



Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church



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25TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

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Pastor

Amy Craig
Church Secretary
Newsletter Editor

Barbara McConnell
Music Director

Ruth Ann Horvath
Clerk of Session

Bob Routh
Head Usher

HAPPY 25TH ANNIVERSARY GOOD SHEPHERD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!

Believe it or not, Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church turns twenty-five on April 10th.

We will celebrate this milestone event on Sunday, April 14th, with a series of special events:

1. Our regular morning worship will be conducted by Rev. John Mahon, who served as the founding pastor for our church. Rev. Mahon and his wife Peggy are returning to Saint George to help us celebrate.
2. There will be a special anniversary service, with very special music, at 3:00 pm. Following the service, a reception will be held in the Fellowship Hall which will be dedicated and named Sara Louisa Conklin Fellowship Hall in honor of Miss Conklin, who served as a missionary in Saint George from 1913 until her death in 1949.
3. The time capsules buried when the CE building was completed will be opened.
4. A new time capsule will be filled and sealed, to be opened in 2038 on the 50th Anniversary of our founding. Send your suggestions for items to be included in the new time capsule to the church email at presch7@msn.com, or give them to Carolyn Jentzer, Chris Schleter, Amy Craig or Rev. Ralph.

You can help! Look for sign-up sheets for ushers, kitchen help, and help setting up for the celebration.

We hope all of you will be able to join us for this milestone event!

This issue of the newsletter is devoted to this once-in-a-lifetime event. In this issue you will find a brief history of the church, some historical information on Presbyterians in Utah, a short biography of Sarah Louisa Conklin and information on the time capsule we will seal, to be opened on the 50th Anniversary of the church in 2038.

Board of Trustees Adds Tenth Elder

At the March 12th Session meeting, the Board of Trustees voted to increase the number of Session Elders from nine to ten. The new elder will be responsible for Senior Ministries. Once the Nominating Committee comes forward with a nominee for this position, as well as for two additional Deacons, we will hold a congregational meeting to fill the positions.

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

Ann Hogan
Dee Stringham
Bob Prinselaar
Dottie Malcomson
Doris Campbell
Wendy Christianson as she studies for the ministry
Those Serving Our Country

Welcome New Members

Wanda Tighe
Kathie Greear

Deadline for May Newsletter

April 21, 2013

Worship Schedule

8:45 – 9:00 am
Service of Morning Prayer in Sanctuary

9:00 – 9:45 am
Adult Education Classes in CE Building

10:30 – 11:30 am
Traditional Worship in Sanctuary
(Childcare Provided)

11:45 am
Fellowship Time

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. I 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 March were:

Rev. Ralph	Philippians 3:4-10	Rejoice and Peace
Elder Ruth Ann Horvath	Proverbs 3:13-18	Seek Wisdom
Elder Catherine Overkamp	Luke 10:23-24	Seeing and sight
Elder Gay Cunningham	Colossians 4:2-6	Prayer, watchful thanks
Elder Amy Craig	Psalms 96:11-13	Righteousness and Joy
Elder Chris Schleiter	Colossians 3:12-17	Clothed in Humility
Elder James Horvath	1 Corinthians 1:26-31	Foolish become wise
Elder Mary Contreras	Philippians 2:1-5	Love and Fellowship
Elder Carolyn Jentzer	Romans 8:37-39	Conquer through God

Thanks to our Volunteers

	Flowers	Fellowship
April		
Apr 7	Bob & Lorna Hammond	Marge & Bill Lin
Apr 14	Shirley Koch	Session
Apr 21	Crystal Gortler	Bob & Dorothy McGrath
Apr 28	Paul & Charlotte Phipps / Laura Sanda	Doug & Pat Sater
May		
May 5	Roger & Alicia Kitzman	Available
May 12	Donna Baker	Fred Hampton & Dorothy Nichols
May 19	Barbara McConnell	Available
May 26	Dave & Anne Patten	Clingans

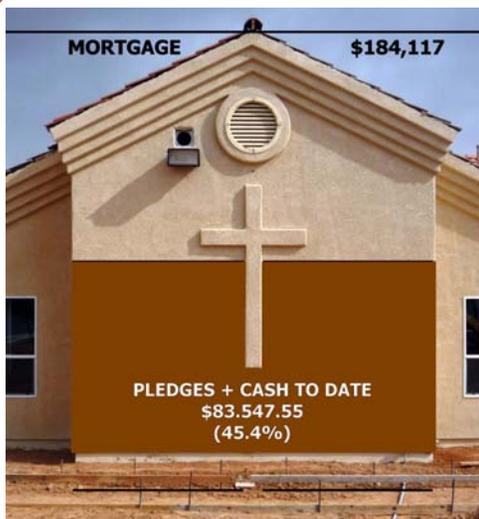
Signup on the boards between the narthex and the Fellowship Hall or on our Website gspscg.org

Building Fund Pledge Update

Now that the construction is complete, 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.

