



NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 25, 2024

Updates and more information at: gslcva.org/
Livestream: [Facebook Live](#) | [YouTube](#) | [Vimeo](#)

1133 Reston Ave., Herndon VA 20170 | 703-437-5020

Next Service Readings (Lenten Wednesday) 2 Samuel 15:12; 1-4 | Acts 3:14-19 | John 18:1-11

Lent 2024

Worship services during Lent this year will follow the theme “Return to the Lord” – a tender invitation from God, taken from the book of Joel: “Return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and He relents over disaster” (Joel 2:13).

Worship Services during Lent

Midweek (Wednesday) services, noon, February 21- March 20

These services will be recorded and posted on Wednesday evenings

Palm Sunday, March 24

8:00 a.m. Traditional service (sanctuary)
9:00-10:45 a.m. Pancake Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
11:00 a.m. Praise service (Fellowship Hall)

This service will be livestreamed and recorded

Maundy Thursday, March 28, 7:30 p.m.

Traditional service, with Holy Communion
First Communion for students who have received instruction
This service will be livestreamed and recorded

Good Friday, March 29, 7:30 p.m.

This service will be livestreamed and recorded

Easter Sunday, March 31

8:15 a.m. Traditional service with Holy Communion (sanctuary)
Preservice music begins at 8:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m. Family-friendly service (Fellowship Hall)
This service will be livestreamed and recorded
11:15 a.m. Traditional service with Holy Communion (sanctuary)
Preservice music begins at 11:00 a.m.
This service will be livestreamed and recorded

Big Serve Sunday School - today!

Children and Youth Sunday School classes will be making 60 bagged lunches (120 sandwiches) for the Embury Rucker Shelter today, **Sunday, February 25**, during the Sunday School hour. Adults are welcome to help too! Join us at the Gathering Space in the lower level at 9:30 a.m. for our BIG SERVE!

Life Groups - Calendar

Young Adults: Sunday, February 25: 12:30 p.m. (GSLC Room 203)

Contact John Purtilo through the church office (gslc@gslcva.org) for more information*

Manic Mondays: Monday, February 26: 7:30 p.m. (Cors's Home)

Contact Brian Cors through the church office (gslc@gslcva.org) for more information*

Word Workers: Wednesday, February 28: 7:30 p.m. (video teleconference)

Contact Melinda DeWan through the church office (gslc@gslcva.org) for more information*

Women's Morning Bible Study: Thursday, February 29: 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (GSLC Room 203)

Contact Vicki Peter through the church office (gslc@gslcva.org) for more information*

Men's Friday Bible Study: Friday, March 1: 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. at Panera Bread (Elden Street)

Contact Jeff Kroese, Jeff Peterson, and Jim Smith through the church office (gslc@gslcva.org) for more information*

- Please type the Life Group name in the email Subject line when requesting more information via email.



Good Shepherd Life Groups

Above & Beyond (A&B) Update—as of February 22

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to the current Above & Beyond program. This year's “wish list” includes 28 items totaling \$300,450 in donation requests. As of February 8, donations totaling \$40,593.87 have fully funded 5 of the 28 items (see list below) and have also partially funded a number of items. A featured request, still open to receive contributions can be found below, and also on our [giving page](#). Please take special prayerful consideration for our featured item, Expanding Operations—Preschool (in bold below).

Above & Beyond (A&B) fully funded items: Workcamp 2024 (Elizabeth City, NC); Senior Youth Ministry; Staff and Core Ministry Celebrations; Choir Needs; Preschool “Big Book” sets; and Direct Mailings.

Above & Beyond (A&B) featured item (not yet fully funded, and remaining balance): Expanding Operations – Preschool: \$6,400.62.

This fund provides additional assistance as we begin expanding our operating hours to full-day care with the inclusion of before care, traditional preschool and afternoon care. Funding will specifically cover initial expenses, increased staff requirements and the need to market and share our new program with the community.

Note: Remaining items not fully funded can be found on our [giving page](#).

First Communion for 5th and 6th Graders

Children in grades 5 and 6 who are interested in First Communion are invited to attend a five-week class, taught by Pastor James, that continues today, **Sunday, February 25, in room 120**. The curriculum, *Fed and Forgiven* (from Augsburg Fortress press), is designed to prepare students to receive Holy Communion. Classes will be conducted during the Sunday School hour, 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Subsequent classes will be conducted during Sunday School on March 3, March 10, and March 17. The class will culminate with First Communion during the Maundy Thursday worship service on March 28. Parent(s) will be asked to attend classes with their child. If you have questions on the program please email Pastor James (PastorGary@gslcva.org).

Calling all singers—come join the choir!

Do you enjoy singing? Do you want to share the beauty and love of Christ through choral music? Anne Lee, our Organist and Director of Choirs, would love to have you join the choir to experience the unity and joy that comes from making music together. A commitment to sing every Sunday is not required! Singers high school age and older are welcome. Questions? Please email Anne (anne@gslcva.org).

Events this week

Worship Service: Wednesday, February 28: 12:00 p.m. | **Sunday, March 3:** 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. (Traditional) | Questions?

