



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

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS  
September 7, 2025

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**Next Service Readings:** Exodus 32:7-14 | 1 Timothy 12-17 | Luke 15:1-10

New Worship Schedule Changes—starting today!

Good Shepherd returns to its "regular" worship schedule of two services each week, at 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., today, **September 7**. Here's an outline of our worship schedule:

- **First Sundays, 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.:** Traditional worship in the sanctuary; Holy Communion
- **Second Sundays, 8:00 a.m.:** Order of Matins in the sanctuary | **11:00 a.m.:** Praise/contemporary worship in the Fellowship Hall
- **Third Sundays, 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.:** Traditional worship in the sanctuary; Holy Communion
- **Fourth Sundays, 8:00 a.m.:** Traditional worship in the sanctuary | **11:00 a.m.:** Praise/contemporary worship in the Fellowship Hall; Holy Communion
- **Fifth Sundays, 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.:** Traditional worship in the sanctuary; Holy Communion

Rally Day—today!

Rally Day activities include a congregation-wide service opportunity! Between the services, everyone is invited to take part in our **Big Serve Sunday event**, in the Fellowship Hall. Help us pack 10,000 meals through Meals of Hope, benefiting the South Lakes High School food pantry.

GSLC Hiking Group’s September Adventure—next Sunday

Summer’s blazing hot temperatures have given way to cooler, crisper, fall conditions and it is time to get together for a hike. On **Sunday, September 14**, after the 11:00 a.m. worship service, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church’s hiking group will be walking the wooded paths at Walker Nature Center (**11450 Glade Dr., Reston, VA 20191**) in Reston for a hike of the Discovery Loop and Snakeden Trail with exhibits in the Nature Center. A hiking leader will stay with each group if we decide to break into groups to accommodate longer and shorter distances. If people wish to carpool, we can make those arrangements in the church entry area immediately after the service.

**We will meet at 12:30 p.m. at the Walker Nature Center.** It has restrooms and water fountains. You may wish to bring along water and a snack. Questions? Please contact Jeannie, John, or Drew through the church office ([gslc@gslcva.org](mailto:gslc@gslcva.org)).

Above & Beyond

Thanks to the heartfelt contributions of our generous GSLC community, 25 items in the current Above & Beyond (A&B) catalog have been fully funded. 11 items await that extra sprinkle of support to bring them to fruition. We invite you to prayerfully consider lending your hand to these initiatives. Thank you to all who have stepped forward in faith. Check out our [Giving webpage](#) to see our latest catalog.

Fully Funded Items:		Balances for remaining funds:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dogwood Elementary Grocery Gift Cards</li><li>• Dogwood Elementary Support</li><li>• South Lakes High School Food Pantry</li><li>• Workcamp 2025 (Elizabeth City, North Carolina)</li><li>• Rental Vans for Workcamp 2025</li><li>• Senior Youth Ministry</li><li>• Kids &amp; Youth Ministry Enhancements</li><li>• Triennial LCMS Natl Youth Gathering</li><li>• Vacation Bible School</li><li>• Staff and Core Ministry Celebrations</li><li>• Celebrations (Congregation, Volunteer, and New Member)</li><li>• Campus Ministry</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Evergreen Lutheran School</li><li>• Lutheran World Relief</li><li>• FaithAid: Mustard Seed House</li><li>• Fraher Family Support</li><li>• LCMS - Osiro Support</li><li>• LCMS - Payne Support</li><li>• HVAC - Phase 2</li><li>• Columbarium Peace Garden</li><li>• Columbarium Peace Garden (Granite Cross)</li><li>• Columbarium Peace Garden (1) Bible Passage</li><li>• Sanctuary Choir Support</li><li>• Toddler Changing Table</li><li>• Tabletop Light Panel</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lake Anne House: \$4,288</li><li>• Fellowship Square: \$5,706</li><li>• Cornerstones: \$11,723</li><li>• Meals of Hope/Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing: \$2,983</li><li>• Helping Hands (quilt batting &amp; fabric): \$1,300</li><li>• Congregational Events (Sight &amp; Sound Offset bus costs): \$2,500</li><li>• Samaritan's Purse: \$3,466</li><li>• Columbarium Peace Garden (2) Biblical Passages: \$4,000</li><li>• Columbarium Peace Garden (6) Teak Benches: \$12,000</li><li>• Special Music for Festivals: \$5,553</li><li>• Concerts: \$5,355</li></ul>

Life Groups

**Women's Thursday Morning Bible Study: Thursday, September 11:** 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. GSLC (Room 203).  
**2GETHER4LUNCH: Thursday, September 11:** 11:30 a.m. at Euro Bistro (Elden Street).  
**Men's Friday Bible Study: Friday, September 12:** 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. at Panera Bread (Elden Street).  
**Notes:** Interested in our Life Groups? Many of our Life Groups are returning from summer break. Check out our [webpage](#) for details or stay tuned for further updates in future emails.

Ladies’ Sunday Bible Study

The next Ladies' Bible Study will start on **Sunday, September 14**. Join us as we go through Donna Snows' book, *Strong and Courageous: Studying God's Promises in Joshua*. During this eight-session Bible study, we will look at the life of Joshua and see how we, too, can be strong and courageous amidst any challenges, conflicts, or roadblocks we face. Questions? Contact Heidi Cooper ([heidi@gslcva.org](mailto:heidi@gslcva.org)).