Through Palm Sunday, we had received pledges totaling \$65,456.00 and cash donations of \$18,091.55 towards retiring the mortgage. For those of you who may not know, our church has always retired our mortgages well before their final payment, saving many dollars in interest. Let's try to do the same this time.

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 and free funds to be used for additional improvements that we need to make.



Pastor's Page

"And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, 'Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them, and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.' And He who sits on the throne said, 'Behold, I am making all things new.' And He said, 'Write, for these words are faithful and true.' "

Rev. 21:3-5

Rev. Ralph's Food for Thought



Shortly upon my arrival at my second church in 1986, two years before the founding of Good Shepherd, I was informed that it was my new church's 175th anniversary and that it was up to me to lead the celebration. Two thoughts immediately occurred to me: one, somehow this was never mentioned during the interview process and, two, is it too late to decline? Fortunately for me it was. The 175th anniversary year, thankfully, was a fun time of celebration and remembrance.

What is so different for me in the celebration of Good Shepherd's 25th anniversary is that unlike my former congregation where the patriarchs and matriarchs were long gone, in our case a number of our founding Fathers and Mothers are still with us. How wonderful!

Yet in our plans for this celebration we are, as well, remembering our first roots in the old Presbyterian Mission of the 1880s to 1949 and the legendary Lone Missionary, Sarah Louisa Conklin. Miss Louisa, as she was known, served alone for a large part of her ministry in Southern Utah from 1913 until her passing in 1949 as

an ambassador for Christ, teaching Kindergarten and serving with the local Relief Societies. There are to this day some of her former students who remember her with great affection.

I am reminded of the words and vision from Revelation that as we remember God's presence in days gone by we look ahead to the one who makes all things new, the living Christ who continues to call us into the future as a church family, a family of faith, Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church.

Congratulations to us all! Happy Anniversary!

In Christ,

Rev. Ralph

Pastors of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church



Rev. John Mahon



Rev. Arthur Bell



Rev. Jeff Baxter



Rev. Ralph Clingan

Not Pictured: Rev. Jim Jensen, Rev. David Crockett

****Pastor 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 in regards to 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.

Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church 25 Years of Serving the Saint George Community

In 1985 the idea of a Presbyterian Church in St. George was only a dream. Previously, from 1880 to 1949, Presbyterians had a presence in town. However, with the death of the mission teacher, Sara Louisa Conklin in 1949, it seemed that Presbyterian work in the area had ended. A small chapel, constructed in 1901, was sold to the Roman Catholics in the 1950's. However, by 1985, the area was beginning to diversify and change. In that year, the Presbytery of Utah, under the direction of the Reverend Robert Rigstad, surveyed the area. They found that out of 326 homes surveyed, 19 were interested in the possibility of a Presbyterian church.

A committee was organized in 1986 to propose a grant for a new church development in St. George and to call a pastor. This committee was composed of Deanna Cottam, Jennifer Jack, Janice Klein, Wilma Luke, Tom Noble, Virginia White, and Roger Hansen, chairperson. They met in the home of Roger and Katy Hansen. They advertised in the newspaper for anyone interested in a Presbyterian church. Nearly a hundred people showed up at the first potluck picnic in Worthen Park! As a result, several more monthly potlucks were planned to be held in the St. George Senior Citizens Center. The committee envisioned a church of 300!



Potluck Dinner

The Reverend Dr. John R Mahon, then pastor of The Presbyterian Church in Clatskanie, Oregon, was called to be the organizing pastor of the new church by the committee and Utah Presbytery in January of 1987. Dr. Mahon, a native of New Jersey and a graduate of Occidental College and the School of Theology at Claremont, had previously served as a chaplain in St. Joseph Hospital in Orange, California, and as a pastor in the Geneva Presbyterian Church in Modesto, California. He arrived in St. George in March, 1987.



Worship at the Senior Citizens Center

The Pastor Nominating Committee became the steering committee for the new church. The first worship service, planned by the committee, was held in the St. George Senior Citizens Center on April 5th. The following Thursday, the new church began volunteer service at the Dixie Care & Share Food Bank. A newsletter was started. The first Vacation Bible School opened that July in cooperation with the Community Baptist Church with 26 students and a staff of 15. In September, a choir debuted under the direction of Katy Hansen and accompanied by Frances Ming. Also that September, the first Sunday School opened with 31 students, 10 adults, and a staff of 15. In November the women of the church held the first bazaar. Presbyterian Men was organized in 1991 with William

Rutherford as coordinator. A bridge group was organized in 1992 by Dena Archer. Over the years, the fellowship of the church has been enriched by musical concerts, art fairs, and poetry readings.

Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church was officially chartered on April 10, 1988. The church welcomed 113 members on that night.

