

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

One of 13,000 Stephen Ministry Congregations Around the World

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany Lectionary 4

January 29, 2023

For Your Prayers – January 29-February 5, 2023

The readings are chosen so that the days leading up to Sunday (Thursday-Saturday) prepare for Sunday's readings while the days flowing out of Sunday (Monday-Wednesday) reflect back upon the Sunday readings. The complete Daily Lectionary readings can be found on page 1121 in the back of the ELW.

Lectionary readings for this week:

Monday: Psalm 37:1-17; Ruth 1:1-18; Philemon 1-25 *Tuesday*: Psalm 37:1-17; Ruth 2:1-16; James 5:1-6

Wednesday: Psalm 37:1-17; Ruth 3:1-13, 4:13-22; Luke 6:17-26 *Thursday*: Psalm 112:1-9[10]; Deuteronomy 4:1-14; 1 John 5:1-5

Friday: Psalm 112:1-9[10]; Isaiah 29:1-12; James 3:13-18 *Saturday:* Psalm 112:1-9[10]; Isaiah 29:13-16; Mark 7:1-8

Sunday: Isaiah 58: 1-9a[9b-12]; Psalm 112:1-9[10]; 1 Corinthians 2:1-12[13-16];

Matthew 5:13-20

<u>Join your prayers for healing</u> with God's desires for Ed Brown, Kristin Carter, Marcie Clark, Ginny Cummings, Karen Einarsen, Marj Gottschalk-Trone, Sharon Jacobs, Evelyn Kernan, Henry Mallue, Carole Meyer, Jim Mayfield, Marie Nelson and Linda Reuben.

<u>Pray for those unable to come to worship</u>: Joyce Behlendorf, Martin Bleck, Birdie Burton, York Doerr, Bob and Angie Groom, Jack Harris, Edith Haecker, Pat Janot, Jeanne Nelson, Joanne Shue, Darlene Simon, Jerry Trone, and Kay Wasaff

Pray for these loved ones of our congregation: Jake, Stephanie Altland, Philip A. Arnold, Jane Ayers, Gary Baumgarten, Rose Baumgarten, Susan Behrens, The Besser family, Toni Birch, Bill Blackburn & Sally Blackburn, Rev. Donald Blume, Bethany Brisson, John Butler, Karin Cavanaugh, Lane Clark, Rochelle Connor, Bob Cummings, Emmeline Daniels, Graham Darnell, Jeris and Tony DeKievit, Yvonne Destout, Judy Drezek, Paul Dwiggins, Derald Edwards, Joan Fecondo, Gloria Flamm, Dan Flatin, Kay Flatin, Betty Frazee, Bob and Lois Friend, Andrea Gonzalez, Rex Harder, Andy Havola, Frank Hayes, Char Henry, Nicole Ingle, Crystal Isaac, Nate Jacklin, Rev. Richard Johnson, Sandy Kellogg, John Knestrick, Richard Kochanski, Rebecca Krueger, Monsignor Joseph Lehman, Margaret Lewis, Jackie Locke, Isabelle Lutzle, Keith Margrey, Barry Marten, Micah Maris-Wolf, Doug Mayes, Patrick and Kristin McGraw, Judy Murphy, Jeremy Nelson, Lori Ott, Danielle Parrish, Lyn Pence, Phil Peters, Sue Plevelich, Pearl Retchin, Lillian Rich, Edith Roberts, Betty Roth, Shann Rufer, Paul Sampson, Inge Seiter, Cindy Sherwood, Patricia Simpson, Kelsey Slay, Mike Slyer, Brant Smith, Vasili Soultoukis, Jerry and Evelyn Spear, Chad Strausbaugh, Kelly Theilen, Carolyn Williams, Travis Wilson, Kinnley, Teresa, and Robert Yazujian, Abby Zwerner and the people of Ukraine

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany/Lectionary 4

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

Welcome

Centering Music Let Justice flow Like Streams Setting Timothy Shaw

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal, we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves.

We have not practiced your righteousness.

Our hearts have turned away from you.

For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Thus says our God: "The former things have come to pass

and new things I now declare."

God's mercy makes us new.

We are forgiven in the name of + Christ our Savior.

Amen.

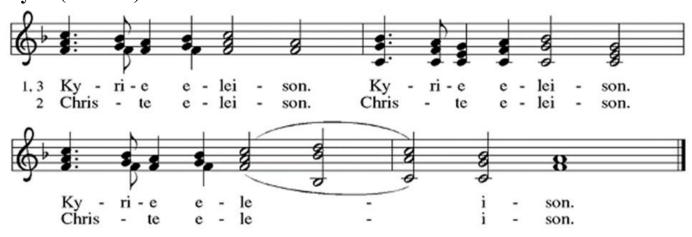
Gathering Hymn Let Justice Flow like Streams

ELW 717 Bulletin page 12

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie (Russian)



Hymn of Praise (Peruvian) Glory to God, Glory in the Highest



Prayer of the Day

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**.

