



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



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December 2018

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Church Staff

The Rev. Dr. Ralph Clingan
Pastor

Dick Higgins
Visitation Pastor

Ruth Ann Horvath
Clerk of Session

Candy Hurlbut
Susan Holecheck
Arlene Prinselaar
Church Secretaries

Barbara McConnell
Music Director

Stephen Talley
Organist

George Linden
Head Usher

Deborah Stone
Prayer Chain

Chris Schleter
Website / Newsletter Editor

The Merry (and Busy) Month of December Kicks Off

As usual, December will be a VERY busy month. Beginning on December 2nd with the kickoff of Rev. Ralph's Annual Tacky Tie and Sweater Contest and culminating on Christmas Eve with our traditional worship service, there is something in December for everyone.

Sunday, December 2nd Rev. Ralph, Cindy and Jeff will host their annual open house from 3:00 to 6:00 pm.

Rev. Ralph began his annual Advent lesson series on November 27th. These lessons titled "The Light Will Shine - A Study for Advent" will continue on December 4th, 11th and 18th, and wrap up on January 7th with a lesson on Epiphany. Please bring a small dish to share and learn more about this liturgical season.

On Sunday, December 9th at 7:00 pm, the choirs will perform their annual Christmas concert in our Sanctuary. You can get a preview during worship that morning. This is a wonderful program and we hope you will all join us.

On December 16th, we will hold our Stated Congregational Meeting after worship to elect officers for next year and approve the Terms of Call for Rev. Ralph. We will dedicate our pledges for 2018 during the service, as well.

Our potluck Christmas Celebration will be held on the 23rd in Conklin Hall. Bring hors d'oeuvres or snacks to share and we'll sing some Carols of the season.

On Christmas Eve at 7:00 pm, we will anticipate the birth of our Savior with our Candle Light Worship and we'll wrap up the Christmas season with worship on Christmas morning.

We hope you will join us in celebrating this most joyous season!

Rev. Ralph Announces Annual Tacky Tie and Sweater Contest

Consider yourselves warned. Once again, in 2018, Rev. Ralph is challenging the men of the congregation to find and wear to church the TACKIEST Christmas ties they can find and the women of the congregation to wear their TACKIEST Christmas sweater. The winners will receive a special prize.

All women's entries must be publicly identified as being "Tacky" to avoid any unfortunate misidentification of a treasured family or handmade heirloom. Ladies, you can pick up a sticker from Hawk to indicate that your sweater is, in fact, an entry into this year's contest.

We can't wait to see what you've found!



Rev. Ralph's Food for Thought

In the same region there were some shepherds staying out in the fields and keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." 13 And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest,

And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased."

When the angels had gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds began saying to one another, "Let us go straight to Bethlehem then, and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us."

Luke 2:8-15 New American Standard Bible (NASB)



As you read this our sanctuary will have been decorated for the Christmas season, I imagine for many of us the same can be said of our homes. All has been made ready for the big night and big day, but what about the season we are in now? The season we refer to as Advent which begins Dec. 2 and ends the evening of Dec. 24th may come as a surprise to some, especially the world around us, as it has little to do with Christmas. Instead of focusing on the first Christmas the season of Advent looks forward, both in direction and in anticipation to the second coming. Advent reminds us that we remember the past with our eyes to the future.

In the birth narrative as found in Luke, angels encounter God's glory, hear good news of the birth of the Savior, Christ the Lord, and that the manger is only a sign.

What a night!

Unfortunately for too many of us the Christmas story begins and ends at the manger. The truth is it is only the beginning of the greatest story, our own. Remember the message for the shepherd, "born for you".

Advent invites us to go and see, not a baby, but a God who keeps his promises and can be trusted to love us not only in the past but today and tomorrow. That as the gospel of John declares, "God is Love". Our faith, not only in December, is love in action. But love must grow or it stagnates, Advent seeks for us to grow in love and in anticipation for God, through Christ wants to give us now and forever. The Greatest gift of all!

You won't find this under any tree.

A blessed Advent, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year to you all.

*In Christ's name,
Rev. Ralph*

Annual Christmas Open House December 2nd

Please join Cindy, Jeff and me as we hold our annual Christmas Open House on December 2nd from 3:00 to 6:00 pm. Plan to bring a beverage and something to share and join everyone in the joy of the holiday season.

