

STEPHEN MINISTRY



A Half-Day Workshop *Featuring:*

Session 1: Ministering to Those Experiencing Grief

Session 2: An Introduction to Stephen Ministry

Session 3: How to Care in a Distinctively Christian Way

When:

Saturday, September 21, 2019

9:00 A.M.–1:00 P.M. (check-in and on-site registration begin at 8:00 A.M.)

Where:

Mandarin United Methodist Church

11270 San Jose Blvd

Jacksonville, FL 32223

Cost:

\$15 per person, or \$50 per congregation (four or more)

To Register:

Visit www.stephenministry.org/workshop or call Stephen Ministries at (314) 428-2600

Workshop Registration Form

Workshop Location: Mandarin United Methodist Church - Jacksonville, FL (9/21/2019)

To Register: *(We encourage you to register five or more days before the workshop)*

- Mail or fax this completed form to Stephen Ministries—see address and fax number below;
 - Register online using a credit card at www.stephenministry.org/workshop; or
 - Call (314) 428-2600 (Monday through Friday, 8 A.M.–5 P.M. Central Time).
- Check this box and fill in your contact information below if you *cannot attend* but would like to receive an information packet about Stephen Ministry.

Number Attending:

_____ Indicate the total number of individuals from your congregation who plan to attend.

_____ Indicate how many of those individuals, if any, are pastors.

Workshop Costs:

- Per Person Rate:** \$15 per person (_____ individuals x \$15 each = \$ _____)
- Congregation Rate:** \$50 for a group of four or more from your congregation

- Payment Options:** Payment enclosed (checks payable to **Stephen Ministries**)
- We will pay on the day of the workshop

Congregation Information: *(Please print legibly)*

 Congregation/Organization Congregation/Organization's Phone #

 Exact Name of Denomination (e.g. Lutheran-ELCA, United Methodist, Southern Baptist, etc.)

 Congregation/Organization's Street Address City, State, Zip

 Contact Person (Title, First Name, and Last Name) Contact Person's Daytime Phone #

 Contact Person's Street Address City, State, Zip

 Contact Person's Email Address

Name(s) of Individual(s) Planning to Attend:

(Write additional names on back or attach another sheet if needed.)



Dear Pastor,

I'd like to tell you about a wonderful caregiving ministry that has blessed us here at Mandarin United Methodist Church since 1992: Stephen Ministry.

We currently have 25 congregation members serving as Stephen Ministers—well-trained lay caregivers who provide high-quality, one-to-one Christian care to people experiencing various difficulties in life.

I've enclosed an item that describes Stephen Ministers as the “after people”—those who come alongside a person *after* a crisis occurs and walk with that person for as long *after* as necessary.

As a pastor, I'm grateful for our congregation's Stephen Ministers. The ongoing support they provide helps ensure that the needs of hurting people are met in our congregation and throughout our community.

I'd like to invite you and others from your congregation to a half-day Stephen Ministry Introductory Workshop. It's an excellent opportunity to learn more about Stephen Ministry and how your congregation can become involved. Those who attend will also experience a sample of Stephen Ministry training and learn caregiving skills they can put to use right away.

The workshop will be held here at Mandarin United Methodist Church in Jacksonville, Florida, on Saturday, September 21, 2019, from 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. Check-in and refreshments begin at 8 A.M.

To register, use the enclosed form or visit stephenministry.org/workshop. If you have questions or would like to register by phone, call Stephen Ministries at (314) 428-2600 (8 A.M. to 5 P.M. Central Time).

Also enclosed are a flyer and some other items to help you publicize the workshop to your congregation. Feel free to photocopy and share these items with congregation members, groups, or committees that might be interested in attending.

I look forward to seeing people from your congregation at the Stephen Ministry Introductory Workshop on Saturday, September 21. God's blessings to you and your congregation.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Deborah A. McLeod

UNLOCK



THE CARING POTENTIAL OF YOUR CONGREGATION

Pastors want to provide ongoing care to everyone who needs it—and a team of lay caregivers can make that a reality. Equipping laypeople to minister to hurting people is a highly effective and biblical way to ensure that those in need of Christ-centered care receive it.

Christ at work in and through gifted, trained lay caregivers—that's the Stephen Ministry vision!

STEPHEN MINISTRY INTRODUCTORY WORKSHOP

This half-day event will show how to realize that vision. You and your team will gain hands-on ministry skills through a sample of Stephen Minister training, deepen your vision for care and outreach, and learn how to bring the life-changing benefits of Stephen Ministry to your congregation.

SESSION 1: MINISTERING TO THOSE EXPERIENCING GRIEF

SESSION 2: AN INTRODUCTION TO STEPHEN MINISTRY

SESSION 3: HOW TO CARE IN A DISTINCTIVELY CHRISTIAN WAY

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Pastors and church staff
- Lay leaders and decision makers
- Caregivers and caregiving teams

WORKSHOP COST

\$15 per person or \$50 for a group of four or more from your congregation or organization.

Take advantage of the group rate and bring a whole team. They'll learn how to cast a vision and build support for beginning Stephen Ministry.

DATES & LOCATIONS

The accompanying letter tells about a workshop near you. For a nationwide schedule of upcoming Stephen Ministry Introductory Workshops, visit www.stephenministry.org/schedule.

THREE WAYS TO REGISTER

1. At www.stephenministry.org/workshop
2. Call (314) 428-2600
3. Submit completed registration form by mail

Stephen Ministers: The After People

People often ask, “What exactly is a Stephen Minister?” One way to put it is that Stephen Ministers are the *After People*.

Stephen Ministers are there:

... *after* the phone call you hoped you’d never get.

... *after* the funeral, when everyone has left and the emotions you’ve held at bay come crashing in on you.

... *after* the relationship falls apart and the bottom falls out of your life.

... *after* the doctor says, “I’m sorry, but there’s nothing more we can do.”

... *after* the nursing home director shakes your hand and says, “Welcome to your new home.”

... *after* the last child honks the horn, waves, and drives away—and the house suddenly seems empty.

... *after* the gavel comes down, the handcuffs go on, and your loved one is led away.

... *after* the baby arrives, demanding more of you than you ever dreamed possible.

... *after* you find a pink slip with your final paycheck.

... *after* your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

Stephen Ministers are the After People. They are ready to come alongside you—or your friends, neighbors, coworkers, or relatives—and provide comfort and support for as long *after* as needed.

www.stephenministries.org