

Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church

A Stephen Ministry Congregation
A Member of the Virgin River Presbyterian Fellowship
Serving Southern Utah since 1988
Sister Congregation to the Evangelical Baptist Church of Dorogobuzh, Russia



611 N 2450 E / PO Box 1499, St. George, UT 84771

Website: gspcsg.org 435-628-9158 Email: office@gspcsg.org

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Church Staff

The Rev. Dr. Ralph Clingan
Pastor

Dick HigginsVisitation Pastor

Ruth Ann Horvath
Clerk of Session

Susan Holecheck Candy Hurlbut Arlene Prinselaar

Church Secretaries

Barbara McConnell
Music Director

Steve Talley Deborah Stone Organists

George Linden Head Usher

Deborah Stone Prayer Chain

Chris Schleter Website / Newsletter Editor

April is Per Capita Time

With Easter behind us, April is Per Capita Month for Good Shepherd. You may have noticed the blue envelopes in the pews and in the narthex, marked "Per Capita." Like many Presbyterians, you may have wondered, "Exactly what does per capita do?"

Per capita is an amount of money per member (this year, \$38.23) that our congregation pays to the larger Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). This money is part of the glue that holds Presbyterians together. It is the money that enables us to work with other Presbyterian churches in our presbytery and across the country. It is also money that allows us to work with other churches to further the mission of Jesus Christ around the world.

How important is per capita? Here are some examples:

- Our congregation benefits from relationships and cooperation with other Presbyterian churches across the country. Your per capita pays for the General Assembly meeting every two years where Presbyterians gather together to worship and discern the mind of Christ for the church.
- Our congregation is involved in mission work throughout the world, sharing the gospel in all parts of the earth. In many places in our world, it is difficult to "do mission" except by working ecumenically with other churches. Your per capita helps to pay for meetings of Presbyterians with people of other Christian churches, allowing us to maintain those ties for mission.
- We benefit from helpful Presbyterian resources such as the Book of Order and The Book of Confessions. Your per capita pays for producing these basic resources, including in Spanish, Korean, and Braille.
- We want future generations to learn about our congregation's present work (e.g., anniversary celebrations, membership rolls, session actions). Your per capita helps to fund the Presbyterian Historical Society preserving and sharing the Presbyterian experience.
- We want pastors who are well prepared to lead our congregations? Your per capita funds the preparation, administration, and grading of standard ordination examinations for seminary students.
- We want well-trained leaders for our presbyteries and more. Your per capita pays for annual training events for presbytery executives, stated clerks, and others who help lead our work and mission.

In addition, our per capita pays for the travel expenses of the Moderator and Vice Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) as they make their way across the church to share with and listen to folks like us about the exciting things God is doing in our midst.

By contributing your portion of per capita, you free up dollars in our regular budget for the work of our congregation in this community. Our per capita payment for Good Shepherd for 2018 is nearly \$10,000. If you haven't yet contributed, we hope you will consider doing so.

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

Roger Kitzman
Joe Borden
Alice Blair
Brett Schroeder
Wanda Tighe
Doug Hirschi
Dottie Malcomson
Paul & Gloria Reynolds

Jim Sullivan
Jim Crowe
Jim Crowe
Jim Crowe
Linda Alexander
Betty Miner
Peter Safreno
Paul & Gloria Reynolds

Our sister congregation in Dorogobuzh, Russia Those Serving Our Country

Welcome New Members

Ed & Cheryl Mansfield
Bill & Carol Somplatsky-Jarman
Peter Safreno Linda Alexander
If you are interested in joining our
fellowship, please see Rev. Ralph or Session
Clerk Ruth Ann Horvath

May Newsletter Deadline

April 23, 2018

Worship Schedule

8:45 – 9:00 am Service of Morning Prayer and Communion - Sanctuary

> 9:00 – 9:45 am Adult Education CE Building

10:30 am Children's Sunday School

10:30 am Worship - Sanctuary

11:45 am Fellowship Time – Conklin Hall

Ruling Elders Monthly Scriptures

Each month at our stated Session meetings, our Teaching 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.

| Rev. Ralph | John 3:16 | In Him |
|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Elder Chris Schleter | Psalm 72:12-14 | Need |
| Elder Dennis Peters | James 1:17 | Light from above |
| Elder Judy Oar | 1 Corinthians 2:16 | Mind of Christ |
| Elder Arlene Prinselaar | Isaiah 41:10 | Fear not |
| Elder Ed Haworth | Matthew 18:21-22 | How many |
| Elder Ruth Anne Horvath | Mark 1:9-11 | Baptism |
| Elder Scott Florence | Psalm 121:1-2 | Lift up your eyes |
| Elder Gloria McGilloway | Matthew 28:5-6 | Do not be afraid |
| Elder Susan Holecheck | 2 Timothy 6:17-19 | Rich in new life |
| Elder Mary Contreras | Jeremiah 29:11 | Plans for you |