More than time and talent are needed to start a new church. Dollars are also needed. For the first four years, mission dollars from the national Presbyterian Church and Utah Presbytery were provided to get the new church started. Several congregations donated things like communion ware, hymnals, choir robes and nursery furniture. The Community Baptist Church in St. George donated \$1,000 to the Building Fund! Tom Noble was the first treasurer in 1987, and continues to serve in that role today. Good Shepherd became self-supporting in 1991!

Plans were begun to construct a building for the Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church in 1988. A Building Committee was formed and after several months of work, a design created by Paul Rauch was unveiled. A Building Fund campaign was organized in 1989 with a goal of raising \$100,000 towards construction of a \$350,000 building.

Ground was broken on June 10, 1990 on four acres at 611 North 2450 East, purchased three years earlier by the Utah Presbytery for approximately \$140,000. In December of that year, the congregation said goodbye to the Senior Citizens Center where they had been meeting for the previous four years, and moved into their new building which was financed through the national Presbyterian Church. On January 20, 1991, the new building was dedicated. Patricia Moore designed the Good Shepherd stained glass; Gary Morgan was the craftsman. An open house was held for the community, and Elder Bruce Stucki from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints gave a special prayer. The City of St. George presented the new building with the Mayor's (Karl Brooks) Award for Excellence.



With the opening of a new building, Good Shepherd grew by leaps and bounds. A second Sunday worship service was added in the Fall of 1991, and the congregation was divided into geographical parishes to foster closer fellowship. Paid, part-time staff soon followed to handle the new mid-sized congregation. Dr. Ronald Garner, professor of music at Dixie College, became choir director in 1992; Helen Pearson, church secretary in 1992, followed by Shirley Seefeld in 1994; and Sandy Safford, Director of Ministries in 1996.



Landscapers at Work

Improvements to the building and grounds have been made throughout the years. Original landscaping was all done by volunteer labor from the congregation. A memorial garden with a gazebo of the original steeple of the 1901 St. George Presbyterian Church was created in 1993. Six stained glass windows for the sanctuary were added in 1994; Pat Moore was the designer, Jim Summers, Bob Routh, and Jan Thompson were the crafts people. A second building campaign to retire the mortgage was started in 1992. The three year campaign was successful and the debt was retired. The mortgage was burned at the annual meeting in 1996, fifteen years ahead of schedule!

The church eventually outgrew the original sanctuary and, in 1999, the congregation decided to add additional space in the sanctuary and a Christian Education building in the back yard. The new building was dedicated on January 9, 2000. In keeping with the tradition, the loan for the construction was paid off years ahead of schedule.

Over the years, the congregation also outgrew the Fellowship Hall, which was originally designed with room dividers to facilitate its use as a Christian Education space. In 2012, the congregation voted to renovate and expand the Fellowship Hall, replace the original heating and cooling systems and add a new entrance to the narthex on the west side of the building. Construction began in the fall of 2012 and was completed in early March of 2013. Once again, the church has a mortgage and the hope is to pay it off early, as we have all of our previous mortgages.



Rev. John Mahon

As noted earlier, Rev. John Mahon was called as the Founding Pastor of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church in May of 1988. He served as our Pastor for more than twelve years until his departure in August of 2000. Paul Noble and Ed Kicklighter served as Parish Associates during his tenure and Rev. Harold Wylie replaced Ed Kicklighter in 1993. Rev. Wylie continues to serve as Parish Associate today.

After the departure of Rev. Mahon, two interim ministers, Arthur Bell and Jim Jensen served until 2001 when Jeff Baxter was installed as the second pastor of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church. When Rev. Baxter left in 2003, David Crockett served as interim minister as the church searched for a new Pastor.

On November 1, 2005, Rev. Ralph Clingan was called as the third Pastor of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church. He continues in that role today. Combining a keen sense of humor with an intimate knowledge of and outstanding ability to teach scripture, Rev. Ralph, as he is known to the congregation, leads one of the strongest churches in the Presbytery of Utah. In addition to his ministry and teaching, he also leads a twice-weekly exercise (torture?) session for our members. He is truly a blessing for our Congregation!



Rev. Ralph Clingan

Worship is the first distinguishing mark of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church. Quality music has been and is one of its chief features. A handbell choir was organized by Dena Archer and debuted in 1994. Banners made their first appearance in 1995.



Sunday School 1991

Education is the second distinguishing mark of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church. Kay Small got the nursery off the ground in 1987. The first VBS staff included not only members of our congregation but, also, several ladies from the Community Baptist Church. Youth Fellowship and Confirmation Class began in 1989. The first Youth Sex Education class was held in 1988 with Dr. Vici Noble. Adult studies began in 1987; and the first Living in Utah class was held in 1988. A church library, organized by Carol Hanson and a group of ladies, debuted in 1992. Sandy Safford initiated

Children's Worship Bulletins in 1996 and Children's Discovery Time and a Computer Lab in 1997. We continue to hold well-attended children's workshops today, even though the congregation includes very few children.