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

First Reading Micah 6:1-8

¹Hear what the Lord says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.

²Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth;

for the Lord has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel.

³"O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery;

and I sent before you Moses,

Aaron, and Miriam.

⁵O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him,

and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,

that you may know the saving acts of the Lord."

6"With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

⁷Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you

but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

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

Psalmody Psalm 15



¹LORD, who may dwell in your | tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your | holy hill?

²Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,

who speak the truth | from their heart; R

3they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit up- on a neighbor.

⁴In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who |fear the LORD. They have sworn upon their health and do not take | back their word.

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes a- gainst the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be overthrown. **R**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,

and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

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

Gospel Acclamation

Celtic Alleluia



Gospel Matthew 5:1-12

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

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

- ³ Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 4"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
- ⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
- 6"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
- ⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
- 8"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
- ⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
- ¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- ¹¹"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Response at the conclusion of the Gospel: "Praise to you, O Christ."

Sermon Do what now?

Pastor Jon Nelson

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

Oh, Praise the Gracious Power

ELW 651, *stanzas 1-4*Bulletin page 13

Prayers

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

III. Meal: God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

Offering

Offerings are 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 (8:30) "*Blessed*" by Paul Weber

(11:00) "Offertory" by John Ness Beck

Offertory Hymn Oh, Praise the Gracious Power ELW 651, stanzas 5-7

Bulletin page 13

Offertory Prayer

Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

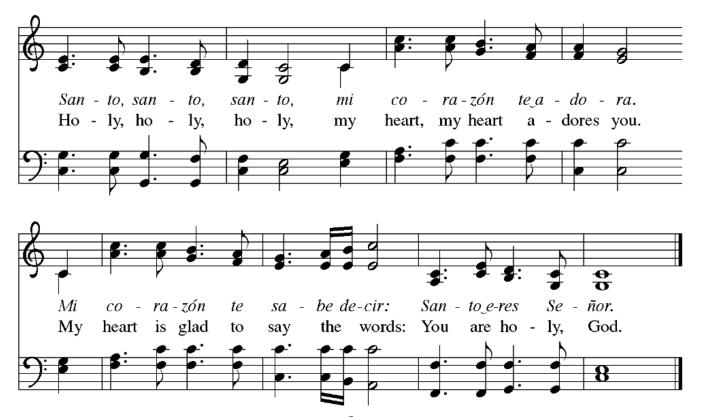
The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy (Argentinian)



Words of Institution



The Lord's Prayer
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Holy Communion

When receiving Communion, either stand or kneel at the Rail. Pastor will distribute the bread and a Communion Assistant will come with a tray of pre-filled cups of wine and grape juice. The juice will be in the middle of the 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.



O Lamb of God (Finnish)



Communion Hymn

When the Poor Ones

ELW 725 Bulletin page 14

Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

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

Sending Hymn

To Be Your Presence

ELW 546

Bulletin page 15

Blessing

The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod

→ bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always. Amen

Dismissal

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

When the Poor Ones/ Cuando el Pobre Setting Terry Wilson

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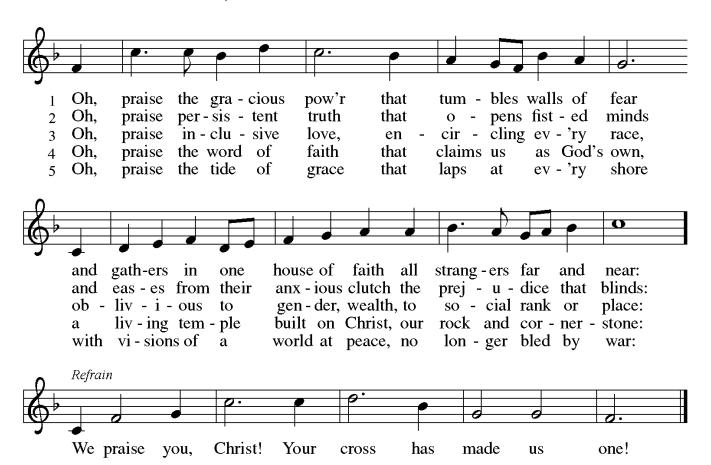
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Let Justice Flow like Streams



