



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

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

September 6, 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: Genesis 50:15-21 | Psalm 103:1-13 | Romans 14:1-12 | Matthew 18:21-35

New Worship & Program Schedule Begins September 13

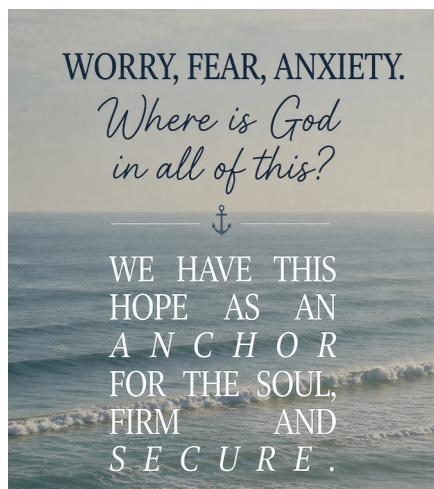
Today Sunday, September 6 is the final weekend of our summer worship schedule.

Next **Sunday, September 13**, we return to our "regular" schedule of two worship services each week at 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. That day, we resume the schedule with Matins service at 8:00 a.m., and our informal Praise service in the Fellowship Hall at 11:00 a.m.

September 13 also begins the educational Sunday School year (see below). Students and teachers will receive special blessings at services that day.

Adult Bible studies will also resume. Keep reading for more information.

And on Sunday, September 20, join us between services for Big Serve Sunday in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to help pack 10,000 meals for Meals of Hope. Read more about this event in the Community service section.



Women's Retreat (Registration Ongoing)

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, Virginia.

Women's Retreat is November 13 through 15. Registration, and additional information, is available by clicking on the banner at the top of our website (<https://gslcva.org>).

All women are welcome! Questions? Contact Heidi Cooper (heidi@gslcva.org).

Confirmation 2026-2027 (Registration Request)

Parents, we have begun planning this year's 7th and 8th grade confirmation class. If your child participated last year, please confirm whether they will attend in 2026-2027. If you are registering a 7th grader for the first time, please send your contact information and your child's name so we can share future class details. Please send this to the church office at michele@gslcva.org. Questions about confirmation may be directed to Pastor James (PastorGary@gslcva.org).



Upcoming Events

Full listing of events and service opportunities at gslcva.org

Worship Services

Sunday, September 13: 8:00 a.m. (Matins service) and 11:00 a.m. (Contemporary/Praise service)

Choir Practice

Sunday, September 13: 9:30 a.m. (choir room)

Prayer Gathering

Wednesday, September 9: 7:00 p.m. (video teleconference)

Life Groups

Word Workers: Wednesday, September 9: 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Virtual (Zoom).

2GETHER4LUNCH: Thursday, September 10: 11:30 a.m. Euro Bistro (Herndon).

Men's Bible Study: Friday, September 11: 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. at Panera Bread (Elden Street).

Community Service

Monday, September 7: 2:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry (pantry rooms)

Wednesday, September 9: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry (pantry rooms)

Thursday, September 10: 2:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry transport for distribution at South Lakes High School (lower parking lot)

Back To School

Join us on **Sunday, September 13**, at Good Shepherd as the educational year begins.

All children and youth are invited to attend worship with their backpacks and receive a special blessing during the worship service.

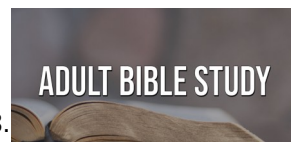
Teachers will also receive a blessing during the services.



Adult Bible Studies

The Adult Bible study will continue study of the Gospel of John using William Barclay's commentary on The Gospel of John as a reference on **Sunday, September 13**, in Room 111.

The Women's Bible study, led by Heidi Cooper, and using Chad Bird's book "Limping with God," will begin **Sunday, September 27**, in Room 203.



Financial Updates

Stay tuned for details on Fiscal Year 2026 finalized numbers in our Annual Report, as well as the release of our fall Above & Beyond catalog. Please remember Good Shepherd in your prayers and giving as we return to our "regular" schedule.

Offering Envelopes

Many Good Shepherd members receive a set of printed offering envelopes in the mail on a regular basis but don't use these physical envelopes when giving their offerings. If you receive these envelopes in the mail but do not use them, please let Michele (michele@gslcva.org) know so we can stop the envelopes from being printed and mailed. (Good Shepherd pays for every set of envelopes mailed to members.) The number on your envelope will still be associated with your giving records. Questions? Contact Michele (michele@gslcva.org) or Georgia (georgia@gslcva.org).

Big Serve Sunday Meal Packing Event

Join us on **Sunday, September 20**, as we celebrate the new Sunday School year with a Love Your Neighbor Meal packing event between services. We will be packing 10,000 meals through Meals of Hope. Packaged meals will go to local food pantries, including the South Lakes High School Food Pantry.



The entire congregation is welcomed and encouraged to participate!



DO IT YOUR WAY 0.5K

Join the Good Shepherd team on **Sunday, September 27** 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 at <https://tinyurl.com/4ctymmkd> and be sure to select the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church team.

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>).

New Dates: Call for Volunteers at The Closet of Greater Herndon. Congregation scheduled days have returned to The Closet! Good Shepherd's next volunteer days are **September 14, October 7, October 30, November 21, and December 18**. The Closet needs volunteers to maintain day-to-day operations. Please consider donating some time to this valuable resource in our community. Sign up or visit the following link to learn more (<http://tinyurl.com/5n7kbmb2>).

Cornerstones Back to School Drive: Now through September. This initiative 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 Cornerstone's **Amazon Wish List** (<https://tinyurl.com/27m5p35t>) or drop your donations at specific times and locations.

Drop off your donations at the Cornerstones "Food Hub":

Fridays 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Cornerstones' FREE from Hunger Center
22560 Glenn Drive, Unit 105
Sterling, Virginia 20164

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 and volunteer hours: 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, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, pasta

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.