

Comprehensive List of Areas of Involvement

Elizabeth Ministry's primary focus is on maternal mystery mentoring during the joys, challenges and sorrows of bringing new life into a family. However, over the years some Elizabeth Ministry Chapters have expanded their outreach to include any joy, challenge or sorrow. This is perfectly acceptable, but in this Leader's Manual we will just focus on the original areas of involvement.

*Contact the Elizabeth Ministry International Headquarters
for resources relating to other possibilities for outreach.*

Pregnancy

- General Pregnancy
 - First-Time Pregnancy
 - Subsequent Pregnancy
 - Large Family
 - Pregnancy Later in Life
 - Pregnancy after Loss
- Pregnancy Complications
 - Bed Rest
 - High-Risk Pregnancy
 - Prenatal Testing Concerns
 - Fetal Abnormality Issues

Celebration of Birth

- General Birth
 - First-Time Birth
 - Subsequent Birth
 - Large Family
 - Raising Child
 - Choosing Adoption
- Special Birth Outcomes
 - Multiple Births
 - Delivery Complications
 - Postpartum Depression

Adoption & Blending

- Considering Adoption
- Waiting to Adopt
- Adoption Loss
- Celebration of Adoption
- Birth Mother
- Blending Families at Remarriage

Miscarriage, Stillbirth, Child Death

- Miscarriage
- Abortion
- Stillbirth
- Multiple Birth Loss
- SIDS
- Illness
- Accident
- Violence

Fertility and Infertility

- Fertility Transformations
 - Onset of Menses

-Hysterectomy

-Menopause

- Natural Family Planning
- Waiting to Conceive
 - Without Known Infertility
 - With Known Infertility
- Accepting Inability to Conceive
- Accepting a Childless Life

Crisis or Special Needs

- Premature Birth
- Intensive Care Nursery
- Special Needs
 - Physical
 - Mental
- Illness
- Surgery
- Hospitalization

Grandparent Support

- General Nurturing as Grandparent
- First-Time Grandparent
- Grandchild Joined Family by Adoption
- Long-Distance Grandparenting
- Grieving Grandparent
- Grandparent Facing Obstacles
- Rejected Grandparent
- Grandparent Raising Grandchild
- Grandparenting Unwed Child's Baby
 - Unwed Child Is a Teenager
 - Unwed Child Is an Adult
- Grandchild Placed for Adoption
- Grandchild Aborted

◆ To support, encourage, affirm, and comfort women and their families during their childbearing years.

◆ To develop a flexible structure that will encourage women to minister with women during the joys and sorrows of the childbearing years.

◆ To assist women in recognizing and

using their gifts and talents in a service of inclusiveness and sisterhood.

- ◆ To empower women to share their stories, experiences, and faith in an open, trusting, and life-giving manner.
 - ◆ To draw on the rich resources of Scripture and Tradition in ministering to the needs of women.
 - ◆ To make visible and concrete the relationship of Jesus to the women of the Church.
 - ◆ To promote communication between the home and the local church, thus deepening an appreciation for both.
 - ◆ To symbolize the special presence of God through prayer and ritual blessing.
 - ◆ To express the care and love of the faith community for parents in their role of co-creators with God.
 - ◆ To foster respect and gratitude for the awesome gift of human life from the moment of conception.
- ◆ To join with parents in celebrating the wonders of pregnancy and birth and the mystery of new life.
 - ◆ To share the excitement and joy, as well as the frustration and pain, of the adoptive process and blending of families through marriage.
 - ◆ To offer support and healing at moments of complications, crisis, miscarriage, and infant or child death.
 - ◆ To empower grandparents to impact the lives of their extended family.
 - ◆ To demonstrate compassion and support for couples experiencing infertility, and to treasure the gift of fertility.
 - ◆ To assist fathers, siblings, grandparents and other family members during the childbearing years and beyond.