Oh, Praise the Gracious Power



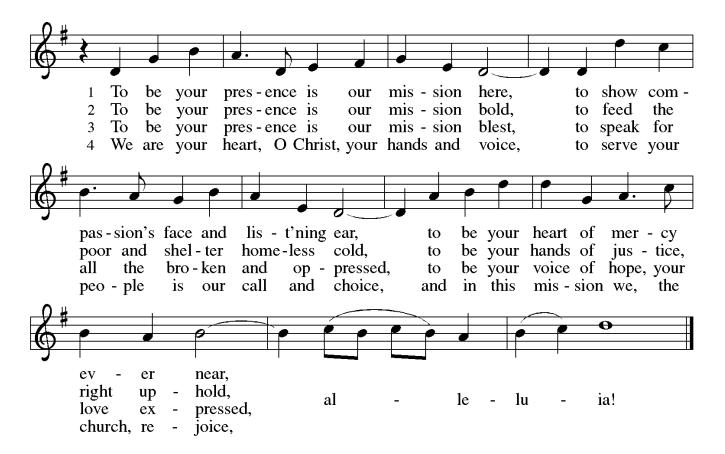
- 6 Oh, praise the pow'r, the truth, the love, the word, the tide.
 Yet more than these, oh, praise their source, praise Christ the crucified: *Refrain*
- 7 Oh, praise the living Christ with faith's bright songful voice!
 Announce the gospel to the world and with these words rejoice: Refrain

When the Poor Ones

Cuando el pobre



To Be Your Presence



As We Gather

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 in the room right beneath the Worship Space.
- Age-appropriate activity bags are available in the Gathering Space ask an usher for assistance.

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, CPR supplies, and a first aid kit are located in the hallway next to the Fellowship Hall.

COVID-19 Guidelines:

Community transmission of COVID-19 in Williamsburg is LOW; James City County is LOW; and York County is LOW. We strongly encourage the wearing of masks in our building at this time, especially for those who are more vulnerable to viral illnesses. We also encourage you to monitor yourself for flu (and COVID) symptoms and stay home if you are experiencing any.

What's Happening Today

<u>Flowers this morning</u> are given to the Glory of God by **Dave** and **Marcie Clark** in celebration of their 36th wedding anniversary.

<u>"Lutherans in America"</u> The Rev. Dr. Harvey Nelson will be offering a five-week series on "Lutherans in America" between services (9:45-10:45 AM) in the Fellowship Hall. The Third session starts today.

<u>Preschool Winter Carnival</u> is today, **Sunday**, **January 29**, **2:00** – **4:00 PM**. Join us for games and goodies in the Fellowship Hall!

<u>Do you enjoy coffee and fellowship on Sunday mornings</u>? Please consider donating to the coffee fund, simply place a dollar or so in the cup on top of the Keurig this will help us stay within budget!

Health Ministry

Sudden Cardiac Arrest vs Heart Attack

We have heard a lot about sudden cardiac arrest in the last few weeks. There have been some high profile people who have experienced it. It brings to question, what is sudden cardiac arrest? Is it the same as a heart attack? The answer to the second question is no, they are not the same. The answer to the first is involved. A sudden cardiac arrest occurs instantaneously and often without warning. It is caused by an electrical malfunction in the heart. The heart stops pumping, therefore no oxygen is delivered to the brain, lungs or other organs. One loses consciousness and has no pulse. Death occurs in a matter of minutes if treatment is not initiated.

A heart attack is when an artery on the heart itself is blocked and stops delivering oxygen-rich blood to a portion of the heart muscle. If the artery is not opened soon, the part of the heart affected will begin to die and damage will increase the longer treatment is postponed. There may be immediate and severe symptoms with a heart attack or the symptoms may be milder. Sudden cardiac arrest can occur after a heart attack or during recovery. Other conditions can lead to sudden cardiac arrest. They include thickened heart muscle (cardiomyopathy), heart failure, and arrhythmias – particularly ventricular fibrillation and long QT syndrome. If you see someone who suddenly becomes unresponsive, call 911 immediately. Check for a pulse and if absent, begin CPR. We will offer a CPR class this year. If you are interested, please send me an email.

Diana Tiller-Dichtel Parish Nurse - Parishnurse@saintstephenlutheran.net

Upcoming

Community of Faith Mission

This is the 11th year that St. Stephen will participate in the Winter Shelter Program, through the Community of Faith Mission (COFM) for those in our community who have no permanent home. The shelter houses up to 25 guests per night. Our service dates are **Wednesday**, **February 15**, providing dinner, and **Thursday**, **February 16**, providing breakfast and lunch. We will be preparing and delivering all meals on **Wednesday**, **February 15**. Please sign up on the Green Sheet.

<u>Support our St. Stephen Preschool at our Shrove Tuesday PJs & Pancakes Supper Tuesday, February 21st from 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM.</u> Tickets will be going on sale for fellowship and pancakes. Our Preschoolers invite you to join in their fun as they wear their PJs to have dinner! Can you help in the kitchen or with ticket sales? Please mark the green sheet.

