



Answers to the Most Frequently Asked Questions about the Stephen Series

What size congregations are using the Stephen Series? *Enrolled congregations range in size from fewer than 100 to more than 10,000 members.*

How many congregations and what denominations are involved in the Stephen Series? *More than 7,000 congregations worldwide with about 500 new congregations enrolling each year. More than 90 denominations are involved including Methodists, Presbyterians, Lutherans, Episcopalians, Roman Catholics, Baptists, Assemblies of God, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Churches of God, Nazarenes, Reformed, United Church of Christ, and Salvation Army.*

What impact does Stephen Ministry have on the pastor? *Stephen Ministry gives the pastor an opportunity to train laypeople in Christian caregiving so more people can give one-to-one care to those who need it. The pastor has the satisfaction of equipping the people for the work of ministry and the joy of seeing more people receiving care than the pastor alone could reach. Yorkminster's pastors, Feild Russell and Associate Pastor Courtney Cromie, support this ministry. Feild attended and completed Stephen Leader training.*

Who are Stephen Leaders? *Stephen Leaders are the persons trained at a 7-day Leader's Training Course, who are commissioned by their enrolled congregation to implement the Stephen Series on behalf of that congregation. Yorkminster's Stephen Leaders are: Feild Russell, Lorie Jones, Kathy Koman, Cindi Moyer and Lee Ann Hartmann.*

Who are Stephen Ministers? *Stephen Ministers are congregation members whom Stephen Leaders train and commission to provide one-to-one care. They receive an initial 50 hours of training and then meet twice monthly with their Stephen Leaders for supervision, support, and continuing education.*

What types of situations are Stephen Ministers trained to handle? *Stephen Ministers give one-to-one care to individuals who are facing a wide variety of situations, including those who are bereaved, divorced or separated, terminally ill, unemployed, hospitalized, homebound, lonely, experiencing spiritual struggles, and more.*

How long does Stephen Ministry last in a congregation? *Indefinitely. Many of the congregations that attended the very first Leader's Training Courses in 1978 are still going strong.*

For more information email us at: stephenministry@yorkminsterpc.org
or call the church office at (757) 898-4YPC (4972)