

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

September 13, 2026

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 1133 Reston Ave., Herndon VA 20170
703-437-5020 gslcva.org



Next Sunday's Readings: Jonah 3:10-4:11 | Psalm 145:1-8 | Philippians 1:21-30 | Matthew 20:1-16

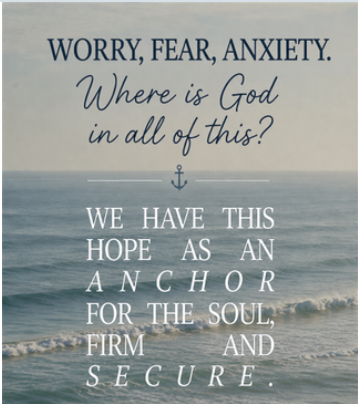
Women's Retreat (Registration Ongoing)

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).



Back to School



Join us today, **Sunday, September 13**, as the educational year begins. Help us get ready! Please register your child so we can plan for an amazing year of growing in Jesus together.

Register by clicking this [link](#)

Additionally, 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 today, studying the Gospel of John using William Barclay's commentary on The Gospel of John. Join us 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.



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 (michele@gslcva.org). Questions about confirmation may be directed to Pastor James (PastorGary@gslcva.org).

Joining Jesus on His Mission (seminar)

Join Jesus on His Mission! Author and speaker Greg Finke, known for Joining Jesus on His Mission, will lead a free, practical seminar on **Saturday, September 26**, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Our Savior's Way Lutheran Church in Ashburn. Discover how to recognize what Jesus is already doing in the lives of others and learn simple ways to join Him in everyday life. Open to pastors, church leaders, congregation members, and guests, with coffee and a light breakfast provided.

Register for the Seminar (<https://tinyurl.com/y5s52mw4>)

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



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!

Financial Updates

Stay tuned for details on the release of our Fiscal Year 2026 Annual Report, which includes final budget numbers. In addition, our fall Above & Beyond catalog is in the planning process, with release scheduled near Thanksgiving.

Please remember Good Shepherd in your prayers and giving.

Upcoming Events

Full listing of events and service opportunities at gslcva.org
Service opportunities on the other side of this page

Worship Service

Sunday, September 20: 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. (Traditional service)

Prayer Gathering

Wednesday, September 16: 7:00 p.m. (video teleconference)

Life Groups

Manic Mondays: Monday, September 14: 7:30-9:00 p.m. (Cors's House).

Women's Thursday Morning Bible Study: Thursday, September 17: 10:00-1:30 a.m. GSLC (Room 203).

Men's Bible Study: Friday, September 18, 7:00-8:00 a.m. at Panera (Elden Street)

Community Service: SLHS Food Pantry

Monday, September 14: 2:00-4:00 p.m. (pantry rooms)

Wednesday, September 16: 9:00-12:00 p.m. (pantry rooms)

Thursday, September 17: 2:30-3:30 p.m. (lower level)

Community Service: Big Serve Sunday (Meals of Hope)

Sunday, September 20: Between services

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>)

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 3**, 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).

Volunteers Needed! The Closet of Greater Herndon: Congregation scheduled days are back! 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 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:** 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.



Do It Your Way 0.5K

REGISTER NOW: SLHS Food Pantry 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.