<u>The Flower Chart for 2023</u> is posted in the display area of the Gathering Space. Please mark the date for which you would like to sponsor flowers! Sponsor sheets are in the envelope below the chart!

St. Stephen Calendar – January 29-February 5

Our worship service is available on our website <u>www.saintstephenlutheran.net</u>, click on "Worship with Us" and "Services."

SUNDAY,	January 29 ~ Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
8:00 AM	Matins Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)
8:30 AM	Worship – Holy Communion (livestreamed on our YouTube channel)
9:45 AM	Matins Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)
9:45 AM	"Lutherans in America" session #3 (Fellowship Hall)
9:45 AM	Affirmation of Baptism Class (Library/Conference Room)
10:00 AM	Faith Formation (Undercroft/Preschool Room)
10:30 AM	Chancel Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)
11:00 AM	Worship – Holy Communion
2:00-4:00 P	PM Winter Carnival!! (set up will start at 12:00pm)
MONDAY	, January 30
TUESDAY	7, January 31
10:00 AM	Bible Study (Library/Conference Room)
10:00 AM	Staff meeting
	DAY, February 1
7:00 PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)
7:00 PM	AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
THURSDA	AY, February 2
8:00 AM	Men's Breakfast (Colonial Pancake House)
1:00 PM	Staff Bulletin Review
5:30 PM	St. Stephen Ringers Rehearsal (Worship Space)
7:00 PM	Worship & Music Committee (Library/Conference Room)
FRIDAY,	February 3
10:00 AM-	12:00PM Finance group meeting (Library/Conference Room)
SATURDA	Y, February 4
5:30 PM	AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
SUNDAY,	February 5 ~ Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
8:00 AM	Matins Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)
8:30 AM	Worship - Holy Communion (livestreamed on our YouTube channel)
9:45 AM	Matins Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)
9:45 AM	"Lutherans in America" session #4 (Fellowship Hall)
9:45 AM	Affirmation of Baptism Class (Library/Conference Room)
10:00 AM	Faith Formation Chime Time & Music (Worship Space and Preschool Room)
10:30 AM	Chancel Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)

11:00 AM Worship – Holy Communion

Leading our Worship and Hospitality Today

Acolyte/Crucifer	(8:30) Sandy Peterkin
Altar Guild	(8:30) Diana Tiller-Dichtel & Rita Kristiansen
	(11:00) Heidi Flatin
	(8:30) Nancy Carter, Beth Grant, Diana Lyons
Bread Baker	Jennifer Dabel
Cantors	(8:30) Karen Shoberg (11:00) Christina Nelson
Communion Assistants	(8:30) Tom & Sandy Peterkin
•••••	(11:00) Lori Harms and Alina Dabel
Lectors	(8:30) Harlon Schone (11:00) Nancy Egloff
	Jim Larsen, Jane deSolms, Susan Britcher
	(8:30) JR Lyons and Russ White (11:00) Glenn Joppa

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

612 Jamestown Road, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185 <u>www.saintstephenlutheran.net</u> (757) 229-6688

Love God, Love People, Form Faith.

(St. Stephen Lutheran Church Vision Statement)

All of Us, Called Through Our Baptisms

Pastor Jon Nelson (320-295-8861)

Karen Ives – Director of Music (757-229-6688)

Hollie Jones – Parish Administrator (229-6688)

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

Kristie Kelley – Preschool Director (229-6688)

Doing Ministry in the World Pastorjn@saintstephenlutheran.net MusicDir@saintstephenlutheran.net Office@saintstephenlutheran.net Parishnurse@saintstephenlutheran.net

Preschool@saintstephenlutheran.net

Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center (873-2273; counselors are in Williamsburg on Thursdays)

Welcome to St. Stephen Lutheran Church! Please fill this out and drop it in the offering plate or give it to an usher.

January 29, 2023

Name:
For guests and members with changes:
Address (Home)
City/StateZip
Telephone #
E-Mail Address
Guests Only: I belong to
Church Address
Dlagge check as many as partain:
Please check as many as pertain:
Member
First time guest
Regular guest
Guest (out of town) Student at William & Mary
Student at William & Mary Looking for a church home
Desire to speak with pastor
Would like more information about Stephen Ministry
Would like a Parish Nurse to contact me
Any 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 <i>Quill</i> :			
Name: Please remove from prayer concerns:			
Name:			
I need a nametag!			
Yes! I can help with the Community of Faith Mission in February!			
I/we are available to help cook on Wednesday, February 15.			
I/we are available to help deliver and serve meals on Wednesday, February 15.			
I/we will bring in (circle one and please indicate how many) fruit cups, Clementine's, or paper towels.			
I/we can drop off coolers/ ice chests to use to transport food.			
Yes! I can help with the Shrove Tuesday PJ & Pancackes in February!			
I /We can help in the kitchen			
I/We can help sell tickets			