



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

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

August 2, 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:

1 Kings 19:9-18

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Romans 10:5-15

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Matthew 14:22-32

Women's Book Club (Today)

Ladies, join us in the Fellowship Hall today, **Sunday, August 2**, following the worship service, for a brunch and discussion of *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi.

Together, we will explore the novel's themes and their connections to Scripture using *Seen By God, Sent to See Others*, the Bible study companion to *Theo of Golden*.

We look forward to a meaningful time of fellowship, discussion, and spiritual reflection. Bring a favorite dish or dessert to share. Sign up by scanning the QR code to the right. Questions? Contact Heidi Cooper (heidi@gslcva.org).



SEEN BY GOD,
SENT TO SEE OTHERS

A Bible Study Companion to Theo of Golden

Bible Study

Join us today, following the 9:30 a.m. service, in room 111 for the Adult Bible Study. The focus of this study is on Isaiah 40:28-31. Stay tuned for future Bible Study and Sunday School offerings.

Women's Retreat (Save the Date)

When worry, fear, and anxiety rise, it can feel as though God is absent. Scripture doesn't deny those experiences. God remains our anchor. An anchor doesn't stop the waves—it keeps the ship from drifting away. Hebrews 6 reminds us that our hope is anchored in God's unchanging character and His faithfulness, even when our emotions rise and fall. Join us as we explore this theme for our weekend retreat in lovely Winchester. Questions? Contact Heidi Cooper (heidi@gslcva.org).

Women's retreat November 13-15.

Registration opens August 16. All women are welcome!

Voters' Assembly (Save the Date)

Good Shepherd's annual Voters' Assembly will be held on **Sunday, August 23**, following the 9:30 a.m. worship service. The Board of Servant Leaders will present the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year. Stay tuned in the coming weeks for the release of the proposed budget summary, budget narratives from the ministry areas, the 2026 Preliminary Annual Report, and the 2025 Voters' Assembly minutes.

WORRY, FEAR, ANXIETY.

*Where is God
in all of this?*



WE HAVE THIS
HOPE AS AN
ANCHOR
FOR THE SOUL,
FIRM
AND
SECURE.

HEBREWS 6:19



Women's Retreat
November 13-15, 2026

Upcoming Events

Full listing of events and service opportunities at gslcva.org

Worship Services

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

Prayer Gathering

Wednesday, August 5: 7:00 p.m. (video teleconference)

Life Groups

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

Community Service

Monday, August 3: 2:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry (pantry rooms)

Wednesday, August 5: 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry (pantry rooms)

Thursday, August 6: 2:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry transport for distribution at South Lakes High School (lower parking lot)

General Fund Booklet Now Available

An updated version of the General Fund booklet is now available. This booklet explains the General Fund (our budget) and gives details about how various ministry areas spend allocated resources. Thank you for your ongoing, generous support of Good Shepherd. Hard copies are available at the welcome center or on our website under ["Forms & Documents."](#)

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.



JOIN OUR TEAM

GSLC IS HIRING!

Apply on Indeed:



LEAD TEACHER: 3-YEAR-OLDS

Part-time: 23-25 hours a week

Email your resume to
Sarah Brazell:
preschool@gslcva.org

Financial Updates

Stay tuned for information about Good Shepherd's budget. Updates on the Summer Above & Beyond program, can be seen on 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!

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.

Fund	Remaining Balance
“Spiritual First Aid” Seminar	\$3,350
Senior Youth Ministry	\$1,474
Lake Anne House	\$3,344
Fellowship Square	\$2,995
NEW: Helping Hands	\$1,800
Middle School Ministry	\$474
Faith Aid – Mustard Seed	\$3,634
Faith Aid – Fraher Family Support	\$2,068
Lutheran World Relief	\$1,881
Lutheran Bible Translators	\$3,400
Sabbatical Support: 2nd interval (2027)	\$6,049
NEW: HVAC system upgrade, Phase 2	\$64,070

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 July 9, 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

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

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>)

Cornerstones Back to School Drive—now through September. Cornerstones’ Back to School Drive helps ensure children start the school year prepared, confident, and ready to learn. Donations support students from families facing financial hardship with essential school supplies and hearty, healthy snacks to support weekend nutrition. Shop our **Amazon Wish List**, by scanning the QR code below, or drop your donations at specific times and locations.

DROP OFF your donations: Cornerstones “Food Hub”, Fridays 10:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.
Cornerstones’ FREE from Hunger Center
22560 Glenn Drive, Unit 105
Sterling, Virginia 20164



Volunteers Needed! The Closet of Greater Herndon: Congregation scheduled days are ongoing, stay tuned for additional days! Good Shepherd’s next volunteer day is **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. Grocery intake on Wednesdays 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.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: oatmeal, bar soap, diced tomatoes, jelly, pasta sauce, cereal

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.

GSLC Tax-Free Donations

Are you 70½ and taking an IRA distribution? **Donate to GSLC tax-free** through Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD) 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 directly from your IRA to one or more IRS-approved charities. The QCD amount 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. Check with your investment advisor for details and applicable regulations.