



GOOD SHEPHERD

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 1, 2026

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 58:1-12 | 1 Corinthians 2:1-16 | Matthew 5:13-20

Reminder—Inclement weather and services

Due to winter weather conditions, there may be changes to our service schedule. Please check your email and visit our website for the latest updates on any event and/or service cancellations or modifications. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we prioritize the safety of our congregation during inclement weather. Stay safe, and we look forward to seeing you in worship.

Chili Bingo—Register today!

Good Shepherd's Annual Chili Bingo has had a change of date! Join us on **Sunday, March 1**, at 12:30 p.m., following the 11:00 a.m. service for food, fun, and fellowship! Bring chili, cornbread, salad, or dessert and/or help with set up or clean up. You don't have to enter your chili in the contest, but why wouldn't you? It's your shot at being crowned the Chili King or Chili Queen—or at least a runner up! If you want to enter the contest, bring a large batch of chili (to serve 12 or more) for judging and eating. After lunch, we move on to BINGO with lots of prizes to win! Questions? Contact Heidi Cooper (heidi@gslcva.org).

Scan the QR code to the right to register or visit: <https://tinyurl.com/38pmkyc3>.



Lent 2026: "The Salutary Gift"

Worship services during Lent this year will explore the theme "The Salutary Gift"—the Lord's Supper. The words of institution convey the primary blessing of the Lord's Supper: "Given and shed for you for the *forgiveness of sins*." Holy Scripture uses other images and metaphors as well to highlight the blessings of the Lord's Supper. The Lord's Supper holds nourishing power for those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. Christians suffering from bodily ailments take comfort in considering the Lord's Supper as a healing medicine, seeing that the complete healing of their bodies in the resurrection begins now with the healing of the soul in the Sacrament of the Altar. It also offers community, rest for our souls, and a foretaste of the eternal wedding feast to come. It is also a covenant meal and a feast of victory.

Join us on Ash Wednesday (**February 18**, noon and 7:30 p.m.), at midday services each subsequent Wednesday during Lent, and then during Holy Week, as we consider the many blessings of the Lord's Supper.

Worship Services during Lent

Ash Wednesday, February 18, noon and 7:30 p.m.

Imposition of ashes at both services

The 7:30 service will be livestreamed and recorded

Midweek (Wednesday) services, noon, February 25–March 25

These services will be recorded and posted on Wednesday evenings

Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday, March 29

8:00 a.m.	Traditional service (sanctuary) with Holy Communion
9:00–10:45 a.m.	Pancake Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
11:00 a.m.	Traditional service (sanctuary) with Holy Communion

This service will be livestreamed and recorded

Maundy Thursday, April 2, 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, April 3, 7:30 p.m.

This service will be livestreamed and recorded

Easter Sunday, April 5

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

This service will be livestreamed and recorded

Above & Beyond fall catalog

Good Shepherd's latest edition of the Above & Beyond (A&B) catalog is available, with hard copies available in the church entry area.

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

Are you interested in giving to these initiatives? Unsure of where to give? Please check out:

- Preschool Expansion Support: \$31,575
- Choir Section Leaders: \$19,650
- Special Worship Music: \$2,760
- Columbarium (2 teak benches): \$2,000 each
- Columbarium (Biblical passage): \$2,000

We invite you to prayerfully consider lending your hand to these initiatives, which inspire connection and growth within our church family and beyond. Every contribution, no matter the size, is a vital thread in the beautiful tapestry of our shared mission.



Columbarium: Selection of Niches

The columbarium garden is now complete! Please 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.

Upcoming Events

Worship Services

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

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

Choir Practice

Sunday, February 8: 9:30 a.m. (choir room)

Sunday School

Sunday, February 8: 9:30 a.m. (kids, youth, adults)

Prayer Gathering

Wednesday, February 4: 7:00 p.m. (video teleconference)*

Life Groups

Women's Thursday Morning Bible Study:

Thursday, February 5: 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. GSLC (Room 203).

Men's Friday Bible Study: Friday, February 6: 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. at Panera Bread (Elden Street).