Community service is the third distinguishing mark of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church. It began the same week as the first worship service with service at the Dixie Care & Share Food Bank. The Women's Inter-Faith League was begun in 1987 by Peggy Mahon who served as its first president, and Inter-Faith Boy Scout Troop #509 started in 1987 with John Mahon as Scoutmaster. Doris Moffitt served as a Volunteer in Mission at Sheldon Jackson College in Sitka, Alaska in 1991. The Youth constructed a Nature Trail to benefit Dixie College in 1992. Through the years, other projects in St. George have been added: Meals on Wheels (1992), Dove Center Women's Shelter (1993), Native American Tutoring (1994), Lights for Life (Dixie Health Care Foundation - 1994) as well as the Children's Justice Center and Habitat for Humanity.



Chancel Choir at Church Dedication

Youth Fellowship and Confirmation Class began in 1989. The first Youth Sex Education class was held in 1988 with Dr. Vici Noble. Adult studies began in 1987; and the first Living in Utah class was held in 1988. A church library, organized by Carol Hanson and a group of ladies, debuted in 1992. Sandy Safford initiated



Service at Dixie Care and Share

The Utah Statehood Centennial was celebrated in 1996 and Good Shepherd participated in two important ways. First, a bell, donated by Richard and Betty Smith, was hoisted and placed in the Bell Tower. When Utah became a state in 1896, the Presbyterian church bell and the Tabernacle bell rang in tandem for several hours; in 1996 this was recreated with other churches for several minutes. Secondly, the Chancel and Handbell Choirs performed at the Washington County Celebration for the Utah Statehood Centennial in the Dixie Center.

The story of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church is a story of people. Only some of the people and leaders involved are mentioned here. Actually, it would take reams to name them all. By the tenth anniversary of the founding of the church, 501 persons had been members of the congregation. On this twenty-fifth anniversary, the number is well over 700. Today, Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church's active members number over 200 with 19 of them from the original chartering. Called by Christ, they have formed a community of the love of God. They have sought to follow Christ, be an open and accepting community that shares a reasoned faith, a fellowship a person can call home, ecumenical in outlook, and a representative of Christ in the community.



The Bell is Installed



Banner Makers at Work



PW Rummage Sale

Presbyterians in Southern Utah

St. George was and continues to be a Mormon town. It was settled in 1861 by Mormon pioneers who came to build their church and a city on the edge of the desert.

However not all pioneer residents in Southern Utah were Mormon. Despite the fact that almost all of the original settlers in St. George were members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints, there were a few outsiders who came to live among them – namely the Presbyterians.

Presbyterians, a group of Protestant Christians who organize themselves around elders, came to Utah in 1869 to build a mission church in the railroad town of Corrine. They opened several churches and schools throughout the state. In 1880, they opened a mission in St. George.

The Rev. A.B. Cort was sent by the Presbyterian mission board from Chicago to St. George to build a church. He was not well received. Antagonistic feelings against outsiders were running high in the community due to the Federal pressure against polygamy in the LDS church. During the 1880s, Federal marshals put the St. George LDS Temple under surveillance to discourage the practice.

Journals reveal that Cort was shunned by the community. Denied room and board by most of the people, Cort finally found a room where he could fix his own meals. He found no place in town to use as a meeting hall, but was able to secure a piece of property on the edge of town where he started a school, placing Anna Stevenson in charge.

Since there was no public education in Utah at the time, Presbyterians, under the leadership of Rev. Duncan McMillan, created a system of mission schools to provide free education and to teach religion. These schools were staffed by women sent as missionaries to Utah. St. George, under the leadership of Stevenson, was home to one of these schools. Cort established additional schools in the surrounding area in the former home of John D. Lee in Washington, Utah, with Virginia Dickey the teacher, and in Toquerville, Utah, where Fannie Burke was the teacher.

While Mormons were officially forbidden to attend these schools, the school in St. George soon had an enrollment of 14 and in Toquerville, a dozen. Sometimes there were no students in school and, as Burke – who served for more than 14 years – described it, if the people would not come to her, she went to them – in visitation, in loaning good literature, in nursing the sick, in instructing how to can, make pickles and sew.

Cort also started a mission church in Silver Reef, a nearby mining town. In 1881, Rev. E.N. Murphy came to Silver Reef as the resident minister. Services were held in the Citizens Hall on Saturday. The Silver Reef Miner, the local newspaper, reported attendance was very large, with some services having standing-room only.

All was not doom and gloom for Cort. It was reported that many a night his deep voice could be heard singing the hymns he loved. He married Stevenson and they had several children while living in St. George.

The Blackburns were followed in 1891 by Catherine Watt, who had been a missionary in Africa.

In 1893, Rev. Galen Hardy came to St. George with his wife. They enrolled 70 pupils in the school and more than 100 attended Sunday services. However, attendance continued to be sporadic. Dixie's wine was legendary for its potency and alcohol abuse was reported to be prevalent in the community, especially among young boys. The Hardys' ministry ceased in St. George with his death in 1898.

