

## Stephen Ministers come in handy when:

- Life is more than you can handle alone.
- Your health, attitude, or relationships are suffering.
- You are adjusting to a new job, change in marital status, a serious illness, the death of a loved one, or a recent move.
- You need someone to listen.



### STEPHEN MINISTERS ARE CALLED TO BE CAREGIVERS

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

*Encourage the faint hearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them.—I Thessalonians 5:14*

### GOD IS THE CAREGIVER

*Cast your burden on the Lord, and he will sustain you.—Psalm 55:22*

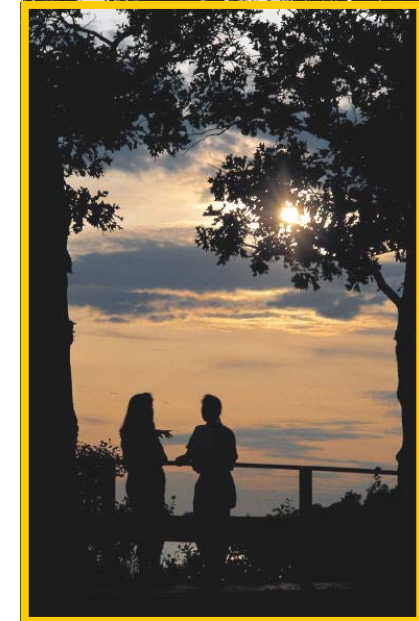
*Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.—Matthew 11:28*

*Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.—I Peter 5:7*

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# STEPHEN MINISTRY



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH



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## What is a Stephen Minister?

### A Stephen Minister Is...

- Someone who walks beside a hurting person.
- A caring, Christian friend who really listens confidentially
- A lay person who has received 50 hours of training on how to provide distinctively Christian care

### A Stephen Minister Is **Not**...

- A counselor or therapist
- A problem-solver
- A casual visitor



### Stephen Ministers help meet the needs of individuals who are...

- Hospitalized
- Bereaved
- Disabled
- Homebound
- Experiencing chronic illness
- Struggling with finances
- Lonely
- In a nursing home
- Separated/ Divorced
- New parents
- Questioning their faith
- In a job crisis
- Caregivers
- Affected by alcohol or drug abuse

### The Referral Procedure

- [1] Either you, a relative, or a friend is hurting and in need of Christian care.
- [2] The Stephen Ministry Coordinator learns about the need - with the person's permission.
- [3] The Stephen Ministry Coordinator meets with the care receiver to talk about Stephen Ministry
- [4] With the person's permission, the Coordinator assigns a Stephen Minister to meet with the care receiver on a weekly basis.
- [5] The Stephen Minister continues to provide distinctively Christian care for the care receiver with **strict confidentiality**.

