



Stephen Ministry At Lutheran Church Of The Holy Spirit

As members of the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit we are empowered by the Holy Spirit to serve our community and the world by our ministry in daily life. The Stephen Ministry Series is a lay visitation and caring program involving in-depth training in communication and caring skills for a myriad of challenges and crises that families and individuals face in life. The mission of the Stephen Ministry team at the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit is to provide a robust Stephen Ministry program that is available to men and women of the congregation and community that need the distinctively Christian caring that is provided by a trained Stephen Minister. In order to fulfill this mission, the Stephen Ministry team needs:

- Commitment of Holy Spirit members to be willing to have a Stephen Minister walk with them through an individual or family challenge or crisis.
- Commitment of the Holy Spirit pastors to support the program through member referrals and to provide spiritual guidance to the Stephen Ministry Leadership Team.
- Commitment of Holy Spirit members to participate as Stephen Leaders and/or Stephen Ministers, providing confidential one-on-one Christian care to members of our congregation and community.
- Commitment of the Stephen Ministers to participate in ongoing peer supervision discussions and periodic review by the leadership team.
- Facilities to provide 50 hours of training for members to become Stephen Ministers and for twice-monthly Stephen Ministry supervisory meetings.
- Periodic financial support:
 - to send Stephen Leaders to be trained and commissioned by staff of the Stephen Ministry Series
 - for Stephen Minister continuing education
 - for program awareness for the congregation and the community

November, 2016

Kitti Berkheimer



Stephen Leader

Mike and I were married in 1980 and have also been members of Holy Spirit since 1980. We have three children who grew up in the Holy Spirit congregation: Jenna, Mark and Emily. I have been employed by the Parkland School District since 1999 and am currently an Administrative Assistant at Parkway Manor Elementary School. I have been a member of the Auxiliary of the Lehigh Valley Hospital for many years and twice served as President. Throughout my years at Holy Spirit I have been involved in many areas of the church life. I was a Youth Group Advisor, Sunday School teacher, member of the Nursery School Board, mentor for the catechism program, sang in the adult choir and took part in Word for God's Children. I am currently involved in Altar Guild as a monthly chairperson, am a member of the Spirit Ringers hand bell choir, usher and worship coordinator at the 10:45am service. Mike and I have also been members of a small Koinonia group at Holy Spirit since the mid 1980's. I became a Stephen Minister in 2013 and a Stephen Leader in 2015. I enjoy scrapbooking and spending time with our dogs Boo and Casper.

Mike Berkheimer



Stephen Leader

Kitti and I were married in 1980 and have also been members of Holy Spirit since 1980. We have three adult children, Jenna, Mark and Emily. I came to the Lehigh Valley in 1979 following college graduation to work for Air Products where I am still employed today. I have had a variety of assignments in engineering, procurement and shared services throughout my career. During our earlier years at Holy Spirit, Kitti and I were involved in the youth ministry program under the spirited leadership of B.J. Weigang. I also served a 3 year term on Congregation Council, including a year as Council President when Al Roberts was our Senior Pastor. Currently I also serve as an Usher and assist Kitti when she is on duty for Altar Guild. I became a Stephen Minister in 2013 and a Stephen Leader in 2015. I enjoy golfing, spending time with family and spending time outdoors in the warmer months of the year.

Ollie Block



Ollie and his wife Sue grew up in Nebraska and met at the University of Nebraska. After graduation we moved to New Jersey where we lived for 29 years. I was an engineer and worked my entire career on waste management and water treatment for an engineering construction company. The last few years before retirement in 2009 I worked on cleaning up Department of Energy sites in Washington and Idaho Ollie served on the Thrivent Board in Idaho Falls and Stephen Ministry in Washington and Idaho. When we had grandchildren, who live in New Jersey, we moved back east and settled into Legacy Oaks at Macungie. We joined Holy Spirit a year ago and look forward to being part of the Stephen Ministry program here.

