



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

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

November 16, 2025

Updates and more information at: gslcva.org/
Livestream: [Facebook Live](#) | [YouTube](#) | [Vimeo](#)
Preschool: [Facebook](#)
Vanco online giving: gslcva.org/giving
Text to Give: 833-761-1059



Next Service Readings:

Jeremiah 23:1-6 | Colossians 1:11-20 | Luke 23:33-43

Big Serve Sunday-today!

Come and join us for a Big Serve Sunday event! The children and youth ministries will be loving our neighbors with a very special service project on **Sunday, November 16**, during the Sunday School hour. This project will consist of putting together Thanksgiving meal boxes for Cornerstones families in the Gathering Space in the lower level. Service hours for youth will be available upon request.

New Member Sunday-today!

We warmly invite everyone to attend our new member reception after each service today, **Sunday, November 16**. Join us as we officially welcome our new members during this special day of celebration and commitment.

Brunchgiving-next Sunday!

Join us next **Sunday, November 23**, for Brunchgiving between the worship services. We will be serving quiches, fruit and other breakfast goodies. There is no Sunday School that day so bring the whole family. Take this time before the holidays ramp up to enjoy some good food and fellowship.

If you are interested in baking something to contribute, please bring it to the Fellowship Hall that morning.

Our service project for this event is to restock the food pantry with non-perishable food. We will have a collection bin in the fellowship hall for these items.

Life Groups

Women's Thursday Morning Bible Study: Thursday, November 20: 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. GSLC (Room 203).

Men's Friday Bible Study: Friday, November 21: 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. at Panera Bread (Elden Street).

Interested in our Life Groups? Check out our [webpage](#) for details or stay tuned for further updates in future emails.

Ladies' Sunday Bible Study

The Ladies' Bible Study will meet today in **room 203**, following today's 8:00 a.m. worship service. Questions? Contact Heidi Cooper (heidi@gslcva.org).

Sunday Adult Bible Study

The Adult Bible study will meet in **room 111**, following today's 8:00 a.m. worship service. The group will take an in-depth look at John's gospel, using William Barclay's *The Gospel of John, Volumes One and Two*. Questions? Contact Pastor Gary James (pastorgary@gslcva.org).

Sticky Faith Bible Study

The *Sticky Faith* Bible study will meet this **Sunday, November 16**, in **room 112** during the Sunday school hour. This five-session video series, inspired by Dr. Kara Powell's journey with her own children, offers practical strategies to help parents nurture lasting faith in their kids. All parents are invited to attend.

Interested? Contact Pastor Gary James (pastorgary@gslcva.org).

Sunday School Locations (Kids and Youth)

"Kids and Youth" Sunday School meet during the Sunday School hour. Children ages 2-5th grade meet in the lower level gather space and room 108.

Contact - Michelle Tenhaeff (ChildMinistry@gslcva.org)

Middle Schoolers (grades 6-8) - Room 119. Contact - Holly Vanderhoof (Holly@gslcva.org)

High School Ministry (grades 9-12) - Room 121. Contact - Holly Vanderhoof (Holly@gslcva.org)

Upcoming Events

Worship Services

Sunday, November 23: 8:00 a.m. (Traditional service) and 11:00 a.m. (Contemporary/Praise service)

Wednesday, November 26: 12:00 p.m. (Traditional Thanksgiving Eve service)

Sunday, December 7: 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. (Lessons and Carols services)

Wednesday, December 24: 4:00 p.m. (Family service) and 7:30 p.m. (Christmas Eve service with preservice music at 7:05 p.m.)