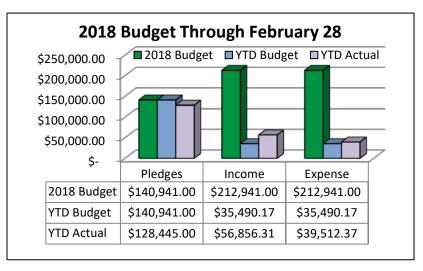
Thanks to our Volunteers

| | Flowers | Nursery | |
|----------|--------------------|----------------------------|--|
| | March | | |
| March 4 | Donna Beasley | Jennifer P | |
| March 11 | Dick & Patti Babb | Donna Beasley | |
| March 18 | Shirley Fromknecht | Cindy Clingan | |
| March 25 | Jane O'Donnell | Judy Oar or Mary Contreras | |
| | April | | |
| April 1 | Available | Jennifer P | |
| April 8 | Available | Donna Beasley | |
| April 15 | Donna Baker | Cindy Clingan | |
| April 22 | Available | Judy Oar or Mary Contreras | |
| April 29 | Marjorie Bayle | No Nursery – Fifth Sunday | |

Signup on the board between the narthex and the Fellowship Hall or on our Website gspcsq.org

Treasurer's Report

| General Fund as of February 28, 2018 | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|-------------|--|--|
| Month of Ja | nuary | | | |
| Receipts | \$ | 16,686.83 | | |
| Expenditures | \$ | 20,738.18 | | |
| 2018 YTD Budge | t vs Ac | tual | | |
| YTD Budgeted Receipts | \$ | 35,490.17 | | |
| Actual Receipts | \$ | 54,856.31 | | |
| YTD Budgeted Expenditures | \$ | 35,490.17 | | |
| Actual Expenditures | \$ | 39,512.37 | | |
| Building F | und | | | |
| Building Fund Cash | \$ | 73,630.41 | | |
| Loan Balance | \$ | 122,231.71 | | |
| Net Building Fund | \$ | (48,601.30) | | |
| Fund Balances | | | | |
| General Fund | \$ | 24,715.57 | | |
| Memorial Fund | \$ | 1648.50 | | |
| Capital Reserve Fund | \$ | 32,820.12 | | |
| Russia Mission Fund | \$ | 5,280.88 | | |



Rev. Ralph's Food for Thought

This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses. Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear. For it was not David who ascended into heaven, but he himself says:

'The Lord said to my Lord,

"Sit at My right hand,

Until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet."'

Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified."

Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"

Acts 2:32-37 New American Standard Bible (NASB)



"What shall we do?" is certainly the perfect question for the day after Resurrection Sunday, commonly referred to as Easter. For forty days we read, we pray, we sacrifice, we serve, we worship, we eat, all for a lovely ham dinner following services on Easter Sunday?

I have to believe that there is more to this day and season than that. That we are called not simply to remember and rejoice and return to our homes as if nothing new has happened but as our Lord has been raised we too are to be raised to new lives ourselves.

For after all, Paul declared in his letters that in His resurrection, "the old things are finished and gone, all things are fresh and new, we are a new creation. Jesus himself said he came "that we may have life abundant."

In Acts at the conclusion of his sermon on the occasion of Pentecost the "congregation" responded with the words and question, "What are we to do?"

Peter's response was for them to "repent, be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit". In other words, change the direction of our lives, recommit to your devotion and dedication to our Lord, and open our hearts and lives to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

This of course this is the act of faith by people of faith who now just don't recall the resurrection but have become, in Jesus Christ, His Resurrected people.

In Christ, Rev. Ralph

Bible Study Canceled

Effective March 30th, the 11:00 am Bible Study at Twentyfive Main is canceled. We hope you will be able to attend one of the other Bible Studies during the week.

** Home Communion **

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

** Pastor's Note Regarding Hospital Visitation **

Please keep in mind that with the federal laws that went into force a number of years ago, hospitals are no longer allowed to give out any information regarding patients to visitors, including clergy. Unless a visitor requests a specific name, the hospital desk is not allowed to give out any information, including religious affiliation.

