

STEPHEN MINISTRY

CRISIS CAN TURN YOUR WORLD UPSIDE DOWN

When an event shakes up your world, you can either let it hurt you or help you. If you would like help in turning a life crisis into an opportunity of growth and faith, a Stephen Minister is ready to help you.

During the time of the early church, the apostles decided to choose among their faithful disciples those who would be sent into the community to minister to the needs of the people. "And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit..."

Acts 6:5 NRSV

This I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning: great is your faithfulness.

Lamentations 3: 21-23

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Galatians 6:2



STEPHEN MINISTRY LOGO

The logo Stephen Ministry congregations use consists of a cross and circle, together with a broken person and a whole person. The broken person stands behind the cross, symbolizing the brokenness in our lives as a result of our sin. The whole person stands in front of the cross because it is through Jesus that we again are made whole. The circle symbolizes both the wholeness we receive through Christ and God's unending love for us.



If you or someone you know could benefit from the care of a Stephen Minister, please call:

Countryside Cooperative

Countryside Cooperative
Stephen Ministry
1003 Church Street
P.O. Box # 63
Gowrie, Iowa 50543

Phone: [515] 352-3612
Church Office: [515] 352-3645
Email: stephencoop@hotmail.com

Countryside Cooperative

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Caring for all God's People...

One by One!



Tel: [515] 352-3612

STEPHEN MINISTRY

WHO MAY NEED A STEPHEN MINISTER:

People who are dealing with:

- ◆ Death and Grief
- ◆ Hospitalization
- ◆ Divorce and Separation
- ◆ Aging and Elderly
- ◆ Shut-in/ Care Centers
- ◆ Illness
- ◆ Family Frustrations and challenges
- ◆ Loneliness
- ◆ Chronic Illness
- ◆ Families of the Chronically Ill
- ◆ Loss of a Loved One
- ◆ Faith Issues
- ◆ Major change in their lives
- ◆ Moving Transitions
- ◆ Pregnancy / Adoption
- ◆ Retirement Changes
- ◆ A Disability
- ◆ Unemployment
- ◆ Other concerns

STEPHEN MINISTERS:

- ◆ Are lay Christians selected, trained and supervised by Stephen Leaders to provide effective Christian care.
- ◆ Make a commitment which includes 50 hours of training, ongoing supervisory meetings, and an average of one- 1 hour visit per week with the person receiving their care.
- ◆ Are named after St. Stephen, one of the first deacons in the early Christian church, commissioned by the apostles to care for the needs of people in the Christian community.
- ◆ Recognize this as a confidential ministry in which continuous effort is expended to maintain the body of trust between the person receiving care and the caregiver.

ARE YOU IN NEED OF ...

Someone who cares?
Someone who supports?
Someone who listens?
Someone who shares?
Someone you can trust?
Someone who keeps confidences?
Someone who will pray with you?

THE STEPHEN MINISTRY SERVES

THE COMMUNITIES OF:

- ◆ Gowrie
- ◆ Harcourt
- ◆ Boxholm
- ◆ Roelyn
- ◆ Moorland
- ◆ Barnum

Whether or not you belong to a church in one of these communities or to any church, please call, because we care!

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