



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

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 7, 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 Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 35:1-10 | James 5:7-10 | Matthew 11:2-11

Advent Devotional Materials Available

Advent devotional materials – including booklets and a calendar of daily Advent activities especially for families – are available in the church entry area and on the Resource Table in the Fellowship Hall. Please help yourself to these items!

Above & Beyond fall catalog

Good Shepherd's latest edition of the Above & Beyond (A&B) catalog has been released, with hard copies available in the church entry area. In the FY2026 fall catalog you will find items for community service, discipleship, the columbarium, special music, the preschool, and much more!

[Check out our Giving webpage for an electronic copy.](#)

Upcoming Events

Worship Services

Sunday, December 14: 8:00 a.m. (Traditional Service) and 11:00 a.m. (Contemporary/Praise Service)

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

Choir Practice

Sunday, December 7: 9:30 a.m. (choir room)

Sunday School

Sunday, December 7: 9:30 a.m. (kids, youth, adults)

Life Groups

Monday, December 8 (Manic Mondays): 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. at Panera Bread (Elden Street)*

Wednesday, December 10 (Word Workers): 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Virtual (Zoom)*

Thursday, December 11 (2GETHER4LUNCH): 11:30 a.m. Euro Bistro (Herndon)*

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

Friday, December 12 (Men's Friday Bible Study): 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. at Panera Bread (Elden Street)*

Saturday, December 13 (Men's Brotherhood Breakfast): 8:30 a.m. at First Watch (Fairfax) and 10:00 a.m. (NRA Museum)*

Christkindlmarket

Sunday, December 7: 12:15 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)*

Baklava Demonstration

Wednesday, December 10: 5:00 p.m. (Fellowship Hall) - details on back*

Helping Hands

Saturday, December 13: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (Room 125)*

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

Community Service

Monday, December 8: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry (pantry rooms)

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

Thursday, December 11: 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry transport for distribution at SLHS (lower parking lot)

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



Today's Bible Studies, Sunday School

All classes meet at 9:30 a.m.

Ladies' Bible Study, room 203. Contact Heidi Cooper (heidi@gslcva.org).

Adult Bible study, room 111. An in-depth look at John's gospel, using William Barclay's *The Gospel of John, Volumes One and Two*. Contact Pastor Gary James (pastorgary@gslcva.org).

Sticky Faith, room 112. Video series offers practical strategies to help parents nurture lasting faith in their kids. All parents are invited to attend. Contact Pastor Gary James (pastorgary@gslcva.org).

Sunday School, ages 2-5th grade, lower-level gathering 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)

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? The Friday eBlast and the News & Announcements 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! Stay in the loop by visiting our social media pages on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#), or by checking out our [website](#). These platforms are regularly updated with the latest news, event details, and service changes.

Christkindlmarket—today!

Join us today for the annual GSLC Christmas Market & Lunch from 12:15 p.m. 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 will be 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!

Angel Tree—Lake Anne House

For more than twenty Christmases, GSLC has supported Reston's Lake Anne House (formerly Lake Anne Fellowship House) to help our elderly neighbors in need. Please visit the **Lake Anne Angel Tree in the Narthex**, take a tag(s) and sign your name and email address adjacent to your tag number(s) on the sheet next to the tree. Please drop off your beautifully wrapped gift(s) next to the tree **NO LATER THAN MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2025, WITH THE TAG SECURELY ATTACHED**. Greeting cards and gifts will be delivered to Lake Anne House before Christmas.

Questions? Contact Holly Vanderhoof (holly@gslcva.org).



Men’s Breakfast and Outing

Come join the men of Good Shepherd on **Saturday, December 13**, for the monthly breakfast. This month will be different as breakfast will be at the **First Watch Restaurant** in Fairfax, VA, at 8:30 a.m. Once breakfast is completed a visit to the **NRA MUSEUM** has been arranged at 10:00 a.m.

Interested? Check out additional details below:

- 8:30 a.m. - First Watch, 12249 Fair Lakes Promenade Dr, Fairfax, VA 22033.
- 10:00 a.m. - [NRA National Firearms Museum](#)

Questions? Contact Randy Terlecki through the church office (gslc@gslcva.org).

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 purchased a niche to complete paperwork and select their location. Thanks to all who have helped make the columbarium garden a reality.

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 are December 9, January 27, February 18, March 12, April 3 . 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>.



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 an outdoor gathering. 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 signup 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 NINE 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, bar soap, diced tomatoes, pasta sauce, pasta, canned meat

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.

Good Shepherd Lutheran School–hiring

Do you have afternoons free from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.? Are you looking to work up to 10 hours per week? Good Shepherd Lutheran School is in need of aftercare staff beginning in January. Interested? Contact Sarah Brazell (preschool@gslcva.org)



Baklava Demonstration

Come to the Fellowship Hall on **Wednesday, December 10**, at 5:00 p.m. and join Georgia Thorstenson and friends in making and taking home this Greek treat! Baklava is great for holiday entertaining and gift giving, plus it freezes beautifully and is easier to make than you think.

Interested in attending?

Please bring the following items with you to the demonstration:

- 1 pound of frozen phyllo dough from the grocery store, thawed in refrigerator for 1-2 days
- Whole Cloves (approximately 40)
- 9" x 13" baking dish (metal, glass, or disposable)
- Pastry brush
- 1 sharp knife
- Container with the following mixture: 1 pound of walnuts, pecans, or almonds finely chopped; 3/4 cup canola oil; 3 Tbsp honey, melted; 1/2 cup sugar; 3 tsp cinnamon; 1 tsp nutmeg.

Questions? Contact Georgia Thorstenson (georgia@gslcva.org).

