



St. Stephen Lutheran Church

One of 13,000 Stephen Ministry Congregations Around the World

Third Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2020

For Your Prayer – March 15-22, 2020

Lectionary readings for this week:

Monday: Genesis 44:18-34; 1 Corinthians 7:25-31; Mark 5:21-43

Tuesday: Genesis 45:1-15; 1 Corinthians 7:32-40; Mark 6:1-13

Wednesday: Genesis 45:16-28; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 6:13-29

Thursday: Genesis 46:1-7, 28-34; 1 Corinthians 9:1-15; Mark 6:30-46

Friday: Genesis 47:1-26; 1 Corinthians 9:16-27; Mark 6:47-56

Saturday: Genesis 47:27—48:7; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Mark 7:1-23

Next Sunday Worship Readings: 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

Join your prayers for healing with God's desires for **Bill Arnold, Joe Beene, Kristin Carter, Steve Grant, Chuck Hilbinger, Lynn Knestrick, Ned Neidlinger, Don Nelson, and Susie Yancey.**

Pray God's comfort and peace to those mourning the death of **Jo Schumacher.**

Pray God's blessings on those in our community who have no permanent home and on those serving this week from Smith Memorial Baptist Church through the Community of Faith Mission.

Pray for those unable to come to worship: **Doris Bass, Martin Bleck, Preston and Birdie Burton, Gene and Martha Clements, Bob and Angie Groom, Mary Jamerson, Billie Jo Purse, Dick Reeves, Jessie Schmitthenner, Jean Shivel, Joanne Shue, Darlene Simon, Jerry Trone, Ladonna Wiederholt**

Pray for these loved ones of our congregation: Bob Alt, Mary Ann Arnold, Jane Ayers, Jean Ballentine, Gary Baumgarten, Rose Baumgarten, Eliza Bicknell, Tom Black, Steve Blanks, Julie Boardman, Marla Canny, Alex Cline, Nancy Cline, Graham Darnell, Kathryn Dieter, Inge Felbier, Mary Fitzgerald, Hollis Fulton, Patricia Garcia, Burt Gay, Carole Gilman, Andrea Gonzalez, Bill Gottschalk, Kara Gustafsson, Ted Harms, Andy Havola, Sharon Hegland, Lilly Higgins, Terry Holland, Phyllis Humphrey, Crystal Isaac, Robin Jones, Sandy Kellogg, Diane Kelly, Fran Kibler, Chris Kinney, Rodney Knauss, John Knestrick, Eugene Kreitzer, Rebecca Krueger, Torri Larson, Margaret Lewis, Mildred Lindblad, Patrick & Kristin McGraw, Pam McHose, Laura Moseley, Dorothy Myers, Sterling Nichols, Janet Overdorf, Tony Poplin, Emily Reubush, Jenny Rice, Jennifer Rideout, Edith Roberts, Shann Rufer, Marion Seidl, Inge Seiter, Patricia Simpson, Ale Skinkle, James Smith, Sharon Smith, Evelyn Spear, Mitchell Stauffer, Ralph Stonebraker, Jill Watson, Carolyn Williams, Donna Wood, Aaron Zabell

As We Gather

In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. We are baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, God's act to accomplish our salvation "while we were still weak," as Paul puts it in today's second reading; "while we still were sinners;" even "while we were enemies" of God! During the season of Lent we are returning to our baptisms.

Exodus 17:1-7 – Moses and the people are wandering in the desert wilderness. Because the thirsty people quarrel with Moses and put the Lord to the test, Moses cries out in desperation to the Lord. The Lord commands Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question – "Is the Lord among us or not?" – receives a very positive answer!

Psalms 95 – "Let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation." (verse 1)

Romans 5:1-11 – God has intervened to save us through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. The result is suffering that leads to hope. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. We have now received reconciliation with God.

