - Choir and Bells
 - Welcoming to all
 - Community use of buildings and grounds
 - Caring for one another
 - Christ centered / Bible Based
 - Mostly apolitical
 - Traditional worship
 - Service to the community
- **Good Shepherd's Assets**
 - Building and Grounds
 - Relationships with Community Organizations
 - Music
 - A Spirit of Welcome and Hospitality
 - Financially Stable
 - Prayer and Bible study
 - Congregational care and concern
 - Worship centered
- **Concerns**
 - A small number of people do most of the work
 - Shrinking, aging congregation
 - Lack of younger people and children
 - Lack of variety in worship
 - Effective communication (website, email, social media)
 - Sound quality in the Sanctuary
 - Political divisions that reflect national issues

Finally, she presented the two most mentioned visions for our future:

- Growth through active marketing, branding and focused hospitality to attract and retain a greater share of newcomers to Washington County.
- Growth through attracting and engaging younger families with children with contemporary worship featuring praise music and a program of Christian education and youth activities.

and took a secret vote to determine which best fits our desires. The first option was selected.

With this information, the Mission Study report writing team will draft the Mission Study report for approval by Session and submission to Presbytery for permission to form a Pastor Nominating Committee.

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 Cheryl Mansfield
 Ann Hogan Russ & Luisa Estlack
 Molly Bass Barbara Schultzman
 Arelene Prinselaar Richard Stone
 Dottie Amland Alan & Christine Morier
 Our congregation as we look to the future
 Our partner congregation
 in Dorogobuzh, Russia
 Those Serving Our Country

Welcome New Members

If you are interested in joining our fellowship, please see Pastor Celeste or Session Clerk Celeste Renta

July Newsletter Deadline

June 23, 2026

Worship Schedule

9:00 am
 Adult Education
 CE Building
10:30 am
 Children's Sunday School
 CE Building
10:30 am
 Worship
 Sanctuary
11:45 am
 Fellowship Time
 Conklin Hall

Ruling Elders Monthly Scriptures

Each month as part of their report at our stated Session meetings, our Pastor and Ruling Elders are invited to share any scripture that has spoken to their hearts in the previous month. We encourage 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 May were:

Pastor Celeste	John 14:4-6	Jesus is the way
Elder Scott Florence	John 14:1	Believe in God and Christ
Elder Alicia Kitzman	Hebrews 12:1-2	Love one another
Elder Ruthanne Skinner	Romans 8:38-39	Nothing can separate us from God
Elder Celeste Renta	John 5:24	Believe
Elder Tom Contreras	Psalms 73:26	God is strength
Elder Mark Eddington	Isaiah 61:11	God brings righteousness
Elder Mary Contreras	1 Corinthians 3:7	Only God makes things grow
Elder Ray Snipes	Ephesians 4:29-32	Be kind and forgive

2026 PLEDGES

Goal
\$200,665
Received
\$172,557 (84.1%)
Still Needed
\$28,108

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

BUILDING FUND

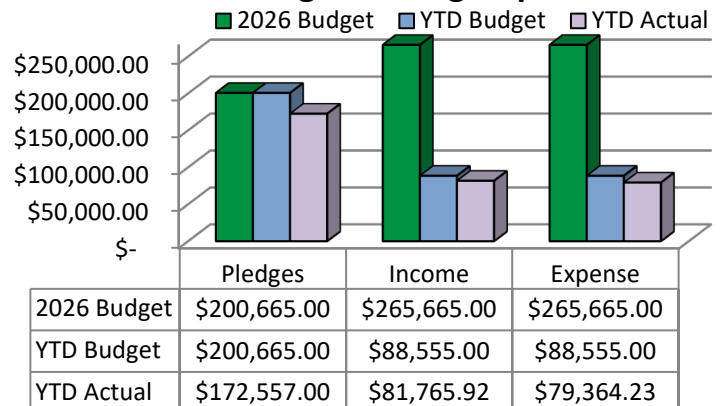
Goal
\$384,000
Received to Date
\$337,003
Still Needed
\$46,997

