



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

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

September 28, 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:

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4 | 2 Timothy 1:1-14 | Luke 117:5-10

Ladies' Sunday Bible Study

The Ladies' Bible Study will meet today in room 203, following today's 8:00 a.m. worship service. Join us as we study Donna Snows' book, *Strong and Courageous: Studying God's Promises in Joshua*. Questions? Contact Heidi Cooper (heidi@gslcva.org).

Sunday Adult Bible Study

The Adult Bible study will meet in room 111, following today's 8:00 a.m. worship service. The group will take an in-depth look at John's gospel, using William Barclay's *The Gospel of John, Volumes One and Two*. Questions? Contact Pastor Gary James (pastorgary@gslcva.org).

Interested in *Sticky Faith* during the Sunday School hour?

Pastor James is seeking to form a 5-session Bible study on *Sticky Faith, Everyday Ideas to Build Lasting Faith in Your Kids*. The study is geared toward parents of tweens and teens, although all are invited. We are planning to start on **October 5** if enough folks have registered. Interested? Contact Pastor Gary James (pastorgary@gslcva.org).

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).

Life Groups

Women's Morning Bible Study: Thursday, October 2: 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. GSLC (Room 203).

Men's Bible Study: Friday, October 3: 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. at Panera Bread (Elden Street).

Note: The Men's Brotherhood Saturday breakfast is returning on the second Saturdays of each month. Please stay tuned for details next week.

Interested in our Life Groups? Check out our [webpage](#) for details or stay tuned for further updates in future emails.

Women's Retreat—registration ongoing!

Ladies, get ready 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 link on the top of our website to go to the registration page (<https://gslcva.org/womens-retreat/>). Questions? Contact Heidi Cooper (heidi@gslcva.org).

Fall SED High School Youth Gathering—register by Tuesday!

Hey high-schoolers! Join us for the Fall High School Youth Gathering at **Watermarks Camp in Scottsville, Virginia, from Friday, October 31, through Sunday, November 2**. This year's theme is "NO OTHER NAME BUT JESUS." Who are you? At any stage of life, this can be a hard question, but in high school it can really be a struggle. Where does God's name fit in with your identity? God's name has the power to save, and in His name, we find out who we really are. Looking at Acts 4, we know that "NO OTHER NAME BUT JESUS" has the power to save, bring us comfort, belonging, and purpose.

The late registration deadline is **Tuesday, September 30**, and costs \$185.00. Questions? Contact Holly Vanderhoof (holly@gslcva.org) for more information.

Workcamp 2026

Hey high-schoolers and parents, it is time to think about Workcamp 2026! Registration is now open, and a link will be available very soon! Hopefully by now you've heard about Workcamp – our annual HSM Summer Mission Trip with Group Mission Trips. **A \$100.00 non-refundable deposit is due by Sunday, October 19** (the registration deadline for this event). **This camp is currently FULL** for this year's event and registration is on a "first-come-first-served" basis since we have reserved a limited number of spots. Stay tuned for details and register as soon as possible to guarantee your spot! Friends welcome! Questions? Contact Holly Vanderhoof (holly@gslcva.org) for more information.

Fall Family Fun Festival

Join us on **Sunday, October 19**, for Good Shepherd's Annual Fall Family Fun Festival starting at 12:15 p.m. in the lower church parking lot. Brats and hot dogs will be served along with beer and cider. Bring a side dish or desert to share.

Decorate your trunk and don a costume for the kids to enjoy Trunk or Treat after this Oktoberfest-style lunch. Invite your friends and family to join the fun.

Sign up by scanning the QR code to the right.



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). 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!

Events This Week

Worship Service: Sunday, October 5: 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. (Traditional services) | Questions? Check out our website (<https://gslcva.org/worship/services/>)

Choir Practice: Sunday, October 5: 9:30 a.m. (choir loft) | Questions? Check out our website under "Education": [kids](#), [youth](#), and [adult](#)

Sunday School: Sunday, October 5: 9:30 a.m. (kids, youth, adults) | Questions? Contact Anne Lee (anne@gslcva.org)

Prayer Gathering: Wednesday, October 1: 7:00 p.m. (video teleconference)

Community Service: Monday, September 29: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Food Pantry (pantry rooms) | **Wednesday, October 1:** 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry (pantry rooms) | **Thursday, October 2:** 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) *SEE OTHER SIDE for more opportunities.*

Community Service

Register now! 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! Register by scanning the QR code to the right, ensure you select Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.



A Simple Gesture Food Collection. Every other month, 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, October 4**, 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).

Family Opportunity 10 & up! Adopt a Highway. Join us on **Saturday, October 25**, at 8:30 a.m. for a light breakfast in the Fellowship Hall. Pickup begins promptly at 9:00 a.m. It takes approximately 1.5 to 2 hours of your time, and service hours can be earned. It's a beautiful stroll along Reston Parkway because of helpers like you! Help us keep God's creation beautiful! (Rain date November 22).

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.

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.

Volunteers needed! The Closet of Greater Herndon. Congregation scheduled days have returned to The Closet! Good Shepherd's next volunteer days are October 4, October 23, November 14 and December 9. 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 sign up or visit: <http://tinyurl.com/5n7kbmb2>.



South Lakes Food Pantry – Continues to Serve the Community!

The Food Pantry has distributed more than **TWO MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND 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) 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). **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: jelly, peanut butter, canned meat, bar soap

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).

New Connections Class starts October 5

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, October 5**, during the Sunday school hour, in room 202, 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 LCMS 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).

New Member Sunday

We warmly invite anyone interested in becoming a member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church to reach out and begin the journey of faith and fellowship. New members will be officially welcomed during our worship services on **Sunday, November 16**.

Questions? Contact Heidi Cooper (heidi@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.