



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

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 22, 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



Ash Wednesday's Readings:

Genesis 12:1-4a | Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 | John 3:1-17

Chili Bingo—Next Sunday

Chili Bingo is almost here! Join us **Sunday, March 1 at 12:30 p.m.** after the 11:00 a.m. service for great food, friendly competition, and BINGO prizes. Bring chili, cornbread, salad, or dessert—and enter your chili for a chance to be crowned Chili King or Queen. Contest entries should serve **12+**. All proceeds support our High School Ministry Workcamp trip to **Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan**. Questions: Heidi Cooper (heidi@gslcva.org) Register via the QR code to the right.



Lent 2026: "The Salutory Gift"

Worship services during Lent this year will explore the theme "The Salutory 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 for Lenten Midweek services each Wednesday at noon during Lent, and then during Holy Week, as we consider the many blessings of the Lord's Supper.

Worship Services during Lent

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 (This service will be livestreamed and recorded)
First Communion for students who have received instruction

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) - *Preservice music begins at 8:00 a.m.*
- 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) - *Preservice music begins at 11:00 a.m.* (This service will be livestreamed and recorded)

New giving opportunities in the latest Above & Beyond fall catalog

The winter/spring edition of the Above & Beyond catalog is now available electronically on our website at gslcva.org/giving. Hard copies are available in the church entry area and on the Resource Table in the Fellowship Hall. This new edition includes giving opportunities for 10 mission projects, and the Property Team has identified a need for dehumidifiers to control mold growth on the sanctuary ceiling. This latest catalog also gives updates on funding to date for all A&B items. Please note that this information represents a snapshot of funds received. For the most up-to-date information about current funding balances, please contact Georgia Thorstenson (georgia@gslcva.org). Thank you to everyone who so generously supports this stewardship program.

Upcoming Events

Worship Services

Wednesday, February 25: 12:00 p.m. (Lenten Midweek service)

Sunday, March 1: 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. (Traditional services)*

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

Choir Practice

Sunday, March 1: 9:30 a.m. (choir room)

Sunday School

Sunday, March 1: 9:30 a.m. (kids, youth, adults)

Life Groups

Manic Mondays: Monday, February 23: 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (Cors's House).

Word Workers: Wednesday, February 25: 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Virtual (Zoom).

Women's Thursday Morning Bible Study:

Thursday, February 26: 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. GSLC (Room 203).

Men's Friday Bible Study: Friday, February 27: 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. at Panera Bread (Elden Street).

*Check out our [Calendar on the website](#) for life groups

Community Service

Monday, February 23: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry (pantry rooms)

Wednesday, February 25: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry (pantry rooms)

Thursday, February 26: 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

Board of Servant Leaders (BoSL) Nominations

It's that time of the year! No, not taxes. The 2026 Nominating Committee is now seeking candidates who meet the requirements to run for membership to the Board of Servant Leaders for three member positions. Nominations are due by **Friday, March 6**, for three positions. The election will take place in March. The term of office is two years starting in May. Check out our website (gslcva.org/news-events/forms-documents) for more information on BoSL and board member responsibilities and the nomination form. Questions? Email the church office (gslc@gslcva.org) to speak with the Nominating Committee.

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)

Pet Bible Study

Join us for the second offering of our Bible Study about pets on **Sunday, March 1, at 9:30 a.m. (Rm. 202)**. This gathering will be a time of reflection and deeper understanding of God's Word. Interested? 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? Please sign-up either by scanning the QR code to the right or on the sign-up list in the church entryway.



Lenten devotional materials available

Lenten devotional materials -- including booklets and a calendar of daily 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!

Save the Date—"Seen" Retreat

Don't miss this exclusive opportunity! Join Our Savior's Way for an inspiring one-day women's retreat on **Saturday, April 18**, where you'll connect with women of faith from across our area. Mark your calendar now for a day of meaningful fellowship and spiritual growth.

First Communion—new start date!

We're excited to announce that First Communion classes for 5th and 6th grade students will begin on **Sunday, March 1**.

Class Details: Leader: Pastor James | Time: 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. (during Sunday School) | Duration: Five sessions preparing students for Holy Communion | Requirement: Parent or guardian must attend class 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)



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>.

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.

Family Opportunity 10 & up! Adopt a Highway. Join us on Saturday, March 21, 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.**

Volunteers needed! The Closet of Greater Herndon. Congregation scheduled days have returned to The Closet! Good Shepherd's next volunteer days are March 12 and 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 sign up or visit <http://tinyurl.com/5n7kbmb2>.



Hypothermia Shelter Meals – 3 open dates left (March 4, March 11, and March 18). 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. 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! 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 ½ 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: diced tomatoes, peanut butter, jelly, pasta sauce, bar soap, 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.