

## CARE

### STEPHEN MINISTRY Extends God's Love

Pastors will always be on the front lines of care, especially during times of crisis. But there are always many more additional needs for ongoing, one-to-one care than pastors can effectively provide by themselves.

Stephen Ministry offers a thoroughly biblical solution — equipping God's people for ministry. Gifted people receive training to support and extend the love and care of a local church.

Stephen Ministers reach out with God's love to people who are hurting — members of the church body and nonmembers alike.

### STEPHEN MINISTRY in Our Congregation

- Could you benefit from the confidential one-to-one care and support of a Stephen Minister?
- Do you know someone — perhaps a friend, neighbor, co-worker or relative — who could benefit from Stephen Ministry?
- Are you interested in becoming a Stephen Minister?

**Contact: Nate Metler | 574-378-7765**

### Stephen Ministries Worldwide

Stephen Ministries is a not-for-profit Christian educational organization based in St. Louis, Mo. Founded in 1975, Stephen Ministries provides training and resources to thousands of congregations and organizations worldwide.

**Learn more at [stephenministries.org](http://stephenministries.org).**



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warsawcommunitychurch

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## What is Stephen Ministry?

WCC's Stephen Ministry equips people to provide one-to-one Christian care to others in the church body and community who are experiencing difficulties in their lives.

Stephen Ministry is a confidential ministry. The identity of those receiving care and everything they discuss with a Stephen Minister remains private.

## What the Bible Says

"Therefore encourage one another and build up each other."

*1 Thessalonians 5:11*

"Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

*Galatians 6:2*

## Stephen Ministry is Your Ministry

*You play an important role in Stephen Ministry. Here's what you can do:*



• **Pray** for God to bring hope and healing to hurting people through Stephen Ministry.



• **Accept** care from a Stephen Minister during your time of need. God doesn't expect you to bear your burdens alone.



• **Tell** a friend, neighbor, co-worker or relative who is hurting about Stephen Ministry.



• If you are a compassionate person and a good listener, prayerfully **consider becoming a Stephen Minister.**



## When a Stephen Minister Can Help

We all experience challenges in life — times when we could benefit from care and support. **Stephen Ministers can provide the emotional and spiritual care you need** when faced with a crisis or difficulty such as:

- Aging
- Birth, adoption, miscarriage or infertility
- Chronic illness
- Divorce or separation
- Hospitalization
- Incarceration
- Loneliness or discouragement
- Loss of a loved one
- Recovery after an accident or disaster
- Relocation
- Spiritual crisis
- Terminal illness
- Unemployment or a job crisis

## A Stephen Minister is:

- A child of God who walks beside someone who is hurting.
- A member of the church body who is carefully selected to serve in this role because of his or her caregiving gifts.
- A person who has received 50 hours of training to provide high-quality, distinctively Christian care.
- A caring Christian friend who listens, cares, prays, supports and encourages.
- Someone who meets faithfully each week with his or her care receiver for as long as there is a need.