During this period, Utah became a state in 1896. This marked the beginning of a change in relations between Mormons and outsiders. A symbol of this change can be seen in a report that on January 6 of that year, the Presbyterian mission bell, which stood in front of the mission – and later in the church – and upon which were inscribed the words, "Christ, the way, the truth and the life," rang in tandem with the Tabernacle bell for two and a half hours. Several years later, after Hardy's death, his successor, the Rev. G.M. Kilpatrick, gave the opening prayer for the July 4th program in the St. George LDS Tabernacle.



St. George Presbyterian Church 1901

In 1901, Presbyterians dedicated their first church building in St. George. It served the Presbyterian church until it was sold to the Catholic archdiocese in the 1950s. It served as a Roman Catholic church until its demolition in 1990.

By 1908, when the Rev. Clayton Rice came to St. George, things had changed somewhat. Rice had come to Dixie fresh out of seminary in Princeton and he discovered a country he never knew existed. He fell in love with the desert and with the people who lived there. He directed community plays, trained debaters, taught violin and coached and played baseball. In fact, one year he was the only outsider on the town team when they played a group of non-Mormon oil riggers from the area. The Mormons won thanks to several hits from their Presbyterian minister.

Toward the end of Rice's tenure, a new mission teacher, named Miss Watson, had come to St. George. Unfortunately, not much is known about her or the times in St. George for Presbyterians until 1913. On January 18, 1913, Sarah Louisa Conklin came to town. She had served the Presbyterian Church previously in New Mexico, Cuba and Arizona. After arriving, she never left St. George.

Miss Conklin officially retired from missionary service in 1933. She remained, however, in St. George, doing what she had always done. She died in 1949.

The old church remained vacant. A small Protestant congregation arose and attempted to buy it. However, after years of frustration, the Presbyterian Church concluded that no Protestant church was viable in St. George and sold the building to the Roman Catholics.

In the 1980's, St. George's population began to grow and diversify. Roger and Katy Hansen, retired Presbyterian missionaries from Wasatch Academy, moved to St. George. They felt the need for a Presbyterian church and invited several others to meet with them in their home to discuss the possibility. With the aid of the Presbytery of Utah, under the leadership of the Rev. Robert Rigstad, a survey was taken in the community. It revealed only one person in 300 was interested in such a church. However, it did reveal a significant number of people would welcome a church more in keeping with their religious traditions. The preparation work for a new church continued with the approval of the statewide coalition of six Protestant denominations.

In January, 1987, the Rev. John Mahon, who had been serving in Oregon, was called by the Presbytery of Utah to organize a Presbyterian church in St. George. He arrived in March to find a group of 80 people interested in such a possibility. Worship opened on April 8, 1987, in the St. George Senior Citizens Center. A year later, on April 10, the congregation was chartered on the same site with more than 100 members. Ironically, that site, the Senior Center, was the original West Side Chapel, which hosted Sara Louisa Conklin's funeral.

On June 10, 1990, church members young and old broke ground for a church home on the new edge of town. The building, housing a sanctuary, offices and a fellowship hall was dedicated on January 20, 1991. By 1993, Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church boasted more than 260 members. Hanging in the narthex is a picture of Sarah Louisa Conklin.

From Strangers in Zion by Rev. John Mahon, The Spectrum, Sunday May 29, 1994

Fellowship Hall to be Dedicated to Sarah Louisa Conklin



Sarah Louisa Conklin
1865-1949

On April 14th, we will dedicate the new, expanded, Fellowship Hall to the memory of Sarah Louisa Conklin, the beloved Presbyterian missionary from the first half of the 20th Century. From that date onward, the room will be named the Sarah Louisa Conklin Fellowship Hall

Miss Louisa, as she was known, was born in Cold Spring Harbor, New York, on March 1, 1865. She was the fourth child of Jonathan and Margaret Conklin.

She served numerous missions before coming to St. George. Her first appointment was as a teacher in a mission station among the Spanish speaking people at El Rita, New Mexico in 1901. She had applied for service in South America where she could make use of her knowledge of Spanish. In 1904, she was transferred to Havana, Cuba, where she remained for four years.



Sarah Louisa Conklin with her pupils

She wrote about her experiences in Cuba to the Home Mission Monthly in 1905:

There is not much to say about the need in all localities in Havana and in all kinds of missionary work; in the section where I conducted my school, earlier in the year, it is equal to any slum work, except that one escapes the suffering from the cold and the dark, damp basement rooms. . . . The highest aim of many girls is to divert themselves. Of course, this is the result of centuries of just such living. There are exceptions to this, and there are some sensible, deep thinking girls. Until the Americans came down it was a disgrace for a girl to do any kind of work; they are gradually coming to see the folly of this, but many adhere to the old traditions.

In 1910, she was sent to Ganado, Arizona, for service on the Navajo reservation – her first missionary experience with non-Spanish speaking people.

