

Stephen Ministry



***Trinity Lutheran Church
Saint Joseph, Michigan
(269) 983-5000***

stephen MINISTRY.

Caring that changes lives...

Stephen Ministry is our congregation's one-to-one caregiving ministry. God works through Stephen Ministers to plant a seed of hope and healing in a person whose life seems barren and forlorn because of some crisis or tragedy.

Our Stephen Ministers are Here to Care!

STEPHEN MINISTERS CARE FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE:

- ❖ Grieving
- ❖ In a crisis
- ❖ In need of long-term care
- ❖ Dying
- ❖ Hospitalized
- ❖ Divorcing
- ❖ Experiencing losses as they age
- ❖ Going through a crisis with childbirth
- ❖ The family & friends of people in crisis

(This is only a few examples of potential care-giving situations.)

CARING FOR YOU THROUGH CHRIST

The Stephen Ministry here at Trinity Lutheran Church brings care to all in need. This confidential, Christian caregiving is a vital part of the total healing ministry of Christ's body, the Church. Stephen Ministers are trained to aid the care receivers to more effectively deal with their own situations and to grow.

AS A CARE RECEIVER YOU MAY:

- ❖ Develop stronger ties with a community of Christians
- ❖ Grasp the role of suffering in life
- ❖ Accept forgiveness and grace from God and others
- ❖ Give forgiveness and love
- ❖ Increase your level of trust
- ❖ Start a relationship with God
- ❖ Renew your relationship with God
- ❖ Learn positive attitudes and expectations
- ❖ Develop a foundation for holistic stability in your life
- ❖ Nurture a healthier ego and a realistic self-image
- ❖ Build whole and complete relationships

God alone is the one who takes broken individuals and makes them whole.



WHAT STEPHEN MINISTERS DO:

- ❖ Listen
- ❖ Explore feelings
- ❖ Pray
- ❖ Share Christ's love
- ❖ Maintain confidentiality
- ❖ Attend to the caregiving process and leave the results to God

Are You or Someone You Know Going Through A Difficult Time?

A Stephen Minister can help. Stephen Ministers are members of our congregation who listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support to people going through a crisis or a difficult time. It's free. It's confidential.

How do you refer someone to the program?

1. Contact the person in need (Care Receiver) and find out if they would be interested in having some one to talk to.
2. If they say yes, contact the church office at 983-5000 or speak to one of the Stephen Leaders.
3. A Stephen Leader will assess the need and may assign a Stephen Minister who will then make a connection with them.
4. The Care Receiver will then sign an agreement that they desire to receive confidential care from a Stephen Minister.

CURRENT STEPHEN MINISTERS:

- ❖ Jean Christensen
- ❖ Larry Davis
- ❖ Stacy Dohm
- ❖ Graham Jenkins
- ❖ Cathy Kruggel
- ❖ Nancy Pedde
- ❖ Sue Pedde
- ❖ Jack Sukup

CURRENT STEPHEN LEADERS:

- ❖ John Kroonblawd
- ❖ Sheila Kroonblawd
- ❖ Jeanne Strine
- ❖ Betty Perrone
- ❖ Pastor Michael Roth

