

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday – September 20

9:15 am Prayer Group, Room 2
10:00 am Worship, Sanctuary
11:15 am Children's Sunday School, Room 2
 Youth Sunday School, Lower Ed Room 6
 Social Concerns Class, Lower Ed
 Studies of the Bible, Room 4
12:15 pm Gospel Choir, Sanctuary
 3:00 pm Iglesia Pentecostal Jesus Rey De Reyes, Sanctuary

Tuesday – September 22

9:30 am Staff Meeting, Office
6:30 pm Ministry Planning Team, Room 4

Wednesday – September 23

9:45 am Women's Bible Study, Room 1
6:30 pm Women's AA, Upper Ed

Thursday – September 24

7:00 pm Bible in a Year, Zoom
 Chancel Choir, Sanctuary

Friday – September 25 - Office Closed

7:00 pm AA, Upper Ed

Saturday – September 26

10:00 am United Women in Faith, Room 1
 7:00 pm Iglesia Pentecostal Jesus Rey De Reyes, Sanctuary
 (IPUL) Bible Study, Upper Ed

September 13, 2026

In-Person Worship - 114
 Online Worship - 45
 Sunday School/Small Groups - 42
 General Fund Giving - \$4,466.52
 Other General Fund Giving - \$450.00

To make a financial gift through online giving, please use the QR code.



I'VE BEEN MEANING TO ASK

Sunday - September 20, 2026

**GOOD
SHEPHERD**
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Hymnals and Bibles are available on the rolling carts near the entrance of the sanctuary. Feel free to take one for use during the service and then return it to the cart after worship.

Please complete a **Weekly Connect Card** found in the bulletin and place it in the offering bag when it is passed during the service.

Please be aware that **photography and video** recording/live streaming occur during our worship service and are used on social media. Our children and youth are often included. If you do not want your child in any photos or videos, please speak with one of the ushers.

We love children!

There are several opportunities for children to grow during worship.

Our Family Worship Space offers quiet resources and activity bags to help families engage children during worship. Children may take items to their seats or sit at the table when it's available.

Parents/caregivers are asked to be seated with children at the table or nearby to assist them in worship.

Childcare is available for infants through age 5 during Worship and the Sunday School hour in the nursery at the end of the main hallway.

Capital Campaign “Soft Launch” Update: Due to your generosity, we have raised over \$20,000 since August 30th for our urgent building needs. Thank you, Good Shepherd! Our official campaign for long term sustainability of maintenance needs won’t launch until after the new year. But if you are led this year to support this effort with a gift beyond your regular giving to the General Fund, please designate your check or envelope with “Capital Campaign.” You may also give electronically through our website by selecting “Capital Campaign” from the fund options.

Miracle Sunday Offering - A denomination-wide initiative led by the United Methodist Council of Bishops, over 30,000 UMC congregations worldwide are receiving a special offering to support theological education in Africa, Europe, and the Philippines. In many parts of the world, access to formal theological training is limited, yet God continues to call leaders to serve. Through this offering, we help equip those leaders for faithful and transformative ministry while strengthening our United Methodist connection. We ask that you prayerfully consider giving a gift beyond your regular giving by October 11th. Please designate “Miracle Sunday”.

Are you getting our weekly e-newsletter? Each Thursday, we send out an e-newsletter highlighting the worship, upcoming events, expressions of thanks and care, pictures of various groups and events and MORE! To sign up, check the box on the Connect Card, visit www.gsumc.net, or email the church office at adminassist@gsumc.net

Pastors and Office Contact Information

Lead Pastor: Lisa Barbery
LisaBarbery@vaumc.org
703-298-0169

Associate Pastor: MiRhang Baek
MiRhangBaek@vaumc.org
404-680-7743

Administrative Assistant: Christina Hart-Perkins
adminassist@gsumc.net
703-670-6127

This week’s “Bible Through the Year” readings:

Sep 20th:	Mark 9:1-10:45	Sep 24th:	Mark 15:1-16:20
Sep 21st:	Mark 10:46-12:34	Sep 25th:	Luke 1:1-80
Sep 22nd:	Mark 12:35-13:37	Sep 26th:	Luke 2:1-51
Sep 23rd:	Mark 14:1-72	Sep 27th:	Luke 3:1-4:13

Join us for an informal, one-hour group conversation on Zoom this Thursday at 7pm:

Meeting ID: 884 822 1386

Passcode: rzRn4s

GOOD SHEPHERD IN MINISTRY

Monthly Prayer for Our Church
Join us by including this in your daily prayer time
and at all church gatherings.

God of relationships, we give you thanks for the community of Good Shepherd. We are grateful to be a people knitted together through your love, providing a source of encouragement and care as we journey together as disciples. Lead us by your Spirit to extend that same love and care beyond our walls so that others might know and experience your grace. Infuse us with willing hearts and curious minds to meet the needs of others you lay before us. Send us out as disciples who bless our neighbors and join your transforming work in the world. In Christ's name we pray, amen.

Fall BBQ lunch on September 27th after worship outside. Bring a chair and, if able, a side or dessert to share. Outdoor games are welcome too! We will provide brisket, pulled pork, and BBQ chicken.

Support Kairos and the Finegans as they serve. Rossana and Michael Finegan will be serving on Kairos weekends in October and November. Kairos brings hope to incarcerated men and women, and there are many ways to help. Supplies are available for pickup on the glass table.