She came to St. George in January, 1913, as a Presbyterian school teacher and became a legend. In addition to teaching large classes, she joined the Mormon community by working with Mormon Relief Society sisters to help the sick and sorrowing. She was described by her contemporaries as having a jovial disposition and ready wit that brought happiness and comfort to all with whom she came in contact.

In 1921, she wrote a letter to the Home Mission Monthly in which she talked about her ministry and experiences in St. George:

As there is only one worker outside the Mormon church in our whole county, all non-Mormon religious instruction falls to that one. The high cost of travel as well as the length of time consumed in going and coming, makes frequent trips to St. George in southern Utah by ministers from other fields impossible, and it is nearly a year since our last sermon, but we hold a service every Sabbath evening and Sabbath school in the afternoon with varying attendance.

Our morning class for small children is somewhat on the order of the Daily Vacation Bible School held in many places during the summer, but held here during the school year, since excessive heat makes it inadvisable in the summer...The effects of filling young minds with the pure word of God has been marked in some cases. One man of influence in the town publicly commended the teaching because of the effect on his own children. When one of them at table told something obviously untrue, his little sister looked at him in surprise and exclaimed, "That is bearing false witness". We had just been studying the ninth commandment. Particular attention has been paid to the Ten Commandments, and the Beatitudes, especially [sic] the one in regard to the pure in heart.

In 1932, writing in Women and Missions, she commented on how her work affected the Mormon community:

There has always been a dearth of good reading matter among these people, and the periodicals given out in the Sunday school are very much appreciated. The Bible was not read very much in the early days, but now many are reading and profiting by the reading of the word. The children are largely responsible for this. They recite the verses that they learn at school, and that interests the parents, and gets them to reading other parts. Even the most fanatical relatives are delighted to hear the children recite the verses they have committed to memory.

Life in St. George and her work was obviously a challenge for this remarkable woman and her standing in the community was greater than any non-Mormon missionary who had preceded her.

After retiring from missionary service in 1933, Miss Louisa remained in St. George doing what she had always done in the community – teaching and spreading the word of God. She died in 1949. Her body was viewed, in accordance with local tradition, in the Presbyterian church but, because the old St. George Presbyterian Church was too small for all of her mourners, her funeral was held in the Westside Mormon chapel with James Andrus, a Mormon bishop who regarded her as an angel of mercy, presiding. She is buried in the St. George Cemetery.

Time Capsules – Old and New

In 2000, as a part of the ribbon cutting ceremony for the CE Building, two time capsules were buried: one by the youth of the church and one by the adult members. On April 14, we will open those capsules and see what our "forebearers" wanted us to know about them.

In honor of our 25th Anniversary, we will be sealing a new time capsule, to be opened on the 50th Anniversary in 2038. The new capsule will not be buried but will be displayed in the glass display case in the CE Building.

What do we want the members of the congregation in 2038 to know about us and what we were doing this year?

The container for the time capsule will be in the narthex on April 7th and at the morning service on April 14th. If you have any items you would like to have included, please feel free to drop them in the container after church. If you have any suggestions for items to be included, please see Amy Craig, Chris Schleiter or Carolyn Jentzer.

Greetings From Rev. John Mahon, Founding Pastor, Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church

To the Congregation of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church, Congratulations!

Best wishes on the 25th Anniversary of the church. It is hard for me to believe that it was twenty-five years ago that you began. It seems like only yesterday when I met with the members of the search committee of Utah Presbytery to talk about coming to St. George and starting a Presbyterian church in St. George.

God blessed that start and continues to bless you. I look forward to being with you at your celebration on April 14th.

John Mahon

Greetings From Rev. Laura Stellmon Executive Presbyter, Presbytery of Utah

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

I give thanks to Almighty God for each and every one of you. It is with great joy that I bring congratulations and greetings to you on behalf of the Presbytery of Utah as Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church celebrates its 25th anniversary, and on the completion of the newly renovated Sarah Louisa Conklin Fellowship Hall. Following in the footsteps of dedicated mission workers who came here generations ago, your faithful service these past 25 years has helped ensure that the Gospel of Jesus Christ has been proclaimed in word and deed in St. George and the surrounding area. Your continuing faithfulness will enliven the work and mission of Christ in your community for many years to come!

I offer up my most sincere prayer at this time that your congregation will remain a vibrant witness, enjoying an ever-widening circle of influence as you bring the truth and mercy of Jesus Christ to bear in your work with your neighbors and friends. As you have been a blessing to so many in this community for the sake of the Gospel, may God's blessings rest securely upon you as well!