Contact the church office (gslc@gslcva.org)

Sunday School and Bible study: Sunday, March 3: 9:30 a.m. | Contact the church office (gslc@gslcva.org) for more information

Prayer Gathering: Wednesday, February 28: 7:00 p.m. (video teleconference)

Community Service: Monday, February 26: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry (pantry rooms) | **Wednesday, February 28:** 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry (pantry rooms) | **Wednesday, February 28:** 5:30 p.m. Hypothermia Shelter Meals (North County Human Services Building, Reston) | **Thursday, February 29:** 3:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry transport for distribution at SLHS (lower parking lot) | Questions? Contact Holly Vanderhoof (holly@gslcva.org)

Online Giving via Vanco

Interested in Giving Online? General offerings or special/dedicated funds can all be found by clicking on the QR Code to the right, or by checking out our website (<https://secure.myvanco.com/YN8R/home>). Once on the giving page, scroll through the listed items until you see the one you have been looking for. You are welcome to make one-time gifts or recurring gifts. If you have any questions, please contact Business Manager Georgia Thorstenson (georgia@gslcva.org).



Ladies' Sunday Morning Bible Study

A new Ladies' Sunday Morning Bible Study, *Don't Look Back*, will begin on **Sunday, March 3**. With a rallying cry to "remember Lot's wife," Bible teacher Christine Caine motivates us to stop looking back, to let go, and to move forward into what God promises for our lives. With the strategies Christine shares, this study will equip you to: stop looking back and start looking to Jesus, invite Jesus to help you let go of whatever is holding you back, and step into God's plans, purposes, and promises. Questions? please email Heidi Cooper (heidi@gslcva.org).

Community Service

Volunteers needed! The Closet of Greater Herndon. Congregation scheduled days have returned to The Closet! Good Shepherd's next volunteer days are March 12, April 4, April 24, and May 17. The Closet **needs** volunteers to maintain day to day operations. Please consider donating some time to this valuable resource in our community. Scan the QR code to signup or visit <http://tinyurl.com/5n7kbmb2>.



Weekend Grocery Packs for Dranesville Elementary! Weekend grocery packs are bags of food that children can prepare themselves over the weekend. Good Shepherd puts together 100 bags, once a month, for Dranesville Elementary students that are experiencing food insecurity. Want to help? Consider donating money, any amount, to the above and beyond request for Dranesville Elementary Weekend Grocery packs at <http://tinyurl.com/cruhbp78>. For more information on packing dates contact Holly Vanderhoof (holly@gslcva.org).

South Lakes Food Pantry – continues to serve the community! Since the beginning they have distributed more than **1.5 MILLION POUNDS** of food & toiletries to our neighbors in need. What a significant difference you've made in the community with your support of this incredible ministry. Needs are on the rise. We are averaging well over **7,000 pounds (3 ½ tons) of food to families and students in need each week**. Please consider shopping from our urgent needs or donating money to the pantry so that they can purchase food for the pantry.

NO-CONTACT Donation curbside drop offs:

Mondays (2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.)

Wednesdays (10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.)

Donations may also be shipped to the church: SLHS Food Pantry,
c/o GSLC, 1133 Reston Ave., Herndon, VA 20170

DRIVERS NEEDED. With a 40% increase in weekly family bags, we need a few more drivers to help when needed, deliver food to the school on Thursday afternoons. Bags will be loaded and unloaded at the school for you if needed.

LOADING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. We are averaging 190 bags each week, not including the additional donations of fresh produce and meat from Trader Joe's. Volunteers would meet at the church lower parking lot at 2:30 p.m., please allow 45-60 minutes for this volunteer need.

URGENT NEEDS: bar soap, diced tomatoes, pasta sauce, oatmeal

Women Giving Back. Women Giving Back supports women and children in crisis on a first step to stability by providing quality clothing at no cost, assisted by a caring and committed community. From grassroots humble beginnings, Women Giving Back has grown into an organization that serves more than 24,000 women and children in need every year. To learn more about Women Giving Back and how to volunteer visit: <https://womengivingback.org>.

Cornerstones Volunteer Opportunities. Cornerstones offers a multitude of volunteer opportunities to serve members of our community. Opportunities include Farmers Market Gleaning, Career Mentors, Financial Literacy Mentors, Interpreters, Front Desk Assistants, Pathways to Sustainable Employment Program Volunteers and so much more. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/mvzzu4ue> to sign up for a volunteer hub and learn more about these opportunities as well as their virtual volunteer orientation sessions.

Interested? Please contact Holly Vanderhoof (holly@gslcva.org).

Online Church Directory

If you have registered for our Online Church Directory please ensure that you update your family information and include a photo. If you have not registered for the directory, it is not too late. Join by sending a request to Brian Cors through the church office (gslc@gslcva.org) and type "directory" in the email Subject line.



Board of Servant Leaders

The elections for the Board of Servant Leaders are coming up! Board members serve two-year terms. Those elected this year will join Robert Fekete, Drew Lipman, Deanine Thrash and Laura Blackburn, who are continuing their terms. Here is this year's proposed candidate slate and a revision to the remaining dates on the election timeline:

Here is this year's election timeline:

- February 9: Proposed slate (with candidate profiles) published -- **extended**
The nominating committee is still seeking candidates to serve on the Board. Please prayerfully consider serving. If you have any interest, contact any member of the nominating committee by February 23.
- February 11 to 23: Two-week open nomination period.
- February 25: Final candidate slate published
- February 26 to March 10: Quiet Period for voter reflection on election (two-weeks)
- March 11 to 18: Elections held online

For additional information check out our website under [About and Forms & Documents](#). Questions? Contact Board Vice Chair, Robert Fekete, through the church office (gslc@gslcva.org) and type "elections" in the email Subject line.



If you love children - the Preschool needs you

The Preschool is in need of a person to join the staff who enjoys working with children and would like to assist our teachers. The position is for mornings, Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Interested? Please contact Interim Director Kathy Otterbacher (preschool@gslcva.org).