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

News From the Russia Mission

2018 Visit to Dorogobuzh

Ellen Smith has visited with Pastor Sergei and he is looking forward to having Gloria McGilloway and Chris Schleter visit this summer. He is also looking forward to coming to St. George for the Russia Mission Network Conference in September. He has requested that their visit coincide with the annual Bible Camp which will be held this year from July 30th through August 3rd. With Gloria's background in teaching and her fervent study of the Bible, the visit should be a perfect fit.

While the visit is still a few months away, please consider making a donation to help defray the cost of this year's trip.

Russia Mission Network Conference

The planning committee for the Russia Mission Network Conference will meet later in April to begin detailed planning for the conference. We will be looking for members of the congregation to lead several areas during the planning of the conference as well as during the conference, itself. Some of the areas where we could use a hand are:

- Transportation (airport transfers and local)
- Planning for the Friday optional trip to Zion
- Coordinating snacks and beverages for the hospitality area in the CE Building
- Assisting Gloria McGilloway with meals
- Planning for and staffing the welcome desk at the hotel
- Coordinating and hosting home stays for those conference attendees who request to stay with a member of the congregation
- Many other tasks that will come up as we do more detailed planning

If you are interested in helping in any of these areas, please contact Chris Schleter. As soon as the date for the meeting is finalized, Chris will announce it during morning announcements.

Meet the Member

Dick & Mary Beth Gibbons

Dick and Mary Beth were married in 1971 in Newton, Massachusetts. They are both from New England.

Mary Beth served our country in the Army Reserve. Unfortunately, she was injured while on duty and was Honorably Discharged with a Medical Disability.

Both worked in the medical field for the last 60 years in VA Centers in Vermont, Texas, Wisconsin, and Colorado. Dick's field of work was as a Clinical pharmacist and Mary Beth worked as a Medical Technician.

When they retired in 2008, they decided to move to our beautiful area.

Dick's hobbies are model railroading, rock and mineral collecting, and gardening. Mary Beth enjoys sewing, knitting, and gardening. She joined the Shawl Ministry (Knotty Knitters) and has been a great asset to them.

If anyone needs help with gardening issues, Mary Beth is the best ones to see for information, as she is a Master Gardener.

Lorraine Marks

Lorraine was born and raised in Michigan and after Loraine and her husband retired, they moved to Cedar City for health reasons. She then moved to Leeds approximately 18 years ago. She loves the beauty of Southern Utah.

Lorraine in indeed active, she leaves our area each year from May until September to visit family and friends in Michigan so be sure to chat with her before she leaves in May.



Christian Education

<u>ADULT EDUCATION CLASS</u> – Rev. Ralph will be on vacation on the Sunday after Easter so Gloria McGilloway will fill in for him. Her topic will be "The Five Solas of the Reformation." When he returns, Rev. Ralph will be showing the British series "Tales From the Madhouse." Set in a Victorian insane asylum, eight people talk of their encounters with Jesus of Nazareth. After viewing this compelling series, he will lead a study of the history and nature of the Russian Orthodox, Evangelical Baptist and Russian Lutheran churches.

<u>CHILD CARE AND SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES</u> – We are in serious need of volunteers for the child care and Sunday school program. It is suggested that those interested in helping, sign up to help at least one Sunday a month. We will post a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board, or you can contact Charlotte Phipps directly.

Ed Haworth

Deacons

As Deacons our goal is to be available to help and support our Parish members as needed. We see an increase In the need for transportation as more of our members no longer can or are able to drive. When possible, we try to help with transportation to doctor appointments. This often proves difficult as some of our Deacons work full time. Therefore we ask again for members to help members who live near them. Please let your Deacon know if you can help with transportation. You would be called only a few times if at all. We just need to begin to have a list of a few members who feel this is something they could do to help with this need. Thanks.

Our Deacon Shed is full of items you may need if you have an illness or are recovering from surgery. If you need to borrow anything from the shed, please contact Dick Babb (688-1120) and he will make arrangements to get you what you need.

In Christian love and fellowship, Your Deacons

Fellowship

Spring has sprung! And, it's just in time to get us ready for the conclusion of this year's Lenten season.

We enjoyed lots of green – and a splash of orange – as we celebrated St. Patrick's Day.

With the change of season comes another change in our Conklin Hall décor. Please thank Liz Larson, Ann Abbott, Cathy Overkamp, Mary Beth and Dick Gibbons for their service in bringing Spring to Conklin Hall for all to enjoy.

