

COMMISSIONING OF STEPHEN MINISTERS

Karen Crawley

Marilyn Hueser

Wilbur Hueser

Elaine Leite



Don Meister

Adeline Reihl

Frank Saworski

Pastor Ali Tote

“Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.” Galatians 6:2

WOW! We have had an exciting past 5 months or so! Saskatoon Lutheran Stephen Ministry has just trained 8 new Stephen Ministers and what an awesome group of servants they are! Training was all held over Zoom and while this is not our “normal” practice, we were still able to view videos, practice role playing, have great discussion and ask thought provoking questions – all from wherever we were at that moment in time. Needless to say, attendance was pretty much 100%!

Seven of the new Stephen Ministers are from Resurrection and one is from Good Shepherd. This is what they had to say about the training:

“Stephen ministry is a well-rounded course that equips trainees with the ability to be effective as lay ministers in the church. Trainees learn among other things about how to be responsive to the needs of care receivers and be guided by them to offer the best support possible. What I love most about Stephen Ministry is that it is one-on-one Christian ministry of support and empowerment that complements the ministry of the pastor and helps us as a church live out our call of the priesthood of all believers for the body of Christ. I encourage everyone to volunteer and be trained for this important ministry of the church”. Ali Tote

“The early church was very successful because it was essentially a church led and expanded by lay people ... they weren’t dependent on clergy to do the heavy lifting for them. Stephen Ministers are a step back in that direction by caring for our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ (everyone) instead of leaving the task to our already overworked clergy. Stephen Ministers are a potent component in carrying out the Great Commission and bringing Christ’s love to at least a few of those who need it most when they need it most.” Don Meister

“The Stephen Ministry program has been very beneficial to me in building the skills necessary to be a positive support to those going through a difficult time. The ongoing support and personal growth has made this an amazing experience which I highly recommend.” Wilbur Hueser

“Stephen Ministry provides a structured learning opportunity to prepare you to better assist others spiritually and emotionally while having ongoing peer support. It has been a very positive experience in building my confidence as I embark on the Stephen Ministry journey knowing that I now have the skills to be the best support I can.” Marilyn Hueser

“In my humble opinion these lessons have been most excellent. They are comprehensive, well thought out, and quite educational. I have found the course quite interesting and found myself looking forward to the next module as we went along, I think they have certainly covered most every angle. I am grateful that I was able to participate.” Frank Saworski

“Stephens Ministry has given me the opportunity to grow. The course has taught us the value of being there for others as they journey through difficult times in their lives. I believe the skills learned are beneficial for everyone.” Karen Crawley

“Taking the Stephen Ministry training has made me more fully aware of the different circumstances people may be in, the care they need, and how I can help by listening and supporting them by walking with them as a Caregiver but understanding that God is the Caregiver. Thank you to the leaders of this training. They are very dedicated, knowledgeable and supportive and they will continue to be there for us as we provide Stephen Ministry care. If you have been thinking of taking this course, I encourage you to take it so more people who Stephen Ministry care need will have someone to be there for them. You won’t have to do it alone – God is always with you.” Elaine Leite

There are so many hurting people in our communities, now more than ever before. Whether we are in a pandemic, in the midst of grief over the loss of a loved one, the loss of a job, postpartum depression, loneliness or any number of life’s challenges, people need someone to walk with them through their most difficult journey – that’s what a Stephen Minister does. You may be called to do this with a loved one when you least expect it. Stephen Ministry training takes those life skills, listening skills, support and spiritual skills you already have and enhances them for you to be a great Christian caregiver – yet not the “curegiver”. We leave that part up to God!

We invite you to participate in the **Installation** of our newly trained **Stephen Ministers on Sunday, June 13th at 10:00 a.m. from Resurrection Lutheran. To connect via Zoom use Meeting ID: 292 270 6999.**

Please contact me or any of the Stephen Leaders if you feel called to become a Stephen Minister!



WE WANT YOU!

Richest blessings for the summer,

Fran Seidler

Pastor Harold Hesje
Pastor Hugh Farmer
Elaine Hesje
Sharon Babcock
Adri Booth