

# Elizabeth Ministry



Elizabeth Ministry is named for Elizabeth, whom Mary visited while they were both facing the joys and challenges of becoming mothers. Elizabeth ministry offers one-on-one support in the form of visits, phone calls, cards, prayer, resources, and other assistance for women who are expecting or hoping to expect, as well as those suffering losses in the areas of childbearing, adoption or fertility.

We are looking for women who could benefit from this ministry, as well as women who would like to be Elizabeth Ministers or who would like to help in other ways by making things, praying or donating time, talent or money in some other way. Someone else may benefit from your experience.

If you would like to help or if you are an expectant mom or know someone who is, please fill out the form on the other side and drop it in the collection basket or return it to the church office.

You need not be a parish member to seek our support.

St Francis Of Assisi Parish  
Office: \*\*\*\* North 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
1416 Grand Avenue  
1114 South 21<sup>st</sup> Street  
1121 North 14<sup>th</sup> Street  
Manitowoc, WI  
920-684-3718

Mary and Elizabeth became great friends as they shared the joys and challenges of becoming mothers. Elizabeth Ministry is an outreach to expectant women. Our mission is to cherish children, encourage families, and build community. We offer peer mentoring and support to all mothers who are expecting through pregnancy or adoption, or those who are experiencing the pain of miscarriage, stillbirth, abortion, or infertility. Volunteers offer support in the form of phone calls, cards, prayers, visits, emails, and educational resources.

## Elizabeth Ministry Prayer

Creator God, I pledge to truly celebrate the gift of each child conceived and born, and fully mourn each miscarriage, abortion, stillbirth, infant or child death.

I will be a strong witness to my belief in the dignity and worth of all life, by treasuring the gift of fertility, by supporting those suffering infertility, by encouraging those in the adoption process, and by assisting families experiencing an infant or child crisis or need.

I will be a strong and consistent voice for life in my home, my church, my community and the world.  
Amen.

Saint Francis Of Assisi Parish  
\*\*\*\* North 8th Street (office)  
Manitowoc, WI 54220

920-684-3718

Women

Reaching

Out to

Women

## What is Elizabeth Ministry?

Elizabeth Ministry is an international movement designed to support women and their families during the joys, challenges and sorrows of the childbearing years. The Elizabeth Ministry mission is to cherish children, encourage families and build community.

## How does it work?

Women volunteers become Elizabeth ministers in the areas they have experienced. For example a woman who has twins would visit and mentor a woman who is pregnant with twins. Continued support is given throughout the pregnancy and after the birth. This support comes in the form of visits, phone calls, cards, prayer, resources, and other assistance. The areas of Elizabeth Ministry include, but are not limited to pregnancy, birth, miscarriage, infant or child death, crisis or special needs, adoption, fertility and infertility. Support is available for mothers, fathers, siblings and grandparents.

## Who are the Elizabeth Ministers?

They are representatives of our parish that become a link between the church of the home and the parish church. Elizabeth Ministers are not counselors. They offer mentoring and peer support only. No lengthy training is needed. They are women who are willing to share their presence, stories, and experience in the hope that these will encourage another woman and her family.

The story of the visitation of Mary and Elizabeth is one of the most profound examples of sharing faith in all of scripture. The sanctity of life and power of the Spirit is revealed in the common sharing of these two women.

Throughout the generations, women have repeated this story. Elizabeth Ministry carries on this tradition of maternal mentoring.

Following the example of Mary and Elizabeth, we visit and share the sacredness of life.

Elizabeth Ministry is based on the premise that if we reverence every child as sacred, we will cherish that child into adulthood and old age.

Main areas of focus for Elizabeth Ministry include (but are not limited to):

- Pregnancy
- Birth
- Fertility & Infertility
- Adoption & Blended Families
- Infant and Child Crisis or Special Needs
- Miscarriage, abortion, stillbirth and infant or child death

In the past, the presence, intimacy and support that is needed during the childbearing years was found in the structures of family, neighborhood, church and community. The pace of life today, along with the mobility of society has changed this. Elizabeth Ministry is a response to this need.

# Elizabeth Ministry

Name

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Address

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Phone

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Best Time to Call

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Email

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All information will be kept confidential

- I would like some support. I am dealing with pregnancy, birth, miscarriage, infant or child death, crisis or special needs, adoption, fertility issues, or regretted abortion.
  - I would like to offer mentoring or peer support by sharing my presence, stories & experience
  - I think the person above would benefit from some support.
- My name
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My phone

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Drop in collection basket or return to parish office.