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

Community Service

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

Wednesday, February 4: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry (pantry rooms)

Thursday, February 5: 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)

Preschool needs your help!

Good Shepherd family, our preschool ministry is in immediate need of extra hands in the afternoons. We are looking for adults who can serve any day(s) Monday–Friday from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The days are flexible, but we do need a consistent presence during the aforementioned time period. If you feel called to help, please reach out to Sarah in the school office. Your support strengthens this ministry and blesses our families in a very real way. Interested? Contact Sarah Brazell (preschool@gslcva.org).

Pet Bible Study

Join us for the second offering of our Bible Study about pets - the same study previously offered on January 18 - on **Sunday, March 1, at 9:30 a.m.** This gathering will be a time of reflection and deeper understanding of God's Word. Interested? Check out the following summary for details.

Where do pets go after their time on earth? Is there a pet heaven? Are serpents, named in Genesis, not included in this possible pet heaven? What does God's Word reveal about these issues? Recently, Pastor Johann has fielded many of these questions, in light of numerous GSLC members' pets' passing during the last two years as well as many other pets of members currently suffering from severe illness. Please sign-up either by scanning the QR code to the right or on the sign-up list in the church entryway.



First Communion

We're excited to announce that First Communion classes for 5th and 6th grade students will begin on **Sunday, February 22.**

Class Details:

Leader: Pastor James

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. (during Sunday School)

Duration: Five sessions designed to prepare students for Holy Communion

Requirement: A parent or guardian must attend each session with their child

How to Sign Up or Ask Questions:

Phone: 703-437-5020

Email: Michele (michele@gslcva.org) or Pastor Gary James (pastorgary@gslcva.org)

We look forward to seeing you and your child!

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.

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. Join us at Good Shepherd as we intake, sort and shelve donations on **Saturday, February 7**, from 8:50 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. This effort involves 50 to 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).



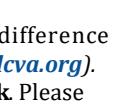
Volunteers needed! The Closet of Greater Herndon. Congregation scheduled days have returned to The Closet!

Good Shepherd's next volunteer days are 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 - 4 open dates left! Every Wednesday 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. **Days available: February 25, March 4, March 11, and March 18.** 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! Since the beginning they have distributed more than **TWO MILLION NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND 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. *Interested? Email Holly Vanderhoof (holly@gslcva.org).* Needs are on the rise. We are averaging well over **7,000 pounds (3 1/2 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 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 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 Thursdays. Bags will be loaded and unloaded at the school for you. Thursday afternoons, 2:50 - 3:30 p.m. Interested? Please contact Holly (holly@gslcva.org).

URGENT NEEDS: peanut butter, jelly, canned meat, pasta, bar soap, diced tomatoes, pasta sauce

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.

Be a Flower Sponsor in 2026

Are you looking for a way to commemorate a birthday or anniversary? give thanks for answered prayers? offer a memorial for a loved one? glorify God for His many blessings? You can do so - by "sponsoring" floral decorations used during worship services. **The 2026 flower sponsorship sign-up charts are now on the bulletin board near the Fellowship Hall.** Pick the Sunday or Sundays on which you'd like to be a flower sponsor. Put your name on the chart for those Sundays, and make a note about what you'll be honoring or celebrating. (This information will be included in the bulletin for that Sunday.) You can also sign up for a sponsorship online at gslcva.org/giving. The "Flower sponsorship" form is at the bottom of that page. You may take your flowers home after church services have concluded on your Sunday. Sponsorships are **\$50 per arrangement**. Please submit your payments when you sign up to be a sponsor. You can submit a check (use one of the envelopes on the bulletin board) or pay through our online payment portal.

Middle School Youth Gathering

Join us for the Spring Middle School Youth Gathering in Williamsburg, Virginia from April 24 to 26. This year's theme, **ONE**, will guide us through Paul's words in Ephesians. We are pleased to welcome **AJ Vega** as our keynote speaker. For more information contact Holly Vanderhoof (holly@gslcva.org). Register through this link: <https://tinyurl.com/ybc5t9am>.

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 our latest updates.

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!