

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 4, 2026

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 1133 Reston Ave., Herndon VA 20170
703-437-5020 gslcva.org



Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 25:1-9 | Psalm 23 | Philippians 4:1-9 | Matthew 22:1-14

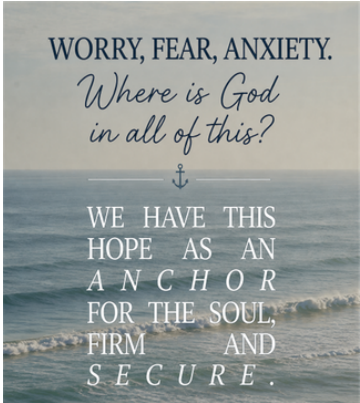
Women's Retreat (Registration Reminder)

The Women's Retreat is fast approaching Please register as soon as possible. Interested in learning more? The theme this year delves into when worry, fear, and anxiety rise, it can feel as though God is absent. Scripture doesn't deny those experiences. God remains our anchor. An anchor doesn't stop the waves—it keeps the ship from drifting away.

Hebrews 6 reminds us that our hope is anchored in God's unchanging character and His faithfulness, even when our emotions rise and fall. Join us as we explore this theme for our weekend retreat in lovely Winchester, Virginia.

Women's Retreat is **November 13 through 15**. Registration, and additional information is available by clicking on the banner at the top of our website (<https://gslcva.org>).

All women are welcome! Questions? Contact Heidi Cooper (heidi@gslcva.org).



Adult Bible Studies

The Adult Bible study continues its study of the Gospel of John using William Barclay's commentary on The Gospel of John. Join us today at 9:30 a.m. in Room 111.

The Women's Bible study, led by Heidi Cooper, continues its session on Chad Bird's book "Limping with God." The group will meet at 9:30 a.m. in Room 203.

Fall Fun Festival

Celebrate the season with your church family at the Good Shepherd Fall Fun Festival on **Sunday, October 25**, immediately following the 11:00 a.m. service! Gather with friends old and new in the lower parking lot for a joyful afternoon filled with delicious food, warm fellowship, and trunk-or-treat fun.

Bring your family, invite your neighbors, and come enjoy a festive afternoon of laughter, community, and fall fun. Click the link below to register. We can't wait to celebrate with you!

[Register here](#)



Preschool Substitute Teachers Needed

Good Shepherd Lutheran School is looking for caring, dependable substitute teachers to help support our preschool classrooms as needed.

If you are interested in serving our students and would like to be added to our substitute list, please contact Sarah Brazell (preschool@gslcva.org). A background check is required.

Preschool Flock Family - Planning Committee

Help us plan fun, welcoming events for children and families at Good Shepherd Lutheran School! Committee members can help with event planning, activities, outreach, or simply volunteer at our Family Flock Days. All are welcome to join, no experience necessary! Interested? Contact Sarah Brazell (preschool@gslcva.org).



Preschool Festival

Join us for a fun afternoon at our Preschool Fall Festival on **Saturday, October 17**, from 2:00–4:00 p.m., in the church's Preschool Wing. This event is open to the public and admission is free. Come and enjoy games, pumpkin decorating, and a costume fashion show for the whole family. Bring your friends and come celebrate fall with us!

RSVP <https://tinyurl.com/yt43brez>.

Offering Envelopes

Many Good Shepherd members receive a set of printed offering envelopes in the mail on a regular basis but don't use these physical envelopes when giving their offerings. If you receive these envelopes in the mail but do not use them, please let Michele (michele@gslcva.org) know so we can stop the envelopes from being printed and mailed. (Good Shepherd pays for every set of envelopes mailed to members.) The number on your envelope will still be associated with your giving records. Questions? Contact Michele (michele@gslcva.org) or Georgia (georgia@gslcva.org).

Sunday Transportation Assistance

Help provide Sunday transportation for a choir member. If you're willing to assist, please contact Anne Lee (anne@gslcva.org). Thank you for supporting our church family!

Schedule: 1st & 3rd Sundays: Pickup (9:20 a.m.) and drop off (after the 11:00 a.m. service) | 2nd & 4th Sundays: Pickup (7:20 a.m.) and drop off (after 10:30 a.m.)

