



Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church

A Stephen Ministry Congregation
A Member of the Virgin River Presbyterian Fellowship
Serving Southern Utah since 1988



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Church Staff

The Rev. Dr. Ralph Clingan
Pastor

Dick Higgins
Visitation Pastor

Ruth Ann Horvath
Clerk of Session

Amy Craig
Church Secretary
Newsletter

Barbara McConnell
Music Director

Fred Hampton
Organist

Bob Routh
Head Usher

Louise Routh
Prayer Chain

Chris Schleiter
Website Editor

Rev. Ralph to Take Sabbatical Leave in 2016

Our Presbytery's Policy manual states: "The Presbytery of Utah recommends to the sessions of its churches that Ministers of the Word and Sacrament be granted a compensated sabbatical of at least three months in the seventh year of ministry to an individual church.

A sabbatical enables the Minister of the Word and Sacrament to be renewed through the vital pursuit of continuing education, extended time spent in spiritual formation, and fresh mentoring by respected teachers. A sabbatical enables a pastor to return to the responsibilities of the church with new energy, spiritual vision, and effectiveness."

Having just entered my eleventh year of serving our congregation as your pastor you can see my sabbatical leave is overdue and I have determined that since I am now ten years away from retirement, this would be the time to take a sabbatical. To be honest with you I have resisted taking a sabbatical in that I can't imagine being away from you all for an extended period of time; however in hearing this concern a former Executive Presbyter of our Presbytery counseled me for this very reason to take one, for your growth and mine and for my renewal.

Therefore I have decided to take the months of June, July and August of 2016 as my sabbatical leave. In that I have lived in this area of magnificent beauty of God's creation for eleven years and have only visited Zion, once, my leave will be focused on exploring the natural wonders of our area and I will be basing my experiences on several sources:

- The Solace of Fierce Landscapes, by Prof. Belden C. Lane
- Backpacking with the Saints: Hiking as Spiritual Practice, by Prof Belden C. Lane
- The Sayings of the Desert Fathers; Benedicta Ward, SLG and Metropolitan Anthony.

During these experiences I will be keeping a journal, sections of which will be posted regularly to our website for our shared experience and insight.

Also during this sabbatical leave time I will be traveling to Russia for an extended visit of one week with our sister church in Dorogobuzh and two weeks at a retreat center in Smolensk training Russian pastors on how to organize and train their lay people to provide pastoral care.

Please keep me in your prayers as I prepare for this journey with our Lord.

*In Christ,
Rev. Ralph*

Tacky Tie and Sweater Winners

Congratulations to this year's Tacky Tie and Sweater winners, Tom Noble and Sherry Kretschmer. Each of these lucky winners received an autographed photo of the new Patriarch of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church, Archbishop Ralph Clingan. If you haven't started already, now is a good time to begin looking for next year's entry. After all, it's only 11 months until Christmas!

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

Brett Schroeder Bob Prinselaar
Melissa Beckman Candy Hurlbut

Wendy Christianson as she continues her final year of studies for the ministry
Our sister congregation in Dorogobuzh, Russia
Those Serving Our Country

Welcome New Members

Barbara West

If you are interested in joining our fellowship, please see Rev. Ralph or Session Clerk Ruth Ann Horvath

Deadline for February Newsletter

January 23, 2016

Worship Schedule

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

9:00 – 9:45 am
Adult Education with Rev. Ralph
CE Building

10:30 am
Children's Sunday School

10:30 am
Traditional 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.