Susan Block



Ollie and I have recently celebrated 50 years of marriage. We have been blessed with two children: our daughter, Kari, son-in-law Scott and granddaughter Alyssa live in New Jersey as does our son, Greg, daughter-in-law Kristina and their children Ben and Rachel. We had lived in New Jersey for 29 years before we had the opportunity to move west to live and work. It was the addition of these grandchildren that brought us back east. We joined Holy Spirit a year ago and look forward to being part of the Stephen Ministry program here. We were trained and commissioned in our church in Kennewick, WA where we served for two years and continued for another nine years in our church in Idaho Falls, ID. I have taught in the area of family and child development from preschool through university. Toward the end of my career I become involved with hospice and found it to be most rewarding. I enjoy cooking and reading.

Louise Davis



My family consists of my husband, Tom, daughters Meredith (Maine) and Allison (Washington, DC). Meredith is married to Kris Pound and they have two sons, Jonathan Thomas (JT), and Drew. I am a retired reading consultant/literacy coach having spent 23 years in the Allentown School District. I do volunteer at Central Elementary School to assist my friend who teaches second grade there. My hobbies are reading and taking courses as a lifelong learner where I don't have to make up a test, score a test, give a test, record a test! I love to visit the family in Maine and in Washington, DC. I belong to Emmaus Kiwanis Club and I am secretary of the Cedar Crest College Alumnae Association. I also attend Bible Study Fellowship sessions in Bethlehem. I have been a member of LCHS since 1979. Since joining this dynamic congregation I have participated in a variety of activities: Sunday School teacher, VBS Co-Leader, Adult Sunday School Board, Spirit Support Team, Pastoral Call Committee, Sunday Coffee Volunteer, Rejoicing Spirits Volunteer, Connections Class, Bible Study Classes, LCHS Nursery School Board, and Ministry in Daily Life Committee.

Bill Derhammer



Stephen Leader

I am married to Fran Derhammer since 1990. We have a blended family with four children and four grandchildren who are beautiful and above average (per Garrison Keeler). I am retired from a career in financial services with Met Life and am enjoying every minute of retirement. I enjoy both big and small game hunting, archery shooting, fishing, fly tying, cooking, gardening and reading. Fran and I also enjoy traveling. I have been a member of Holy Spirit since 1990. I have served on the Stewardship Committee and now serve as an usher and communion assistant. Fran and I joined the church youth in one trip to Starks, ME participating in Project Help. Fran and I became Stephen Ministers in 2011 and went on to become Stephen Leaders in 2012.

Fran Derhammer



Stephen Leader

I've been married to Bill Derhammer since 1990. Our wonderful blended family includes 2 sons, 2 daughters and 4 beautiful grandchildren. I am enjoying retirement from Lehigh Valley Health Network after more than 40 years of challenging and rewarding experiences in health care. With a nursing degree and a master's degree in public health I worked in childbirth education, women's health, community health, and Marketing and Public Affairs as Manager of Community Relations. I keep fit by walking the dog, biking, and going to local fitness and aquatics centers. I also love to cook, read, garden, play the piano, and travel- especially to visit our kids and grandkids in San Diego, Phoenix, Portsmouth and Philadelphia. A member of LCHS for since 2000, my involvement in church activities includes Stewardship Ministry Mission team, usher, communion assistant, greeter, reader, and contributor of baked goods or foods for special church events. Bill and I also experienced ministry in action with our youth and adults through Project Help in 2010. Together, Bill and I continue to grow in our faith and have been richly blessed as part of the Stephen Ministry program, becoming Stephen Ministers in 2011, followed by becoming Stephen Leaders in 2012.

Dr. Diane Keister



Irv and I have been members of Holy Spirit since 1983. Over more than 30 years I have volunteered in many ministry areas. In the early years, I worked with B.J. Weigang to write curriculum and I assumed leadership roles in Sunday School, CAT classes, and Vacation Bible School. Later, I served on the Board of Center for Faith and Life and as its chair. After my retirement, I became the director of the Holy Spirit Christian Nursery School. Currently, I volunteer at the Nursery School and as coordinator and leader of "Word for God's Children". During my professional career, I worked as a teacher, reading specialist, elementary principal, and director of curriculum. Irv and I have 2 children, Denel and Drew, and 4 granddaughters. I enjoy traveling, needlework, crafting and spending time with our granddaughters, Rowen, Alina, Lindy and Eden.

