

Dear Church Leader:

There is no calling of greater importance today than the calling to serve Christ's church, as pastor. Those who minister to you each week:

- * Preach God's Word
- * Serve God's People
- * Set the example of a Godly lifestyle

As pastor appreciation month approaches, I want to encourage you to honor those who minister to your church family.

- * Pray for him (Galatians 6:1-2)
Download your copy of the IBSA Pastor's Prayer Guide at ibsa.org/ministries/churchstrengthening/csd/
- * Work for unity in the church (Ephesians 4:2-3)
- * Give honor to your pastor and church staff (Phil 2:25,29; 1 Tim 5:17)

Sylvan Knobloch, Church Staff Development Director, Church Strengthening Team suggests, "What an encouragement it would be for your Minister of Education, Minister of Music, Minister of Youth if you took this biblical mandate to heart. Seek the Lord's leadership to find edifying ways to provide "double honor" to those who minister in your church during Pastor Appreciation Month, October, 2007. They are worthy! Your gifts of "double honor" to your minister will demonstrate your appreciation for their service."

October is
Pastor
Appreciation
Month



Pastor and Staff Prayer Guide

Download your copy of the IBSA Pastor's Prayer Guide at ibsa.org/ministries/churchstrengthening/csd

Retreat Centers

pastorsretreatnetwork.org

Cedarly Pastor's Retreat
P.O. Box 180455
Delafield, WI 53018
(262) 646-7772
cedarly.org

Alongside, Inc.
P.O. Box 587
Richland, MI 49083-0587
(269) 671-4809
alongsidecares.net

Broom Tree Ministries
A faith-based, non-profit ministry.
P.O. Box 180681
Delafield, WI 53018
(262) 646-7774
broomtreeministries.org

Resources

Focus on the Family
parsonage.org

LifeWay
lifeway.com/leadercare

Annuity Board
guidestone.com



Illinois Baptist State Association

A ministry made possible by your Cooperative Program gifts.

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OCTOBER IS

PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. Be at peace among yourselves.

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 (NIV)



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Church Staff Development Ministries
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Honor Your Pastor...

October is Pastor Appreciation Month. This is an opportunity for the congregation to affirm and express its love to the pastor and staff. Single staff churches as well as congregations with multiple ministers will benefit from a special recognition of those who serve.



Bi-vocational Pastors' Sunday

Oct 19th has been set aside by NAMB as Bi-vocational Pastor Appreciation Sunday.

Respect.

We honor God when we:

- Respect those who minister to us on behalf of Christ.
- Respect the office to which they have been called.
- Respect the pastor's family.

The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching.
1 Timothy 5:17 (NIV)

Appreciation.

Things you can do:

- Set aside time to honor your pastor on the church calendar.
- Give a reception in the pastor's honor.
- Send a note of encouragement. To send a free e-card go to dayspring.com.
- Pray for him and his family.
- Wash your pastor's car.
- Mow his lawn.
- Give him a plaque of appreciation.
- Host a potluck dinner in his honor.
- Plant a tree in honor of your pastor.
- Take your pastor and his spouse out for a meal.
 - * Ask him about his needs.
 - * Listen to them.
 - * Pray together.
- Give a gift certificate.
- Be creative.
- Provide an overnight or weekend getaway for your pastor's family. (See the list of retreat centers on the back.)
While they are gone:
 - * Care for their yard.
 - * Care for their pets.

Accountability.

It's someone who he trusts to help him stand strong. An accountability partner weakens temptation's pull by looking over his shoulder when he is on the internet, maintaining moral purity. For more information log onto www.covenanteyes.com

"I have made a covenant with my eyes"
- Job 31:1

Recognition.

* Provide babysitting.

Celebrate achievements with your pastor and staff when they reach certain milestones. Such as:

- Educational advancements.
- Years of service.
- Denominational service.
- Election to positions of significance in community.
- Other awards or recognitions.



Compensation.

- Provide sabbaticals.
- Provide vacations and retreats.
- Provide continuing education opportunities.
- Provide health insurance.
- Provide retirement; the Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention has provided ministers and churches with help in retirement planning.

The most powerful weapon against the pressures faced by every pastor is prayer. Please stop ... take a moment ... pray for your pastoral staff ... pray for each pastor's family ... pray for them all year long!

When you discipline yourself to pray for your pastors and their families on a regular basis, great things happen.

What a difference you can make!