The scriptures for December were:

Rev. Ralph	John 3:16-17	For God so loved
Elder Ruth Ann Horvath	Romans 15:1-6	Together we may praise
Elder Amy Craig	Colossians 2:6-7	Established in faith
Elder Chris Schleiter	Ephesians 4:1-6	One Lord
Elder Scott Florence	Psalms 37:1-3	Trust in the Lord
Elder Judy Oar	Romans 8:38	No separation
Elder Russ Hurlbut	Luke 2:1-7	His birth
Elder Anne Patten	Psalms 150:1-2, 6	Praise the Lord
Elder Dave Patten	Hebrews 13:2	Christian Hospitality
Elder Gay Cunningham	Psalms 37	Wait for the Lord

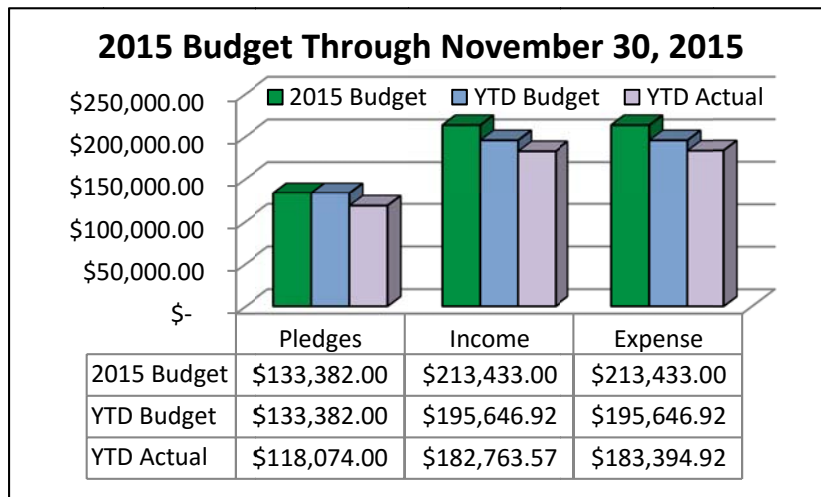
Thanks to our Volunteers

	Flowers	Fellowship
January		
January 3	<i>Available</i>	<i>Available</i>
January 10	<i>Available</i>	<i>Available</i>
January 17	<i>Available</i>	<i>Available</i>
January 24	<i>Available</i>	<i>Available</i>
January 31	<i>Available</i>	<i>Available</i>
February		
February 7	<i>Available</i>	<i>Available</i>
February 14	<i>Available</i>	<i>Available</i>
February 21	<i>Available</i>	<i>Available</i>
February 28	<i>Available</i>	<i>Available</i>

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

Treasurer's Report

General Fund		
As of November 30, 2015		
Month of November		
Receipts	\$	19,226.84
Expenditures	\$	12,803.52
2015 YTD Budget vs Actual		
YTD Budgeted Receipts	\$	195,646.92
Actual Receipts	\$	182,763.57
YTD Budgeted Expenditures	\$	195,646.92
Actual Expenditures	\$	183,394.92
Building Fund		
Building Fund Cash	\$	92,885.15
Loan Balance	\$	16,794.50
Net Building Fund	\$	(63,909.35)
Fund Balances		
General Fund	\$	6,978.34
Memorial Fund	\$	896.12
Capital Reserve Fund	\$	17,695.70



Rev. Ralph's Food for Thought

*"God is our refuge and strength,
A very present help in trouble.
² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change
And though the mountains slip into the heart of the sea;
³ Though its waters roar and foam,
Though the mountains quake at its swelling pride. Selah.
⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
The holy dwelling places of the Most High.
⁵ God is in the midst of her, she will not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.
⁶ The nations made an uproar, the kingdoms tottered;
He raised His voice, the earth melted.
⁷ The Lord of hosts is with us;
The God of Jacob is our stronghold.*

Psalm 46:1-7



I do not remember the age or year when, after many attempts and arguments to persuade my parents otherwise, they finally relented and allowed me to stay up until midnight to witness the arrival of the new year. What I do remember was the huge disappointment I experienced in my first New Year experience. I'm not sure exactly what I expected or that somehow I had perceived that in this New Year's arrival the world would suddenly change. It didn't, in fact nothing at all changed and the day after appeared to be identical to the day before. What then was all the excitement about?!

Many years have since come and gone and I continue to wait every December 31st for the New Year's arrival. Some years I have entered the New Year looking back thankful that it was behind me, and some years looking forward in anticipation, hoping for the best.