Sunday, December 28: 9:30 a.m. (Only 1 Traditional service)

Check out our [website](#) for more information

New Member Sunday

Sunday, November 16: following the 8:00 (church entry area) and 11:00 a.m. (Fellowship Hall) services

Choir Practice

Sunday, November 16: 9:30 a.m. (choir room)

Sunday School

Sunday, November 16: 9:30 a.m. (adults)

Check out our website for [kids](#), [youth](#), and [adult](#) classes

Prayer Gathering

Wednesday, November 19: 7:00 p.m. (video teleconference)*

Brunchgiving

Sunday, November 23: 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)*

Advent Tea

Saturday, December 6: 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)*

Christkindlmarket

Sunday, December 7: 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)*

Baklava Demonstration

Wednesday, December 10: 5:00 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)*

*Check out our [Calendar on the website](#) for more information

Community Service

Sunday, November 16: 9:30 a.m. Big Serve Sunday for kids and youth (Gathering Space lower level)

Monday, November 17: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry (pantry rooms)

Wednesday, November 19: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry (pantry rooms)

Thursday, November 20: 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry transport for distribution at SLHS (lower parking lot)

Saturday, December 6: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. A Simple Gesture (Gathering Space lower level)

Check out our [website](#) for more opportunities to serve

Columbarium: Selection of Niches

The columbarium garden is now complete! We hope you've had a chance to visit and enjoy its beauty. We will be in contact with those members who have already purchased a niche to complete paperwork and select their location. Thanks to all who have helped to make the columbarium garden a reality.

Angel Tree for Cornerstones

Good Shepherd is once again supporting Cornerstones' Gift Cards for Kids Drive with our Angel Tree program. Good Shepherd will be providing 150 (\$25) gift cards for 60 children. This year, all cards requested are Walmart gift cards which can be purchased at Walmart or at CVS stores. Please visit the Angel Tree in the Narthex and select a tag from the tree. Then purchase the gift card and return it along with the tag selected from the tree to the box on the table next to the Angel Tree. Children less than 10 years of age receive a total of \$50 in gift cards and those older than 10 years receive \$75 in gift cards. (Gift cards must be physical cards - no e-cards please.) **All gift cards must be returned to the church by Sunday, November 30. A special thank you to Children's Ministry for making the angels for the tree!** Questions? Contact Holly Vanderhoof (holly@gslcva.org) for more information.

Stay Connected—Here's How!

Curious about what's happening at Good Shepherd? Wondering when our next service is, or what exciting events are on the horizon? We've got you covered! Your weekly Friday eBlast and the News & Announcements bulletin insert deliver a full rundown of service times, upcoming events, and important updates—all in one convenient place. No access to the eBlast? No problem! Friends and family can stay in the loop by visiting our social media pages on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#), or by checking out our [webpage](#). These platforms are regularly updated with the latest news, event details, and service changes.

Advent Tea

Advent is a time to remember how the world waited for the Messiah, and how we wait for His Second Coming today. Join the women of Good Shepherd and their guests as we restore ourselves during the busy Advent season on **Saturday, December 6**, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Enjoy a potluck lunch, beautiful music, a devotion, and fellowship. Sign up today (<https://tinyurl.com/hyaetvyc>)

Christkindlmarket

Join us for the annual GSLC Christmas Market & Lunch on **Sunday, December 7**, from 12:15 to 2:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This festive holiday event, hosted by our senior youth, is fun for the whole family! Parents, bring your little ones to the Christkindlmarket where there will be lots of items for your child to pick out and purchase...there's gifts for every member of the family! A good-will offering will be collected during the meal and the proceeds from the event will benefit the Sr. High Youth Group and their fundraising efforts for the 2026 Summer Workcamp to Grosse Pointe Woods, North Carolina. Invite your friends and come out for some Christmastime fun!
Donations needed for Christkindlmarket! We are looking for new or "like new" gifts for moms, dads, grandparents, and siblings. If you have any of these items and are willing to contribute to our market, **please drop off your donations at the church office by Sunday, November 30**. Questions, please contact Holly Vanderhoof (holly@gslcva.org). Thank you for your support!

Community Service

Do you know of someone who needs help finding resources in our area? For a list of comprehensive services in our area please call or visit: 2-1-1 Virginia. 2-1-1 Virginia is a source of information about community and social services available in Fairfax County and statewide. When you dial 2-1-1, a trained professional will listen to your situation and suggest sources to help using one of the largest databases of health and human services in Virginia.