**** 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 several 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.

CE Building Repair Update

As we reported last month, the CE Building sustained water damage on October 12th when a supply line to the sink in the kitchenette failed. Repairs to the building began on Wednesday, November 28th and will continue until at least mid-January. The drywall will be repaired and new carpet will be installed in Rev. Ralph's office, the church office, the nursery and the small classroom. Luxury vinyl tile will be installed in the hallway and the main room of the building. In addition, all of the rooms except the church office (which Alan Paige painted last summer) will be painted.

The cost of the repairs and painting and flooring except the two offices will be covered by insurance. We had planned to paint and replace the carpet in 2020, anyway, so the timetable is simply moved up and the cost reduced.

We'll have another update in the January newsletter.

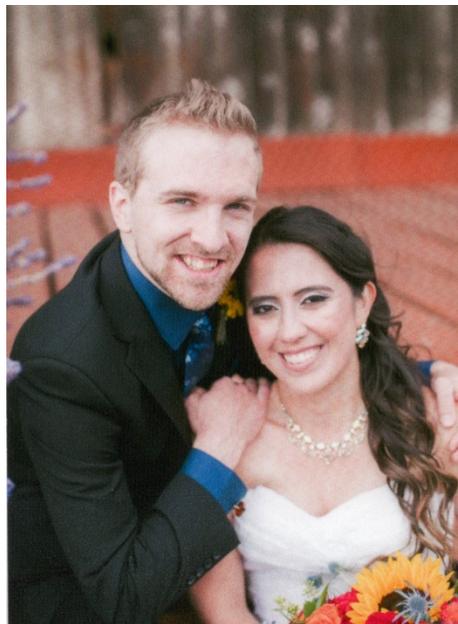
Congregation News

Stated Congregational Meeting December 16th

On December 16th, we will hold our Stated Congregational Meeting after worship to elect officers for next year and approve the Terms of Call for Rev. Ralph. Please plan to stay with us after worship for this important event in the governance of our church.

Gaby Noble is married

Gaby Noble was married recently (in a barn) in Washington State. Here are some photos of the bride and groom.



Deacons

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

Our Thanksgiving Luncheon was as delicious as usual. We hosted quite a crowd and the unthinkable happened – we ran out of turkey! Thankfully there were plenty of other tasty dishes to fill our plates.

Thank you to all who prepared the turkeys and all who shared your special holiday dishes. Special thanks to Marge Lin for her extra efforts in the kitchen and to those who stayed to help clean up.

Please remember to sign up for our celebrations so that we can plan appropriately in the future.

Gloria McGilloway

Mission/Outreach

Operation Christmas Child 2018 is in the books. We collected 94 shoeboxes this year, down from 124 last year and 149 in 2016. The boxes are a great way to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ to children all around the world and our thanks go to those who filled boxes this year. We have some empty boxes left over if anyone wants to get a head start on 2019.

The Tenth CROP Hunger Walk was a great success. Overall donations totaled \$4,872, bringing the total raised in ten years to just under \$63,000. As in most years, GSPC led the organizations that participated with \$990 in donations. Solomon's Porch will be the beneficiary of this year's local donation and will receive a check for \$1,215.50. Thanks to all who walked and donated and toCarolynn Thomas and Gloria Reynolds for manning our aid station.

Finally, as we did last year we'll be collecting canned food during the four Sundays of Advent to benefit the Soup Kitchen. Last year we collected \$235 and 240 pounds of food. Let's go for \$300 and 300 pounds this year.

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

*Blessings
Chris Schleiter*

Parish Nursing

Brown Bag Luncheon

On November 7th, we enjoyed having Dr David Grygla speak to us about Diabetes. As we are aware, a diagnosis of Diabetes can be life-changing and, depending on the severity of the disease, in addition to medication, control of progression is best achieved by altering one's diet and exercising to maximize the body's use of stored insulin. Compliance with any treatment regime is most successfully achieved by tailoring a program to meet an individual's lifestyle.

Our bodies are made up of many cells, each of which fulfills a specific purpose. The hormone insulin helps unlock glucose, which cells need for energy.