This year it's a mixed bag – years can be like that and this year is no exception. Our world has seen much turmoil and some would call these troubling and fearful times. Perhaps in our own lives we have had times of adversity to deal with in this past year. Yet, I always am and always will be hopeful. Some might say it's optimism; I would like to think it's more a reflection of our faith.

The psalmist acknowledges the world may change, greatly, and perhaps with it our lives, but at the end of the day we know God is with us and in our midst. Jesus promised to be with us to the end of all time. Our Lord is our stronghold and in His love we know we never walk alone or at the end of the day have anything to fear, for we know His love for us, and as Paul reminds us in Romans, nothing forever and for always, will ever be able to separate us from His love. Now there's a reason to celebrate a brand new year!

*A Very Happy and Blessed New Year to you all!
Rev. Ralph*

p.s., Cindy, Jeff and I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all for the cards, kind words, and gifts we received from you all this Christmas season. We are truly blessed and thankful for you all!

**** 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 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.

Thanks from Dorothy and Bob McGrath



By the time you read this Dorothy and I will be safely ensconced in our new home at Freedom Village in Lake Forest, California. We are writing you this to make sure that you know how very dearly we love you all and just how much we will miss you in the coming months. You are all our dearest friends and we love each one of you and that may even include Rev. Ralph.

Yes I will miss giving you those crazy announcements but there is one thing I want you to be clear about. Some of you may have thought the Sanctuary was not the place for such foolishness. As I recall I believe the Bible asked us to make joyful noises. We have two choirs who do that very well. We have soloists and a pianist/organist who does that very well too. Periodically there are musicians of various kinds making joyful noises. Reverend Ralph's sermons are joyful sounds. But because Dorothy has pleaded with me not to sing or play an instrument of any kind I have found my own way to make a joyful sound through those crazy announcements. A number of you have flattered me by saying they will miss the levity (joyful sound) I produced.

Reverend Ralph, for the most part, has borne the brunt of my foolishness. He, dear friends, is the most loving and understanding friend anyone could have and has accepted my barbs with the grace of a saint.

Thank you Ralph for all your love and understanding.

There is another thing I hope you all understand. What we all have here in this church is something that must be cherished. The love that is in this church and the love we feel for each other is a treasure that should be embraced and nurtured. I really did not comprehend just how much love there is here until I realized that we would not be there to enjoy what God has so graciously given this church. Please embrace this gift with your whole heart and bathe in its glory.

Thank you again for being our friends.

Our new address is:

Freedom Village
23442 El Toro Rd Apt E116
Lake Forest CA 92630-6963

Our phone number and e mail address are as yet not available but as soon as they are I will make sure to pass them along to Amy.

We love you all and wish you well.

God Bless you,

Dorothy and Bob

P.S. Nancy Linden has promised a 90th birthday party for me at the end of March. If God is willing we intend to be here for that party. Hopefully we will see you then.

Deacons

With the start of the New Year, we say "Goodbye" to our retiring Deacons and "Hello" to our new Deacons. Ron and Sherri Ard and Janice Klein have retired and Bob Moeller was elected to Session as the new Elder for Stewardship. We thank them for their service and wish them well in the future. Dawn Angarone and Jan Hirschi were elected Deacons at the Congregational Meeting in December. We welcome them to the fold and look forward to working with them.

The Deacons met in December and assigned Deacons to parishes. To see the new Deacon assignments, please look at page 11 of the newsletter or on the bulletin board in the Narthex. If you don't know what parish you are in, please see me or contact the church office.

Just a reminder that we have a shed full of items you may need if you have an illness or are recovering from surgery. If you need to borrow any items from the shed, please contact Janice Klein (628-1158) and she will make arrangements to get you what you need.

Please remember that should you need anything, your Deacons will be glad to help you. That's what we're here for!

Tineke Ingold, Moderator

Fellowship

We have rung in 2016. I hope 2015 was a great year for you and that 2016 will be even better.

Nearly 60 people came to our Christmas party. The food was wonderful. We had music as well and had people dancing at both ends of Conklin Hall. It was a fine start to the holiday season.

