



GOOD SHEPHERD

LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 5, 2021
Updates and more information at gslcva.org/

Next Sunday's readings

Zephaniah 3: 14 - 20

Isaiah 12: 2 - 6

Philippians 4: 4 - 7

Luke 3: 7 - 18

Next worship services: December 12

Good Shepherd holds outdoor and indoor services weekly.

- Indoor worship on Sunday, December 12, 8:00 a.m. - [Click here to register](#)
- Outdoor worship on Sunday, December 12, 9:00 a.m. - [Click here to register](#)
- Indoor worship on Sunday, December 12, 11:00 a.m.—[Click here to register](#)

Registration for services

By registering in advance of worship services, you help us plan for those services. When you fill out the Sign-Up Genius form for our worship services, we have a better idea of how many bulletins to print, how many communion packets to prepare, and even whether holding an outdoor service is viable. As always, registration is not required, but we do strongly encourage you to let us know in advance, if you can, that you will be attending.



Livestream links

Indoor worship service on Sunday morning at 11:00 a.m. will be a recorded livestream event. Our current livestream platforms are:

- Facebook Live (<https://www.facebook.com/events/158368062885622/>)
- YouTube (https://youtu.be/Gie08Xc_sCY)
- Vimeo (<https://vimeo.com/event/1064052>)

New schedule

Starting today, December 5, Good Shepherd will begin holding three in-person worship services while also continuing its livestream, recorded, and podcast offerings. Our new schedule is like our pre-pandemic schedule, with an additional service! Here's the new schedule:

- **Indoor worship (sanctuary), 8 a.m.** Traditional services in the sanctuary, 1st, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays; Matins service the 2nd Sunday of each month (beginning December 12).
- **Outdoor worship (lower parking lot), 9 a.m.**
- **Sunday School** for children, youth, and adults, **10 a.m.**
- **Indoor worship, 11 a.m.** Traditional services in the sanctuary, 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays; Praise services in the Fellowship Hall, 2nd and 4th Sundays. Kids' Messages will be a part of every 11:00 a.m. service, unless there is a baptism.
- **Livestream and recording: 11:00 a.m.** services each week.

Holy Communion will continue to be a part of each week's outdoor worship service and will be offered at indoor services on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays in the sanctuary and on 4th Sundays during the Praise service. Please continue to use the **online registration** forms for each worship service. Until we return to using the automated scheduler for worship assistants, our SignUp Genius forms offer a way to make sure we have ushers, greeters, communion assistants, and so on as needed at every service. Thanks to everyone who has faithfully served in these volunteer positions throughout the past year.

Sunday School for children and youth will be divided into these groups: PreK—6; middle school; high school. Sunday School will be held each week (except for December 26 and January 2). Please prayerfully consider if you could be a leader or facilitator for any of these Sunday School groups.

We will be taking a hybrid approach to Bible Study for adults. For adults on campus, there will be an informal (walk-in) Bible study each week, in the Fellowship Hall, that focuses on the day's scripture readings. We also hope to offer a **virtual Bible study on Sunday** morning as well. **Heidi Cooper's class** will continue to meet virtually on Tuesday nights through end of year.

Upcoming special seasonal services

Christmas Eve Services:

Friday, December 24, 2:00 p.m. -- Outdoor worship service

Friday, December 24, 4:00 p.m. -- Family worship service (Kid Friendly)

Friday, December 24, 7:30 p.m. -- Indoor traditional candlelight worship service (Special preservice music at 7:00 p.m.)

Friday, December 24, 10:00 p.m. -- Indoor traditional candlelight worship service (Special preservice music at 9:30 p.m.)

Holiday Adjusted Services:

Sunday, December 26, 9:30 a.m. -- Indoor traditional worship service

Sunday, January 2, 9:30 a.m. -- Indoor traditional worship service

Note: There will be one service, in the sanctuary, at 9:30 a.m., on December 26 and January 2.

Fellowship is back!

