

## STEPHEN MINISTRY

What do you call a program that

- Equips lay persons to provide distinctively Christian one-to-one care to those who are experiencing all kinds of life needs and circumstances?
- Involves committed Christians who express God's care through their lives to others, individually visiting another person regularly and dependably and offering Christian support and care?
- Meets the needs of people both in our congregation and the surrounding community who are
  - hospitalized
  - terminally ill
  - moving into or out of our community
  - grieving a death or serious loss
  - homebound or institutionalized
  - facing a job crisis
  - growing old
  - chronically disabled
  - recently separated or divorced
  - bringing a new child into the world
  - experiencing a life transition
  - in spiritual crisis
  - just in need of the support of a Christian friend?
- Has captured the minds and hearts of almost 10,000 congregations from 100 denominations in all 50 states, 9 Canadian provinces and more than 20 foreign countries?

Well, you guessed it -- it's **STEPHEN MINISTRY**.

Today almost a million church members worldwide, as trained Stephen Ministers, reach out and provide this Christian care-giving and outreach in unique fashion. Our congregation is blessed with over 90 of these well-trained caregivers, but not all of them are currently active, and the need is out there. We therefore will be conducting a training class for new Stephen Ministers, beginning next January 25. Please listen to that "still, small voice" that may be calling you to this awesome ministry. For further information, contact Jim Cochran (582.9537) or Rich Lucke (586.0184).

"Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, did great wonders and miraculous signs among the people." *Acts 6: 8*