In Christ's service,
Rev. Laura Stellmon
Executive Presbyter
Presbytery of Utah

Easter Lilies Given by Congregation

Jan Dunham	Flowers on cross in memory of husband Don Dunham
Carl & Donna Beasley	In memory of George M. Govern
Rev. Dr. Ralph & Cindy Clingan	In memory of Rev. Robert L & Marjorie Clingan & Ruthe Clingan, Tracey Allen / In honor of Jed & Nancy Allen
Gay Cunningham	In memory of Gary Cunningham & Melvin Burnett
Kathie Greear	In memory of Irene Fogg & Dianne Jordan
Carolyn Jentzer	In memory of my mother, Virginia Morse
Alicia & Roger Kitzman	In memory of loved ones
Shirley Koch	In memory of our daughter Sue Ellen Koch Painter
Barbara McConnell	In memory of Richard & Devin McConnell (husband and son)
Dennis Nichols	In memory of Kathy Nichols
Joyce Otness	In memory of John Otness
Paul & Charlotte Phipps & Laura Sanda	In memory of The Rev. Dr. & Mrs. Charles E. Kirsch, Elma R. Phipps & Francis H. Phipps
Fae Reigle	In memory of husband Wes
Doug & Pat Sater	In memory of Kermit & Margaret Afner
James R. & LaVerne Summers	In memory of Lorimer & Vera Fischer & Chessman & Pauline Summers

APRIL 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 1:00 Shawl Ministry pm	2 4:00 Bell Choir pm	3	4 3:45 Chancel Choir pm	5	6 9:00 am PW Rummage to Sale 2:00 pm
7 Dixie Care & Share 9:00 Adult Education am (Rev. Wylie's Class, only) 10:30 Worship am 11:45 Fellowship am	8 1:00 Shawl Ministry pm	9 9:30 Staff Meeting am 11:00 Women's Bible Study am @ Egg & I 3:00 Exercise Class pm 4:00 Bell Choir pm 5:15 Session Meeting pm	10 11:00 Women's Bible Study am @ Promenade Bakery 1:00 Stephen Ministry pm Supervision Group Meeting	11 11:00 Men's Bible Study @ am Cracker Barrel 3:00 Exercise Class pm 3:45 Chancel Choir pm	12 7:45 Men's Bible Study @ am Bishop's 10:00 Stephen Ministry am Supervision Group Meeting	13
14 25th Anniversary Celebration 10:30 Worship – Rev. John am Mahon preaching 11:45 Fellowship am 11:45 Blood Pressures am Taken 3:00 25 th Anniversary pm Service and Reception	15 1:00 Shawl Ministry pm	16 11:00 Women's Bible Study am @ Egg & I 3:00 Exercise Class pm 4:00 Bell Choir pm	17 11:00 Women's Bible Study am @ Promenade Bakery	18 11:00 Men's Bible Study @ am Cracker Barrel 3:00 Exercise Class pm 3:45 Chancel Choir pm	19 7:45 Men's Bible Study @ am Bishop's	20
21 8:45 Prayer Service am 9:00 Adult Education am 10:30 Worship am 11:45 Fellowship – am Farewell to Don & Pat Bachman 5:00 Bible Study pm @Clingan's Home	22 1:00 Shawl Ministry pm	23 11:00 Women's Bible Study am @ Egg & I 3:00 Exercise Class pm 4:00 Bell Choir pm	24 11:00 Women's Bible Study am @ Promenade Bakery 12:00 Brown Bag Lunch – Noon Robin Jensen on Arthritis, Exercise & Mobility	25 11:00 Men's Bible Study @ am Cracker Barrel 3:00 Exercise Class pm 3:45 Chancel Choir pm	26 7:45 Men's Bible Study @ am Bishop's	27 4:00 Spring Gathering of pm the New River Fellowship @ Good Shepherd
28 8:45 Prayer Service am 9:00 Adult Education am 10:30 Worship am 11:45 Fellowship am 5:00 Bible Study pm @Clingan's Home	29 1:00 Shawl Ministry pm	30 11:00 Women's Bible Study am @ Egg & I 3:00 Exercise Class pm 4:00 Bell Choir pm				

Rev. Ralph will be on vacation from April 1 through April 7.
Please contact Rev. Harold Wylie (628-2057) with any concerns

Lectionary Readings for April

Date	Reading 1	Reading 2	Reading 3
Sunday, April 7 Second Sunday of Easter	Acts 5:27-32 Psalm 118:14-29 or Psalm 150	Revelation 1:4-8	John 20:19-31
Sunday, April 14 Third Sunday of Easter	Acts 9:1-6 [7-20] Psalm 30	Revelation 5:11-14	John 21:1-19
Sunday, April 21 Fourth Sunday of Easter	Acts 9:36-43 Psalm 23	Revelation 7:9-17	John 10:22-30
Sunday, April 28 Fifth Sunday of Easter	Acts 11:1-18 Psalm 148	Revelation 21:1-6	John 13:31-35

