



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

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

July 26, 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:

Isaiah 55:1-5

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Romans 9:1-5

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Matthew 14:13-21

Waffles, Ice Cream, and the Perfect Brew (Join us today!)

Join us today, **Sunday, July 26**, immediately following the worship service, for a "Festive Sunday" event of Waffles, Ice Cream, and Coffee Social!

Enjoy a freshly baked waffle the traditional way or create your own waffle sundae with a variety of delicious toppings. We'll also be serving specialty coffee beverages, including espresso, affogato, and freshly brewed coffee.

Come relax, enjoy great conversation, and share in fellowship with friends old and new. Everyone is welcome! Check out the article below to learn more about "Festive Sundays."



Festive Sundays

This Sunday is Good Shepherd's first "Festive Sunday" as we celebrate our new members. The worship service will include special music (Brass Quintet, Men's Choir), and we'll gather for waffles, ice cream, coffee, and fellowship after the service.

A Festive Sunday is a significant day in the church year or a special occasion, such as Confirmation or the reception of new members. Festive Sundays will include special music during worship and might also feature significant fellowship after or between worship services.

Our next Festive Sunday: Reformation and Fall Fun Festival (Sunday, October 25).

Festive Sunday
at Good Shepherd

Bible Studies

Join us today, following the 9:30 a.m. service, in the lower-level Gathering Space for the Adult Bible Study. The focus of this study is on the video series "**Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World.**" Stay tuned for future Bible Study and Sunday School offerings.

Pastor Johann's Sabbatical and Vacation

Pastor Johann will be on Sabbatical and vacation from **August 24 through October 19**. Read about the sabbatical plan at the "[From the Pastor](https://gslcva.org/from-the-pastor)" blog (gslcva.org/from-the-pastor), or contact the church office (gslc@gslcva.org) for more information.

Upcoming Events

Full listing of events and service opportunities at gslcva.org

Worship Services

Sunday, August 2: 9:30 a.m. (Traditional service)

Prayer Gathering

Wednesday, July 29: 7:00 p.m. (video teleconference)

Life Groups

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

Community Service

Monday, July 27: 2:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry (pantry rooms)

Wednesday, July 29: 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. SLHS Food Pantry (pantry rooms)

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

Women's Book Club

Ladies, join us on **Sunday, August 2**, following the worship service, for a brunch and discussion of *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi.

Together, we will explore the novel's themes and their connections to Scripture using *Seen By God, Sent to See Others*, the Bible study companion to *Theo of Golden*.

How to participate:

- Read *Theo of Golden* by **August 1**.
- Bring a dish to share for the potluck brunch.
- Meet in the **Fellowship Hall** on **August 2** after the worship service.

We look forward to a meaningful time of fellowship, discussion, and spiritual reflection. Bring a favorite dish or dessert to share. Sign up by scanning the QR code to the right. Questions? Contact Heidi Cooper (heidi@gslcva.org).



Voters' Assembly (Save the Date)

Good Shepherd's annual Voters' Assembly will be held on **Sunday, August 23**, following the 9:30 a.m. worship service. The Board of Servant Leaders will present the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year. Stay tuned in the coming weeks for the release of the proposed budget summary, budget narratives from the ministry areas, the 2026 Preliminary Annual Report, and the 2025 Voters' Assembly minutes.

Voters Assembly Meeting



Financial Updates

For information about Good Shepherd's budget, updates on the Summer Above & Beyond program, and more, see the other side of this page.

Please remember Good Shepherd in your prayers and giving this summer.

General Fund Booklet Now Available

An updated version of the General Fund booklet is now available. This booklet explains the General Fund (our budget) and gives details about how various ministry areas spend allocated resources. Thank you for your ongoing, generous support of Good Shepherd. Hard copies are available at the welcome center or on our website under "[Forms & Documents](#)."

Budget (Expenses and Income)

*Actual expenses includes principal & interest on mortgages, salaries, facility, and all ministry expenses
**Total income includes offerings and LCEF interest
YTD spending exceeds YTD budget because of unanticipated issues: much more than the usual heating and snow/ice removal costs; mold and debris removal; and storm water filtration repair. We thank God for His provisions.

Remember Good Shepherd in your prayers and giving this summer

Monthly	June 30	Fiscal Year to Date
Budget needs	\$95,150	\$951,500
Actual expenses*	\$89,247	\$1,007,173
Total income (all sources)**	\$98,912	\$974,266
Offerings minus expenses	\$9,664	(\$32,907)

New Above & Beyond Catalog

Our Summer Above & Beyond Catalog is now available digitally at gslcva.org/giving. Hard copies are available in the church entry area and church office. It includes new giving opportunities: Helping Hands and HVAC upgrade, Phase 2.

Fully funded items are listed below. Items with remaining balances, as of July 9, are shown in the table on the left. For most current data, contact Business Manager Georgia Thorstenson (georgia@gslcva.org).

Thank you to everyone who generously supports our stewardship programs.

FULLY FUNDED

- SLHS Food Panty
Special Music (in Worship)
Vacation Bible School
Workcamp 2026
Workcamp Van Rentals
Choral Section Leaders
Dogwood Elementary Gift Cards
Dogwood Elementary Support
Meals of Hope
Sabbatical Support (1st interval)
- Expansion Preschool Operations
Columbarium & Garden Fund (2 benches & 1 passage)
Dehumidifiers
Evergreen Lutheran School
LCMS: Osiro (Kenya)
LCMS: Payne (Tanzania)
LCMS: Wood (Indonesia)
Principe de Paz Luterana
LCMS Ministry: Armed Forces Cornerstones

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, August 1, 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 July 29 and August 20. 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: pasta sauce, oatmeal, jelly

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.

Sign Up for Good Shepherd’s Online Directory

We encourage you to join Good Shepherd’s online church directory. It’s a great way to connect with other members and helps 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? Donate 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 QCD amount 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.