Diabetes, may be diagnosed as Pre-diabetes, Type 1 or Type 2. In Pre-diabetes, the body does not utilize insulin properly but often can be controlled by only diet and exercise. Type 1 is seen most often in the teen years or younger and is related to an autoimmune destruction, or attack by one's own body, on insulin producing cells found in the pancreas. Treatment usually entails supplementation with insulin. In Type 2 diabetes, the goal is to make the body more sensitive to and provide efficient utilization of available insulin through administration of medication such as Metformin. In addition to treatment with good dietary and exercise practices and either insulin or other medication, the diabetic needs to adhere to careful monitoring of blood glucose through tests such as a simple,

Parish Nursing, continued

immediately diagnostic, finger prick or the more comprehensive Hemoglobin A1c test. The latter gives a three-month average of plasma glucose levels in the body. Risk factors for developing diabetes include obesity, smoking and genetics. According to the ADA (American Diabetic Association), anyone having a close family member, who has had heart disease or diabetes, is at increased risk for developing diabetes and should be monitored with an annual HbA1c blood test.

Approximately 50 percent of diabetics are subject to developing the complication of neuropathy because of long term effect of the disease on capillaries in various parts of the body. Damage often begins in the feet, the symptoms of which can be tingling, numbness, pain or weakness. Neuropathy also may affect the nerves of the bladder, intestinal tract, kidneys, eyes and skin.

While the disease has no cure, contemporary research and discovery of modalities for better long term control, plus maintaining an ongoing partnership with a medical professional for treatment, have made it possible for the diabetic to enjoy as relatively "normal" a lifestyle as is possible. For information, please go to the ADA website: diabetes.org.

REMEMBER TO GET YOUR FLU SHOT !!!!

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:

Soup and Fellowship in October was twofold: the Russian Mission Report and, also, audience participation in a true story, written by our member, historian and author, Russell Estlack, about a busy bank robber in the early 1900s, complete with props. First to present was Gloria McGilloway who was a missionary this year to our Russian sister church in Dorogobuzh. With slides, she took us into the Russian pastor's home and kitchen and helped us experience the daily life and atmosphere during her visit. She experienced culture shock when she returned home and recognized the space she enjoys in her home and well as the conveniences we take for granted. It was an excellent report and appreciated by all in attendance.

Our congregation for the most part does not enjoy making a spectacle of itself but at least two people could take the boos and hisses by taking a part in an interactive melodrama, written by Russell Estlack and presented by Kay Bair, theatre director in St. George. We appreciate Kay and Russell for their fun and lively story. We kept to the Russian theme and fixed Russian food and alternatives too.

Soup and Fellowship in November was a Tribute to Veterans. Russell Estlack, a veteran and author of 8 books, many about US government involvement in several segments of wars, arranged for a showing of a WWI video depicting new information about the tragic events of the last day, November 11, 1918. This year is the 100 year commemoration of the end of that war. God bless our veterans and please know your service will not be forgotten. Thank you Russell for this veteran tribute. Our attention is brought to a soon- to- be- released movie produced by Peter Jackson (Lord of the Rings and many other award winning movies) about WW1: "They Shall Not Grow Old."

Many thanks to my wonderful, hard working committee who made and served GI Sloppy Joes, Navy Bean Soup, salads and trench cake consistent with the theme. Thank you Sherry Kretchmer, Joyce Otness, Barbara West, Jane O'Donnell.

Judy Oar

Session News

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

- Approved to accept Stella Delgado, Carolyn Lucky into membership. In a Called Session Meeting on November 18, 2018 approved to accept Meta Morrison, John and Peggy Graber into membership. They were received into membership during worship on November 18, 2018.
- Approved a Health Reimbursement Arrangement Plan for 2019 for Rev. Ralph Clingan, designating \$3,000 of his reimbursable expenses into the plan. The administrative committee in connection with the Health Reimbursement Arrangement Plan shall be the Stewardship and Administration Committee of the Session.
- Appointed Session Member Commissions to examine new Elder and Deacon candidates whose terms begin in 2019.
- Approved the Annual Congregational Meeting date of December 16, 2018 following worship.
- Approved the expenditure of up to \$6,000 for flooring replacement in the Christian Education Building from the Building Fund (includes the \$1,000 deductible) as recommended by the Buildings and Grounds Committee and Stewardship Committees.

