NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

November 15, 2026

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 1133 Reston Ave., Herndon VA 20170

703-437-5020 gslcva.org

Next Sunday's Readings: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 | Psalm 95:1-7a | Ephesians 1:15-23 | Matthew 25:31-46

Website Forms Experiencing Technical Issues

Our website forms are experiencing technical difficulties. Form submissions and notifications are not being reliably received. A solution is being implemented by our website company, and we have upgraded our service package to enhance security, reliability, and functionality. Thank you for your patience as these improvements are made.

For the time being please contact the church office (**gslc@gslcva.org**) for all form submissions not limited to but including the following: Contact Us, Flower Sponsorship, Life Groups, Prayers, and the Welcome Card.

Brunchgiving - Food, Fellowship, Service

All are welcome to join us for Brunchgiving, a special morning of food, fellowship, and gratitude between services on **Sunday, November 22**. Gather with friends old and new as we share a meal and celebrate the blessings of the season.



A special announcement for all bakers. We welcome all contributions of sweet treats for this event. Please bring baked goods to the Fellowship Hall the morning of Sunday, November 22.

As part of this special event, please bring non-perishable food items to help restock the South Lakes High School (SLHS) Food Pantry and support those in need in our community. We look forward to sharing this meaningful time together!

Questions? For the food drive contact Holly Vanderhoof: **holly@gslcva.org** and for the event contact Heidi Cooper: **heidi@gslcva.org**.

Angel Tree for Cornerstones (gift cards due Sunday, November 29)

Good Shepherd is continuing its support of the Cornerstones' Gift Cards Angel Tree program. Good Shepherd will be providing 150 ($25) gift cards for 60 children, seniors. This year, Walmart, Visa and Target gift cards are requested.

Please visit the Angel Tree in the church entry area and select a slip from the basket next to the Angel Tree. Then purchase the gift card and return it to the box on that table. (Gift cards must be physical cards - no e-cards please.) All gift cards must be returned to the church by **Sunday, November 29**. Questions? Contact Holly Vanderhoof: **holly@gslcva.org**. See also the instructions on the table next to the tree.

Christkindlmarket - December 6



Join us in the Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, December 6**, from 12:15 to 2:30 p.m. for the annual Christkindlmarket & Christmas Lunch! Kids can shop for Christmas gifts with assistance from our youth volunteers, while everyone enjoys a festive meal and fellowship. This event is fun for the entire congregation, all are welcome.

Donations, dropped off at the church office, of new or like-new gifts for the market are requested by November 29. All proceeds support Senior High Youth mission trip fundraising. Questions? Contact Holly Vanderhoof: **holly@gslcva.org**.

Ladies' Advent Tea - December 5



Advent is a time to remember how the world waited for the Messiah, and how we wait for His Second Coming today. But so often in the weeks before Christmas we are so busy preparing that we fail to take time to experience the beauty of the season ourselves.

Join the women of Good Shepherd and their guests, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on **Saturday, December 5**, as we restore ourselves during the busy Advent season. Enjoy a potluck lunch, beautiful music, a devotion, and fellowship. Guests are always welcome. Please RSVP by signing up electronically at **https://tinyurl.com/2bhmxams**, scan the QR code, or in person in the church entry area.

Questions? Contact June McGurn through the church office: **gslc@gslcva.org**.

Helping Hands

Do you love to crochet or knit? Are you too busy to attend another meeting? Have we got news for you!

Helping Hands makes lap blankets and prayer shawls for Capital Caring Hospice. This ministry helps provide the necessary materials for you to help out at home whenever you are able to crochet or knit.

Questions? Contact Chris Miller through the church office: **gslc@gslcva.org**.

Preschool Pizza and PJs Night

Put on your coziest pajamas and join us for a festive night of Christmas fun at Good Shepherd Lutheran School, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on **Friday, December 4**. This FREE community event will take place in the Preschool Wing and is open to everyone, so invite your friends, neighbors, and family to join the fun! We'll have pizza, Christmas cookies, festive crafts, and a special storytime celebrating the birth of Jesus.

Please RSVP: **https://tinyurl.com/3bbuzvku**.

Upcoming Events

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

Worship Services
Sunday, November 22: 8:00 a.m. (Traditional service) and 11:00 a.m. (Contemporary/Praise service)
Wednesday, November 25: 12:00 p.m. (Thanksgiving Eve service). See article on the the back side.

Choir Practice
Sunday, November 15: 10:45 a.m. (choir room)

Prayer Gathering
Wednesday, November 18: 7:00 p.m. (video teleconference)

Life Groups
Women's Thursday Morning Bible Study: Thursday, November 19, 10:00–11:30 a.m. GSLC (Room 203)
Men's Bible Study: Friday, November 20, 7:00–8:00 a.m. at Panera (Elden Street)

Community Service: SLHS Food Pantry
Monday, November 16: 2:00–4:00 p.m. (pantry rooms)
Wednesday, November 18: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. (pantry rooms)
Thursday, November 19: 2:30–3:30 p.m. (lower level)

Preschool Christmas Program

Don't miss the magic of Christmas! Join us **Friday, December 11** at 5:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church as our preschoolers sing, smile, and celebrate Jesus' birth, and bring your family and friends to share the joy.

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. Visit **https://211virginia.org**

Volunteers Needed! The Closet of Greater Herndon: Good Shepherd's next volunteer days are **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** or scan the QR code to the right.

Thanksgiving and Christmas Meals. Help us support Cornerstones clients and Lake Anne House residents with a nice holiday meal this year. Online donations can be made at: **https://tinyurl.com/4dznmmm2** or via the QR Code to the left.

Hypothermia Shelter Meals (Registration open!). As winter approaches, so does a meaningful opportunity to make a difference. Sign up for our Hypothermia Shelter Meals Ministry, where volunteers **help provide hot, nourishing meals each Wednesday, December through March.** This year, the need is greater than ever, with the shelter serving approximately 70 guests nightly. Our congregation committed to providing at least **40 meals each week**. Whether you prepare a meal, donate supplies, or serve in person, your kindness can bring comfort, dignity, and hope to those experiencing homelessness during the coldest months. Meal preparation is simple. Think of it like packing a meal for a family picnic, using disposable containers and easy-to-eat foods such as shredded meats and soft fruits. In-person serving opportunities are available for volunteers 18 and older. Join us in sharing Christ's love through this vital ministry and help ensure our neighbors receive a warm meal and a welcoming smile this winter.

Sign up today: **https://tinyurl.com/4n5m8b9u** or scan the QR code to the right for more information.

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 5**, from 8:50 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**

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 o**n 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:** pasta, cereal, bar soap, peanut butter, jelly

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 to volunteer and learn more about these opportunities as well as their virtual orientation sessions.

FY2026 Annual Report - Final Version Released

The final version of the FY2026 Annual Report is now available, on our **website**, by clicking the banner at the top, and includes updated information to close out the fiscal year, along with budget summaries, attendance statistics, and other key ministry metrics. This edition also provides a look ahead to the coming year, highlighting future plans, priorities, and financial projections as we continue moving forward together in ministry.



Thanksgiving Eve Service (save the date)

As a reminder our Thanksgiving Eve service will be on **Wednesday, November 25**, at 12:00 p.m.

Please join us in person in the sanctuary, or later that evening via the recorded service.