

# St. Cecilia *Quarter Notes*

(July—Sept. 2017) St. Cecilia—Patron Saint of Musicians



## SCOUT PACK 159

### WHY SHOULD MY SON BECOME A SCOUT?



As cub master of pack 159 I'm often asked "why should my son become a scout?" I usually tell them a quick and easy answer about how we love to camp, go on hikes, ice fish, build great things, race cars, and learn STEM activities. However, the answer isn't always that easy. What I really would like to say to the curious parent is that I've seen first hand how scouting can change a boy for the better by filling him with confidence and self reliance. I've seen how scouting provides boys with amazing opportunities to see and do things that they wouldn't have otherwise. And, I've heard from parents how proud they are having witnessed their son live by the 12 laws of scouting and scout oath.

*"A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent." "On my honor, I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country, to obey the Scout Law, to help other people at all times, and to keep myself physically strong, morally straight and mentally awake."*

It's the act of serving others in a selfless manner that attracted me most. I love that my sons will grow through scouting knowing that when we help others we're doing what God calls us to do every day. There are so many reasons to join scouting and many resources online that will explain in detail the numerous benefits of the program. In the end scouting is more than just an after school program to keep kids busy until parents get off work. Scouting is an opportunity to learn how to become the very best person we can be and make the world a better place along the way.

To learn more about Cub Scouts and Pack 159 contact Cubmaster, Tim Read 515-451-1684 or [timread@timread.com](mailto:timread@timread.com).

*Submitted by Tim Read*

## STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministry continues to grow in our parish and in the community. Since beginning at St. Cecilia in 2012, we have been joined by St. Thomas Aquinas parish, and most recently by Sts. Peter and Paul Parish, Gilbert. Stephen Ministers provide Christian care to people in our parishes and community. Stephen Ministers receive 50 hours of training before being commissioned. They are not counselors, but rather walk with a person experiencing difficult times due to some of life's challenges. Our Stephen Ministers have had caring relationships with people experiencing divorce, grief due to loss of a loved one, illness, loneliness, family upheaval, and other difficulties. Typically, caregivers meet with their care receivers about one hour weekly. They are also in contact by telephone and text as needed. The relationship is totally confidential.



This past year 10 new Stephen Ministers were trained and were commissioned in April and May, bringing the total number of active Stephen Ministers to 32. Four people attended Stephen Leader training in St. Louis and have now joined our leader team. On Oct. 21 Stephen Ministry will host a "Morning of Reflection". Watch for more details. If you or someone you know is facing a challenging time in life, perhaps a Stephen Minister could help. Contact Anne Schmitt at 515 291-8257, [anneschmitt@msn.com](mailto:anneschmitt@msn.com) or Rich Lee at 515 708-0881, [reugenelee@gmail.com](mailto:reugenelee@gmail.com). Please see the reserve side of this page for additional information on Stephen Ministry.

## PARISH PICNIC ON THE PLAYGROUND



The June 4 "Parish Picnic on the Playground" drew a crowd of almost 200 parishioners. Everyone enjoyed subs, chips and cookies, as well as meeting new people and playing with others. A job well done and coordinated by our *Welcome Committee!*

# STEPHEN MINISTRY by the NUMBERS

## Ames Catholic Community

As of April 30, 2017

**Stephen Ministers are servants of Jesus, trained to provide personal and confidential support for people who are facing life's challenges.**

15

Since enrollment, we have sent **15** members to be trained as Stephen Leaders at regional training conferences. **12** currently serve in this capacity.

Since  
2012

Stephen Ministry began at St. Cecilia Parish in April, **2012**, when three parishioners attended a Stephen Leader Training in St. Louis. In **2014**, St. Thomas Aquinas Parish joined in this ministry, which then became known as the Ames Catholic Community Stephen Ministry. As of **2017**, the ministry is expanding to include Sts. Peter and Paul Parish, Gilbert.

64/32

Our Stephen Leaders have trained **64** lay Stephen Ministers to provide high-quality, one-on-one, confidential Christian care to hurting people in our parishes and the Ames community. **32** are currently serving in this capacity.



Stephen Ministers have completed a total of **58** caring relationships. Presently, there are **23** Stephen Ministers in ongoing caring relationships.

With a minimum of a two-year commitment, Stephen Ministers complete **50** hours of training and once active in the ministry, they meet twice monthly for continuing education and peer supervision.

58/23

To learn more about our Stephen Ministry, email us at [stcomesstephenministry@gmail.com](mailto:stcomesstephenministry@gmail.com)

The Stephen Leader Team estimates that Stephen Ministry for the Ames Catholic Community spent **12,083** hours providing this ministry during the past year. (April 2016-April 2017)

12,083

50

Contact one of our Stephen Leaders:  
**Sue Osweiler -- 515-709-0021**  
**Rich Lee -- 515-708-0881**  
**Tonya Meyer -- 515-290-9051**  
**Ron Meyer -- 515-290-9218**