There is a new opportunity for fellowship available on Sunday morning before worship. We already have several folks who come in for an early cup of coffee with time to visit before 10:30. Now, set up and ready to use, is a table for you to experience and enjoy the relaxation that comes with Adult Coloring. Everything you need is provided. There are a variety of pages to choose from – and, don't worry if you do not finish before Worship. Just leave it on the table and it will be waiting for you the next week. Give it a try!

Gloria McGilloway

Grounds

IMPORTANT NOTICE: On Thursday April 26th and Friday April 27th, Holbrook Asphalt will be applying a surface treatment (sealant) on the front, older section of the church parking lot and driveway (slightly more than half the parking lot). The newer (back) section does not need sealing at this time but will be re-evaluated this fall to determine if treatment is needed the spring of 2019 or later.

The parking lot will be cleaned and the sealant applied the first day. The parking lot will be re-painted and restriped the second day. As a part of the re-painting and re-striping, we are also eliminating six disabled parking spaces in front of the church but adding two spaces on the north side of Conklin Hall and four in back of the church closer to the rear entrance (keeping the existing number of twelve total spaces).

We scheduled the work on a Thursday and Friday to minimize impacts to church activities as you will not be able to drive into the church parking lot until all work has been completed. Holbrook will keep the parking lot closed for 24 hours beginning on **April 26**th and it will not be possible to drive on or walk on the parking lot during that period. Walking access should be restored by the morning of April 27th and full access should be restored by late that day.

We appreciate your patience and understanding!

Growth

It is a joyful time of the year, "He is risen" (Mark 6:16). It is a time to give thanks and praise. When we look outside we see all the plants budding out in their finery. The warmer weather gives us Spring fever.

Remember to invite someone to church. You just might make a best friend or help someone that has strayed come back to Christ.

"He is not here: for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay." Matthew 28:6

Arlene Prinselaar

Mission/Outreach

Our annual shoe drive will kick off on May 6th and continue through Memorial Day. As you do your spring cleaning, please gather up shoes that you no longer need or want, bring them to church and place them in the box in Conklin Hall. We'll send them off and they'll be re-sold at very low prices to those who need them.

As a reminder, we can only accept WEARABLE (no holes in the soles, or shoes that need cobbling or mending) PAIRS (either tie them together or place a rubber band around them) of men's, women's and kids shoes.

We CANNOT ACCEPT ski boots, heavy winter boots, roller skates, rollerblades, ice skates, flip-flops/crocs, bedroom slippers or single shoes. Last year, we collected about 150 usable pairs of shoes (and received \$75 for our efforts). Let's beat that this spring!

I continue to be amazed by your generosity and willingness to share.

Blessings Chris Schleter

Parish Nursing

It's not too late to take part in the **CPR REFRESHER COURSE** to be held on Wednesday, April 11 from 9:00 to 11:30 am. If you are already certified in CPR for the Non-Professional, you must take a class every two years to maintain that certification. We last held the class at Good Shepherd Church in April of 2016. To attain basic CPR certification, this class is also for you. Please contact Charlotte Phipps — cskyeisle@aol.com or 435-628-8808 - to register. The fee is \$20.

In the unfortunate event that you become a patient in our local hospital, you may find yourself asking the question, "Just WHO is this person and where is MY doctor?" While there, you most likely will be under the care of a hospitalist. Dr. David Grygla, a Hospitalist from Dixie Regional Medical Center, is qualified to answer this question and will be our **BROWN BAG LUNCHEON** speaker on Wednesday, April 25th at Noon in Conklin Hall. You know the drill---pack a sandwich and come to learn about his role in current medical care. We'll have treats and a beverage for you.

At our Brown Bag Luncheon on February 21st, we welcomed Katie Woods, Family Law Attorney, as our speaker. We learned that her topic, Elder Abuse, really is a discussion of "Vulnerable Adult Abuse." By definition, in the State of Utah Statute, anyone over the age of 65 or anyone over the age of 18, who has a disability, is presumed to be a "vulnerable adult." Abuse in its various forms can be the outcome of our own unfortunate circumstances or be perpetrated by others, including "trusted" family members or appointed custodians. The definition of abuse is: attempting to cause harm or intentionally and knowingly causing harm. Forms of abuse may be physical, emotional, sexual or the most common form, financial. Abuse of the vulnerable adult may also be manifested in neglect or abandonment and even healthcare fraud.

