

Life brings difficulties and crises to everyone. A Stephen Minister is a compassionate, concerned Christian committed to providing emotional support and spiritual care to a person during a difficult time.

Lakeway Church has been training Stephen Ministers since 2003. The following information will answer some questions regarding this important lay care ministry.

## Stephen Ministry is:

- A complete system of training and organizing lay persons for caring ministry in the local congregation.
- A non-denominational Christian program created in the mid-1970s by Dr. Kenneth Haugk, pastor and clinical psychologist in St. Louis, MO.
- Used by thousands of congregations in the USA, Canada, and Japan.

## **Stephen Ministers:**

- Are NOT professional counselors of therapists.
- Supplement and expand the pastors' caring ministry within their church.
- Receive 50 hours of training in preparation for their Christian care-giving role.
- Are formally commissioned after completing 50 hours of training.
- Provide ongoing, confidential, Christian care on a one-to-one basis.
- Receive continuing education and supervision to ensure quality caregiving.

## Did you know?

- Stephen Ministers begin their one-to-one ministry only after training is completed.
- Stephen Ministers are usually assigned to only one person at a time.
- As Stephen Ministers, women are assigned to women, men to men.
- A Stephen Minister usually meets once weekly with an individual for as many weeks/months as needed.
- A Stephen Minister serves under the strictest guidelines of confidentiality.
- Stephen Ministry's motto is: Stephen Ministers are the caregivers; Christ is the Cure-giver.
- Stephen Ministers: listen with their ears, hear with their hearts, and serve with Christ's love.

For more information on becoming a Stephen Minister, please visit our website

LakewayChurch.org/Care, email: Info@lakewaychurch.net or call: 512.261.6331