We are looking forward to celebrating the Scottish heritage of the Presbyterian Church on Saturday, January 23rd. Fellowship will provide the haggis, beverages and a main dish. There will be pipers and fiddlers, too. Bring a dessert or side dish to share.

Josie Kellejan donated a beautiful blanket and a special surprise for a raffle to benefit The Knotty Knitters and The Soup Kitchen. The raffle raised \$102 to split between the two groups. Dick and Patty Babb were the happy winners.

The Fellowship Committee is pleased to announce a Lunch and Presentation on January 28th, at Noon, in Conklin Hall. John and Kathryn Boogaard will speak about their experiences in the last two years in Indonesia with the Mission Aviation Fellowship. John is a pilot and Kathryn is a teacher and the daughter of Preston Hughes. A light lunch will be served. We are looking forward to this interesting couple's presentation before they return to Indonesia with their four young children.

We look forward to sharing life in Christ in 2016.

*In Joy,
Carolyn Jentzer*

Mission/Outreach

2016 has arrived. Thanks to everyone who supported our Mission activities in 2015. Here's an overview of what Mission-Outreach will be doing in 2016.

If you take prescription medications, I'm sure you have LOTS of empty plastic pill bottles. If you're wondering what to do with them once they're empty, don't toss them – donate them! Beginning this month and continuing through the year, we'll collect empty bottles (please remove the labels and wash them out) and send them to The Malawi Project for use in Africa. Pill bottles are in short supply in Africa so doctors have to dispense pills in whatever containers they can find. By supplying them with pill bottles, we provide a safe means for them to dispense needed medications to their patients and keep all of those bottles out of our landfill. Bring your bottles to church and put them in the box in Conklin Hall.

As always, the first Sunday of each month will be designated Soup Kitchen Sunday. We ask you to donate non-perishable food, supplies and cash to help feed the hungry in our community.

Mission-Outreach, continued

The first Sunday in February we will again participate in the Souper Bowl of Caring. For this event, we ask you to bring donations of non-perishable food which will be donated to the Soup Kitchen. Any donated food that the Soup Kitchen cannot use will be passed on to the Utah Food Bank.

Our shoe drive will be in April and May so as you clean out your closets next spring, please keep your usable shoes to help those in need.

Bike and Build will be here in July and Rev. Ralph will be visiting Dorogobuzh in August to help with their Bible Camp.

October and November will see our usual activities: Operation Christmas Child and the CROP Hunger Walk. It's never too early to start shipping for items to place in the OCC shoeboxes so watch those sales and stock up on small toys and other items for the children.

Finally, our Change For Change collection for 2016 will go to the Children's Justice Center.

Thanks to everyone who so generously participated in our activities in 2015. Let's make 2016 an even bigger year for Mission!

*Blessings
Chris Schleter*

Parish Nursing Ministry

Our December Brown Bag Luncheon speaker was Karen Schlieter, Gerokinesologist, from Intermountain LiVe Well Center, who talked about how we can reduce the incidences of our falling. She stressed that falling does not have to be a consequence of growing older and elaborated on the five keys steps to reduce our falling risk:

- Learn your fall-risk factors
- Get appropriate fall-risk screening including balance assessment
- With your physicians, learn to manage your medications
- Learn how to make sure your environment is safe
- Stay physically active

She demonstrated five simple things we can do to improve our balance and stability such as how to properly arise from a seat while maintaining balance. Karen also made the interesting observation that as we age, we lose the skill of being able to get ourselves up off the floor. We are presented fewer and fewer instances when we need to transfer from the floor to upright position and she suggested that, if we are able, we should practice doing it.

You may find the audio of Karen's presentation and the complete content of the information she presented on the Church website, gspcsg.org and we post copies on the Parish Nursing bulletin board.

The Tip of the Month: If you have medications you no longer need or which are outdated, they should not be discarded in the trash or flushed down the toilet, which could impact the environment. Ask your pharmacist the location of the closest take-back facility. Additionally, there are yellow take-back boxes at each police station in the area and the Intermountain hospital pharmacy.

