



St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church & Christian Preschool
200 S Main St
Charles City, Iowa 50616
641-228-3397
www.stjohncharlescity.org

Rev. Russ Leeper, Senior Pastor
Beth Hurt, Intern
Melanie Johanningmeier, Director of Music

Sunday, March 3, 2024
Third Sunday in Lent



John 2:13-22

Welcome

The radio broadcast is sponsored by Russell & Betty Ball in celebration of their 66th wedding anniversary.

Brief Order of Confession and Forgiveness

L: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

L: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires know, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

L: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

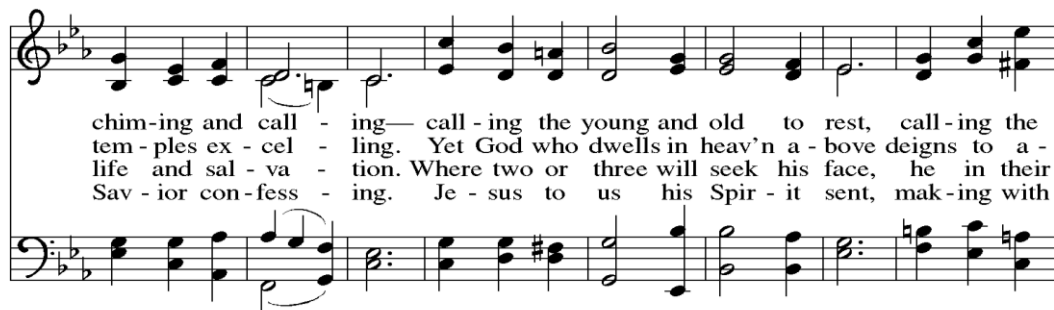
C: Amen.



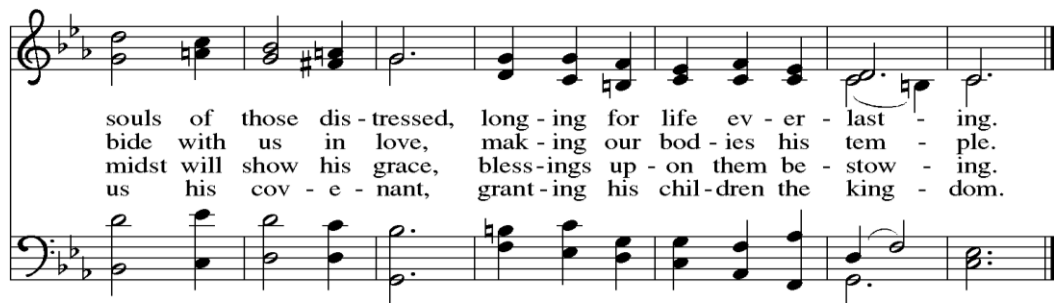
1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, e - ven when stee-ples are
 2 Sure - ly, in tem - ples made with hands God the Most High is not
 3 Christ builds a house of liv - ing stones: we are his own hab - i -
 4 Yet in this house, an earth - ly frame, Je - sus the chil-dren is



fall - ing; crum-bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are
 dwell - ing— high in the heav'ns his tem - ple stands, all earth - ly
 ta - tion; he fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones, grant - ing us
 bless - ing; hith - er we come to praise his name, faith in our



chim-ing and call - ing— call - ing the young and old to rest, call - ing the
 tem - ples ex - cel - ling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a -
 life and sal - va - tion. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their
 Sav - ior con - fess - ing. Je - sus to us his Spir - it sent, mak - ing with



souls of those dis - tressed, long - ing for life ev - er - last - ing.
 bide with us in love, mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.
 midst will show his grace, bless - ings up - on them be - stow - ing.
 us his cov - e - nant, grant - ing his chil - dren the king - dom.

- 5 Through all the passing years, O Lord,
 grant that, when church bells are ringing,
 many may come to hear your Word,
 who here this promise is bringing:
 "I know my own, my own know me;
 you, not the world, my face shall see;
 my peace I leave with you. Amen."

