



GOOD SHEPHERD

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 26, 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:

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18 | Ephesians 1:11-23 | Luke 6:20-31

Extended Prelude today for Reformation Sunday!

Please note that the prelude music for our Reformation Sunday 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. services will extend a few minutes into the service, as it includes music from the handbell choir and brass quintet. Both services will have the choir, handbell choir, and brass quintet.

"2025 Annual Review and a look ahead to FY2026" - final version

The final revision of the "2025 Annual Review and a look ahead to FY2026" has been released. Check out the [Forms and Documents webpage](#) for electronic copies, limited print copies are available at the Welcome Center in the church entry area. This finalized version contains minor edits to ministry team narratives and financial and statistical attachments.

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).

Sticky Faith Bible Study

The *Sticky Faith* Bible study will meet this **Sunday, October 26**, in **room 112** during the Sunday school hour. This five-session video series, inspired by Dr. Kara Powell's journey with her own children, offers practical strategies to help parents nurture lasting faith in their kids. All parents are invited to attend.

Interested? Contact Pastor Gary James (pastorgary@gslcva.org).

Calling all Hikers and Walkers—Join us today!

Come join our next GSLC Hiking Group outing today, **Sunday, October 26**, we will walk the paved paths that circle Lake Anne. If people wish to take a mini walk or the entire loop around Lake Anne all are invited. This walk is very kid friendly as there are multiple play structures for kids along the way. A walk leader will stay with each group to ensure everyone has a safe and enjoyable walk. We will gather in the church entry area following the 11:00 a.m. worship service to drive and/or carpool over to Lake Anne Plaza. If anyone wants to meet directly at the walk start, we'll meet at the Robert E. Simon bench about 12:30 p.m. We'll walk along the storefronts toward the Monet Bridge paying close attention to the beautiful gardens along the way. After we cross the bridge, we'll walk through the neighborhood to the left. A resident there has created incredibly intricate and amusing rock gardens which are sure to make you smile. Things to bring include comfortable shoes, a bottle of water, a light snack, and your happiest self. Restrooms are available at nearby locations before the trail. Please let us know if you intend to join us so we don't leave anyone behind at church. Questions? Contact Jeannie, John, and Drew through the church office (gslc@gslcva.org).

Life Groups

Manic Mondays: Monday, October 27: 7:30 p.m. GSLC (Cors's house)

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

Men's Friday Bible Study: Friday, October 31: 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. at Panera Bread (Elden Street)

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

Workcamp Registration—final call!

Hey high schoolers and parents — this is it! If you've been thinking about joining **Workcamp**, our unforgettable HSM Summer Mission Trip with Group Mission Trips, now's the time to act. This cherished tradition at Good Shepherd is more than just a trip — it's a week of **hands-on service, deep friendships, worship, and fun** with youth from across the country.

Participants will help transform lives through home repair, painting, light construction, and more — all while growing in faith and community.

Registration closes TODAY, and spots are **extremely limited**. The camp is already full, so registration is **first-come, first-served**. A **\$100 non-refundable deposit** secures your place. Never been? Don't miss your chance to experience the magic. Been before? You already know how life-changing it is. Friends are welcome! Questions? Reach out to Holly Vanderhoof (holly@gslcva.org).

Don't wait — this is your final call!

Pastor Skovgaard celebrates 25-years

Elm Grove Lutheran Church in Wisconsin joyfully celebrates Pastor Eric Skovgaard's 25 years of faithful ministry this **Sunday, October 26**. Pastor Skovgaard has been a devoted servant of the Lord, deeply rooted in the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church community. His unwavering commitment to sharing the Gospel has touched countless lives over the years. We invite you to lift him in prayer as he continues to proclaim the Word of our Lord and Savior.

All Saints Day Observance

As part of Good Shepherd's All Saints Day observance on **Sunday, November 2**, we will use the rite known as "Commemoration of the Faithful Departed," an opportunity to name before God and one another those friends and family members whom God has called to himself in the last year. We invite you to provide names of those whom you would like to include in this rite. Please submit names by using our online form on our Worship Services page (gslcva.org/worship/services), under the section "All Saints Day names."