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 November volunteers included Marge Linn, Janis Wick, Josie Kellejan, Eliza Elwood, Patti and Brian Lusby, Ruth Ann Horvath, Rayanne Bartlett and Carol Somplatsky-Jarman. Serving over 100 hungry folks is always just as much a blessing to the volunteers as it is to those who enjoy their lunch. An Autumn menu of Southwestern Chicken Stew, corn bread, coleslaw, fruit and dessert was served. Many positive comments were received – especially for our famous "Presbyterian" coleslaw. Questions about the Soup Kitchen experience? Contact Carolyn Thomas 435-817-8288.

Carolynn Thomas

Stewardship

The Treasurer's report from October 31st appears on page 2 and our Building Fund report is on page 11. We are doing quite well so far this year, but a lot of our income comes from contributors who make their entire year's donation in December or January.

We are nearing the formal end of our General Fund pledge campaign for 2019. In order to fully fund the budget next year, we need \$ \$146,445.55. Through November 25th, we have received 28 pledges, totaling \$83,223. As you can see, we're only 57% of the way to having enough to fund the church. If you have made a pledge, thank you. If you haven't pledged, please prayerfully consider doing so. Pledge cards that you can fill out and drop in the offering plate are available in the Narthex or you can pledge online on our Website, gspcsg.org.

We will dedicate our pledges for 2019 on December 16th and ask that you make your pledges by then.

We continue to thank you for your generosity.

Susan Holecheck and your Stewardship Committee

Women's Guild

For everyone who may have a sweet tooth, the Women's Guild will be having its annual Christmas Cookie Sale on Sunday December 9th & 16th following worship in Conklin Hall.

Looking ahead to 2019, please mark your calendars for a "Spring Fling" on March 30th. This will be a tea replacing our Mother's Day Tea, and you will be seeing more information on this as the date approaches.

Our next meeting will be on December 28th at 11:00 am with a potluck lunch to follow. Representatives from the Children's Justice Center and Youth Futures will be present to receive our donation and tell us a little bit about what they do. This has been another great year for your Women's Guild.

On behalf of the Women's Guild a big thank you to everyone for your support!!!

Candy Hurlbut

Worship & Music

Alleluia, He is coming; let the Advent song begin! The Advent season is here with much activity at Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church! Please mark your calendars for the upcoming dates!

December 9th is the annual Christmas concert to be presented at our church at 7:00 pm. The Bell and Chancel Choir will perform, as well as solos by Ka-Wai Yu, Paul Wiens, and an organ duet by Susan and Steve Talley. Please invite your friends for this concert of beautiful Christmas music. Part of the program will be presented during the Worship service that morning.

Our traditional candle light Christmas Eve service will be at 7:00 pm. It will include the scripture readings of the Christmas story along with music by the Chancel choir, organ, and a brass quintet.

The worship committee wishes to thank all the volunteers who helped with "Hanging of the Greens". What a job it is and is much appreciated!

We send you our Christmas greeting, and may you feel the spirit of Christ in your hearts and the love that surrounds us!

*Happy Thanksgiving
Barbara McConnell, Music Director*

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas (Humor)

Cryptic Christmas Card

A man sent his friend a cryptic Christmas card. It said: A B C D E F G H I J K M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z. The recipient puzzled over it for weeks, finally gave up and wrote asking for an explanation.

In July he received the explanation on a postcard: "No L."

True story

The nativity play was going as planned and Joseph and Mary were going from house to house knocking on the doors and asking if there was any room for them. As they continued to get "no room" answers a little voice called from the back "YOU SHOULD HAVE BOOKED!" bringing the house down.

No Room In The Inn?

A boy wanted to be Joseph in the Sunday School pageant. He was cast as the landlord and objected loudly, but to no avail. When the pageant was presented, Mary and Joseph knocked on the door and asked him if he had a room for them. The boy smiled and said, "Yes, sure. Lots of room. Come on in!"

Didn't You Get My E-Mail?

As a little girl climbed onto Santa's lap, Santa asked the usual, "And what would you like for Christmas?" The child stared at him open mouthed and horrified for a minute, then gasped: "Didn't you get my E-mail?"

The Real Santa?

