

**Is life more than you can handle alone right now?**

**Are you adjusting to a new job, a change in marital status, a serious illness, the death of a loved one, a recent move – or just experiencing a lonely or difficult time in your life?**

**Could you benefit from having someone who would listen and care and walk with you through this difficult time?**

***There Is No Need to Struggle Alone!***

Everyone goes through difficult times. Having someone to care, to listen, to share God's love with you can help you to get through the confusion, stress or loneliness you may be experiencing. God does not intend for you to struggle alone.

**Consider allowing a Stephen Minister to walk with you on your journey to wholeness**

**Are you in need...**

Of a caring, Christian friend who will listen, empathize, encourage, pray, provide *confidential* care, and patiently support you as you work through a crisis or difficult time?

or

**Do you know someone, ...**

Perhaps a friend, neighbor, colleague, or relative, who could benefit from this type of care?

**Then contact ...**

Our referrals coordinator for a *confidential* referral

or

One of our trained Stephen Ministers listed below. They can tell you more about our Stephen Ministry and how you – or your friend – can be matched with a Stephen Minister.

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”

Matthew 11:28



Linda Bayer	285-2511	<u>Referrals Coordinator</u>
Kevin Conaway	684-3329	Rev. Tom McKinnon
Barb Eckert	653-2419	Church Office: 653-1943
Cindy Mickiewicz	361-2426	<a href="mailto:donpreschurch@desupernet.net">donpreschurch@desupernet.net</a>
Don Straub	653-5481	
Judy Weidman	653-4534	

# Stephen Ministry

**At Donegal Presbyterian Church**

## Stephen Ministers Care

**Our Stephen Ministers provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care to people who are:**

- Grieving the death of a loved one
- Hospitalized or recovering from hospitalization
- Lonely or discouraged
- Coping with a terminal illness or caring for a family member with a terminal illness
- Unemployed or in a job crisis
- Disabled or caring for an ill or disabled family member
- Moving or relocating
- New to the congregation or the community
- Anticipating the birth or adoption of a child
- Homebound or institutionalized
- Transitioning into retirement
- Dealing with the crisis of aging
- Facing a life transition
- Experiencing a spiritual crisis
- Victims of a disaster or accident

And for people facing countless other crises or life challenges or who are going through a difficult time and could benefit from the care of a supportive Christian friend.

## What is a Stephen Minister?

### A Stephen Minister is...

- A child of God who walks beside a hurting person;
- A caring Christian friend who really listens;
- A member of our congregation who has received 50 hours of training in how to provide distinctively Christian care;
- A person who is ready to focus on your needs;
- A trustworthy confidant who will keep everything you say – and even your identity – confidential; and
- Someone who will faithfully meet with you on a weekly basis for as long as your need persists.

### A Stephen Minister is NOT...

- A counselor or therapist;
- A problem solver;
- Someone who runs errands or helps with chores; or
- A casual visitor

Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide you with the confidential, one-to-one Christian care you need to make it through a crisis or help you with a difficult time.

### **A Stephen Minister could be... YOU...**

*Have you navigated your own trials in life and feel called to help someone else? Contact one of our "Stephen Leaders" to inquire on how you could become a Stephen Minister. The closeness you'll feel with Jesus while following his example and walking with another is indescribable!*

- Linda Bayer 285-2511
- Don Straub 653-5481

**WE NEED MORE STEPHEN MINISTERS!**

## Why Stephen Ministry?

*Because the Bible tells us to:*

"Love one another as I have loved you."  
**John 15:12**

"Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."  
**Galatians 6:2**

"Encourage one another and build each other up."  
**1 Thessalonians 5:11a**

"Rejoice with those who rejoice and mourn with those who mourn."  
**Romans 12:15**

"Serve one another in love."  
**Galatians 5:13**

"Live in Harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers and sisters, be compassionate and humble."  
**1 Peter 3:8**

"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."  
**Ephesians 4:32**

The Stephen Ministry logo, with the broken person behind the cross and the whole person in front of the cross, symbolizes that we are all broken people and that it is only through the cross of Jesus that we are made whole.

Stephen Ministers will help guide you in your journey from brokenness to wholeness.