Submission deadline: Tuesday, October 28. Questions? Contact the church office (gslc@gslcva.org) or call 703-437-5020.

Events This Week

Worship Service: Sunday, November 2 (All Saints Sunday): 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. (Traditional services) | Questions? Check out our website (<https://gslcva.org/worship/services/>)

Sunday School: Sunday, November 2: 9:30 a.m. (kids, youth, adults) | Questions? Check out our website under "Education": [kids](#), [youth](#), and [adult](#)

Prayer Gathering: Wednesday, October 29: 7:00 p.m. (video teleconference)

Community Service: Monday, October 27: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Food Pantry (pantry rooms) | **Wednesday, October 29:** 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry (pantry rooms) | **Thursday, October 30:** 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.*

Prayer at the Rail Ministry: Volunteer Invitation & Training

The Prayer at the Rail ministry invites new volunteers to join its meaningful work of offering brief, confidential prayer to individuals following Sunday services. Prayer is available after the 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. services during our regular schedule, and at 9:30 a.m. service during summer months, depending on volunteer availability.

Interested? Join an upcoming training session!

- **Date:** Saturday, November 1
 - **Time:** 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
 - **Location:** The Falls Church Anglican, Learning Center 6565 Arlington Boulevard (Route 50), Falls Church, VA
- This free training session equips participants to pray briefly and effectively with others after church services. It includes teaching, hands-on practice, and requires viewing a 40-minute online video titled *Biblical Basis of Healing* beforehand. A current Prayer Team member will accompany new volunteers during the training.
- Who Can Join? All adults are welcome to consider this ministry, including married couples who wish to serve together.
- Questions? Contact Alison Carlson via the church office (gslc@gslcva.org), or speak with her in person on Sunday.

Young Adults Gathering

Attention young adults and families with young children. Join the young adults of Good Shepherd for our first gathering of the 2025-26 season. We will meet at the church on **Saturday, November 15**, at 12:00 p.m. for lunch (provided) and a devotion. We will also discuss plans for future meetings and activities. Childcare will be provided. The session will run about 90 minutes. We look forward to having you join us. Interested? Go to <https://tinyurl.com/5n7uj3ff> to register.

Community Service

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.

Angel Trees. It’s that time of year again and we will once again be supporting Cornerstones’ families during the holidays as well as Lake Anne House residents. Look for more information about this year’s Angel Trees soon!

Volunteers needed! The Closet of Greater Herndon. Congregation scheduled days have returned to The Closet! Good Shepherd’s next volunteer days are 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 the right to signup or visit: <http://tinyurl.com/5n7kbmb2>.



Thanksgiving Meals. Help us support Cornerstones clients with a nice Thanksgiving meal this year. We have shoppers lined up and ready to go! You can provide a full meal with a \$60 donation which includes non-perishable food and a \$25 grocery gift card. Meals will be assembled on November 16 and delivered to Cornerstones on November 19. **Online donations can be made at:** <https://tinyurl.com/4dznmmb2> **or via scanning the QR Code to the right.**



Hypothermia Shelter Meals – SIGNUP OPEN! An opportunity to serve through supporting the hypothermia shelter meals program is fast approaching! Every Wednesday from the beginning of December through the end of March (17 weeks), we prepare, provide, and serve hot meals for 40 guests. **Would you like to know what it is like to prepare food for the Hypothermia Prevention Program?** The best way to think about preparing the food is to consider what you would bring if this were a picnic. You need to provide food in disposable containers and include any needed (sturdy) plates, bowls, cups, napkins, eating utensils. One consideration is that the clients often don’t have a full set of teeth - shredded or ground meat is preferable to chunks of meat. The same is true about the fruit. This year the need is much greater as they are serving about 80 people. **We will be helping with that number by providing a minimum of 40 meals.** Serving in person is also back this year but you still have the option to drop off the meals! Volunteers must be at least 18 years old to serve in the shelter. For more information and to signup visit: <https://tinyurl.com/4n5m8b9u> or scan the QR code to the right.



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, diced tomatoes, bar soap, boxed mac and cheese

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 details.

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.

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!

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.