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

Treasurer's Report

General Fund as of April 30		
Month of April		
Receipts	\$	14,914.59
Expenditures	\$	13,874.28
April Net	\$	1,040.31
2026 YTD Budget vs. Actual		
YTD Budgeted Receipts	\$	88,555.00
Actual Receipts	\$	81,765.92
YTD Budgeted Expenditures	\$	88,555.00
Actual Expenditures	\$	79,364.23
YTD Net	\$	2,401.69
Fund Balances		
General Fund	\$	61,927.12
Building Fund	\$	44,225.50
Memorial Fund	\$	8,780.39
Bequests	\$	48,737.65
Reserve Fund	\$	85,645.45
Reynolds Family Bequest	\$	112,320.92
Mission Reserve	\$	19,491.88
Russia Mission Fund	\$	5,050.35

2026 Budget Through April 30



On the Journey ... with Pastor Celeste

*We are pilgrims on a journey; we're together on the road.
We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.*

Glory to God Hymn 727 - The Servant Song



Last month Good Shepherd completed the Mission Study process examining your history, your identity and values, your resources and assets for ministry and your hopes and visions for the future. The fourth gathering summarized the previous findings with added Washington County statistical context. Attenders agreed that the findings were an accurate representation of the congregation. The summarized findings are shown on page 1 of this newsletter.

The number one concern named across all Mission Study gatherings was the need for growth. As a congregation you named two separate priorities and strategies for growth. One way was growth through outreach to newcomers to Washington County who are primarily active retirees and older remote workers. Others named growth through attracting families with young children.

These two priorities require different pastoral skills and congregational investments of time, energy and resources. Expecting both from your next pastor is not a realistic option. Any growth strategy will require changes and effort from the congregation as well. Of course, as has always been the case, everyone who comes to Good Shepherd will be welcomed and cared for.

Participants were asked to discuss these two options in small groups of 5 in light of Good Shepherd's history, identity and values, resources and assets. They weighed the pros and cons of each and reported back to the whole group. Those were thoughtful, respectful conversations. Each person was asked to vote by paper ballot for their preferred growth priority. The vote was 32/4 in favor of growth through newcomers to Washington County. That will be reflected in the Mission Study Report and Ministry Discernment Profile.

On my Camino walk last month, we sang The Servant Song as a reminder that we were on this journey together. This church is also on a journey in this season of transition. I'm grateful to be on this journey with all of you as we walk together into your future with your next pastor.

*Blessings
Pastor Celeste*

**** Home Communion ****

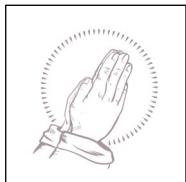
If you have difficulty getting to worship and would like to have the Pastor, an Elder or a Deacon serve you the Lord's Supper at home, please call the church office (435-628-9158).

**** Note Regarding Hospital Visitation ****

With the federal laws that govern the privacy of medical records, hospitals no longer can give out any information about patients to visitors, including clergy. Unless a visitor requests a specific name, the hospital desk is not allowed to give out any information, including religious affiliation.

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

Prayer Corner



"Saint Macarius (300-391 AD) an Egyptian Christian monk was asked 'How should one pray?' He said, 'There is no need to make long discourses; it is enough to stretch out one's hand and say, "Lord, as you will, and as you know, have mercy." And if the request grows fiercer say: "Lord, help." God knows very well what we need and he shows us his mercy.'

Virginia Hunt

Friday Prayer in the Chapel

We know you are strong believers in the power of prayers. Join us at Noon each Friday for Prayer in the Chapel where you will find lots of silence and short prayers of love and support.

Buildings & Grounds

Many of you have probably noticed that the Community Garden has been removed. After discussion in Session in May we decided that the garden was not being used effectively and keeping weeds out of the area was becoming quite expensive.

There are several moving part to this project:

- The shed will be moved into the parking lot to serve as a home for the work platform that we bought this spring;
- The fence, posts and garden enclosures will be removed and taken to the dump;
- The area will be graded, covered with new weed fabric and landscaping stone to match the rest of the area.

We will have discussions going forward to determine what we want to do with the western part of our lot and value your input.

Tom Contreras

Elder, Buildings & Grounds

Christian Education

Many of us treat the Bible like a software user agreement—we blindly click "agree" to avoid the fine print, secretly hoping we didn't just sign away our firstborn. But cracking open that ancient leather-bound monolith isn't just a spiritual chore; it's uncovering the universe's ultimate cheat code. It's the original reality show, packed with enough family drama, political espionage, and plot twists to make Hollywood look like amateur hour. Far from being a dry list of "thou shalt nots," it's the ancient world's best-kept secret, featuring everything from talking donkeys to late-night wrestling matches with angels.

