

## HOW WILL STEPHEN MINISTRY WORK AT HOLY FAMILY



A Stephen Ministry training program will prepare interested men and women to become Stephen Ministers, equipping them to care for the many needs in our parish.

Their fifty hours of training will include topics such as:

- Feelings
- The art of listening
- Assertiveness training
- Confidentiality
- Crisis theory and intervention
- Other specialized needs

Following training, the Stephen Minister will work in continual consultation with parish clergy and receive on-going education.



Stephen ministers bring God's care  
To others through support and  
Friendship

For information call:

**Nol Michels**  
**Director of Stephen Ministry**  
**(616)891-9259**

#### STEPHEN MINISTRY LEADERSHIP TEAM

Nol Michels (616)891-9259  
Jeff Terrell 269)792-4384  
Jackie Boorsma (616)891-8370

## STEPHEN MINISTRY

**Christ Caring for People  
Through People**



## HOLY FAMILY PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

**To inspire, support and strengthen  
all individuals and families  
through faith, education and wor-  
ship so that together in loving ser-  
vice we may become the living  
body of Christ in our community  
and the world**

# STEPHEN MINISTRY, HOLY FAMILY PARISH

## A Stephen Minister is

A caring Christian desiring to offer his or her support to others in time of need.



A sharing Christian bringing him or herself to each helping relationship, as a partner in another's life experiences.

A trained Christian having developed his or her helping skills through intensive coursework.

A dedicated Christian commissioned by our parish to **confidential** in depth caring and support.

**Stephen Ministers** are the care-givers, and God is the One who cures.

## A STEPHEN MINISTER IS NOT

- A professional counselor
- A social worker

## WHAT IS STEPHEN MINISTRY?

It is a one-on-one ministry by trained caring parishioners.

It is a long term helping relationship focusing on the unique needs of each person.

It is in response to Christ's instruction to "love one another as I have loved you".

It is a ministry named after St Stephen, the first deacon in the early church, commissioned by the apostles to care for the needs of the community.

## WHO IS A STEPHEN MINISTER?

A lay person, man or women who, through training, will learn skills and develop their gifts for bringing Christ's healing love to people who are lonely, grieving, ill, or experiencing other stresses in their lives.

A caring and sharing person who reaches out a supporting hand to the spiritual, social and emotional needs of our community.

## WHAT NEEDS DO STEPHEN MINISTERS ADDRESS

- People who are hospitalized
- People who are grieving
- People who are lonely
- People who are depressed
- People who are in the process of divorce
- People who are homebound
- People who are terminally ill
- People who are going through a crisis