Upcoming Events

Full listing of events and service opportunities at gslcva.org
Service opportunities on the other side of this page

Worship Service

Sunday, October 11: 8:00 (Matins service) and 11:00 a.m. (Contemporary/Praise service)

Choir Practice

Sunday, October 4: 9:30 a.m. (choir room)

Handbell Choir Practice

Monday, October 5: 7:00 p.m. (sanctuary)

Confirmation Orientation

Sunday, October 4: 9:30 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)*

Prayer Gathering

Wednesday, October 7: 7:00 p.m. (video teleconference)

Life Groups

Millennials: Sunday, October 4, 9:30 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Women's Thursday Morning Bible Study: Thursday, October 8, 10:00-11:30 a.m. GSLC (Room 203)

2GETHER4LUNCH: Thursday, October 8, 11:30 a.m. (Euro Bistro, Herndon)

Men's Bible Study: Friday, October 9, 7:00-8:00 a.m. at Panera (Elden Street)

Men's Brotherhood Breakfast: Saturday, October 10, 8:30 a.m. (La Madeline Restaurant, Reston)

Community Service: SLHS Food Pantry

Monday, October 5: 2:00–4:00 p.m. (pantry rooms)

Wednesday, October 7: 9:00–12:00 p.m. (pantry rooms)

Wednesday, October 7: Good Shepherd Day at The Closet

Thursday, October 8: 2:30–3:30 p.m. (lower level)*

*See the article on the back page for details.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Do you know someone who needs help finding resources in our area? For a list of comprehensive services, please call or visit 2-1-1 Virginia, 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. (<https://211virginia.org>)

Volunteers Needed! The Closet of Greater Herndon: Good Shepherd’s next volunteer days are **October 7, October 30, November 21, and December 18**. The Closet needs volunteers to maintain day-to-day operations. Please consider donating some time to this valuable resource in our community. Sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/5n7kbmb2>.

South Lakes Food Pantry continues to serve the community! What a significant difference you’ve made in the community with your support of this incredible ministry. We average well over 7,000 pounds (3½ tons) of food and toiletries to families and students in need each week. Please consider shopping from our urgent needs list or donating money to the pantry for food purchase. Contact: Holly Vanderhoof (holly@gslcva.org).

- **No-contact donation curbside drop offs:** Mondays 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Grocery intake is also on Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Donations may also be shipped to the church: SLHS Food Pantry, c/o GSLC, 1133 Reston Ave., Herndon, VA 20170.
- **LOADERS & DRIVERS NEEDED.** Looking for additional drivers on Thursdays. Bags will be loaded and unloaded at the school for you. Thursday 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Interested? Contact Holly (holly@gslcva.org).
- **Urgent needs:** cereal, diced tomatoes, pasta sauce, pasta, bar soap, canned vegetables, jelly, peanut butter

Women Giving Back: 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 multiple ways to serve, including Farmers Market Gleaning, Career Mentors, Financial Literacy Mentors, Interpreters, Front Desk | Assistants, Pathways to Sustainable Employment Program, and so much more. Interested? Visit <https://www.cornerstonesva.org/volunteerops/> to sign up for a volunteer hub and learn more about these opportunities as well as their virtual volunteer orientation sessions.

Adopt-a-Highway



Family Opportunity 10 & up! Adopt a Highway. Join us on **Saturday, October 31**, at 8:30 a.m. for a light breakfast in the Fellowship Hall. Pickup begins promptly at 9:00 a.m. It takes approximately 1.5 to 2 hours of your time, and service hours can be earned. It’s a beautiful stroll along Reston Parkway because of helpers like you! Help us keep God’s creation beautiful! (Rain date November 22). For safety reasons, volunteers must be at least 10 years old and accompanied by an adult if they are under 16. Please bring your own gloves.

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK (OCTOBER 4)

Names stay on this public list for three weeks. If you would like a name to stay on the list longer, or if you would like to add a name, email michele@gslcva.org.