So come one and come all to Adult Sunday School in the Christian Education Building at 9:00 am each Sunday. Come see what you have been missing. Come find yourself in the Bible, which serves as a mirror to point out our blind spots and remind us we are part of a much bigger, grander story. We also encourage you to prayerfully explore the following opportunities for further Scripture study:

- Weekly Open Bible Studies on Tuesdays at 1:00 pm at Legacy Village Retirement Community.
- Women's Bible Studies on Wednesdays at 11:00 am in Conklin Hall.
- Men's Bible Studies on Thursdays at 11:00 at Bishop's Grill on Sunset Blvd.
- Women's monthly Bible Study meet on the fourth Mondays of each month at 10:30 am to 11:30 am in Conklin Hall.
- Virginia Hunt is also leading a Bible Study Group in Hurricane once a month.

Mark Eddington

Elder, Christian Education

Congregational Growth & Care

Please plan to join us on June 3rd for Lunch and Learn. Our speaker, Karry Rathje from the Washington County Water Conservancy District, will talk about "Water, Water, Anywhere??" and in light of recent news reports, in the worst case, we could find ourselves asking that question in our everyday lives.

We have a second 'save the date' request in that we've scheduled a representative from Switchpoint as our Fall Lunch and Learn speaker on Wednesday, September 9th for a review of the various community services provided by the

Congregational Growth & Care, continued

organization. We look forward, especially, to discussing the role of Switchpoint in meeting the needs of our local homeless with emphasis on the problem of caring for an emerging demographic in our local homeless population - unhoused seniors.

It is the goal of our committee to schedule Lunch and Learn programs which cover subjects of topical interest for the Common Good and to which you may consider inviting someone to join you. In our mission study groups, we have been exploring our pathway to the future. Obviously, there is work to be done and much yet to be accomplished, but it has become clear that each individual must play a part in helping our congregation flourish while building on our firm foundation. We always say to bring a neighbor or a friend to Lunch and Learn. Imagine if you played your part by extending an invitation which resulted in that friend or neighbor becoming a member of Good Shepherd's congregation and spiritual life?

Remember - Lunch and Learn - June 3rd, and September 9th - bring a sandwich and a friend or neighbor. Treats and beverages provided. Conklin Hall - 12:00 Noon to 1:00 pm.

Alicia Kitzman
Moderator

Deacons

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

Peggy Graber
Moderator

Fellowship

Thanks to everyone who joined us for our annual Worship and Picnic in the park. It was a wonderful service with great music from The Old Time Fiddlers, and everyone enjoyed the fellowship of the picnic.

We are now entering the quiet period we call summer. As always we will have Fellowship after worship each Sunday and ask you, if you are able, to bring some goodies to share.

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

Mary Contreras
Elder, Fellowship

Mission/Outreach

Our annual Shoe Drive continues through June 7th. Again this year our collected shoes will go to Soles4Souls, a non-profit that works with like-valued partners to help people in low-income countries start and grow businesses - using donated shoes and clothing to create sustainable livelihoods.

They accept all styles and sizes of new or gently worn shoes. Please DO NOT tie the strings of your shoe pairs together. Please use rubber bands (we will have plenty on the table in Conklin Hall) to hold the pairs together. This makes packing the shoes for shipment much easier. Place your shoes in the box by the parking lot door in Conklin Hall or the box in the CE Building and we'll do the rest.

Several members of the congregation have been joining with my Rotary Club to staff the Mobile Food Pantry held on the 4th Thursday each month at the Washington City Recreation Center. We can always use more help, and it is truly rewarding to help those in our community who need food assistance. If you are interested in helping out, please let me know.

Thanks for all you do to support our Mission program!

Scott Florence
Elder, Mission/Outreach

Session News

Session held their monthly meeting on May 10, 2026. The following actions were taken by Session at the meeting:

- Approved the expenditure of up to \$10,000 for the removal of the Community Garden and the addition of weed mat and landscaping stone to match the rest of the area at the west end of the parking lot, to be paid from the Reynolds Family Bequest.

The next meeting of the Session will be Sunday, June 14, 2026, at 12:00 Noon in the CE Building.