John 4:5-42 – This morning, we enjoy the first of three long, great stories that we'll read on Sunday mornings in the gospel of John. Jesus shocks even his disciples by engaging in theological conversation with a *Samaritan* (a heretic who would have been excluded by the religious rulers of God's people), and a *woman* (one who was not considered to be competent in such matters)! Notice the twists and turns in this conversation, which is often comic!

Parents! Thanks for bringing your children to worship!

- Did you know that intergenerational worship is the single most important activity encouraging children's faith formation? (See vibrantfaith.com)
- When parents and children need to take a break for a few minutes, there's a play area with toys and books on a cart in the room right beneath the Worship Space.

Assistance is Available for You:

- **An induction loop** is provided for the benefit of hearing aid users. To use, please switch your hearing aid to "T."
- **Large print** worship materials are available - ask an usher.
- **Rest rooms** are accessible through the door in the wing to the left of the altar.
- **If someone should need emergency medical assistance**, an AED (Automated External Defibrillator), CPR supplies, and a first aid kit are located in the hallway next to the Fellowship Hall.

March 15, 2020

Third Sunday in Lent

I. Gathering: *The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God*

Welcome, Prayer Concerns, Celebrations and Announcements

Centering Music *Go to Dark Gethsemane* arr. Jason Krug
 St. Stephen Ringers

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
 who is present, who gives life,
 who calls into existence the things that do not exist.

C: **Amen.**

P: If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand?
 Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: **have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we have turned away from you
knowingly and unknowingly.**

We have wandered from your resurrection life.

We have strayed from your love for all people

Turn us back to you, O God.

**Give us new hearts and right spirits,
that we may find what is pleasing to you
and dwell in your house forever. Amen.**

P: Receive good news: God turns to you in love.
 “I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live,” says our God.
 All your sin is forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ,
 who is the free and abounding gift of God’s grace for you.

C: **Amen.**

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Gathering Hymn *Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty* Hymn 777

Greeting, Kyrie page 203

Prayer of the Day

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

II. Word: *God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song*

First Reading

Exodus 17:1-7

¹From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

Reader: "The Word of the Lord." Response: "Thanks be to God."

Psalmody

Psalm 95

- ¹ Come, let us sing | to the LORD;*
let us shout for joy to the rock of | our salvation.
- ² **Let us come before God's presence | with thanksgiving***
and raise a loud shout to the | LORD with psalms.
- ³ For you, LORD | are a great God,*
and a great ruler a- | bove all gods.
- ⁴ **In your hand are the caverns | of the earth;***
the heights of the hills are | also yours.
- ⁵ The sea is yours, | for you made it,*
and your hands have molded | the dry land.
- ⁶ **Come, let us worship | and bow down,***
and kneel before the | LORD our Maker.
- ⁷ For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture
and the sheep | of God's hand.*
Oh, that today you would | hear God's voice!
- ⁸ **"Harden | not your hearts,***
as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah | in the desert.
- ⁹ There your ancestors | tested me,*
they put me to the test, though they had | seen my works.
- ¹⁰ **Forty years I loathed that gener- | ation saying,***
'The heart of this people goes astray; they do not | know my ways.'
- ¹¹ Indeed I swore | in my anger,*
'They shall never come | to my rest.'

¹Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person--though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Reader: "The Word of the Lord." Response: "Thanks be to God."

Gospel Acclamation

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Gospel**John 4:5-42**

Response after announcement of the Gospel: "Glory to you, O Lord."

Gospel not printed.

A Time with the Children**Sermon**

Pastor Mary Anderson

The Hymn of the Day will be announced in a few moments. First, please take time during the silence: What are your prayers in response to the sermon?

Hymn of the Day*I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

Hymn 611

Apostles Creed

page 127 or back cover of the Worship Book

Prayers

Each petition concludes, "Lord in your mercy." Response: "Hear our prayer."

Sharing of the Peace**III. Meal: God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ****Offering**

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church: preaching and teaching the good news of our salvation through the death and resurrection of Christ, and caring for the poor. During the offering, the table is set for the Lord's Supper.