Starting today, December 5, please join us for fellowship, coffee, and donuts around 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Parking for services

With the start of our new worship schedule you might be wondering where to park. With an early service, an outdoor service, fellowship, Sunday School, and a late service things can be hectic. As a reminder if you are attending the early service—the 8:00 a.m. indoor—please avoid parking in the lower parking lot near the preschool. This area will be used for the 9:00 a.m. outdoor service.

Above & Beyond (A&B) catalog for 2021 - 2022

Good Shepherd is pleased to announce the release of our FY 2022 A&B catalog. Please check out the December 3 Friday eBlast, our website, or click the link below for an electronic copy. Hard copies are available in the church office and in the bins of the Welcome Center.

[Please Click here to see our FY 2022 A&B Catalog \(under the Giving Section\)](#)

For questions regarding A&B please contact Georgia Thorstenson at georgia@gslcva.org.

Music CDs for Advent, Christmas

“A King is Born,” a 2-CD set featuring Advent and Christmas music sung by the GSLC Sanctuary Choir, will be available in the church entry area in the Fellowship Hall (near the coffee and donuts) through December. Suggested donations: \$20. Proceeds will benefit the Music Ministry

Baklava with Georgia

Join us, virtually, for Georgia’s baklava class. During this 20 minute video you will see how to make this Greek inspired dessert. Visit the “[News & Resources](#)” section of our website for the video and the recipe!

Pastor Gary's Seven faith practices

What does letting Christ be King of your life look like? Pastor Gary offers these seven faith practices of the church , seven areas of our lives where our faith can work to reveal God’s light:

Worship: being an active part of the worshipping community is one way we exercise and strengthen our faith, witnessing to God’s power in our lives.

Study: as we seek to study God’s Word for our lives, we grow into God’s own likeness.

Pray: When we seek to increase our time spent in prayer, we grow our communication skills in talking to God and listening for God’s voice in our lives.

Serve: When we give of ourselves for the sake of our neighbor in need, we see Christ in those we serve, and we are blessed in our serving.

Give: we give of our resources, not so that the church can cover its expenses, but so that we are reminded that all that we have is a gift from our loving God.

Encourage: We are Christ’s hands and feet in this world when we support and encourage our brothers and sisters in Christ, fellow members of the body of Christ. And –

Invite: Just as we have been invited to experience God’s life-changing power, we too invite others to “Come and see” the God who meets us in Word and Sacrament. Our job is to invite, and trust that the Holy Spirit will do the rest.

Adult Education

Ladies Bible Study: "*A Christmas Carol*"

Starting **Tuesday, November 30**, at 7:30 p.m. Heidi Cooper will be holding an ongoing series of evening Bible Studies via a teleconference platform, in lieu of a Sunday morning class. This series, entitled, *A Christmas Carol Book and Bible Study*, includes the *Christmas Carol* book and Bible study guide as well as Bible study discussion questions for each chapter, Scripture references, and related commentary. Sign up by emailing Heidi Cooper: heidi@gslcva.org.

Word Workers: "*The Christ Key*"

A Life Group that meets via a teleconference platform on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The purpose of the group is to develop close relationships while sharing the spiritual journey. This year the group will be studying *The Christ Key* by Chad Bird. Word Workers welcomes all who would like to join! Sign up by emailing Melinda DeWan: dewanmelin@aol.com.

Wednesday Bible Stories

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is pleased to release our continuing midweek feature, Wednesday Bible Stories. Join us as we use pictures, quotes, and thoughts to continue our exploration of the Bible via our social media platforms ([Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)) as well as via the Friday eBlast. This week we continue our Advent special edition! Stay tuned each week as we progress through Advent on our journey in preparation for the birth of our Savior.

Coronavirus Relief Fund: accepting applications

Our Coronavirus Relief Fund is available for those among us who may be especially hurting (furloughed, unemployed, etc.) because of this crisis. If you know of anyone at Good Shepherd who is especially hurting, please contact the church office. If you are hurting but want to keep the information confidential, please contact Pastor Johann directly. To donate to the fund, make your contribution to GSLC, and note that it’s for the Coronavirus Relief Fund.