Apostolic Greeting

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

C: **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Music:

**“Come Follow Me”
Pianist: Vicky Hoffman**

Trinity Choir

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Read by Marron Murray

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.

“Jesus Loves Me”

Jesus loves me this I know,
For the Bible tells me so,
Little ones to Him belong,
They are weak but He is strong.

Refrain:

Yes, Jesus loves me,
Yes, Jesus loves me,
Yes, Jesus loves me,
The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me He who died
Heaven’s gate to open wide
He will wash away my sin
Let his little child come in. **Refrain:**

Children’s Sermon

Lenten Acclamation

“Change My Heart, O God”

Change my heart, O God, Make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God, May I be like You.
You are the Potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me, This is what I pray.
Change my heart, O God, Make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God, May I be like You.

L: The Holy Gospel according to **John 2:13-22**



John 2:13-22

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, “Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father’s house a marketplace!” ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, “What sign can you show us for doing this?” ¹⁹Jesus answered

them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” ²⁰The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

L: The Gospel of the Lord...



Sermon

Pastor Russ Leeper

Song of the Day

**“Behold the Lamb”
Pianist: Vicky Hoffman**

Trinity Choir

The Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth,
I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers (L): Lord in your mercy,

Response: **hear our prayer.**

Please keep the following in prayer:

Scott Aspholm	Don Knowlton	Noa Mulholland	Skip Ward
Linda Girken	Sherman Loudermilk	Imani Sande	Deb Watkins
Axel Heller	Dave Litterer	Lorna Scrimger	Bill Wohlers Jr.
Marilyn Isakson	Dick Harrington	Maggie Schultz	Mary Jean Zilm

Prayers and condolences to the family and friends of Irma Wilson upon her passing

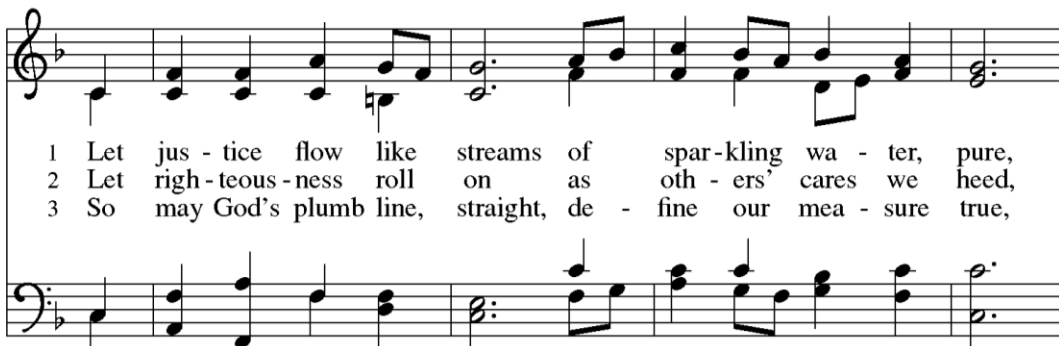
Prayers and condolences to the family and friends of Helen Schmidt upon her passing.

Please pray for all serving in the Armed Forces & their families: Kaleb Bilharz, Mackenzy Bilharz, Tanner Evans, Kaylie Fox, Hannah Fox, Kim Hall, Daniel Jacobs, Cameron Kakac, Drew Roethler, Robson Shankland, Ben Hauser