Events This Week

**Worship Service: Sunday, September 14:** 9:30 a.m. (Order of Matins service) and 11:00 a.m. (Praise/Contemporary) | Questions? Check out our website (<https://gslcva.org/worship/services/>)  
**Sunday School: Sunday, September 14:** 9:30 a.m. (kids, youth, adults) | Questions? Check out our website under "Education": [kids](#), [youth](#), and [adult](#)  
**Prayer Gathering: Wednesday, September 10:** 7:00 p.m. (video teleconference)  
**Community Service: Monday, September 8:** 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry (pantry rooms) | **Wednesday, September 10:** 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry (pantry rooms) | **Thursday, September 11:** 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](mailto:holly@gslcva.org)) *SEE OTHER SIDE for all opportunities.*

## New Member Sunday

We warmly invite anyone interested in becoming a member of our Good Shepherd Lutheran Church to reach out and begin the journey of faith and fellowship. New members will be officially welcomed during our installation service on **Sunday, October 12**. If you'd like to be included, please express your interest by **Tuesday, September 30**. Questions? Contact Heidi Cooper ([heidi@gslcva.org](mailto:heidi@gslcva.org)).

### Women's Retreat

Ladies, mark your calendars for the Women's Retreat in Winchester on **November 7-9**. Enjoy a weekend filled with faith, fun, and fellowship. Sign up by clicking the banner link on the top of our website. Questions? Contact Heidi Cooper ([heidi@gslcva.org](mailto:heidi@gslcva.org)).

### Young Adults Group Survey

Are you a young adult (under 35), single or married, with children or not? We want to hear from you about planning new activities, Bible studies or small groups. Please take this brief survey (<https://tinyurl.com/3cxumwww>) and give us your thoughts.

### Altar Care

Do you want to help care for, set up, and clean up the altar? Individual training classes will soon be available for this volunteer opportunity. Interested? Contact Kristi Nickerson through the church office ([gslc@gslcva.org](mailto:gslc@gslcva.org)).

## GSLC Tax-Free Donations

Are you 70½ and taking an IRA distribution? Make your donation 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 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. Check with your investment advisor for details and applicable regulations.

## Community Service

**Good Shepherd Volunteers for SLHS Pantry distribution. September 18.** Ever wonder how the work we do with the SLHS Food Pantry impacts the community? Join us on September 18 at South Lakes High School to help with curbside family distribution. Plan to be at the school by 3:30 p.m. to receive carloads of food and help with setup. Distribution to families begins at 4:30 p.m. and generally takes 30-60 minutes depending on the volume of cars of lined up. This is a special GSLC distribution so please be sure to wear your Love Your Neighbor shirt if you have one! Please contact Holly Vanderhoof ([holly@gslcva.org](mailto:holly@gslcva.org)) to participate.

**SLHS Food Pantry 0.5K!** Join the Good Shepherd team on **Sunday, October 5**, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Lake Anne Plaza for the most fun 650 steps at the 0.5K fundraiser for the South Lakes High School Food Pantry! Registration by scanning the QR code to the right, ensure you select Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.



**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.

**The Closet of Herndon. Volunteers desperately needed!** The Closet has put out a call for volunteers. Please consider volunteering directly through The Closet at <https://www.theclosetofgreaterherndon.org/volunteer>.

**The Closet of Herndon. Congregation Days.** Join us on one of the following days: September 9, October 4, October 23, November 14, or December 9. Sign up by scanning the QR code on the right. **Want to donate?** Good Shepherd is collecting donations for The Closet. Please place your donations in the black cart labeled "The Closet" in the closet off of the church entry area.



**Helping Hands needs donations.** Please consider contributing to the Above and Beyond request for this ministry. Your contributions to Above & Beyond will allow us to purchase quilt batting and fabric. Donation collection of cotton blend fabric are ongoing in the bin marked "Helping Hands" in the church entry area. Your Above & Beyond contributions and donations of fabric allow us to bless others in need.

### South Lakes Food Pantry – Continues to Serve the Community!

The Food Pantry has distributed more than **TWO MILLION POUNDS** of food and 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](mailto:holly@gslcva.org)) to get up-to-date volunteer needs.* Needs are on the rise. We are averaging well over **7,000 pounds (3½ tons) of food to families and students in need each week**. Please consider shopping from our urgent needs (see list below) 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 Thursday afternoons, 2:50 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Bags will be loaded at GSLC and then unloaded at the school for you. Interested? Please contact Holly ([holly@gslcva.org](mailto: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: diced tomatoes, pasta sauce, pasta, bar soap, jelly

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

## Lutheran World Relief – Texas flood emergency

On July 4 a catastrophic flash flooding swept through the Texas Hill Country, devastating everything in its path. 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. Lutheran World Relief is on hand, distributing emergency food, water, tarps, clean up kits, hygiene supplies, and clothing to people whose homes were damaged or destroyed. Go to <https://lwr.org> to learn more or to donate.

## Sign up for the online church directory

We encourage you to join Good Shepherd's online church directory. It's a great way to connect with other members and to help 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](mailto: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!