Katie reminded us that abuse occurs not only at the hands of those fostering their own self-interests but also by us, ourselves, when we fail to acknowledge that we may not always be able to care for our own needs and to plan for that eventuality. We may not, personally, realize we are "losing it" until it has happened and then must depend on others to recognize the signs and take appropriate action. Among telltale signs of self-neglect are: social isolation, over/under medication, malnourishment/dehydration, unkempt appearance, lack of usual assistive devices such as glasses, dentures, hearing aids, and failure to keep medical or social appointments. Abuse can occur in nursing homes and it behooves each of us to be aware should we find ourselves needing to choose or perhaps just visit a facility responsible for the care of a vulnerable adult. You may report suspicion of abuse, in confidence, to Debbie Booth at Adult Protective Services (800) 371-7897.

Parish Nursing, continued

To become more informed about the subject of Vulnerable Adult Abuse, Neglect or Exploitation, consult the definitions section of the Utah Human Services Code at: https://le.utah.gov/xcode/Title76/Chapter5/76-5-S111.html

Alicia Kitzman and Mitzi Rak

Prayer Chain

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

All prayers are important.

Deborah Stone

Senior Ministries

SOUP and FELLOWSHIP: Thirty-five of us celebrated the first day of spring with an Irish (Idaho) Baked Potato Bar with all the trimmings including green salads, green grapes, delicious mint brownies and a fun, enthusiastic audience who came to hear two fabulous speakers. Our congregation is blessed with the most amazing people and talent.

Susan Holecheck, one of our secretaries in the office, is a hidden treasure. Born in Tucson, graduate of a Dallas-based community college with a paralegal degree, she has worked in prestigious law firms in Dallas, particularly one dealing with the Dallas Cowboys, and San Francisco labor and employment firms where she was systems administrator and trainer. She married in San Francisco and moved in 2003 to Las Vegas, again employed by a law firm. Not liking Vegas, they moved to Mesquite. A city council seat was up for grabs. Some residents of Mesquite told Susan that, since was a woman, a non-Mormon and not a native of Nevada, she would not win. So she ran. And won. Two years later, she ran for mayor and won. A friend gave her a slogan to use for her campaign. (At the time, Mr. Nichols was mayor.) "Mesquite is entitled to more than a Nichols' worth. We deserve the HOLECHECK." During her administration, she prided herself in being able to reach across the aisle. She shared some of her stories during her administration. This woman is very spiritual, funny and bright. I think she is a sleeping giant. She is very involved in the hospice program at present. We need to hear more from her and we will.

Our second speaker was the electrifying Bill Cash (West) of 95.9 KZHK-FM (The Hawk) radio. He has a deep resonant bass radio voice. He co-hosts the "Rock n Roll Morning Show" with Colleen Rue every Monday through Friday from 6:00 to 10:00 am. As promised, he took us on a trip to the past, evoking memories attached to music. His passion for music was most obvious as he played many old tunes from the 60's, 70's and 80's, trying to stump us with naming artist and song as he gave the history of rock and roll going from acoustic to electric guitars, (remember "Stairway to Heaven"?), Led Zeppelin, Jimi Hendrix and others. He is a Santana, Who and Stones kind of guy. He doesn't like to play Pearl Jam or Metallica. He is a purist and rarely plays music that was popular after the 80s. He would have loved to be at Woodstock. Also he is Barbara West's son and she is proud of him.

Thank you Susan and Bill for entertaining us so splendidly.

I must thank my committee who made the salads and potato toppings and the delicious and plentiful brownies, cleaned up and set up. Shout out to David O'Donnell for his assistance with many tasks also. One of Jane O'Donnell's adages is "I would rather wear out than rust out". She was bouncing around the Soup and Fellowship meeting like the bunny she is.

CARD PARTY followed the lunch. We had three tables playing. I must warn all who are interested in playing that Mr. Jack Ewing is one sharp card player. He loves to play. And he will win. Challenger anyone?

Thanks again to the committee, Barbara West, Jane O'Donnell, Joyce Otness, Sherry Kretschmer with help from Marjorie Bayle and Louisa Estlack.

Judy Oar

Session News

Session held their regular monthly meeting on March 11th. Here is a synopsis of the actions:

- At a Called Session Meeting on February 25, 2018 received new members: Cheryl Mansfield, Edward Mansfield, Carol Somplatsky-Jarman, William Somplatsky-Jarman. Reinstated to active membership: Linda Alexander. Received into membership on 2-26-2018 at his home by Rev. Clingan and Ruth Ann Horvath (appointed commission): Peter Safreno.
- Approved one week of vacation, April 2-8, 2018 for Rev. Ralph Clingan.
- Approved to send a thank you letter to George Linden for two display boxes for the memorial garden gazebo and for installing hymnal holders in the choir pews.
- Approved to purchase three Oval Windows Induction Loop Receivers from Amazon Smile for a total of \$299.85 with funding to come from the Memorial Fund.
- Approved to submit to Presbytery a grant request for the Russia Mission Network Conference.

