

Riverview Stephen Ministry

Becoming a Stephen Minister

Wouldn't it be worthwhile to find yourself making a difference in the lives of people as they face trying times? Riverview Stephen Ministry will give you the opportunity, the training, the confidence, and the on-going support to allow God to use you to make an impact.

We are looking for men and women willing to serve as Stephen Ministers. Your ministry begins with 50 hours of stimulating and useful training in Christian caring skills. Training is lead by trained Stephen Leaders and includes a variety of topics like listening, Christian assertiveness, maintaining boundaries in caregiving, and grief. We focus on giving high quality care and understanding that it is God who cures.

After training, Stephen Ministers are available to meet weekly with people from our church who are experiencing difficult situations like job loss, hospitalization, relationship crises, spiritual crisis, discouragement, grieving, etc. You are always helped and supported in your ministry through supervision which takes place in small groups twice a month. Stephen Ministers commit to at least two years of service. Many enjoy their ministry and serve beyond the two years.

This may be one of the most rewarding challenges you will ever embrace. You will use the skills you learn not only in your caring ministry, but also in your everyday relationships with family, friends, and coworkers.

As you consider your involvement, know that the Pastors, other Stephen Leaders, and I are praying for you.

Below you will find a list that answers the most frequently asked questions. You may have more! If you do, please feel free to contact us! More information is on-line at <http://www.rivchurch.com>. We hope to meet you soon and receive your application.

Sincerely,

Matt Kreh
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Stephen Leaders: Paul DenHerder, Judy Russ, Barb Strong, Matt Kreh

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

An application?

The application is designed to help you think about becoming a Stephen Minister and to give us an idea of your strengths and talents. We will help you validate that Stephen Ministry is the right service area for you or help you find a good match for your gifts in a ministry at Riverview.

I might have to miss some of the training, can I still participate? You will be expected to be at training unless you are unavoidably out of town, in which case, some exceptions can be made. Ask a Stephen Leader for further clarification.

Will there be another class offered? We anticipate offering one class each fall.

How much will this cost? We are asking everyone to pay the \$50 cost of their training materials. Scholarships are available. Don't let this deter you.

Will my phone be ringing constantly? No. You will care for one person at a time.

What if I get in over my head with people who need more care than I can provide? First, you will not be assigned to such a person. Second, the training will help you know when and how to refer a person to professional help. Third, you have Supervision Group, Stephen Leaders, and a pastor who are always there to help you make those judgments.

Where can I find more information?

www.RivChurch.com has some good information as well as www.StephenMinistries.org.

How do I apply? Fill out the application. You can pick one up at the Riv Warehouse or find it online at www.RivChurch.com. Mail completed application to: Riverview Church: Stephen Ministry; 3585 Willoughby Road, Holt, MI. 48842 OR turn it in at the church office. All applications will be kept confidential and reviewed by Stephen Leaders only.