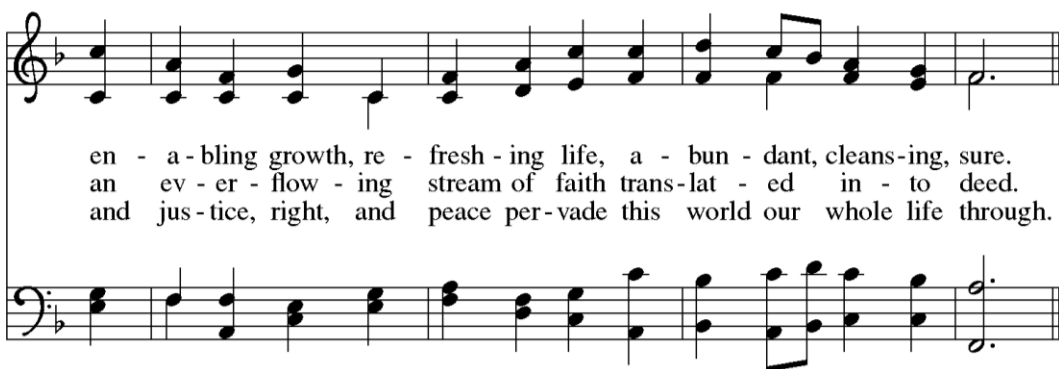
The Offering Hymn

“Let Justice Flow like Streams”

#717



1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spar - kling wa - ter, pure,
2 Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,
3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,



en - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans - ing, sure.
an ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans - lat - ed in - to deed.
and jus - tice, right, and peace per - vade this world our whole life through.

***Response**

“Feed Us Now”

Feed us now, Bread of life, In this holy meal;
Let us know your love a-new; We hunger for you.
Feed us now, Bread of life, Come and live with-in.
Let your peace be ours today, Lord Jesus, we pray

The Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Communion Invitation

“Come to the Table”

#481

Come to the table of mercy,
prepared with the wine and the bread.
All who are hungry and thirsty,
come, and your souls will be fed.
Come at the Lord's invitation;
receive from his nail-scarred hand.
Eat of the bread of salvation;
drink of the blood of the Lamb.

“Lord Jesus, Think on Me”

#599

1 Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin;
2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, by anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;
3 Lord Je - sus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray;
4 Lord Je - sus, think on me, that, when the flood is past,

from self - ish pas - sions set me free and make me pure with - in.
let me your lov - ing ser - vant be and taste your prom - ised rest.
through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty point out your cho - sen way.
I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see and share your joy at last.

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a treble and bass staff with lyrics in between. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence in the key signature.

“How Great Thou Art”

#856



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der con-sid-er
 2 When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der, I hear the
 3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, sent him to
 4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac-cla-ma-tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y
 birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft-y moun-tain
 die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur-den glad-ly
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad-o-



thun-der, thy pow'r through-out the u-ni-verse dis-played;
 gran-deur and hear the brook and feel the gen-tle breeze;
 bear-ing he bled and died to take a-way my sin;
 ra-tion and there pro-claim, “My God, how great thou art!”