High School Ministry (HSM)

HSM VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS PARTY! Hey high school kids! Join us on December 12th from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. for our Very Merry Christmas Party! Sr. Youth from Our Savior’s Way will be joining us this year for sweets, games and a white elephant gift exchange! So, get your ugly Christmas sweaters out for our Ugly Christmas Sweater competition and join us for this very special evening!

2022 Summer Workcamp – SAVE THE DATE! *Drum roll please*our next Workcamp (high school mission trip) location has been selected and this coming summer we will be serving in...Erie, Pennsylvania! **Mark your calendars and save the dates for our 2022 Sr. High Youth Workcamp: July 10-16, 2022.** Stay tuned for an informational letter and registration form that will be sent out in the coming weeks. Until then, mark your calendars and save those dates, and if you have any questions about Workcamp, contact holly@gslcva.org.

Upcoming HSM Events (Grades 9-12)

December 12 – Very Merry Christmas Party: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

January 2 – HSM: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

January 16 – HSM: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 pm.

HSM630 Stay Connected! High school kids – download the GroupMe app and scan the code below to join our HSM630 Group Chat to stay connected for the latest information about youth group.



Community Service and COVID-19. Active COVID protocols will be followed in most cases and are subject to change.

Angel Tree for Lake Anne Fellowship House (LAFH). Good Shepherd has helped our older, low income neighbors at Lake Anne Fellowship House for years. Again, due to COVID-19 restrictions, LAFH is restricting all gifts to \$25 gift cards for shopping at local businesses (groceries, Target, Walmart, Kohl's, etc.). Good Shepherd will collect the cards and will deliver them to the social worker at LAFH for distribution to the neediest residents. Please drop your cards in the Angel Tree box near the office at Good Shepherd by Sunday, Dec. 19, 2021.

North County Hypothermia Shelter. Good Shepherd will once again be supporting the Fairfax County hypothermia shelter every Wednesday, December through March. COVID-19 restrictions are allowing for in-person servers to return but they will be limited to 3 individuals (2 are preferred). All volunteers must be fully vaccinated (two shots of Pfizer/Moderna, one of J&J; extra booster even better) and provide proof (vaccination card) prior to “volunteering”. All servers must have their temperature checked and complete a short wellness check form on the evening they serve. Masks and gloves must be worn, and appropriate social distancing must be observed while in the hypothermia shelter. More volunteers may assist with getting the meal to the hypothermia room at the start of the evening and to take away everything at the end of the meal.

Vaccination proof will only be done once if serving multiple times. All volunteers must be 18 years or older.

Meals should be delivered between 5:30 p.m. and 5:45 p.m. to the Hypothermia Shelter, located in the North County Human Services Building, 1850 Cameron Glen Drive in Reston, just ¼ mile from the Embry Rucker Shelter. Food should be delivered hot and in disposable containers, along with all the napkins, plates, cups, and plastic utensils needed for the evening.

Restaurant food deliveries are also welcome! Please provide enough food for 40 people.

Sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/54wur4me>

South Lakes Food Pantry! We have collected, stored and distributed 225,000 pounds of food and toiletries in the last 18 months to families in need. What an incredible difference you’ve made in the community by 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. Revised volunteer guidelines: masks required regardless of vaccination status.*

The pantry will be closed December 27 and December 29.

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

URGENT NEEDS: cereal, peanut butter, jelly, diced tomatoes

Cornerstones Winter Coat Collection. Help our neighbors in need stay warm this winter! New or gently used coats and new hats, gloves, mittens and scarves may be donated at the following locations and dates.

December 11 and January 8 at North County Government Center, 1801 Cameron Glen Dr., Reston, VA 20190
from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Donations of children’s coats in all sizes and adult coats in sizes 3XL or larger are especially appreciated at this time.

The Closet of Greater Herndon. New volunteer opportunities! The Closet now requires proof of COVID vaccination from all staff and volunteers who work/volunteer at The Closet. This measure is being taken to protect the health and safety of the store’s customers, volunteers, and staff. *Masks required regardless of vaccination status.*

Signup at: <https://tinyurl.com/vv9czt8k>