Offering of Music

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

Raymond Haan

Offertory

Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery
Stanzas 1-3, plus Lent 3

Hymn 334

Offertory Prayer

The Great Thanksgiving

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Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, O God of the Universe.

Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying: take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying: this cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us.

Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With St. Stephen and your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.
Amen

The Lord's Prayer

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The Communion

*You have the choice of drinking the wine from the common cup,
taking an individual cup from the acolyte,
or taking one of the cups of grape juice from the middle of the round tray.
Gluten-free wafers are available as an alternative to bread.
St. Stephen is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,
so all are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood in the Lord's Supper.*

Communion Hymns

Lamb of God

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I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

arr. Jane Krentz Organ

St. Stephen Ringers

Here at Your Table

Dan R. Edwards

St. Stephen Ringers

Break Now the Bread of Life

Hymn 515

Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

IV. Sending: *God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world*

Blessing

Sending Hymn

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

Hymn 618

Dismissal

Postlude

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

Paul Manz



What's Happening Today

Flowers this morning are given to the Glory of God by **Bob** and **Sue Voigt** in memory their parents.

Sunday morning teaching for children and youth:

- **Sermon time teaching of young children.** Today, **Brenda Lee** and **Terri Larsen** take children to the Preschool space during the sermon to tell the Bible story that will be the theme passage for the week, and to work on an activity sheet about the passage.
- **Joe** and **Susie Yancey** and **Jeane Moore** meet with **young children and parents** today between the services today in the Preschool space to talk about the theme passage of the day.
- **Affirmation of Baptism instruction**, for students in grades seven and eight, takes place between the services in the Library/Conference room, led by **Heidi Flatin** and **Stan York**.
- **Gatherings for high school youth** take place between the services, in the youth room with **Dave** and **Roberta Sulouff**.

Today we welcome Pastor Mary Anderson to our pulpit. The Rev. Dr. Mary Anderson led our Women's Retreat yesterday. She has a degree in preaching, taught at the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, and has served/is serving as a parish pastor. Join her in the Gathering Space in-between services for coffee, questions and conversation!

Blood Pressure Screening Today! Every third Sunday of the month, a nurse will be available in the Health Ministry office to take blood pressures. Stop by the office (across from the Kitchen) and have yours checked today!

Come check us out! Stephen Ministers are congregation members who offer one-to-one care for people going through tough times. Their 50 hours of training prepare them to engage in this ministry. All relationships are strictly confidential. If you are interested in learning more about Stephen Ministry - having a Stephen Minister, or becoming one – come to the Stephen Ministry Corner in the Gathering Space today. A Stephen Minister will be available to answer questions.

Do you know someone who needs to be wrapped in our prayers? Prayer shawls are available in the Gathering Space. Please take a shawl, along with our love.

Upcoming

On the Wednesdays of Lent, March 18, 25, April 1:

- **6:00 PM** – We'll share simple homemade soup and bread suppers. (Sign up on the poster in the Gathering Space to coordinate a Lenten supper and/or to bring soup and/or bread.)
- **7:00 PM** – *Holden Evening Prayer*. Our theme for Lent this year is **Sacramental Living** and is based upon Henri Nouwen's book, *Life of the Beloved: Spiritual Living in a Secular World*. Mid-Week Themes: **March 18: Broken; March 25: Given; April 1: Being**

Stephen Ministry Meeting. Marcella Williams of Bucktrout Funeral Home will present a program on what you need to know about planning for a funeral. All who wish to learn about this topic are welcome to attend – **this Thursday, March 19 at 7:00 PM** in the Fellowship Hall.

Preschool Spirit Night! Our next Spirit Night will be **this Thursday, March 19 at Taqueria Maria Bonita** (6618 Mooretown Road – shopping center across from Sentara Hospital) from **5:00 PM – 8:00 PM**. The owner, Guadalupe Silva, is mother of one of our Frog Class students! See the article in the latest issue of Williamsburg Magazine in the Virginia Gazette for a wonderful article on the restaurant. Remember to mention St. Stephen Lutheran Preschool!