The local newscaster was with the crowd of parade watchers, welcoming Santa as he arrived in town, and in a live interview asked a bouncy 4 year old girl if she had talked with this Santa yet to give him her Christmas list. "No" she replied emphatically. "Are you going to talk with Santa?" the newscaster asked. "NO" once again was the most definite answer which was not the reaction that he was expecting at all! "Why?" he curiously asked the little one. "Because the real Santa is at the Mall."

Going the wrong way in the "Advent Rush"

While a man had gone out driving to do some Christmas shopping, his wife had been watching TV when she heard the announcer say, "be very careful and watch driving on I5 today, there is a motorist driving the wrong way"! His wife got hold of him on the cell phone to warn him, and his reply was: "You tell me, there are hundreds of them here".

The Three Gifts

After the Christmas pageant, I asked my 6-year-old son if he remembered the gifts that the Magi brought to Jesus. He thought for a minute then said "gold, frankincense, and humor". We could all use that!

Lectionary Readings for December

Sunday, December 2 1st Sunday of Advent	Jeremiah 33:14–16 Psalm 25:1–10	1 Thessalonians 3:9–13	Luke 21:25–36
Sunday, December 9 2nd Sunday of Advent	Malachi 3:1–4 Luke 1:68–79	Philippians 1:3–11	Luke 3:1–6
Sunday, December 16 3rd Sunday of Advent	Zephaniah 3:14–20 Isaiah 12:2–6	Philippians 4:4–7	Luke 3:7–18
Sunday, December 23 4th Sunday of Advent	Micah 5:2–5a Luke 1:46–55 or Psalm 80:1–7	Hebrews 10:5–10	Luke 1:39–45 (46–55)
Monday, December 24 Christmas Eve	Isaiah 9:2–7 Psalm 96:1–13	Titus 2:11–14	Luke 2:1–14 (15–20)
Tuesday, December 25 Nativity of the Lord / Christmas	<i>Christmas Dawn</i> Isaiah 62:6–12 Psalm 97:1–12 <i>Christmas Day</i> Isaiah 52:7–10 Psalm 98:1–9	Titus 3:4–7 Hebrews 1:1–4 (5–12)	Luke 2:(1–7) 8–20 John 1:1–14
Sunday, December 30 1st Sunday after Christmas Day	1 Samuel 2:18–20, 26 Psalm 148	Colossians 3:12–17	Luke 2:41–52

Lectionary Readings for January

Date	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
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 13 Baptism of the Lord	Isaiah 43:1-7 Psalm 29	Acts 8:14-17	Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
Sunday, January 20 Second Sunday after the Epiphany	Isaiah 62:1-5 Psalm 36:5-10	1 Corinthians 12:1-11	John 2:1-11
Sunday, January 27 Third Sunday after the Epiphany	Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 Psalm 19	1 Corinthians 12:12-31a	Luke 4:14-21

December Calendar

December, 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Advent Food Drive	3	4	5	6	7	8
8:45 am Prayer Service 9:00 am Adult Education 10:30 am Communion 11:45 am Fellowship 12:00 Noon Deacon Meeting 12:00 Noon Mission Committee Meeting 3:00 pm Open House @ Rev. Ralph's home 5:00 pm Bible Study @Rev. Ralph's	1:00 pm Shawl Ministry	9:30 am Calendar Coordinating Council Meeting 11:00 am Women's Bible Study @ Egg & I 12:00 Noon Bell Choir Rehearsal 1:30 pm Stephen Ministry Supervision Group Meeting 3:00 pm Exercise with Rev. Ralph 5:45 pm Advent Potluck & Lesson – A Light Will Shine – A Study for Advent – Conklin Hall	11:00 am Women's Bible Study @ Starbucks Cafe - Barnes & Noble 1:00 pm Stephen Ministry Supervision Group Meeting	11:00 am Men's Bible Study @ Village Inn 3:00 pm Exercise with Rev. Ralph 3:45 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal		10:00 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal

