



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

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 2, 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 Service Readings (Ash Wednesday)

Joel 12:12-19

| Hebrews 12:2

| Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Lenten devotional materials available

Devotional materials to use during Lent -- including booklets and a calendar of daily activities especially for families -- are available in the church entry area today. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5. Please help yourself to these items!

Lent 2025: "The Hand of the Lord"

Worship services during Lent this year will explore the theme "The Hand of the Lord."



Hands are amazing instruments. They can be used to heal or hurt, work or wreck, build or break, seize or surrender. Hands are central to the ways we interact with the world and are symbols of power, control, craftsmanship, and possession.

Hands are mentioned throughout the Bible. In the Old Testament, we find more than two hundred references to the Lord's hand being active in creation, power, control over happenings of the world, judgment, and salvation.

In the New Testament, the "hand of the Lord" takes on literal meaning: The hand of the Lord comes to us in Jesus. Join us on Ash Wednesday (March 5) and at midday services each subsequent Wednesday during Lent as we consider hands: the hand of the Lord; Jesus' real hands; and our own hands, restored as useful instruments of witness, service, and praise.

Worship Services during Lent

Ash Wednesday, March 5, 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, March 12–April 9

These services will be recorded and posted on Wednesday evenings

Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday, April 13

8:00 a.m.	Traditional service (sanctuary)
9:00–10:45 a.m.	Pancake Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
11:00 a.m.	Traditional service (sanctuary)
	This service will be livestreamed and recorded

Maundy Thursday, April 17, 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 18, 7:30 p.m.

This service will be livestreamed and recorded

Easter Sunday, April 20

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

Gustavus Choir—free concert

Come join [Our Savior's Way Lutheran Church](#) and experience the Gustavus Choir in concert on **Friday, March 7, at 7:00 p.m.** The choir's artistry will move audiences of all ages as they deliver a program that uplifts the spirit and highlights the universal power of our shared humanity.

Questions? Contact Anne Lee (anne@gslcva.org) for more information.

First Communion—5th and 6th Graders

Pastor James's First Communion instruction classes for children in grades 5 and 6 will be held during the Sunday School hour, from 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m., and parent(s) will be asked to attend with their child. We will meet for 5 sessions, starting **Sunday, March 9**. Classes will meet every Sunday, including Sunday, April 6. The curriculum is designed to prepare students to receive Holy Communion.

For more information, please email Michele (michele@gslcva.org), call the church office (703-437-5020), or contact Pastor James (PastorGary@gslcva.org). Please type "First Communion" in the email Subject line when requesting more information via email.

California Wildfires

Our partners at Lutheran World Relief are responding to the needs of those impacted by the California wildfires. This includes sending LWR Quilts and Kits to affected families. The destruction and need are overwhelming. Right now, the number one need is financial gifts so that the team at Lutheran World Relief can reach our neighbors as quickly as possible. Are you interested in giving? Please donate at [Lutheran World Relief](#)

(<https://tinyurl.com/4zbpzejj>).

Questions? Please contact Holly Vanderhoof (holly@gslcva.org).

Events This Week

Worship Services: Wednesday, March 5: 12:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. (Ash Wednesday with Imposition of Ashes) | **Sunday, March 9:** 8:00 a.m. (Matins service) and 11:00 a.m. (Contemporary/Praise service)

Check out our website (<https://gslcva.org/worship/services/>) for more information.

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

Choir Practice: Sunday, March 9: 9:30 a.m. (Choir loft)

Prayer Gathering: No prayer gathering due to Ash Wednesday

Community Service: Monday, March 3: 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry (pantry rooms) | **Wednesday, March 5:** 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry (pantry rooms) | **Thursday, March 6:** 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry transport for distribution at SLHS (lower parking lot) | Questions? Contact Holly Vanderhoof (holly@gslcva.org).

Adopt-a-Highway

Join us on **Saturday, March 15**, at 8:30 a.m. for a light breakfast in the Fellowship Hall, with pickup starting promptly at 9:00 a.m. Help us keep God's creation beautiful! **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.** For more information contact Holly Vanderhoof (holly@gslcva.org).

