



GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS July 5, 2026

Updates and more information: gslcva.org/
Livestream: [Facebook Live](#) | [YouTube](#) | [Vimeo](#)
Preschool: [Facebook](#)
Vanco online giving: gslcva.org/giving
Text to Give: 833-761-1059



Next Service Readings: Isaiah 55:10-13 | Romans 8:1-11 | Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Guest Organist Today!

Please join Good Shepherd this Sunday, July 5, in welcoming guest organist, Richard Thibadeau, a native Washingtonian, who did his undergraduate work at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey, and recently wrapped up 19 years as Music Director at Christ Church on Capitol Hill.

Events this month at Good Shepherd Lutheran School

Four-week camp: This camp (July 6-31) will burst with STEM fun, creative arts & crafts, and music-filled moments. Perfect for ages 2-8, this camp blends learning and play into an unforgettable adventure. Please contact Preschool Director [Sarah Brazell](#) for details.
Mini Melody Makers: Get ready to make some noise with your little ones at our four-week music program designed specifically for infants and toddlers! Mini Melody Makers is a high-energy, parent-child class where you and your child can explore the joy of music together through rhythm, song, and play. It's the perfect way to bond while supporting your little one's early development.

Mini Melody Makers Tuesdays & Thursdays (July 7-30)
9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m., room 102

Secure your spot today at <https://tinyurl.com/mwkm9sjk>

Bible Studies

The Summer Adult Bible study is on a break this week. Stay tuned for class details next week; as well as future book clubs, Summer FUNday School for Kids, and other offerings.

Upcoming Events

Full listing of events and service opportunities at gslcva.org

Worship Services

Sunday, July 12: 9:30 a.m. (Traditional service)

Prayer Gathering

Wednesday, July 8: 7:00 p.m. (video teleconference)

Life Groups

2GETHER4LUNCH: Thursday, July 9: 11:30 a.m. at Euro Bistro (Elden Street)

Men's Bible Study: Friday, July 10: 7:00 a.m.-8:00 a.m. at Panera (Elden Street)

Community Service

Monday, July 6: 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry (pantry rooms)

Wednesday, July 8: 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry (pantry rooms)

Thursday, July 9: 2:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry transport for distribution at South Lakes High School (lower parking lot)

Registration Open: Women's Book Club

Ladies, let's gather on **Sunday, August 2**, following the worship service, for a discussion of the novel *Theo of Golden*, by Allen Levi. We'll enjoy a brunch, and then we'll explore the book's themes and their connections to Scripture. Participation is simple! Read the book by August 1, and then come to the Fellowship Hall on August 2. Brunch will be a potluck. Bring a favorite dish or dessert to share.

Sign-up at: <https://tinyurl.com/42xdmr4p>.

Questions? Contact Heidi Cooper (heidi@gslcva.org).

Pastor Johann's Sabbatical and Vacation

Pastor Johann will be on Sabbatical and vacation from **August 24 through October 19**. Read about the sabbatical plan at the **"From the Pastor" blog** (gslcva.org/from-the-pastor), or contact the church office (gslc@gslcva.org) for more information.

Waffles, Ice Cream, and the Perfect Brew

Join us on **Sunday, July 26**, immediately following the worship service, for a Waffles, Ice Cream, and Coffee Social!

Enjoy a freshly baked waffle the traditional way or create your own waffle sundae with a variety of delicious toppings.

We'll also be serving specialty coffee beverages, including espresso, affogato, and freshly brewed coffee.

Come relax, enjoy great conversation, and share in fellowship with friends old and new. Everyone is welcome!



Festive Sundays

Beginning next month, Good Shepherd will begin celebrating "Festive Sundays" throughout the church year. A Festive Sunday is a significant day in the church year or a special occasion, such as Confirmation or the reception of new members.

Festive Sundays will include special music (choir and/or brass) during worship and might also feature significant fellowship after or between worship services.

Festive Sundays being planned: New Members Day; Voters' Assembly; Reformation and Fall Family Festival; Christmas Eve; Transfiguration Sunday and Chili Bingo; Palm Sunday; Easter.

Financial Updates

For information about Good Shepherd's budget, updates on the Summer Above & Beyond program, and more, see the other side of this page.

Please remember Good Shepherd in your prayers and giving this summer.

Sign Up for Good Shepherd's Online Directory

We encourage you to join Good Shepherd's online church directory. It's a great way to connect with other members and helps 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!

Budget (Expenses and Income)

*Actual expenses includes principal & interest on mortgages, salaries, facility, and all ministry expenses
 **Total income includes offerings and LCEF interest
 YTD spending exceeds YTD budget because of unanticipated issues: much more than the usual heating and snow/ice removal costs; mold and debris removal; and storm water filtration repair. We thank God for His provisions.

Monthly	May 31	Fiscal Year to Date
Budget needs	\$95,150	\$856,350
Actual expenses*	\$100,698	\$919,238
Total income (all sources)**	\$83,858	\$875,354
Offerings minus expenses	(\$16,840)	(\$43,884)

Remember Good Shepherd in your prayers and giving this summer

Fund	Remaining Balance
“Spiritual First Aid” Seminar	\$3,350
Senior Youth Ministry	\$1,474
Cornerstones	\$2,287
Lake Anne Fellowship House	\$3,414
Fellowship Square	\$3,090
NEW: Helping Hands	\$2,000
Middle School Ministry	\$474
Faith Aid – Mustard Seed	\$3,634
Faith Aid – Fraher Family Support	\$2,068
Lutheran World Relief	\$2,260
Lutheran Bible Translators	\$3,500
Sabbatical Support: 2nd interval (2027)	\$6,500
NEW: HVAC system upgrade, Phase 2	\$69,120

New Above & Beyond Catalog

Our **Summer Above & Beyond Catalog** is now available digitally at gslcva.org/giving. Hard copies are available in the church entry area and church office. It includes **new giving opportunities**: Helping Hands and HVAC upgrade, Phase 2.

Fully funded items are listed below. Items with remaining balances, as of June 8, are shown in the table on the left. For most current data, contact Business Manager Georgia Thorstenson (georgia@gslcva.org).

Thank you to everyone who generously supports our stewardship programs.

FULLY FUNDED

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|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| SLHS Food Panty | Expansion Preschool Operations |
| Special Music (in Worship) | Columbarium & Garden Fund |
| Vacation Bible School | (2 benches & 1 passage) |
| Workcamp 2026 | Dehumidifiers |
| Workcamp Van Rentals | Evergreen Lutheran School |
| Choral Section Leaders | LCMS: Osiro (Kenya) |
| Dogwood Elementary Gift Cards | LCMS: Payne (Tanzania) |
| Dogwood Elementary Support | LCMS: Wood (Indonesia) |
| Meals of Hope | Principe de Paz Luterana |
| Sabbatical Support (1st interval) | LCMS Ministry: Armed Forces |

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. (<https://211virginia.org>)

Volunteers Needed! The Closet of Greater Herndon: Congregation scheduled days are back! Good Shepherd’s next volunteer days are **July 6, July 29, and August 20**. 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>

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. Donations may also be shipped to the church: SLHS Food Pantry, c/o GSLC, 1133 Reston Ave., Herndon, VA 20170.

Drivers needed on Thursdays: Bags will be loaded and unloaded at the school for you. Thursday 2:50 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Interested? Contact Holly (holly@gslcva.org).

Urgent needs: pasta sauce, oatmeal, 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 for a volunteer hub and learn more about these opportunities as well as their virtual volunteer orientation sessions.