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 Louise Routh at 628-7725 or on her cell 229-4733.

All prayers are important.

Louise Routh

Presbyterian Women

As promised, a "kick off" meeting to reinvigorate the Presbyterian Women's organization in our Church has been scheduled for Sunday, January 24th, at 1:00 pm in Conklin Hall. Presbyterian Women is open to all, and we look forward to gathering together in January.

Candy Hurlbut

Session News

Session held their regular monthly meeting on December 8, 2015. Here is a synopsis of the actions:

- Approved to remove from membership rolls: Barbara and Scott Henstrom, Mark and Martina Erikson.
- Approved to name and recognize Rev. Harold Wylie, H. R. as Pastor Emeritus at the annual congregational meeting in January.
- Approved to send a letter of thanks to Larry and Nancy Gearhart for their three years of faithful service in preparing and cleaning up Communion Elements.
- Approved a pulpit exchange for January 17, 2016. Aloph Kunin of Mesquite NV PC-USA Church will be guest pastor at GSPC.
- Approved to hire Dick Higgins as Visitation Pastor for the months of January and February and as permanent Visitation Pastor pending his agreement to continue after February.
- Approved by e-vote permission to a non-denominational Christian Group (Bill Reel) the use the sanctuary and Conklin Hall up to two Sunday evenings per month for worship and fellowship.
- Approved Year-End Donations to be taken from the Mission/Outreach Budget and sent to the following Groups: The DOVE Center-\$1,000, Habitat for Humanity of Southwest Utah-\$1,000, Doctor's Volunteer Clinic of St. George-\$1,000, Washington County Children's Justice Center- \$1,000, Community Soup Kitchen with Grace-\$407.54 (donations) plus the proceeds from this year's Change for Change and Solomon's Porch Foursquare Fellowship-\$250. Change for Change for 2016 will go to Washington County Children's Justice Center.
- Approved a policy for Russia Mission Steering Committee.

Ruth Ann Horvath, Clerk of Session

Stewardship

Thank you to all of you who have generously given this year. So far we have received 46 pledges totaling \$118,854.20 toward our needed amount of \$130,565.00. Please see the treasurer's report on page 2 for general fund information. The building fund information can be found on page 11.

As this is my last newsletter article as a member of Session, I want to thank all of you for the opportunity to serve this congregation. You are a joy to work with and an amazing generous group of people! I know all of you will enjoy working with Bob Moeller, the new Elder for Stewardship.

Brother Steward

Setting Goals

It is a common and helpful practice to use the start of a new year as motivation to set goals and make plans to attain those goals. As Christians, what is our ultimate goal? What did Jesus tell us in Matthew 6:33? *"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."* Certainly this is a worthy and all-encompassing goal for us as Christians.

We're also told that goals should be detailed and specific and measurable. How do we satisfy that criteria in light of our main goal to seek God's kingdom?

Let us remember that all we say and do and are should strain toward seeking God's kingdom. That means we'll be busy in the study of his Word and in regular attendance in church where we can hear his Word and receive his sacraments. It means that we'll be busy about his work of seeking and saving the lost. How is that accomplished?

The Apostle Paul wrote, *"You show that you are a letter from Christ . . . written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts"* (2 Corinthians 3:3). Jesus put it this way, *"Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in Heaven"* (Matthew 5:16). This is what we are – God's letters who reflect the light of Jesus to a world trying to find its way in darkness.

The psalmist commanded, *"Sing to the Lord, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples. For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise"* (Psalm 96:2-4). In all our words, this should be our goal: to proclaim the goodness, the glory, the greatness of our God.

Stewardship, continued

Then our acts should follow up our attitudes and words. Again Paul's words speak to us: "*Bless those who persecute you; Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony . . . Do not repay anyone evil for evil . . . If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone . . .*" (Romans 12:14ff.). Throughout his letters, Paul urges us to share with those in need, to support those who preach and teach the Word, and to give as we have received.

