



GOOD SHEPHERD

LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 9, 2021

Updates and more
information at
gslcva.org/

Mother's Day

Today is the day in which all mothers, grandmothers, and mother figures are celebrated. Thank you for your unquestioned love and commitment.



Next outdoor worship: May 15

Good Shepherd holds outdoor worship services, with Holy Communion, next Sunday at 10:00 a.m.
[Register here.](#)

The service is held in the lower parking lot (near the preschool), with room for 70 vehicles. Participants are strongly encouraged to register in advance.

Call Accepted: A message of thanks from Pastor James

We do indeed have a wonderful and gracious God and last Sunday He added one more blessing to my ministry journey with the call to serve Good Shepherd. I cannot offer a large enough thank you to each and every one of you - the Good Shepherd family. I have been blessed from the beginning with the way in which I was welcomed and incorporated into the ministry of Good Shepherd. Also, Jill and I are delighted to become a part of the Good Shepherd family and look forward to the fellowship and sharing as members of Good Shepherd. As I said at the start, God has placed me exactly where I should be throughout my ministry, and it is a wonderful blessing that Good Shepherd is now my ministry home.

Midweek Recharge: Loving Whom God Loves

In this week's Midweek Recharge Pastor Johann discusses the two greatest commandments found in Matthew 22:36-40: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" and "Love your neighbor as yourself." God's Word shows us that we do not need to make everyone our best friend or confidant, but we do need to love those whom God loves. Join us as we reflect on this devotion.

[Watch the Midweek Recharge \(YouTube\).](#)

The Midweek Recharge will also be available as a podcast! Search for all of our podcasts by typing GSLCVA in your favorite podcast app. Or find them at gslcva.org/news-resources/sermons-devotions.



Next Sunday's readings

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
1 John 5:9-13
John 17:6-19



Prayer Gatherings meet every Wednesday evening

Members of Good Shepherd meet, virtually, every Wednesday evening to pray for friends, members, our community, our country, and whatever else moves them. You don't need to pray aloud to be a part of this group. The gatherings last about 30 minutes. To receive a link, [fill out the online form](#). Be sure to select "Prayer Gatherings."

Retirement celebration and farewell

Susie Hardwick is retiring this summer from her position as Preschool Director, Todd Grivetti, our organist, is leaving us for a new position as of May 2; and Grace Linder, our Communications Assistant in charge of social media, is heading to medical school in June. We would like to honor them with a small farewell party in the church parking lot on Saturday, May 15, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. (rain date: May 16). We will serve cupcakes and drinks. If you would like to attend, please register at the link below **no later than May 9 (today)**, indicate how many people will be in your party.

[Click here to register for the retirement celebration and farewell party](#)

[Click here for COVID-19 guidelines on outdoor gatherings](#)

Donna Carrens, our administrative assistant, has left her position for medical reasons and **Julie Schorfheide**, our Communications Director is retiring from her position at the church. We would like to honor them with a small farewell party in the church parking lot on **Saturday, June 12, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. (rain date: June 13)**. We will serve cupcakes and drinks. If you would like to attend, please register at the link below no later than June 6, indicate how many people will be in your party.

[Click here to register for the retirement celebration and farewell party](#)

[Click here for COVID-19 guidelines on outdoor gatherings](#)

Some Above & Beyond opportunities remain

Thank you to those who have responded to the Above and Beyond program this year. Your generosity has enabled us to expand our outreach to GSLC members, to our local community, and to worldwide outreach programs. Of the giving opportunities listed in the fall 2020 catalog, 23 have been fully funded. The new edition of the catalog has the latest information (as of February 25) about a number of areas or projects that are not yet fully funded, and it also presents some new giving opportunities. [Look in the catalog](#), on the pages indicated with each item, for a description of these opportunities and their funding needs. Check with Business Manager Georgia Thorstenson for the most up-to-date information on what giving opportunities remain.

New opportunities

- Worship technology upgrade *Fully funded!*
- New mission projects (page 10)

Still to be fully funded

- Outdoor worship support (page 5)
- Music for Sanctuary Choir (page 5) *Fully funded!*
- Community Service projects (page 8) *Fully funded!*
- Building Contingency fund (page 12)
- Installing ionizers (page 12)



Changes to worship services and return-to-campus plan

As COVID-19 restrictions continue to shift, the Board of Servant Leaders, Worship Team, and staff have continued to manage evolving health concerns with the appropriate state and local regulations. As we begin a return to campus several changes regarding in-person worship will be forthcoming.

For this and other COVID-19 related updates:

[Click here for the blog post "Changes to worship services and return-to-campus plans"](#)

[Click here for the COVID-19 Responses, Policies, Updates blog page](#)

Preschool Director Opportunity

Would you enjoy sharing the love of Jesus with young children, families and staff? Are you enthusiastic about serving in a ministry of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, directing a Christ-centered preschool program that welcomes all God’s children?

Do you have education and experience in early childhood education (or related field), with a desire to nurture age-appropriate practices in children’s learning through play? Are you proficient in planning and management of administrative tasks such as budgeting, banking, and staff records? Maintaining social media?

Would you strive to follow all safety regulations and comply with state requirements? Above all, do you feel God is calling you to joyfully serve the church and preschool?

Please contact Susie Hardwick (703-437-4511 or preschool@gslcva.org) if you would like to learn more about being the next director of Good Shepherd’s preschool.