Ruth Ann Horvath, Clerk of Session

Soup Kitchen

Our church "crew" participates in the Soup Kitchen the first Monday of each month. During the month of March volunteers included Marge Linn, Ruth Ann Horvath, Janis Wick, Josie Kellejan, LaVerna Metzger, Rayanne Bartlett, Carol Somplatsky-Jarman, Brian Lusby and Patti Lusby. Serving over 100 hungry folks is always just as much a blessing to the volunteers as it is to those who enjoy their lunch. A tasty meal of sloppy joes, chips, coleslaw, fruit and dessert was served. Many positive comments were received – especially for our famous "Presbyterian" coleslaw. Questions about the Soup Kitchen experience? Contact Carolynn Thomas 435-817-8288.

Carolynn Thomas

Stewardship

The Treasurer's report from February 28th appears on page 2. We are happy to report that we have now reached our pledge goal for 2018. Thanks to everyone who made a pledge!

As was noted on the front page, April is the month where we ask all members of the congregation to make a donation to the church to cover their per capita assessment. Every person who donates to cover their per capita frees \$38.23 that we can use for other church programs.

Our second Building Fund campaign will end at the end of May. We'll be kicking off a new three-year campaign in June. Also in May we'll participate in the annual Pentecost Offering. Look for more information in the May newsletter.

Susan Holecheck

Worship & Music

The Worship and Music Committee had a busy month in March with the preparation for the special services held on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and most important, Easter Sunday. Much gratitude and appreciation goes to all who helped with organizing and preparing for those services! A big thank you goes to the members of the Bell and Chancel Choirs for their efforts. And, a special appreciation goes to our organists, Deborah Stone and Steve Talley, for their many hours of practicing to prepare for all worship services.

The Sanctuary Committee is responsible for lighting the candles before each service as well as collecting the attendance papers following the service. We especially appreciate all who usher every week and those who prepare the communion table. All of this is done with the leadership of our pastor, Rev. Ralph! If you are interested in helping with any of these jobs, please contact Mary Contreras

This is the time of year when we say "Good-bye" to our snow birds! We pray for their safe travels as they journey back to their homes and look forward to their return next year!

Wishing you well as we look forward to a bright and beautiful April!

With sincere appreciation, Barbara McConnell, Music Director

Lectionary Readings for April

| Sunday, April 1 Resurrection of the Lord / Easter | Easter Morning Acts 10:34–43 or Isaiah 25:6–9 Psalm 118:1–2, 14–24 Easter Evening Isaiah 25:6–9 | 1 Corinthians 15:1–11 or Acts 10:34–43 | John 20:1–18 or Mark 16:1–8 |
|--|---|---|--------------------------------|
| | Psalm 114 | 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8 | Luke 24:13–49 |
| Sunday, April 8 2nd Sunday of Easter | Acts 4:32–35 Psalm 133 | 1 John 1:1–2:2 | John 20:19–31 |
| Sunday, April 15 3rd Sunday of Easter | Acts 3:12–19 Psalm 4 | 1 John 3:1–7 | Luke 24:36b-48 |
| Sunday, April 22 4th Sunday of Easter | Acts 4:5–12 Psalm 23 | 1 John 3:16–24 | John 10:11–18 |
| Sunday, April 29 5th Sunday of Easter | Acts 8:26–40 Psalms 22:25–31 | 1 John 4:7–21 | John 15:1–8 |

Lectionary Readings for May

| Sunday, May 6 6th Sunday of Easter | Acts 10:44–48 Psalm 98 | 1 John 5:1–6 | John 15:9–17 |
|---|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Thursday, May 10 Ascension of the Lord | Acts 1:1–11 Psalm 47 or Psalm 93 | Ephesians 1:15–23 | Luke 24:44–53 |
| Sunday, May 13 7th Sunday of Easter | Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 Psalm 1 | 1 John 5:9–13 | John 17:6–19 |
| Sunday, May 20 Day of Pentecost | Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b | Romans 8:22–27 or Acts 2:1–21 | John 15:26–27; 16:4b–15 |
| Sunday, May 27 Trinity Sunday | Isaiah 6:1–8 Psalm 29 | Romans 8:12–17 | John 3:1–17 |

Wendy's Window



Greetings from the Arctic where I have been living since April 2016 and where the average April temperatures range between -7 degrees and 8 degrees. The good news is that the sun rose in mid-January and has been bathing us in bright, crisp and snowy days ever since.