Refrain



Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to



thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

Communion Blessing & Benediction

Sending Hymn

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

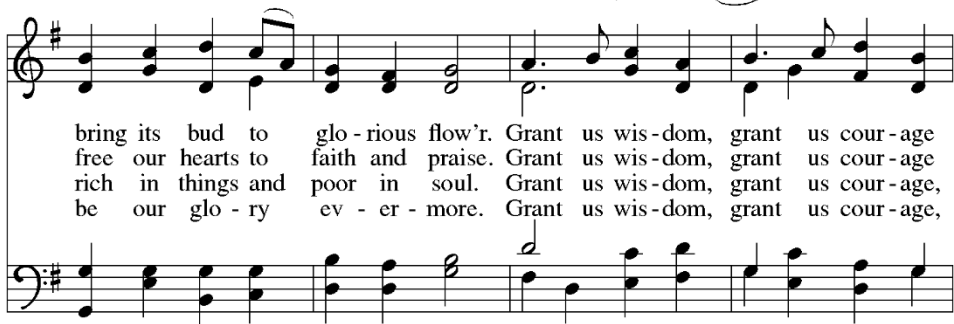
#705



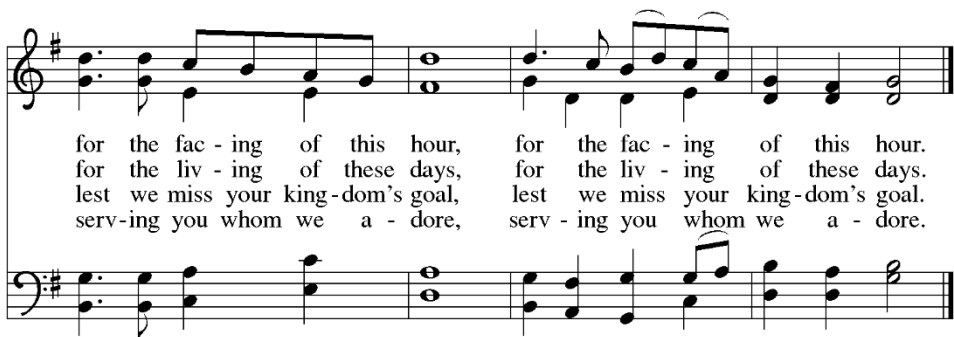
1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

L: Go in peace. Share the Good News!

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

“Mighty Are Thy Works, O Lord”

Gary Davidson



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

*St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church & Christian Preschool
200 S. Main Street, Charles City, IA 50616; 641-228-3397*

March 3—March 10

3/3/2024	9:00 a.m.	Worship & Communion (3rd Sunday of Lent) Trinity Choir
	10:00 a.m.	<i>Sunday Morning Schedule</i>
	10:10 a.m.	Parish Ed
	10:15 a.m.	SPECIAL CONGREGATION MEETING
3/4/2024	6:00 p.m.	Cub Scouts
3/5/2024	5:00 p.m.	Youth Board
	6:30 p.m.	GriefShare
3/6/2024	9:00 a.m.	Do Day Quilters WITH Prayer Shawl Ministry
	3:30 p.m.	<i>Wednesday Night Lenten Schedule</i>
	5:30 p.m.	<i>Lent Service</i>
3/8/2024	5:00 p.m.	Girl Scouts
3/10/2024	9:00 a.m.	Worship (4th Sunday of Lent)
	10:00 a.m.	<i>Sunday Morning Schedule</i>

Offering from the week of:

February 25, 2024

General Receipts:	\$5,039.91
Designated:	\$200.00
Total	\$5,239.91

General Receipts of \$10,902.91 are needed weekly to meet the approved budget.

Sunday Attendance: 250

Sunday Morning Schedule

9:00 a.m.	Service
10:05 a.m.	Youth Hour
10:05 a.m.	Spark Sunday School
10:05 a.m.	After Worship Social Time

Wednesday Night Lenten Schedule

Please Note Schedule Changes

February 14th through March 20th

Wednesday Night Supper

****March 6****

Tomato Soup, Pizza Burgers, Cookies
Supper is from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Cost: \$5.00 for adults

Children through 12th grade free thanks
to

Kans for Kids

(Menu subject to change)

3:15 to 5:00 After School Program

4:30 to 4:50 Kids Choir-K through 6th grade

4:30 to 5:30 Supper in the Parish Hall
(Kids eat free—Adults \$5
All Welcome)

5:30 Lenten Worship Service

6:15 Trinity Choir

**** (Tone Chime Choir will resume after Easter) ****

Mid-Week Lenten Services 2024

“Wandering Heart”

Wednesday worship services are at 5:30 p.m.

We will explore the life and faith of Jesus’ disciple, Peter. In him, we see a person who is both steadfast and unsteady, a dear friend and a betrayer, a follower and a wanderer. In Peter, we often see ourselves. By following Peter’s journey, we watch the story of Jesus unfold through the eyes of a very normal human trying to figure it all out—just like us.

Save the date
Saturday, March 30th!!

Easter Egg Hunt. Details to
come!

We'll need at least 2 more people
to help run the event. Please
contact the office if you are
interested.

Call the office to donate towards
the Easter Lilies by March 25th
At 641-228-3397



Easter Sunday, March 31st
Worship/Communion will
be at 8:00 am & 10:00 am.

1. ALL BOARD MEETING WILL BE MARCH 21 AT 6PM IN PARISH HALL. Please let Kim or office know by email if you will be attending or not.

2. Mission trip to Kansas City will be June 16-22. This is open to 7th thru 12 grade students. There is a sign up sheet by the youth office along with information sheet. Deadline to sign up will be April 1st.

Any questions contact Kim at 330-5441.



