



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

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

July 13, 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:

Genesis 18:1-10a

| Colossians 1:15-28

| Luke 10:38-42

Church Email Down

We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience you may be experiencing due to the current technical difficulties with our church email system, due to regional service outages. While we currently have no connectivity to send or receive emails, please rest assured that any messages received during this downtime will be prioritized and responded to promptly as soon as we are back online. If you need to contact the church, please call us or use this temporary email address (gslc1133@gmail.com). Additional copies of the Friday eBlast are posted on our website (under the top banner), as well as Facebook and Instagram. Thank you for your understanding and patience during this time.

Above & Beyond—Missions Highlight

Thanks to the heartfelt contributions of our generous GSLC community, 17 items in the current Above & Beyond (A&B) catalog have been fully funded. Thank you! Still, 18 items await that extra sprinkle of support to bring them to fruition.

This week, we are highlighting a request from our Missions team to support Evergreen Lutheran School. The School is the last LCMS Lutheran School within the city limits of Detroit. Both the school and Evergreen Lutheran Church (which runs and operates the school) are a source of stability in the lives of the youth they serve. **Balance remaining: \$757**

We invite you to prayerfully consider lending your hand to this and other initiatives that 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. Thank you to all who have already stepped forward in faith. Your kindness shines brightly! Check out our [Giving webpage](#) to see our latest catalog.

Fully Funded Items:

- South Lakes High School Food Pantry
- Rental Vans for Workcamp 2025
- Vacation Bible School
- Campus Ministry
- Fraher Family Support
- Columbarium Peace Garden
- Toddler Changing Table
- Triennial LCMS National Youth Gathering
- Sanctuary Choir Support
- Workcamp 2025 (Winchester, Kentucky)
- Senior Youth Ministry
- Kids & Youth Ministry Enhancements
- FaithAid: Mustard Seed House
- HVAC—Phase 2
- Columbarium Peace Garden (Granite Cross)
- Tabletop Light Panel
- Staff and Core Ministry Celebrations



Balances for remaining funds:

- Fellowship Square: \$5,744
- Dogwood Elementary Support: \$1,500
- Meals of Hope/Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing: \$4,021
- Lutheran World Relief: \$1,825
- Celebrations (Congregation/Volunteer/New Member): \$1,678
- Helping Hands (quilt batting & fabric): \$1,500
- LCMS – Payne Support: \$2,500
- Columbarium Peace Garden (6 Teak Benches): \$12,000
- Concerts: \$5,950
- Lake Anne House: \$5,700
- Dogwood Elementary Grocery Gift Cards: \$899
- Cornerstones: \$11,785
- Evergreen Lutheran School: \$757
- Samaritan’s Purse: \$3,490
- Congregational Events (Sight & Sound Offset bus costs): \$2,500
- LCMS – Osiro Support: \$2,500
- Columbarium Peace Garden (3 Biblical Passages): \$6,000
- Special Music for Festivals: \$6,601

Life Groups

Men's Friday Bible Study: Friday, July 18: 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. at Panera Bread (Elden Street).

***Notes:** 2GETHER4LUNCH will not meet in July or August | Interested in our Life Groups? Many of our Life Groups are now on summer break. Check out our [webpage](#) for details in the fall.

Adult Bible Study

The Adult Bible study will gather this **Sunday, July 13**, in Room 111, following the worship service. They will continue their whirlwind tour of the Minor Prophets discussing the meanings, historical context, and how they point toward the Messiah. In September the class will begin a comprehensive study of the Gospel of John using William Barclay’s *The Gospel of John, Volumes One and Two*, to assist in the study.

Lutheran World Relief–Texas Flood Emergency

In the early hours of July 4, heavy rains caused the Guadalupe River in central Texas to rise by 25 feet in minutes. As a result, catastrophic flash flooding swept through the Texas Hill Country, devastating everything in its path. As of July 10, at least 120 people have died, and an estimated 160 still remain missing. The damage affects several counties in central Texas — a region with high levels of poverty and above-average numbers of elderly adults and people with disabilities. In these early days, your compassion is providing Lutheran World Relief Quilts and Kits as well as distributing emergency food, water, tarps, clean up kits, hygiene supplies and clothing to people whose homes were damaged or destroyed. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/mpez7p39> for details on giving.