Lectionary Readings for May

Date	Reading 1	Reading 2	Reading 3
Sunday, May 5 Sixth Sunday of Easter	Acts 16:9-15 Psalm 67	Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5	John 14:23-29 or John 5:1-9
Thursday, May 9 Ascension of the Lord	Acts 1:1-11 Psalm 47 or Psalm 93	Ephesians 1:15-23	Luke 24:44-53
Sunday, May 12 Seventh Sunday of Easter	Acts 16:16-34 Psalm 97	Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21	John 17:20-26
Sunday, May 19 Day of Pentecost	Acts 2:1-21 or Genesis 11:1-9 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b	Romans 8:14-17 or Acts 2:1-21	John 14:8-17 [25-27]
Sunday, May 26 Trinity Sunday	Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 Psalm 8	Romans 5:1-5	John 16:12-15

Congregation News

Advent Trip to Israel in 2013

New Promise Lutheran Church, Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church and Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church are planning a joint trip to Israel during next year's Advent season, December 2 to December 10, 2013. Informational meetings were held in October and flyers are available in the Narthex and in the CE Building. This should prove to be an excellent experience and opportunity to visit the land of our Savior's birth, life, death, and resurrection during the time of year His birth is being celebrated.

Help us say "Farewell" to Don and Pat Bachman



Be sure to join us on April 21 during the fellowship hour as we say goodbye to Don and Pat Bachman who will be moving to Pennsylvania to be nearer to their family. We will be presenting Don and Pat with a large "going away" card. The card will be in the narthex on April 7 and 14 and we hope that everyone in the congregation will sign it. We will certainly miss Don and Pat, wish them well in their new home and hope that they will come back to visit often!

Children's Spring Workshop

We are planning a Children's Spring Workshop on April 27 in the CE Building. Miss Charlotte will take the 3 to 5 year olds and Miss Cathy and Miss Ruth Ann will be heading up the rest of the group.

We will have lots of activities for the children as well as a Song Fest, which the children really enjoy.

Virgin River Presbyterian Fellowship Music Fest

The Virgin River Presbyterian Fellowship will gather in the newly-dedicated Sarah Louisa Conklin Fellowship Hall on April 27 for an afternoon of music and fellowship and a light supper. We hope everyone can join us.

Local Hospice Group Needs Volunteers

A local hospice group is looking for volunteers. Anyone interested in helping contact Rev. Ralph.



Rose Garden in the snow



Vacation Bible School 1990



Souper Bowl of Caring Luncheon 2007

Regularly Scheduled Activities

1st Sunday of Month	Dixie Care & Share - contributions of money & food.	
Shawl Ministry		
Monday	1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	
Exercise with Rev. Ralph		
Tuesday	3:00 pm to 3:30 pm	
Thursday	3:00 pm to 3:30 pm	
Woman's Bible Studies		
Tuesday	11:00 am to 12:00 Noon	The Egg & I
Wednesday	11:00 am to 12:00 Noon	Paradise Bakery @Promenade Mall
Men's Bible Studies		
Thursday	11:00 am to 12:00 Noon	The Cracker Barrel Restaurant
Friday	7:45 am to 8:45 am	Bishop's
Choir Practices		
Tuesday	4:00 pm	Bell Choir
Thursday	3:45 pm	Chancel Choir

Treasurer's Report

As of February 28, 2013

General Fund Receipts:	\$ 16,259.82	Building Fund Cash:	\$ 86,823.13	Memorial Fund Balance:	\$ 881.83
General Fund Expenditures:	\$ 16,121.65	Loan Balance:	\$ 184,117.00	Capital Fund Balance	\$ 27,445.95
General Fund Balance:	\$ 16,720.94	Net Building Fund:	\$ (97,293.87)		



Church Contact Information

Office Hours	Secretary in Tue/Thu 9:00 am to Noon
Office Phone/Fax	435-628-9158
Office email	presch7@msn.com
Pastor's Office Hours	Mon-Thu 9:00 am - 11:00 am 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Pastor's Cell	435-705-1867
Pastor's email	RevRalph1@msn.com
Prayer Chain	Louise Routh 435-628-7725
Website	www.gspcsg.org
Website Editor	Chris Schleter
Newsletter Editor	Amy Craig
Newsletter email	badger55@infowest.com
Music Director	Barbara McConnell
Info on Stephen Ministry	www.stephenministries.org

Church Leadership 2013

Elders:

Class of 2014	Wayne Bartlett	673-6657	Grounds
	Amy Craig	592-0246	Stewardship
	Cathy Overkamp	703-8257	Christian Ed
Class of 2015	Mary Contreras	673-9745	Worship
	Gay Cunningham	652-3652	Growth
	Jim Horvath	773-6790	Facilities
Class of 2016	Ruth Ann Horvath	773-6790	Clerk of Session
	Carolyn Jentzer	673-0442	Fellowship
	Chris Schleter	627-9048	Mission/Outreach

Deacons:

Moderator	Tineke Ingold
Class of 2014	Ron Smith, Molly Bass, Doris Thomas
Class of 2015	Tineke Ingold, Dottie Malcolmson, Judy Stringham
Class of 2016	Don Fennell, Shirley Fennell, Fred Hampton, Jan Hirschi, Janice Klein, Bob Morgan, Evelyn Morgan



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