Volunteers needed! The Closet of Greater Herndon. Congregation scheduled days have returned to The Closet! Good Shepherd's next volunteer days is December 9. 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 the right to signup or visit: <http://tinyurl.com/5n7kbmb2>.



A Simple Gesture Food Collection. Every other month, A Simple Gesture delivers collected food to the South Lakes High School Food Pantry along with other local food pantries. Help us intake, sort and shelve donations on **Saturday, December 6**, from 8:50 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. This effort involves 50-70 volunteers from the area and is a great way to help serve the food pantry and love your neighbor in the process. If interested in volunteering, please contact Holly Vanderhoof (holly@gslcva.org).

Hypothermia Shelter Meals – SIGNUP OPEN! An opportunity to serve through supporting the hypothermia shelter meals program is fast approaching! Every Wednesday from the beginning of December through the end of March (17 weeks), we prepare, provide, and serve hot meals for **40** guests. **Would you like to know what it is like to prepare food for the Hypothermia Prevention Program?** The best way to think about preparing the food is to consider what you would bring if this were a picnic. You need to provide food in disposable containers and include any needed (sturdy) plates, bowls, cups, napkins, eating utensils. One consideration is that the clients often don't have a full set of teeth - shredded or ground meat is preferable to chunks of meat. The same is true about the fruit. This year the need is much greater as they are serving about 80 people. **We will be helping with that number by providing a minimum of 40 meals.** Serving in person is also back this year but you still have the option to drop off the meals! Volunteers must be at least 18 years old to serve in the shelter. For more information and to sign-up visit: <https://tinyurl.com/4n5m8b9u> or scan the QR code to the right.



South Lakes Food Pantry – Continues to Serve the Community!

The Food Pantry has distributed more than **TWO MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS** of food and toiletries to our neighbors in need. What a significant difference you've made in the community with your support of this incredible ministry. *If you are interested in helping, email Holly Vanderhoof (holly@gslcva.org) to get up-to-date volunteer needs.* Needs are on the rise. We are averaging well over **7,000 pounds (3½ tons) of food to families and students in need each week.** Please consider shopping from our urgent needs (see list below) 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. Looking for additional drivers on Thursday afternoons, 2:50 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Bags will be loaded at GSLC and then unloaded at the school for you. Interested? Please contact Holly (holly@gslcva.org). **LOADING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.** We are averaging 200 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: jelly, peanut butter, pasta sauce, diced tomatoes, boxed mac & cheese, caned meat, bar soap

Women Giving Back. Come and support 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. Visit: <https://womengivingback.org> for details.
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 to learn more about these opportunities as well as their virtual volunteer orientation sessions.

Pastoral Sabbatical

Pastor Johann will be taking a much-overdue sabbatical in two intervals (late summer – early fall of 2026 and 2027), a combined 3 months. He is planning to rest, spend a bit of time in retreat, care for extended family and friends (especially those on the last legs of their earthly lives), conduct research to benefit GSLC's strategic direction for sustainability, and write some sermons. A sabbatical plan has been written and efforts by him, staff, core ministry leaders, and the board are being made to ensure that the ministry does not lose momentum.

GSLC Tax-Free Donations

Are you 70½ and taking an IRA distribution? Make your donation to GSLC tax free through Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD) directly from your IRA. This is the only method under U.S. tax law to donate Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) amounts tax-free. It's available to IRA owners age 70½ or older. You can transfer up to \$100,000 per year directly from your IRA to one or more IRS-approved charities. The amount of the QCD is excluded from your taxable income and fulfills your RMD. For married couples, each spouse with their own IRA can give \$100,000, effectively \$200,000 combined. Check with your investment advisor for details and applicable regulations.

Sign up for the online church directory

We encourage you to join Good Shepherd's online church directory. It's a great way to connect with other members and to help you match names with faces. We use the "Instant Church Directory" app – an OPT-IN only, so if you don't provide us with information on you and your family, you will NOT appear in the directory. To sign up, send the name and email address for ONE PERSON in your family to the church office (gslc@gslcva.org). Members and non-members who regularly attend GSLC are invited to join our online directory. Please let us know if you'd like to join our directory community!