Events This Week

Worship Services: Sunday, July 20: 9:30 a.m. (Traditional services) | Questions? Check out our website (<https://gslcva.org/worship/services/>)

Sunday School: Sunday, July 20: 10:45 a.m. (Adult Sunday School - see article above for details). Sunday School for kids and youth will return in the fall. | Questions? Check out our website under “Education”: [kids](#), [youth](#), and [adult](#)

Prayer Gathering: Wednesday, July 16: 7:00 p.m. (video teleconference)

Community Service: Monday, July 14: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry (pantry rooms) | **Wednesday, July 16:** 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry (pantry rooms) | **Thursday, July 17:** 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)

The Closet of Greater Herndon—Volunteers desperately needed!

The Closet has put out a call for volunteers as they are desperately needed. If you are unable to volunteer on one of our church days or want to volunteer more, please consider volunteering directly through The Closet at: <https://www.theclosetofgreaterherndon.org/volunteer>

GSLC Tax-Free Donations

Are you 70½ and taking an IRA distribution? Make your donation to GSLC tax free. You can make a tax-free donation Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) to GSLC directly from your IRA. This is the only method under U.S. tax law to donate Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) amounts tax-free. It's available to IRA owners age 70½ or older. You can transfer up to \$100,000 per year (indexed for inflation, so possibly higher in future years) directly from your IRA to one or more IRS-approved charities. The amount of the QCD is excluded from your taxable income and fulfills your RMD. For married couples, each spouse with their own IRA can give \$100,000, effectively \$200,000 combined. With a QCD, the income is simply not counted, and you don't need to itemize to get the benefit. This keeps your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) lower, which can also help you avoid things like higher Medicare premiums (IRMAA surcharges) or the 3.8% net investment income tax if you're near those thresholds. Check with your investment advisor to make sure the donation is correctly accomplished and satisfies IRS rules for both your RMD and a QCD.

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. | **Volunteers needed! The Closet of Greater Herndon. Congregation scheduled days have returned to The Closet! Good Shepherd's next volunteer day is July 24.** 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>. | **The Closet of Greater Herndon collections at Good Shepherd.** Good Shepherd is collecting donations for The Closet. Please look for the black cart with The Closet signage in the closet off of the Narthex to place your donations. | **Helping Hands needs donations.** Helping Hands needs donations of cotton or cotton blend fabric and yarn of any kind. These donations would greatly help us in our mission to provide quilts, prayer shawls and lap blankets for Lutheran World Relief and a local hospice. Donation collection is in the church entry area, look for the donation bin marked "Helping Hands." Thanks to all who have generously donated. | **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: bar soap, dried kidney beans (1 lb. bags), dried garbanzo beans (1 lb. bags)

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. 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).

Online Church Directory

We encourage you to join Good Shepherd's online church directory - a great way to connect with other members, and to help you connect names with faces. Our directory uses "Instant Church Directory" – 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!

Preschool Jobs—Fall 2025

Are you looking for work? Are you interested in a school year position? Check out the following exciting opportunities with Good Shepherd Lutheran School.

2025-2026 School Year: August 18, 2025 – June 9, 2026

Monday through Friday: 7:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Positions Needed: Leads, Assistants and Extended Care employees. Send your resume to Sarah Brazell (preschool@gslcva.org) if you are interested in any of these positions or if you have any questions.

Connections Class

Are you interested in learning more about Good Shepherd? Would you like to make a deeper connection with us and our ministries? If so, we would love to engage with you. Our next Connections Class starts on **Sunday, August 3**, at 9:30 a.m., and runs for three consecutive weeks: **Session One** - Learn more about how Good Shepherd operates, what ministries and opportunities we have for service and Christian education. | **Session Two** - Pastor Johann will give you a mini primer on Lutheran teachings and theology. | **Session three** - Connect with a current member who will help you explore areas of our life and ministry where you might like to become involved.

Can't make one of the sessions? No problem! We offer make up classes. After completing the classes, you are invited to become a member of our congregation, should you choose to do so. No pressure!

Note: If you are transferring to Good Shepherd from another Missouri Synod Lutheran Church, you don't need to attend session two, unless you would like to.

Interested? Contact the church office or Heidi Cooper (heidi@gslcva.org).