Join friends for lunch on **Sunday, March 22 at 1:00 PM** at the **Olive Garden** on Richmond Road. Mark the purple sheet to make your reservation or contact **Sharon Brown** (814-234-2244).

The Property Committee will be performing maintenance the week of **April 6-10** - our Preschool is on Spring Break. Several contractors will be working inside and outside of the building (landscaping, fire alarm system check, HVAC maintenance, and new lighting, etc.). Parking will be limited during this week.

Drug Take-Back on **Saturday April 25, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM** at the Williamsburg Fire Department, 444 N. Boundary Street. There will be a drive through so you will not have to get out of your car. They are also accepting sharps if you have them. This is a great time to get rid of those old prescriptions in your medicine cabinet. This Drug Take-Back is sponsored by the Williamsburg Police Department.

Items Of Note

Sound Operators Needed! No experience necessary – easy to train! Talk to any Sound Operator to get the scoop on this important ministry! Mark the purple sheet!

Yoga with Janice Mayfield will continue for another six weeks! Come join the fun on Tuesday afternoons at 3:30 PM. Beginners are welcome! No fee – bring a donation for Avalon, if you wish. Call Janice for more information (757-565-0953).

Ideas for 2020 Endowment Fund Projects. The Endowment Fund Committee is looking for new ideas where a one-time infusion of money could have a big impact to:

- strengthen, nurture and grow our community of faith here at St. Stephen, **or**
- extend the congregation's mission outreach into the community.

Suggestions may be noted on the purple sheet and placed in the offering plate.

St. Stephen Calendar –March 15-22, 2020

SUNDAY, March 15 ~ *Third Sunday in Lent*

- 7:55 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal
- 8:30 AM Worship – Holy Communion**
- 9:45 AM Coffee & Fellowship (Gathering Space)
- 9:45 AM Faith Formation and Affirmation of Baptism
- 9:45 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal
- 9:45 AM Blood Pressure Screening (Health Ministry Office)
- 9:45 AM Stephen Ministry Corner (Gathering Space)
- 10:30 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 11:00 AM Worship – Holy Communion**
- 6:00 PM Lutheran Student Association Dinner (College Room)

MONDAY, March 16

- 10:00 AM Pastors' Holy Week Study (Fellowship Hall)
- 3:00 PM *Discipleship* Book Study (Fellowship Hall)
- 7:00 PM *Discipleship* Book Study (Fellowship Hall)

TUESDAY, March 17

- 3:30 PM Yoga with Janice (Fellowship Hall)
- 7:00 PM Preschool Committee (Library/Conference Room)

WEDNESDAY, March 18

- 12:30 PM Staff Meeting (Library/Conference Room)
- 6:00 PM Soup Supper (Fellowship Hall)
- 7:00 PM Holden Evening Prayer**
- 7:00 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, March 19

- 9:30 AM Communications Committee (Library/Conference Room)
- 5:30 PM Handbell Rehearsal
- 7:00 PM Call Committee (Library/Conference Room)
- 7:00 PM Stephen Ministers (Fellowship Hall)

FRIDAY, March 20

- 3:00 PM Al Anon Meeting (Library/Conference Room)

SATURDAY, March 21

- 2:00 PM AA Meeting (Library/Conference Room)
- 8:00 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
- 8:00 PM Al Anon Meeting (Library/Conference Room)

SUNDAY, March 22 ~ *Fourth Sunday in Lent ~ LSA Sunday*

7:55 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal

8:30 AM Worship – Holy Communion

9:45 AM Coffee & Fellowship (Gathering Space)

9:45 AM Faith Formation and Affirmation of Baptism

9:45 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal

10:30 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

11:00 AM Worship – Holy Communion

6:00 PM Lutheran Student Association Dinner (College Room)

Health Ministry

Beware the Scams

There is a new worry about the coronavirus. It is the scams. The price gouging of hand sanitizer (don't pay exorbitant prices for hand sanitizer) to emails touting a coronavirus vaccine (it doesn't exist). If you have not gone to the CDC website and signed up to receive emails about the coronavirus, they will not send them randomly. Do not click on links that you do not recognize or that you have not gotten from a site you trust. They can get your personal information from your computer. The government nor anyone doing research about coronavirus will not send out emails asking for donations. Do not open these. If you have an questions, please contact your local health department, your primary care physician, or local authorities. I am providing links to local resources for information. Please take care of yourself.