These are goals worthy of setting and ones we can carry out by "the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, [who] though he was rich, yet for [our] sakes he became poor, so that [we] through his poverty might become rich" (2 Corinthians 8:9).

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Amy Craig

Worship and Music

What a month our church had in December! A wonderful music concert in the Tabernacle on December 12th, with singing, bell ringing, violin and harp solos, and a rousing singing of "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" with the entire audience. This was followed by a worship service on December 13th full of the concert music, and with cello and piano duets by Fred Hampton and Dr. Yu. And a beautiful Christmas Eve service with carols, readings, and candles! What fabulous musical people we have in our congregation! And what an excellent accompanist/organist and music director we are blessed to have. How exhausted they must be, given all the planning, practice and effort they expended (and continue to expend) on the congregation's behalf! If you enjoyed all the music of the Christmas Season, please let the choir members, Barbara McConnell, and Fred Hampton know!

Short prayer meetings were held on December 3rd, 10th, and 17th following choir practice. This was developed after Rev. Ralph and Chris Schleiter attended and were impressed by similar meetings when visiting our sister church in Russia this past summer. Rev. Ralph read Bible selections, then attendees split into small groups and prayed successively for the Church, for faith communities, family and friends. While short, these prayer meetings were full of love and devotion. We will be doing them again during Lent. Please consider attending one or more—you will not be sorry.

Remember—we ask that the congregation NOT clap after musical selections are sung, rung, or played. We know everyone enjoys them and wants to show appreciation, but these are acts of worship, not performances. Please respect that.

We need your help on Saturday, January 9th at 9 am to help take down the church Christmas decorations. To entice you to come and help, we will be serving a brunch at 9 am before we begin the work! Come and enjoy a delicious meal, and help us take down and store our lovely decorations!

Looking ahead, Ash Wednesday comes early in 2016---Wednesday February 10. Remember to come worship and get your ashes!

Blessings to you all!

Anne Patten and Barbara McConnell

POINSETTIA FLOWERS GIVEN IN HONOR/MEMORY

Rev. Dr. Ralph & Cindy Clingan in memory of Rev. Robert L. & Marjorie Clingan, Ruth Clingan, Tracey Allen, & Neta Allen

Larry & Pam Cover in memory of Marjorie & Earl Coon, Wayne & Luella Cover

Fred Hampton & Dorothy Nichols in memory of Steve Edmiston (brother/son)

Robert & Alicia Kitzman, in memory of Olinda & Carl Kitzman and Grace & William McArthur

Larry & Mary Laubscher, in memory of loved ones

Tom & Vici Noble In memory of Paul and Nancy Noble

Paul & Charlotte Phipps & Laura Sanda in memory of Rev. Dr. & Mrs. Charles E. Kirsch, Elma R. Phipps & Francis H. Phipps.

