

**STEPHEN MINISTRY AT
NATIVITY OF MARY**

If you or someone you love would like to have a Stephen Minister or if you feel called to become a Stephen Minister, please fill out this form and place it in the attached envelope to be dropped in the collection basket or at the parish office.

_____ I would like more information about the possibility of receiving a Stephen Minister.

_____ I would like more information on becoming a Stephen Minister.

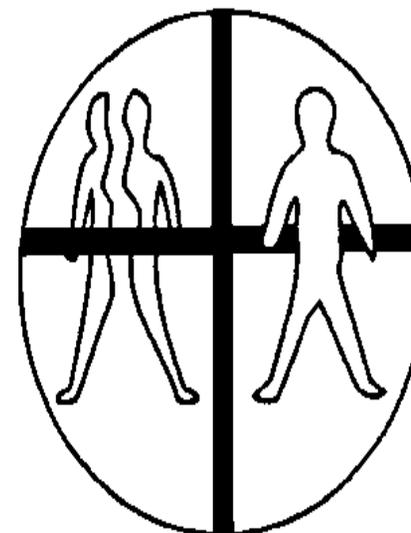
NAME

PHONE NUMBER

If you would prefer to talk to someone in person, please feel free to call the parish office, 952-881-8671.

***STEPHEN MINISTRY
MISSION STATEMENT***

To train and maintain highly skilled lay ministers who are able to provide Christian based care-giving to Nativity of Mary parishioners who are experiencing loss, difficulties or life transitions through consistent visits, confidential listening and active prayer and/or spiritual support on a long term or short term basis.

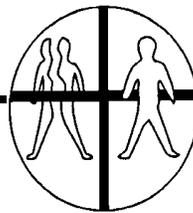


Stephen Ministry

at

Nativity of Mary
Catholic Church
Since 1992

9900 Lyndale Ave South
Bloomington, Minnesota 55420



IN THE BEGINNING

Named for Stephen, the Martyr, the program was founded in 1975, by Dr. Kenneth Haugk, ordained pastor and licensed clinical psychologist, for *equipping the saints for the work of ministry.*

He began this program by training eight lay people to give quality care to fellow parishioners. Since then tens of thousands have been trained in more than 2,000 congregations throughout the world.

TRAINING INVOLVED

THE TRAINING PROGRAM PREPARES INTERESTED MEN AND WOMEN TO BECOME Stephen Ministers, equipping them to respond to the needs of many in our parish by training them in the skills of:

- The Art of Listening
- Feelings
- Confidentiality
- Crisis Theory and Intervention
- How to Use Prayer & Scripture
- Telephone Ministry

Following commissioning, the Stephen Minister receives ongoing education and supervision.

A STEPHEN MINISTER IS

- a caring Christian,
Offering support to another in time of need
- a trained Christian,
having developed skills through training and ongoing education
- a dedicated Christian,
commissioned by our parish to provide in-depth confidential caring.

A STEPHEN MINISTER IS NOT

- a professional counselor or psychologist
- a social worker providing physical services
- an expert in law, finance, church doctrine, etc.
- a superficial visitor, briefly touching base with people.

SOME OF THE NEEDS ADDRESSED

- grieving the loss of a loved one
- Experiencing loneliness
- Feeling depressed
- Separation or divorce
- Pregnancy and childbirth
- Terminally ill and their families
- Loss of job, career change, financial setback
- New parishioners
- Inactive parishioners
- Hospitalization and shut-ins
- Faith struggles

ABOUT CONFIDENTIALITY

The rule is: *All observations, or impressions and all records made, concerning the person being ministered to are and must remain confidential.*

Love one another . . . As I have loved you