December Calendar, continued

<p>9 Advent Food Drive 8:45 Prayer Service am 9:00 Adult Education am 10:30 Worship am 11:45 Fellowship am 11:45 Blood Pressures am Taken 11:45 Session Meeting am 5:00 Bible Study pm @Rev. Ralph's 7:00 Christmas Concert - Sanctuary</p>	<p>10 1:00 Shawl Ministry pm</p>	<p>11 11:00 Women's Bible am Study @ Egg & I 12:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal Noon 3:00 Exercise with Rev. pm Ralph 5:45 Advent Potluck & Lesson – A Light Will Shine – A Study for Advent – Conklin Hall</p>	<p>12 11:00 Women's Bible am Study @ Starbucks Cafe - Barnes & Noble</p>	<p>13 11:00 Men's Bible Study @ am Village Inn 3:00 Exercise with Rev. pm Ralph 3:45 Chancel Choir pm Rehearsal</p>		
<p>16 Advent Food Drive 8:45 Prayer Service am 9:00 Adult Education am 10:30 Worship am Stated Congregational Meeting - Sanctuary 11:45 Fellowship am 5:00 Bible Study pm @Rev. Ralph's</p>	<p>17 1:00 Shawl Ministry pm</p>	<p>18 11:00 Women's Bible am Study @ Egg & I 12:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal Noon 3:00 Exercise with Rev. pm Ralph 5:45 Advent Potluck & Lesson – A Light Will Shine – A Study for Advent – Conklin Hall</p>	<p>19 11:00 Women's Bible Study am @ Starbucks Cafe - Barnes & Noble 1:00 Senior Ministries Card Party – Conklin Hall</p>	<p>20 11:00 Men's Bible Study @ am Village Inn 3:00 Exercise with Rev. pm Ralph 3:45 Chancel Choir pm Rehearsal</p>		
<p>23 Advent Food Drive Newsletter Deadline 8:45 Prayer Service am 9:00 Adult Education am 10:30 Worship am 11:45 Fellowship – am Christmas Brunch 5:00 Bible Study pm @Rev. Ralph's</p>	<p>24 Christmas Eve 1:00 Shawl Ministry pm 7:00 Christmas Eve pm Worship</p>	<p>25 Christmas Day 11:00 Women's Bible am Study @ Egg & I 12:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal Noon 3:00 Exercise with Rev. pm Ralph</p>	<p>26 11:00 Women's Bible Study am @ Starbucks Cafe – Barnes & Noble</p>	<p>27 11:00 Men's Bible Study @ am Village Inn 3:00 Exercise with Rev. pm Ralph 3:45 Chancel Choir pm Rehearsal</p>	<p>28 11:00 Women's Guild am Meeting & Potluck</p>	
<p>30 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</p>	<p>31 New Year's Eve 1:00 Shawl Ministry pm</p>					

PLEASE NOTE:

Rev. Ralph will be on vacation from December 25th through January 1st.
Please contact Dick Higgins (435-879-0253) or Anne Patten (773-4307) with any concerns.
Always check the church website gpscsg.org for the latest information.



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 we expect to pay it off early), we will pay a total of \$241,831.80. We also have several major maintenance items over the next several years, totaling more than \$145,000, that need to be funded in addition to paying off the mortgage, meaning we need to raise a total of \$384,000.

Our first two campaigns produced \$195,063. Through November 25th we have received pledges towards our third campaign totaling **\$54,100** and additional cash donations of **\$11,016** for a total of **\$260,179** or about **67.8%** of our new **\$384,000** goal.

Thanks to everyone who has made a pledge to the third campaign. If you haven't pledged, please prayerfully consider making a pledge to help us pay off the mortgage early and have sufficient funds to cover maintenance and make other improvements in the next three years.

Church Contact Information

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 Editor	Chris Schleiter
Music Director	Barbara McConnell
Info on Stephen Ministry	www.stephenministries.org

Church Leadership 2018

Session Elders

Class of 2018	Ruth Ann Horvath	922-5271	Clerk of Session
	Gloria McGilloway	610-349-6045	Fellowship
	Judy Oar	702-241-6227	Senior Ministries
Class of 2019	Chris Schleiter	627-9048	Mission/Outreach
	Mary Contreras	673-9745	Worship
	Scott Florence	574-2383	Grounds
Class of 2020	Susan Holecheck	702-265-8666	Stewardship
	OPEN		Christian Ed
	OPEN		Building
	OPEN		Growth

Deacons

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	Open	
Sun River	Candy Hurlbut	879-9394
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