Irv Keister



Diane and I have been members of Holy Spirit since 1983 when we came to the Lehigh Valley. We have been married for 47 years. We have 2 children, Denel and Drew, and 4 granddaughters who keep us engaged. While at Holy Spirit, I have served in numerous roles, including Sunday school teacher, youth advisor, Stewardship committee member, Long Range Planning Committee member, Usher and Chairperson of the Staff Relations committee. In addition, I served with a group of Holy Spirit members who founded the Forum for Ethics in the Workplace, a ministry in daily life organization now based at DeSales University. Professionally, I retired from PPL after 35 years. At PPL I served in senior management positions in the Operations and Nuclear Departments. After retirement, I served as a Financial Representative with MetLife. My interests include serving the township and community where I live, traveling, sports, reading, physical exercise and playing bridge.

Angie Schaffer



I have been married to my husband Justin since 2002 and we have two daughters, Caroline and Mackenzie, both of whom keep us busy with school and interests. I have a Bachelor's degree in Social Work and a Certificate in Gerontology from Cedar Crest College, and my professional career working at Lehigh County Area Agency on Aging & Lehigh Valley Hospital in the Case Management Department. I've also enjoyed the flexibility of owning my own home-based business in fashion with Stella & Dot, allowing me to be home with our daughters, grow personally, and provide my grandparents with a home that surrounds them with companionship, a watchful eye, and love, while caring for my grandfather at the end of his life. In my free time, I enjoy reading, yoga, vacationing with my family and friends. Our family began attending & joined Holy Spirit in 2012 after both of our daughters attended the nursery school program.

Rob Smith



My wife, Sue, and I have been married since 1979. Sue introduced me to Holy Spirit in the late 70's and I became a member in 1978. (Sue and I were actually married at Holy Spirit, in what is now the Kuntzleman Multipurpose Room!) We have a grown son, Ben who lives in Emmaus and is a professional chef. (Perhaps you've met Ben at one of our Summer Breakfasts?) Retired from Air Products after more than 35 years of service, I'm currently "working" in a retirement job at a fly fishing shop in the Pocono's. I enjoy spending time with my family and friends and fly fishing, bicycling and camping.

I've been active as a Boy Scout volunteer and here at Holy Spirit. Currently I'm serving my 2nd time as a member of our Congregational Council and work directly with our Church Growth Mission Team. Ushering and assisting with communion are other areas that I enjoy. In the past, I've served with our Evangelism and Worship and Music Mission Teams and with our youth. I'm very pleased to be part of the introduction of Stephen Ministry at Holy Spirit.

Carole Wetherhold



I have been a member of Holy Spirit since 1999 following a divorce and move to Macungie. I have been a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist since 1970. I received my training for nursing and anesthesia at Lankenau Hospital in Philadelphia. I have worked locally at St Luke's Hospital and Lehigh Valley Hospital and retired 2 years ago. In 2000 I met and then married Ron Wetherhold in 2001 here at Holy Spirit. We have joined are families and now have two sons, Mark and Jason and a daughter Kathy. We have five Grandchildren, Gavin, Olivia, Nathan, Taylor and Cody. Since joining Holy Spirit I have served as Reader, Altar Guild member, and did provide for coffee hour for several years. At my former church I was a member of Altar Guild, Reader, Communion Assistant, Church counsel, Sunday School teacher, Bell Choir member and actively involved in Women of the ELCA. I currently reside in Emmaus. I enjoy outdoor activities. Biking, walking, hiking, baking, cooking, Zumba, knitting reading and many other crafts. I look forward to participating and serving as a Stephen Minister.

Pr. Jim Bowers



I began my ministry at Holy Spirit in January of 2007, when I was asked to serve as the Interim Associate Pastor. Soon thereafter, I was called to be part-time Associate Pastor relating to Church Growth, Member Care, and Social Ministry Mission Teams. I have been ordained since 1981, and served two full-time calls and several intentional interim positions before coming to Holy Spirit. My wife, Mary, and I have two adult daughters, Allie and Julie, both married, and our older daughter just made us grandparents! I am also a licensed doctoral-level psychologist, and have a part-time practice in clinical psychology in Allentown where I do individual, couples, and family therapy as well as psychological assessment work for applicants for ministry and for the VA for returning vets with post-traumatic stress issues. For recreation, I enjoy fly fishing, shooting and hunting, and training and exercising our Vizsla, Sophie, who is an upland bird-dog.