GriefShare is a 13-week grief support group that is beginning again at St. John. Join us to find help and encouragement after the death of a loved one.

Tuesdays at 6:30***January 23 through April 16
Register at GriefShare.org or call the church office at 228-3397.
See Susan Leeper for more information.

As precautionary steps for safety and security, we would like to ask all attendees and visitors of St John, to make sure you are locking your vehicles anytime you are inside the church or away from your vehicle.

Scholarship Applications:

Those students attending a Lutheran college who would like to receive an EPIC grant must notify the church by **May 1st**.

St. John scholarship applications for non-Lutheran colleges can be emailed to you and should be emailed to the office by **May 1st**.



Please help support...

St. John Christian Preschool

Purchase Kwik Star gift cards
and the preschool
receives 5% of the face value!!

Please contact Whitney or
Toni if you are interested.

Altar Flowers & Radio Broadcast
2024

The sign-up sheets for Altar Flowers & the
Radio Broadcast **are now in the**
Secretary's Office.

The radio broadcast is enjoyed by many of
our St. John members who cannot watch it
on YouTube or attend in person.

After Worship Social Time

Coffee & a treat are served in the Parish Hall each Sunday!!

Please join us

*****Special Note*****

We do need volunteers to sign up for bringing treats. There is a sign-up sheet by the Narthex
doors. (Approximately 3 dozen)

KITCHEN NEWS...In the coming weeks/months, it is our hope that all congregational
households will be contacted. This is the information we will be seeking:

1. Would you be willing to contribute food for an event scheduled at the church, i.e. funerals or a special event planned at the church?
2. Would you be willing to help in the kitchen with these events?
3. Is there a time of the year that works better for you, i.e. not available in the winter months, or would prefer a specific month or time of the year to be contacted.

We will also be requesting information specific to your mailing address(es), telephone, and e-mail addresses. This information will be shared with the church office to update those records as well.

Our kitchen is where we see "God's love in action" all the time. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Kathy Crooks - telephone number: 641 228-6927, email address: ctrygma@gmail.com.

This year commemorates 100 years since our church building was built to serve our congregation.

Because this is a historic year, it seems appropriate that we mark it with something that we haven't done for a while. A Harvest Dinner like we used to have would be a nice celebration and to make it different than the 150th celebration, I think we need to cater the main course, but bring back the pies and salads. I would like a craft, garden, and bake sale, too. I remember the jams and jellies and other harvest goodies that were also sold at this.

It all takes planning and work, so I am asking that if you have an interest in any part of this to contact me about what interests you and to attend a short planning meeting, to be announced. Since the dinner would mainly be catered, it will be a lot simpler than the huge cooking endeavor we used to have (although delicious) so time that you have to put in would be minimal. If you have ideas for this, I would love your input, like should we have some entertainment? I will also check with our various Boards to enlist some help.

Janet Petefish petefishj@mchsi.com

The Do Day Quilters and Prayer Shawl Ministry are going to combine forces

on March 6 to have a time of "Doing", conversation, coffee and a treat. The quilters start at 9 a.m. and the knitters/crocheters at 9:30 a.m. in the basement area near the kitchen. We would like to introduce you to the quilter's mission and to show the knitters/crocheters where to get the free yarn, where the prayer shawls are stored and how to check a new one in or a finished one out to take to someone in need. The lift makes it so much easier to get to the basement and it will be a good time for some conversation with someone new or someone you maybe haven't seen for a while. The quilters work until around 11:15 and stop for coffee and catching up. Come join us and see if the quilting or knitting is something you would like to do. The quilters meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month from 9:00 a.m.-noon. The knitters will start at 9:30-11:30 a.m. but you can come and go as you wish. This will be a organizational meeting for the prayer shawl group and future dates will be determined. Prayer shawls can be knit, crocheted or quilted. Patterns are available. If you need a prayer shawl, lap robe or blanket for someone, they are in the chapel in a closet and can be checked out in a binder so we know who will receive it. Contact Janet Petefish at petefishj@mchsi.com for questions.