*Celeste Renta
Clerk of Session*

Stewardship

Summer can be a quiet time at Good Shepherd, but there is activity behind the scenes. You may have been contacted by your Deacon about updating our member directory and expanding our member information. We've not had this information, and as we are collecting it, we are also acquiring software that will allow us to better manage our church and modernize our communications. This will let us give you more timely information about everything happening with our church than just a monthly newsletter.

Concurrently with those projects we are working to retain a website developer to reimagine our website. The website could be our most important tool for reaching potential new members and inviting them to visit us. All this new technology will help us live out our mission better and prepare us for our next chapter with a new pastor. Exciting times at Good Shepherd!

*Ray Snipes
Elder, Stewardship and Administration*

Worship

We have been truly fortunate to have had Micheal Hadrych as our Greeter for the past two years and we really appreciate his warm and friendly personality that he shares with visitors and members. He has tendered his resignation as our Greeter, and we are now proposing a new procedure for filling the position.

There are 4 ushers each Sunday and on the sign-up sheet, number one will be Greeter for that Sunday. The greeter is a person who greets and welcomes visitors and guests to Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church. Greeters must have a friendly and positive attitude and be well informed about our church so they can answer any questions our guests may have. There is a job description on the Greeters podium that gives you lots of information. Please help us maintain this position as it is such an important part of Worship at Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church. If you have questions, give me a call.

*Ruthanne Skinner
Elder, Worship*



Lectionary Readings for June

Date	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
Sunday, June 7 2nd Sunday after Pentecost	Hosea 5:15-6:6 Psalm 50:7-15	Romans 4:13-25	Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26
Sunday, June 14 3rd Sunday after Pentecost	Exodus 19:2-8a Psalm 100	Romans 5:1-8	Matthew 9:35-10:8 (9-23)
Sunday, June 21 4th Sunday after Pentecost	Jeremiah 20:7-13 Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18	Romans 6:1b-11	Matthew 10:24-39
Sunday, June 28 5th Sunday after Pentecost	Jeremiah 28:5-9 Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18	Romans 6:12-23	Matthew 10:40-42

Lectionary Readings for July

Date	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
Sunday, July 5 6th Sunday after Pentecost	Zechariah 9:9-12 Psalm 145:8-14	Romans 7:15-25a	Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
Sunday, July 12 7th Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 55:10-13 Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13	Romans 8:1-11	Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
Sunday, July 19 8th Sunday after Pentecost	Isaiah 44:6-8 Psalm 86:11-17	Romans 8:12-25	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
Sunday, July 26 9th Sunday after Pentecost	1 Kings 3:5-12 Psalm 119:129-136	Romans 8:26-39	Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

**"MATTHEW, MARK, AND LUKE, SEE ME
AFTER CLASS.**



**YOUR BOOK REPORTS ARE SURPRISINGLY
SIMILAR."**

June 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 1:00 Shawl Ministry pm	2 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon 1:00 Open Bible Study @ pm Legacy Village	3 11:00 Women's Bible Study am - Conklin Hall 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon 12:00 Lunch & Learn - Noon Water, Water - Anywhere with Karry Rathje from the Washington County Water Conservancy District	4 11:00 Men's Bible Study @ am Bishop's on Sunset	5 12:00 Friday Noon Prayer in Noon the Chapel 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon	6
7 Solomon's Porch Sunday 9:00 Adult Education am 10:30 Children's Sunday am School & Nursery 10:30 Communion Worship am 11:45 Fellowship am 12:00 Deacon Meeting Noon 12:00 Mission Committee Noon Meeting	8 1:00 Shawl Ministry pm	9 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon 1:00 Open Bible Study @ pm Legacy Village	10 11:00 Women's Bible Study am - Conklin Hall 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon	11 11:00 Men's Bible Study @ am Bishop's on Sunset	12 12:00 Friday Noon Prayer in Noon the Chapel 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon	13
14 9:00 Adult Education am 10:30 Children's Sunday am School & Nursery 10:30 Worship am 11:45 Fellowship am 12:00 Session Meeting Noon	15 1:00 Shawl Ministry pm	16 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon 1:00 Open Bible Study @ pm Legacy Village	17 9:30 Stephen Ministry am Supervision Group Meeting 11:00 Women's Bible Study am - Conklin Hall 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon	18 11:00 Men's Bible Study @ am Bishop's on Sunset	19 12:00 Friday Noon Prayer in Noon the Chapel 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon	20
21 Father's Day 10:30 Children's Sunday am School & Nursery 10:30 Worship am 11:45 Fellowship - Ice am Cream Social 12:00 Worship Committee Noon Meeting	22 12:30 Women's Bible Study & Fellowship pm 1:00 Shawl Ministry pm	23 Newsletter Deadline 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon 1:00 Open Bible Study @ pm Legacy Village	24 11:00 Women's Bible Study am - Conklin Hall 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon	25 11:00 Men's Bible Study @ am Bishop's on Sunset 12:00 Book Club Noon	26 12:00 Friday Noon Prayer in Noon the Chapel 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon	27
28 9:00 Adult Education am 10:30 Children's Sunday am School & Nursery 10:30 Worship am 11:45 Fellowship am 11:45 Blood Pressures am Taken	29 1:00 Shawl Ministry pm	30 12:00 Al-Anon Meeting Noon 1:00 Open Bible Study @ pm Legacy Village				