Board of Servant Leaders—listening sessions

The Board of Servant Leaders is planning to hold in-person congregation listening sessions on **Sunday, March 23**, after the 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. services. The Board of Servant Leaders will be in the church entry area after the 8:00 a.m. service and in the Fellowship Hall after the 11:00 a.m. service. The sessions will focus on one question intended to define long-term priorities. The question being: What is God calling the Congregation to be now and in the future? Please prayerfully consider this question and be ready to provide your input.

Life Groups

Women's Morning Bible Study: Thursday, March 6: 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (GSLC Room 203)*

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

*For more information check out the Life Group portion of our webpage (<https://gslcva.org/ministries/life-groups/>)

Vacation Bible School (VBS)

Are you interested in either attending or volunteering for VBS? Join us from Monday, June 16, through Friday, June 20, for VBS. The theme this year is True North - Trusting Jesus in a Wild World. For more information contact Holly Vanderhoof (holly@gslcva.org).

Good Shepherd Lutheran School (GSLs) Summer Camp 2025

We are now accepting applications for GSLs Summer Camp 2025! This camp is open to the public, so please tell your family and friends about this exciting 6-week camp for preschoolers with half-day, full-day, and aftercare options. Each week features a different learning theme with hands-on activities and water play! For applications, visit our webpage (gslcva.org/preschool) under the “forms” section. For more information contact Preschool Director Sarah Brazell (preschool@gslcva.org).



Above & Beyond catalog—update as of February 19

Good Shepherd’s latest edition of the Above & Beyond (A&B) catalog has 31 items for giving opportunities. Are you interested in the status of what is funded? Or what has a remaining balance? Check out the update below, please prayerfully consider supporting these items. Thank you to all of those who have previously supported these items.

Fully Funded Items from Current Catalog:
South Lakes High School Food Pantry | Workcamp 2025 (Winchester, Kentucky) | Rental Vans for Workcamp 2025 | Senior Youth Ministry | Campus Ministry | Columbarium Peace Garden | Toddler Changing Table | Tabletop Light Panel

Remaining Balances for remaining funds:
Lake Anne House: \$5,899 | Fellowship Square: \$5,924 | Dogwood Elementary Grocery Gift Cards: \$1,049 | Dogwood Elementary Support: \$1,500 | Cornerstones: \$11,899 | Meals of Hope/Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing: \$5,600 | Kids & Youth Ministry Enhancements: \$3,000 | Triennial LCMS National Youth Gathering: \$4,074 | Vacation Bible School: \$2,700 | Celebrations Congregation/Volunteer/New Member): \$2,000 | Staff and Core Ministry Celebrations: \$350 | Congregational Events (Sight & Sound Offset bus costs): \$2,500 | Evergreen Lutheran School: \$3,000 | Lutheran World Relief: \$2,996 | Samaritan’s Purse: \$3,500 | LCMS – Osiro Support: \$2,500 | LCMS – Payne Support: \$2,500 | FaithAid: Mustard Seed House: \$342.50 | Fraher Family Support: \$2,500 | HVAC-Phase 2: \$81,881 | Sanctuary Choir Support: \$4,300 | Special Music for Festivals: \$6,700 | Concerts: \$6,000

Online Church Directory

GSLC’s online church directory is a great way to connect with others, and to help you connect names with faces. Our directory – using an application called “Instant Church Directory” – is OPT-IN only. To sign up, send the name and email address for ONE PERSON in your family to the church office. Questions? Contact Brian Cors through the church office (gslc@gslcva.org) for more information.

Community Service

Do you know of someone that 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.

Good Shepherd’s upcoming scheduled volunteer days at The Closet are March 18 and April 2. 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 signup or visit <http://tinyurl.com/5n7kbmb2>.



A Simple Gesture Food Collection. Join us every other month as 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, April 5**, from 8:50 a.m. 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! Since the beginning they have distributed more than **TWO MILLION 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. *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 (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 (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 Thursdays. Bags will be loaded and unloaded at the school for you. Thursday afternoons, 2:50 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. 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: pasta sauce, jelly, bar soap

Women Giving Back. Women Giving Back supports 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. Women Giving Back is accepting donations on the following dates: Saturday, March 15, (9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.) and Monday, March 24, (5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.) (spring/summer clothes and PROM).

Visit: <https://womengivingback.org> for more information.

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 learn more about these opportunities as well as their virtual volunteer orientation sessions. Interested? Please contact Holly Vanderhoof (holly@gslcva.org).