Vacation Bible School (VBS)

“All aboard!” VBS is back and this summer you’re invited to hop aboard for mountains of fun at *Rocky Railway* – Good Shepherd’s Vacation Bible School! On this epic, faith-filled adventure, kids will discover that trusting Jesus pulls them through life’s ups and downs. We are working hard to make plans for a safe and successful in-person VBS and can’t wait to welcome you back this summer.

Be sure to mark your calendar and save the date for this year’s VBS: **Monday, August 2 through Friday, August 6, 2021 (9:30 AM – 12:00 PM).**

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.

Adult Ed opportunities

Pastor James's next class: “Acts: The Gospel throughout the World.” Pastor James is leading a 10-week Bible study, *Acts: The Gospel throughout the World*, focused on helping those attending to hear God speaking to them — lovingly, emphatically, personally. Chapter-by-chapter background information, questions, and learning experiences will promote exciting and challenging discussions, and activities that reveal how God speaks to the deepest concerns of your heart.

Classes are held on a videoconference platform, Sundays at 11:30 a.m. Register in advance to receive a link and also the class materials. Look for the form at the bottom of the **"Grow"** page, under the Adult Education tab or email the church office.

Heidi Cooper’s class, Woman2Woman. Heidi Cooper will start a new study *Equipped: The Armor of God for Everyday Struggles* starting May 16 through June 27. Classes through June 13 will be at 10:30 a.m. and the remaining 3-classes will be at 11:00 a.m.



COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Please note that we cannot include contact information in the online version of News and Announcements for people other than staff members. If you need more information about any of the items listed here, email Community Service Coordinator Holly Vanderhoof, holly@gslcva.org. Thank you for your understanding.

Community Service and COVID-19. This is a time that community service across the area and the nation is in full gear with so many more families needing help. We are working closely with schools and organizations to help meet the needs in our area.

Family Opportunity – Gleaning for Cornerstones! Help collect donated food from local farmers every weekend at the Reston Farmer's Market at Lake Anne for Cornerstones. Meet at the Snap at Market tent when you arrive. Volunteers must complete a COVID-19 questionnaire before volunteering. Masks are required, and physical distancing rules will be followed for the safety of all participants. Volunteers under the age of 16 must have adult supervision. Closed-toe shoes are recommended. Please plan to dress for the changing weather!

11:15 – 1:00 pm

Dates: May 15, June 19, July 31, August 7, October 2 and October 23.

Sign up at: <https://tinyurl.com/k28jkxx2>

South Lakes Food Pantry is operating out of our Fellowship Hall. Food will be delivered to various schools in partnership with school principals to distribute to families. There will be opportunities to help if you are feeling well, but it will be a modified plan for the safety of our volunteers. *If you are interested in helping, email Holly Vanderhoof, holly@gslcva.org, to get up-to-date volunteer needs.*

NO-CONTACT Donation curbside drop offs:

Mondays 2–4 p.m.

Wednesdays 10 a.m.–noon

Donations may also be shipped to the church: SLHS Food Pantry,
c/o GSLC, 1133 Reston Ave., Herndon, VA 20170

The needs of our community have doubled and we are now passing out close to 6,000 pounds of food each week. The pantry is grateful for the support of the congregation and the community and would not be able to continue to meet the needs of our neighbors without your help.

URGENT NEEDS: pasta (we have no pasta!), jelly, dried beans, boxed milk, pasta sauce.

Drivers needed: We could always use a few more volunteers in the summer when our regulars take time off. Driving and pantry help is always welcome. Contact Holly Vanderhoof, holly@gslcva.org, if you can help.

Cornerstones and a Simple Gesture. Cornerstones is looking for volunteers to help with sorting and moving 6,000 - 12,000 pounds of food donations provided by A Simple Gesture. Multiple dates are available through the remainder of the calendar year. The first-shift volunteers help with accepting and sorting the food donations. The second-shift volunteers continue sorting and help with packing and loading donations for the pantry or storage. All activity takes place outdoors in the parking lot of their Food Pantry at 11484 Washington Plaza West, Reston. Volunteers required to complete a COVID-19 questionnaire prior to service. Masks are required and social distancing rules will be followed for the safety of all participants. Volunteers under the age of 16 will need adult supervision. Closed-toe shoes are recommended for safety. Dress for the changing weather! [Sign up at: https://tinyurl.com/ajyh8p8h](https://tinyurl.com/ajyh8p8h).

The Closet of Greater Herndon. The Closet is not accepting donations on Thursdays so that staff can prepare for the large weekend donations. The Closet is now using SignUpGenius to schedule volunteers for specific times and jobs. Please go to [SignUpGenius for The Closet](#) to see when and how you can best provide service to The Closet. If you have not volunteered previously, you will be asked to complete a short volunteer application on your first time.

Helping Hungry Kids (HHK) has resumed limited operations. HHK is providing 300 weekend grocery packs to Dogwood Elementary, Cub Run and Aldrin Elementary. They are now packing at Northwest Federal Credit Union and are able to use a few volunteers with COVID guidelines in place. HHK needs help stocking their shelves at their new location. Please use the Amazon wish list if you can help:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2L2C8DMEZSO0V?ref=wl_share. For more information contact Helping Hungry Kids, HHK@corefoundation.org