God has blessed me in Utqiagvik (formerly Barrow), Alaska! I have spent the past two years employed by the North Slope Borough Health Department as a Public Health Nutritionist, volunteering in ministry at Utqiagvik Presbyterian Church and completing the PCUSA Ordination requirements. Needless to say, my schedule has been packed and very interesting.

In January, Utqiagvik Presbyterian Church called me as the Assistant Pastor of Children and Youth Ministry. My ordination as a Minister of the Word and Sacrament in the PCUSA will be at a service scheduled at Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church on May 13, 2018, at 4:00 pm followed by a buffet dinner in Conklin Hall. You are all cordially invited!!

Romans 8:28 comes to mind as I think about the past seven years. In the NRSV, the verse says "We know that all things work together for good to those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." Sometimes it is hard to believe, but we are truly blessed that God calls each one of us to share in God's work on this earth and that we are assured of the hope that "in the end" all things will be good.

I look forward to seeing you in May!!!

Wendy Christianson P.O. Box 634 Utqiagvik, Alaska 99723 wendyak2@yahoo.com 907-821-1316

| April, 2018 | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|----------|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| Resurrection Sunday Soup Kitchen Sunday 8:45 Prayer Service am 9:00 Adult Education am 10:30 Easter Worship am 11:45 Easter Brunch am 5:00 Bible Study pm @Rev. Ralph's | 2 1:00 Shawl Ministry pm | 3 11:00 Women's Bible Study am @ Egg & I 12:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal Noon 3:00 Exercise with Rev. pm Ralph | 11:00 Women's Bible Study am @Starbucks Cafe - Barnes & Noble 1:00 Stephen Ministry Supervision Group Meeting | 11:00 Men's Bible Study @ am Village Inn 3:00 Excreise with Rev. pm Ralph 3:45 Chancel Choir pm Rehearsal | 6 | 7 |
| 8:45 Prayer-Service am 9:00 Adult Education am with Gloria McGilloway 10:30 Communion am Worship – Dick Higgins preaching 11:45 Fellowship am 11:45 Blood Pressures Taken 5:00 Bible Study pm @Rev. Ralph's | 9 1:00 Shawl Ministry pm | 9:30 Calendar am Coordinating Council Meeting 11:00 Women's Bible Study am @ Egg & I 12:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal Noon 3:00 Exercise with Rev. pm Ralph | 9:00 CPR Refresher am – Course – Conklin 12:00 Hall Noon 11:00 Women's Bible am Study @ Starbucks Gafe – Barnes & Noble | 11:00 Men's Bible Study @ am Village Inn 3:00 Exercise with Rev. pm Ralph 3:45 Chancel Choir pm Rehearsal | 13 | 14 |
| 8:45 Prayer Service am 9:00 Adult Education am 10:30 Worship am 11:45 Fellowship am 12:00 Session Meeting Noon 5:00 Bible Study pm @Rev. Ralph's | 16 1:00 Shawl Ministry pm | 17 11:00 Women's Bible Study am @ Egg & I 12:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal Noon 3:00 Exercise with Rev. pm Ralph | 11:00 Women's Bible Study am @ Starbucks Cafe - Barnes & Noble 1:00 Senior Ministries pm Card Party – Conklin Hall | 11:00 Men's Bible Study @ am Village Inn 3:00 Exercise with Rev. pm Ralph 3:45 Chancel Choir pm Rehearsal | 20 | 21 |
| 8:45 Prayer Service am 9:00 Adult Education am 10:30 Worship am 11:45 Fellowship am 5:00 Bible Study pm @Rev. Raiph's | 23 Newsletter Deadline 1:00 Shawl Ministry pm | 24 11:00 Women's Bible Study am @ Egg & I 12:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal Noon 3:00 Exercise with Rev. pm Ralph | 25 11:00 Women's Bible study @ Starbucks Cafe Barnes & Noble 12:00 Brown Bag Noon Luncheon – Dr. David Grygla on "Who Is This Person and Where Is My Doctor?" 3:45 Chancel Choir pm Rehearsal | Parking Lot Closed for Sealing 11:00 Men's Bible Study @ am Village Inn 3:00 Exercise with Rev. pm Raiph 3:45 Chancel Choir pm Rehearsal | 27 Parking Lot Closed for Sealing | 28 |
| 8:45 Prayer Service am 9:00 Adult Education am 10:30 Worship am 11:45 Fellowship am 12:00 Worship Noon Committee Meeting 5:00 Bible Study pm @Rev. Ralph's | 30 1:00 Shawl Ministry pm | | | | | |

Rev. Ralph will be on vacation From April 2 through April 8. Please contact Dick Higgins (435-879-0253) or Anne Patten (773-4307) with any concerns.