Diana Tiller-Dichtel, Parish Nurse

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/workplace-school-and-home-guidance.pdf>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

<https://www.yorkcounty.gov/2371/Monitoring-the-Coronavirus>

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

<https://www.williamsburgva.gov/government/departments-a-h/emergency-preparedness/coronavirus-covid-19>

Leading our Worship and Hospitality today

Acolyte/Crucifer.....(8:30) Nick Brisson & Marilyn Mallue
.....(11:00) Beatrice Ehrhardt & Emily Rossiter
Altar Guild (8:30) Donna VanDuyse & Rosalie Frey
..... (11:00) Jane Gingerich & Ingrid Brown
Bread Baker.....Anne Schone
Cantors(8:30) Ellen Bushman (11:00) Marj Gottschalk-Trone
Communion Assistants (8:30) Chris Punchard & Martha Reier
.....(11:00) George Bass & Margaret Krull
Flower Delivery Rosemary Stimson
Greeters/Hosts(8:30) JR & Diana Lyons (11:00)
Lectors.....(8:30) Chris Punchard (11:00) Edith Haecker
Sound System..... (8:30) Alan Balma (11:00) Nancy Carter
Tellers..... Russ White, Nelia Lamoureux, Jeanne Garrison
Ushers.....(8:30) JR Lyons & Russ White (11:00)

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

612 Jamestown Road, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185

www.saintstephenlutheran.net

(757) 229-6688

**We gather to worship and study God's Word to deepen our faith and
live our Christian witness and service in the community.**

(St. Stephen Lutheran Church Vision Statement)

All of Us, Called Through Our Baptisms

Pastor Cheryl Ann Griffin (876-6371)

Karen Ives – Director of Music (828-242-1133)

Sandy Peterkin – Parish and Preschool Administrator (229-6688)

Diana Tiller-Dichtel – Parish Nurse (232-5924)

Susan Berry-Ruane – Preschool Lead Teacher (229-6688)

Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center (873-2273)

Doing Ministry in the World

Pastorcg@saintstephenlutheran.net

MusicDir@saintstephenlutheran.net

Office@saintstephenlutheran.net

Parishnurse@saintstephenlutheran.net

Preschool@saintstephenlutheran.net

Counselors in Williamsburg on Thursdays

Welcome to St. Stephen Lutheran Church!

***Please fill out this form and drop it in the offering plate
or give it to an usher.***

March 15, 2020

Name: _____

For guests and members with changes:

Address (Home) _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Telephone # _____

E-Mail Address _____

Guests Only:

I belong to _____

Church Address _____

Please check as many as pertain:

_____ Member

_____ First time guest

_____ Regular guest

_____ Guest (out of town)

_____ Student at William & Mary

_____ Looking for a church home

_____ Desire to speak with pastor

_____ Would like more information about Stephen Ministry

_____ Would like the Parish Nurse to contact me

Comments? (Please be sure your name is above, so we may respond, if necessary.)

Prayer Requests

Please **add** to the prayer list in this month's bulletin and next month's *Quill*:

Name: _____

Please **remove** from prayer concerns:

Name: _____

_____ I/We will **join friends for lunch** on Sunday, March 22!

_____ I/We are interested in helping with the **Motel Ministry**! Please call me!

_____ I/We can help **drive members to worship**!

We attend early _____ late _____ service - call me!

_____ I/We have an idea that our **Endowment Fund** could support:

Call me!