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Stephen Ministry Implementation Timeline

This document describes the basic steps and timeframe for implementing Stephen Ministry in your congregation.

Your congregation's Stephen Leaders will develop a more precise timeline and plan after they've attended the **Stephen Ministry** Leader's Training Course (LTC). Their timeline will take into account such factors as the size and capacity of your Stephen Leader Team and the specific dynamics and circumstances of your congregation.

Selecting your Stephen Leaders—the key individuals who will attend the LTC and then serve as the leaders, teachers, and organizers of Stephen Ministry in your congregation—is the most important step you will take in beginning Stephen Ministry.

If you have any questions about selecting your Stephen Leaders, the LTC itself, or how to get your Stephen Ministry off to a strong start, call us at (314) 428-2600. We'll be happy to talk with you.

MONTHS BEFORE (-) AND AFTER (+) THE STEPHEN MINISTRY LEADER'S TRAINING COURSE (LTC)

-3 -2 -1 LTC +1 +2 +3 +4 +5 • Your congregation enrolls in Stephen Ministry. • After the LTC, your • Congregation members continue to learn about Stephen Prays for LTC participants Ministry through prayers, sermons, videos, web pages, congregation commissions • Pastors and other leaders select the key individuals Stephen Leaders at each of announcements, brochures, and other means. who will attend an LTC and serve as Stephen Leaders. your worship services. • Congregation members begin to feel ownership for Stephen • Congregation members begin to learn more about Ministry and see it as a vital part of your congregation's care • Members continue to pray Stephen Ministry. for your Stephen Ministry. and outreach. Helpful web page: stephenministries.org/begin • Stephen Leaders are selected by the • Stephen Leaders continue the ongoing process of educating members about Stephen Ministry. pastor and congregation leaders. Attend the one-week LTC • Stephen Leaders are • Stephen Leaders recruit • Stephen Leaders • Stephen Leaders register to attend commissioned at each of your and select congregation conduct and teach the LTC. members to train and serve worship services. the initial 50 hours of as Stephen Ministers. Stephen Minister • Stephen Leaders meet and training in your pray regularly as they firm up congregation. their plan and timeline for Helpful web page: stephenministries.org/leader beginning Stephen Ministry. STEPHEN MINISTERS People with caregiving gifts: • Stephen Ministers Your Stephen Leaders will be well trained to lead your participate in the initial Stephen Ministry, and their *Leader's Manual* contains all the ► recognize God's call to serve

questions they may have. Stephen Ministries • 2045 Innerbelt Business Center Dr. • St. Louis, MO 63114 • (314) 428-2600 • stephenministries.org

resources and ideas they need to succeed. They can also

call the consultation staff at Stephen Ministries with any

- as a Stephen Minister;
- ► apply to become a Stephen Minister; and
- ▶ are interviewed and selected by Stephen Leaders.
- 50 hours of Stephen Minister training in your congregation.

Helpful web page: stephenministries.org/SM