Chris Schleiter in memory of John and Shirley Schleiter

Guy & Barbara Schultzman, in memory of Paul Michael Schultzman

January 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Happy New Year! 7:45 am Men's Bible Study @ Bishop's 12:00 Prayer Over the City Noon - Tabernacle	2
3 Soup Kitchen Sunday 8:45 am Prayer/Communion Service 9:00 am Adult Education 10:30 am Communion Worship 11:45 am Fellowship 5:00 pm Bible Study @Rev Ralph's Home	4 1:00 pm Shawl Ministry	5 9:30 am Calendar Coordinating Council Meeting 11:00 am Women's Bible Study @ Egg & I 1:30 pm Stephen Ministry Group Supervision Meeting 3:00 pm Exercise with Rev Ralph 4:00 pm Bell Choir	6 11:00 am Women's Bible Study @ Starbucks Cafe @ Barnes & Noble 1:00 pm Stephen Ministry Group Supervision Meeting	7 11:00 am Men's Bible Study @ Cracker Barrel 3:00 pm Exercise with Rev Ralph 3:45 pm Chancel Choir	8 7:45 am Men's Bible Study @ Bishop's	9 9:00 am Take Down Christmas Decorations – Brunch provided
10 8:45 am Prayer/Communion Service 9:00 am Adult Education 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Fellowship 11:45 am Blood Pressures Taken 5:00 pm Bible Study @Rev Ralph's Home	11 1:00 pm Shawl Ministry	12 9:30 am Calendar Coordinating Council Meeting 11:00 am Women's Bible Study @ Egg & I 3:00 pm Exercise with Rev Ralph 4:00 pm Bell Choir 5:15 pm Session Meeting	13 11:00 am Women's Bible Study @ Starbucks Cafe @ Barnes & Noble 1:00 pm Soup & Fellowship – Rev. Ralph & Chris Schleter repeat their presentation on Russia 6:30 pm Safe Harbor Support Group	14 11:00 am Men's Bible Study @ Cracker Barrel 3:00 pm Exercise with Rev Ralph 3:45 pm Chancel Choir	15 7:45 am Men's Bible Study @ Bishop's	16
17 8:45 am Prayer/Communion Service 9:00 am Adult Education 10:30 am Worship – Pulpit Exchange 11:45 am Fellowship 5:00 pm Bible Study @Rev Ralph's Home	18 Martin Luther King Day 1:00 pm Shawl Ministry	19 11:00 am Women's Bible Study @ Egg & I 3:00 pm Exercise with Rev Ralph 4:00 pm Bell Choir	20 11:00 am Women's Bible Study @ Starbucks Cafe @ Barnes & Noble 1:00 pm Senior Ministries Card Party – Conklin Hall	21 11:00 am Men's Bible Study @ Cracker Barrel 3:00 pm Exercise with Rev Ralph 3:45 pm Chancel Choir	22 7:45 am Men's Bible Study @ Bishop's	23 Newsletter Deadline 6:00 pm Scottish Festival – Conklin Hall
24 8:45 am Prayer/Communion Service 9:00 am Adult Education 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Congregational Meeting 11:45 am Fellowship 1:00 pm PW Organization Meeting – Conklin Hall 5:00 pm Bible Study @Rev Ralph's Home	25 1:00 pm Shawl Ministry	26 11:00 am Women's Bible Study @ Egg & I 3:00 pm Exercise with Rev Ralph 4:00 pm Bell Choir	27 11:00 am Women's Bible Study @ Starbucks Cafe @ Barnes & Noble	28 11:00 am Men's Bible Study @ Cracker Barrel 12:00 Noon Flying Missionaries Presentation with lunch – Conklin Hall 3:00 pm Exercise with Rev Ralph 3:45 pm Chancel Choir	29 7:45 am Men's Bible Study @ Bishop's	30 9:00 am Elder/Deacon Training – 12:00 Conklin Hall Noon
31 8:45 am Prayer/Communion Service 9:00 am Adult Education 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Fellowship 5:00 pm Bible Study @Rev Ralph's Home						

Rev. Ralph will be on vacation from January 4 through January 10.

Please contact Anne Patten (773-4307) with any pastoral concerns

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

Lectionary Readings for January

Date	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
Sunday, January 3 Second Sunday after Christmas	Jeremiah 31:7-14 Psalm 147:12-20	Ephesians 1:3-14	John 1:(1-9) 10-18
Wednesday, January 6 Epiphany of the Lord	Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14	Ephesians 3:1-12	Matthew 2:1-12
Sunday, January 10 Baptism of the Lord	Isaiah 43:1-7 Psalm 29	Acts 8:14-17	Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
Sunday, January 17 Second Sunday after the Epiphany	Isaiah 62:1-5 Psalm 36:5-10	1 Corinthians 12:1-11	John 2:1-11
Sunday, January 24 Third Sunday after the Epiphany	Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 Psalm 19	1 Corinthians 12:12-31a	Luke 4:14-21
Sunday, January 31 Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany	Jeremiah 1:4-10 Psalm 71:1-6	1 Corinthians 13:1-13	Luke 4:21-30