Regularly Scheduled Activities

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

| Shawl Ministry | Monday | 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm | Conklin Hall |
|--------------------------|-----------|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Exercise with Rev. Ralph | Tuesday | 3:00 pm to 3:30 pm | Conklin Hall |
| | Thursday | 3:00 pm to 3:30 pm | Conklin Hall |
| Open Bible Study | Sunday | 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm | Rev. Ralph's Home |
| Women's Bible Studies | Tuesday | 11:00 am to 12:00 Noon | The Egg & I |
| | Wednesday | 11:00 am to 12:00 Noon | Starbuck's Café @ Barnes & Noble |
| Men's Bible Studies | Thursday | 11:00 am to 12:00 Noon | Village Inn |
| Choir Rehearsals | Tuesday | 12:00 Noon Bell Choir | Sanctuary |
| | Thursday | 3:45 pm Chancel Choir | Sanctuary |



Building Fund Update

As you all know, we have a mortgage payment of \$1,343.51 due each month. The mortgage has a principal of \$184,117 and a 15-year term which means that if it goes for its full term (although, with your help, we hope to pay it off early), we will pay a total of \$241,831.80. We also have a number of major maintenance items over the next several years, totaling more than \$100,000, that need to be funded in addition to paying off the mortgage, meaning we need to raise \$342,000.

Our first campgn produced \$101,226. Through December 24th we have received pledges towards our second campaign totaling **\$45,357** and additional cash donations of **\$42,489** for a total of **\$189,072** or about **55.3%** of our **\$342,000** goal.

If you have pledged to the building fund, thank you. If you have not yet made a pledge, please prayerfully consider how you can help us to pay off the mortgage early and have sufficient funds to perform needed maintenance and make other improvements in the future.

Church Contact Information

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|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Office Hours | Wed 9:00 am - 1:00 pm |
| | Fri 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm |
| Office Phone/Fax | 435-628-9158 |
| Office Email | office@gspcsg.org |
| Pastor's Office Hours | Mon to Thu – 9:00 am – 10:30 am |
| | 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm |
| Pastor's Cell | 435-705-1867 |
| Pastor's Email | pastor@gspcsg.org |
| Prayer Chain | Deborah Stone |
| - | 435-632-3160 |
| Website | www.gspcsg.org |
| Newsletter email | newsletter@gspcsg.org |
| Website / Newsletter Ed | itor Chris Schleter |

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Music Director

Info on Stephen Ministry

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

Barbara McConnell

www.stephenministries.org

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

Church Leadership 2018 Session Elders

Class of 2018 Ruth Ann Horvath 773-6790 Clerk of Session Gloria McGilloway 610-349-6045 Fellowship Judy Oar 702-241-6227 Senior Ministries 627-9048 Mission/Outreach Chris Schleter Class of 2019 Mary Contreras 673-9745 Worship Scott Florence 574-2383 Grounds Susan Holecheck 702-265-8666 Stewardship Class of 2020 Ed Haworth 707-888-2158 Christian Ed Dennis Peters 922-5525 Building

Deacons

773-4218 Growth

Arlene Prinselaar

| Parish | Deacon | Phone |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| Deacons | Virginia Hunt – Moderator | 714-955-1167 |
| Bloomington Hills | Sandy Paige | 703-9272 |
| Dixie Downs/Santa Clara | Shirley Fromknecht | 628-2381 |
| East Bloomington | Vicky Westland | 414-1960 |
| Green Valley | Adele Kinkel | 632-6347 |
| Hurricane | Josie Marsh | 435-772-1030 |
| Ivins | Althea Haworth | 805-888-9014 |
| Old St. George | Jeff Clingan | 705-8692 |
| Pine Valley | Susan Peters | 922-1326 |
| Red Cliffs | Mary Starrett | 627-0290 |
| Sun River | Candy Hurlbut | 879-9394 |
| Washington | Ka-Wai Yu | 812-340-2184 |

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