Members. Bob Yingling, Mary Ramsey, Ray D’Amore, Ted Frison, Kathy Frison, Rev. Bill Flammann, Kristi Nickerson, Tom Lion, Bob Willey, Joan Micsan, Donna Harper, Jim Smith

Friends and family requesting prayers. Surf (Kristi and Ric Nickerson’s grandson); Aine (Charles Ramsey’s friend); Ann (Charles Ramsey’s friend); Garry and Annette (Wendy Spangler’s friends); Robin (Sally Cors’s friend); Karen (Donna Harper’s friend); Lyndsey (Scott Tyley’s cousin); Matt (Donna Harper’s friend); Gary (Sue Stormoen’s friend); Dan (brother-in-law of Sue Stormoen’s friend); Dianne (Chris Miller and Linda Wetzel’s friend); Debby (Nancy and Bob McGarry’s daughter); Jessica (Pastor Johann’s neighbor); Bianca (June McGurn’s friend); Jonita (Jim Masson’s mom); Eunice (Susan Miller’s mom); Caroline (Pamela LaFontaine’s niece); Bill (Sandra and David Dettner’s brother in-law); Diane (Alison Carlson’s friend); Jim (Sue Stormoen’s friend); Len (Georgia and Roger’s friend); Lindsey (Melinda and Mike DeWan’s niece); Jane (Sally Cor’s aunt); Peggy (Kent and Laura Wetzel’s cousin); David (Jack Norton’s father)

Missions. Lutheran World Relief; Evergreen Lutheran School; Gustavo and Ruth (Puerto Rico); Jacob and Lauren (Kenya); Shara (Kenya); Bryan and Keah (Tanzania)

Military and others deployed. Alexander Stone (Caroline and Allan Ruppard’s grandson), Jack Weisgerber (Hannah Gaffey’s godfather), Matthew (Lisa and Jon Dorn’s son), the Hodges family, Brendan Burke (Alison Lake and Brian Burke’s son), Bethany Burke (Alison Lake and Brian Burke’s daughter), Patrick Metts (Will and Bev Metts’s son), Claire Drew (Robyn and Charles Drew’s daughter), Nate Jewell (Camille Kidwell Jewell’s husband), Carter Condolucci (Alyce Kennedy’s grandson), Stephen Esse (Tony Esse’s son), Brendan Mordhorst (John and Maria Mordhorst’s son)

Birthdays. (10/4) Margaret Franker, Emma Eickelberg; (10/5) Abby Strang; (10/6) Bob Bombaugh, Joshua Ciesar

Youth Items

Great Pumpkin Hunt | October 18

MSM & HSM students, get ready for the ultimate fall adventure! Join us Sunday, October 18, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. for the Great Pumpkin Hunt featuring a bonfire, costume contest, games, fellowship, candy, prizes, and the hunt for the Golden Pumpkin. Costume theme: your favorite movie or TV character!

Fall SED High School Youth Gathering | November 20-21

High school students, don't miss an unforgettable weekend at Watermarks Camp! Experience powerful worship and teaching, plus ziplining, paintball, escape rooms, high ropes, and more as we explore the theme Made in His Image. Register by October 20 for \$160. Contact Holly Vanderhoof (holly@gslcva.org) for details.

HSM Mission Trip Registration Now Open | July 17-24, 2027

Reserve your spot today for next summer's HSM Mission Trip to Mifflinburg, Pennsylvania! Open to high school students and college-age young adults, this life-changing week combines service, worship, friendship, and fun while making a lasting impact in local communities. A \$100 non-refundable deposit is due by October 28. Register here (<https://secure.myvanco.com/YN8R/campaign/C-13J7C>). For more information, contact Holly Vanderhoof (holly@gslcva.org). Please note that dates are subject to change.

Confirmation 2026-2027 (Orientation Session)

As we begin the 2026-27 confirmation class year, and as we have done in the past, we will gather today, **Sunday, October 4**, at 9:30 a.m. (during the Sunday School hour) in the Fellowship Hall for the orientation session. The purpose of the session is to go over the structure and expectations for this year’s confirmation with parent(s) and students, as well as answer any questions. Please join us as this session is valuable and important for all students, including those returning for their final year.

- **October Confirmation Schedule:** Saturday, October 31, 10:00-11:30 a.m. (session A1)
- **November Confirmation Schedule:** Thursday, November 5, 6:30-8:00 p.m. (session A1) | Thursday, November 19, 6:30-8:00 p.m. (session A2) | Saturday, November 21, 10:00-11:30 a.m. (session A2)

Questions? Please contact the church office (michele@gslcva.org). Questions about confirmation may be directed to Pastor James (PastorGary@gslcva.org).