1. **Pray** during the weekends — sign up using:
Women's Weekend: <https://prayervigils.net/vigils/438>
Men's Weekend:
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1fvzSHHNLRCpiTEEFfyKVtQszCXPdKp5jEctKGfzvt3c/edit?gid=0#gid=0>
 2. **Donate** — checks payable to *Kairos of Virginia*, write "CVCU" in the notes and give to the Finegans.
 3. **Decorate placemats and posters** — color with love! Children may add their first name and age. No glue or glitter.
 4. **Write encouraging notes** — address up to 30 to "Dear Sister in Christ" and/or 30 to "Dear Brother in Christ" or leave blank. Leave envelopes open. Share prayers, scripture, or words of encouragement. Sign your name or "Sister/Brother in Christ."
 5. **Bake cookies!**
- Questions? Reach out to Rossana Finegan: rossanafin@yahoo.com.

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost
Sermon Series: I've Been Meaning to Ask

(*) Please stand as you are able for this act of worship.
Bold Print indicates congregational/unison responses.

*Gathering Song	<i>Help Us Accept Each Other</i>	UMH 560
*Words of Welcome		
*Gathering Words	Here in this space, we wear our hearts on our sleeves. There is no use in filters or walls. This space is an authentic space. This space is a brave space. For when it comes to God, we are always invited to bring our full selves into the room. So come into this space with your hurt and your joy, your prayers and your dreams. All of God's children are welcome here. Let us worship Holy God.	
*Hymn	<i>I Come With Joy</i>	UMH 617
Miracle Sunday Moment		
Good Shepherd in Ministry		
Praising God with Our Gifts		
Offertory Music	<i>Song of Gladness</i> (Martin)	
*Doxology		UMH 94
Children's Time		Pastor Lisa
Prayer for Understanding	Holy God, we come carrying hurts we name and hurts we keep hidden. As we hear these stories, open our ears to the pain of others and our hearts to your presence among us. Help us listen without judgment, receive one another with compassion and trust that no sorrow is unseen by you. Draw us close. Help us hear. Amen.	Alicia Garbelman
Scripture	1 Samuel 1:9–18	O.T. 233
Message		Pastor MiRhang
Anthem	<i>Blessed Are The Eyes That See</i> (Catherwood)	

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation, Prayer of Confession, and Words of Assurance
I’ve been meaning to ask...
How are you? What has your year been like? Did you know that I have been thinking of you?
I have been meaning to ask...
Is your mom okay? Did your sister find a job? Did you ever think we’d still be here?
I’ve been meaning to ask...
Did it get easier? Did the grief subside? Were you ever able to sleep at night?
I’ve been meaning to ask but I haven’t—
Because it’s hard. Because I want to say the right thing. Because I’m not sure what you need.
I’ve been meaning to ask, so I’m sorry for my silence.
Forgive me. Show me where it hurts.
Let’s start again.
Family of faith, we could all use some practice in asking where it hurts. Take a moment of silent prayer to think of the people in your world, in your lives, who may need you to reach out and ask. Give their names to God.
Trusting that God hears all things, we say together: **Amen.**
Family of faith, in the journey to love and care for one another, we are bound to make mistakes. Fortunately for us, we worship a God who showed us how to love, and who extends grace to us when we fail to do so for others. So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:
We are seen. We are heard. We are loved. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God for this endless grace. Amen.

Holy Communion	<i>All are welcome at the table</i>	
*Affirmation of Faith		
*Hymn	<i>Blest Be The Tie That Binds</i>	UMH 557
*Benediction		
Postlude	<i>Andante</i> (Mendelssohn)	

Votive Candle Stand. Our votive candle stand invites contemplative prayer. Feel free to light a candle before or after our service, or during communion.

Worship Resources Used: Video from Virginia Annual Conference Miracle Sunday Resources
Liturgy by Rev. Sarah Are, A Sanctified Art LLC.

PRAISES AND PRAYERS

Prayer requests remain for 4 weeks unless otherwise updated. Please submit, update, or remove a prayer request via the Connect Card or by contacting the church office.

Remember in Prayer (as of September 13, 2026)

Chris Evatt - broken wrist after a fall
Don Abrell - recovery from stroke
Debbie Ritenour and family upon the loss of husband, Don
Deveney Family - loss of Michael’s father
JoAnne and John Neal - JoAnne, undergoing chemo; John, health problem
Kathy McNeil - Myra Keifer in physical rehab, Heather, cancer treatments
Lerita and Fred Milbert - friend, Phil Goble, in hospice care
Neneh Kanneh - husband Sheikh Kanneh, eyesight and health
Pam Buchenauer- Frank, recovery from fall and Mother died; Cynthia, recovery from injuries; Lori, recovering at home; Chris & Joe have moved; Joe, Parkinsons; Roberto, injuries from a fall
Pat Pearsall - Teryl Freeman, extended treatment and illness; Kelly Kalles, finger surgery
Rossie and Carol Alston - Alberta Alston, health concerns; Carol’s sister Alyson, breast cancer
Ruth Herndon - Raquel’s mother-in-law, Marion with health issues
Steve Koch - cousin Lynn, surgical recovery after brain bleed
Uni Samura - rehab at home, continued paralysis
Winnie Agyin - Samuel Agyin, recovery from stroke
Our country and our nation’s leaders
For all places experiencing natural disasters, storm recovery, and wildfires
For all places experiencing war, violence, and humanitarian crisis
For those who struggle with mental health and the families that love them