PLEASE NOTE:

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



Regularly Scheduled Activities

Solomon's Porch Sunday - Contributions of food, supplies and cash for Solomon's Porth - 1st Sunday of each Month
Women's Bible Study and Fellowship – 4th Monday of each month at 10:30 am in Conklin Hall
Al-Anon Meetings - Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 12:00 Noon in the CE Building

Adult Sunday School	Sunday	9:15 am to 10:00 am	CE Building
Shawl Ministry	Monday	1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	Conklin Hall
Open Bible Study	Tuesday	1:00 pm to 2:00 pm	Legacy Village
Women's Bible Study	Wednesday	11:00 am to 12:00 Noon	Conklin Hall
Men's Bible Study	Thursday	11:00 am to 12:00 Noon	Bishop's Grill on Sunset
Choir Rehearsals	Saturday	11:00 am Chancel Choir	Resumes in August
	Saturday	12:30 pm Good Shepherd Ringers	Resumes in August

Flowers

Thanks to those who provide our flowers for worship!

June	
June 7	Available
June 14	Shirley Taylor
June 21	Available
June 28	Available
July	
July 5	Shirley Taylor
July 12	Chris Schleiter
July 19	LaVerna Metzger
July 26	Available

Sign up for Flowers on the bulletin board between the Narthex and Conklin Hall or on our website gspcsg.org

Online Giving

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

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

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



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

Church Contact Information

Office Hours	Wednesday 10:00 am - 1:00 pm Friday 11:30 am to 1:00 pm
Office Phone/Fax	435-628-9158
Office Email	office@gspcsg.org
Pastor's Office Hours	Tuesday through Friday By afternoon appointment
Pastor's Email	celeste.lasich@gmail.com
Strand of Pearls Prayer Chain	Virginia Hunt 714-955-1167 (Text Only)
Choirs Director	Bradin Wilhelmsen
Website	gspcsg.org
Newsletter email	newsletter@gspcsg.org
Website / Newsletter Editor	Chris Schleiter
Information on Stephen Ministry	www.stephenministries.org

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



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

Church Leadership 2026

Session

Class of 2026	Alicia Kitzman	435-272-4614	Growth & Care
	Ray Snipes	435-414-4286	Stewardship
Class of 2027	Mark Eddington	801-404-4814	Christian Ed
	Mary Contreras	435-229-8753	Fellowship
	Scott Florence	435-522-8123	Mission/Outreach
Class of 2028	Celeste Renta	818-370-7892	Clerk of Session
	Ruthanne Skinner	541-510-5660	Worship
	Tom Contreras	530-440-8484	Building/Grounds

Deacons

Parish	Deacon	Phone
Deacons	Peggy Graber	801-541-7444
	Moderator	
Bloomington	Mary Laubscher	571-212-1279
Bloomington Hills	Marcia Hawkins	702-499-1184
Hurricane	Sal Arredondo	775-790-6344
Quail Creek	Marsha Besch	612-817-3605
Red Cliffs	Linda Fucone	208-561-1211
Santa Clara/Ivins	Tineke Ingold	435-574-3614
Sun River	Curt Whatley	435-599-2639
Washington	Jeff Clingan	435-705-8692

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