Lectionary Readings for February

Date	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
Sunday, February 7 Transfiguration of the Lord	Exodus 34:29-35 Psalm 99	2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2	Luke 9:28-36 [37-43]
Wednesday, February 10 Ash Wednesday	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12 Psalm 51:1-17	2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
Sunday, February 14 First Sunday in Lent	Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16	Romans 10:8b-13	Luke 4:1-13
Sunday, February 21 Second Sunday in Lent	Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 Psalm 27	Philippians 3:17-4:1	Luke 13:31-35 or Luke 9:28-36
Sunday, February 28 Third Sunday in Lent	Isaiah 55:1-9 Psalm 63:1-8	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	Luke 13:1-9

Congregation News

Rev. Harold Wylie Named Pastor Emeritus

At the December meeting, Session voted to name Rev. Harold Wylie Pastor Emeritus of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church. Rev. Harold and Hazel came to St. George in 1993 and Harold has served as Visitation Pastor for nearly 23 years. We wish him well in his (second) retirement and look forward, as we have for years, to his cheery demeanor and great faith in God, our Father.

Pledge Drive Continues

We continue to receive pledges for 2016. Thank you to everyone who has pledged to serve the Lord through our ministries. Through December 20th, we had a total of 46 pledges totaling \$118,854.20 towards our total needs of \$130,565. As you can see we still have a ways to go but we're a lot closer than we were this time last year!

If you have not already made a pledge, please prayerfully consider doing so. Pledge cards are available in the Narthex or by calling the church. You can also pledge online at our website gspcsg.org.

Thanks from the Salvation Army

Words are not adequate to express my thanks to you our church family for your past and continued support for the Salvation Army. Your compassion for our fellow citizens less fortunate is reflective of your Christian love.

Blessings, Dick Higgins

PW Christmas Bazaar 2016

PW is planning a Christmas Bazaar next year. As you are taking down your Christmas decorations, if you come across any you no longer need or want, please bring them to church and give them to Nancy Linden.

Regularly Scheduled Activities

Soup Kitchen Supply Sunday – contributions of supplies – 1st Sunday of each Month
 Safe Harbor Support Group – 2nd Wednesday of each Month – 6:30 pm in the CE Building

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
Co-Ed 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	Starbucks Café at Barnes & Noble
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 Restaurant
Choir Practices	Tuesday	4:00 pm 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 campaign produced \$101,226. Through December 20th we have received pledges towards our second campaign totaling \$41,845 and additional cash donations of \$12,910 for a total of **\$155,981** or about **45.6%** of the way to 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

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 Schleiter
Newsletter Editor	Amy Craig
Newsletter email	presch7@msn.com
Music Director	Barbara McConnell
Info on Stephen Ministry	www.stephenministries.org

Church Leadership 2015

Elders

Class of 2016	Scott Florence	574-2383	Grounds
	Fred Hampton	627-0017	Christian Ed
	Bob Moeller	801-707-4353	Stewardship
Class of 2017	Gay Cunningham	705-4696	Growth
	Russ Hurlbut	879-9393	Building
	Anne Patten	773-4307	Worship
Class of 2018	Ruth Ann Horvath	773-6790	Clerk of Session
	Carolyn Jentzer	673-0442	Fellowship
	Judy Oar	702-241-6227	Senior Ministries
	Chris Schleiter	627-9048	Mission/Outreach

Deacons

Bloomington	Dick & Patti Babb	688-1120
Dixie Downs	Shirley Fromknecht	628-2381
South Gate		
East Bloomington	Molly Bass	628-6440
East St. George	Virginia Hunt	714-955-1167
Green Valley	Rayanne Bartlett	673-6657
Hurricane	Jan Hirschi	435-680-1012
	Ann Hogan	635-0993
Ivins	Dawn Angarone	859-351-2642
Old St. George	Larry Laubscher	656-0617
Pine Valley	Tineke Ingold	574-3614
Red Cliffs	Matt Fine	760-887-1251
Santa Clara	Dottie Malcomson	673-4471
Washington	Virginia Hunt	714-9574-3614
	Tineke Ingold	55-1167
West Bloomington	Candy Hurlbut	879-9394
	Jeff Clingan	705-8692



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