



## TIP SHEET: PASTOR ADVISORY TEAM

*A pastor advisory team can help provide support to pastors and serve as the congregational voice that is helpful in planning and carrying out the ministry of the church. The following are tips and suggestions from CBFNC partner congregations that have these types of teams in existence.*

- A pastor search committee could serve in this role while a new pastor transitions into their new role.
- A permanent Pastor Advisory Team can function much like other church committees with rotating membership.
- Meeting quarterly or less allows this type of team to serve their purpose well without overwhelming a pastor's schedule.
- The focus for this type of team can vary depending on pastor needs:
  - The group could do the work of visioning and dreaming with the pastor
  - This might be a group to be a sounding board for the pastor
  - Serve as check-ins around specific areas of church life (missions, worship, spiritual formation, etc.)
  - Accountability group for pastoral responsibilities (preaching, pastoral care, etc.)
- Include the pastor in conversations about what this team will look like. Different pastors draw energy in different ways, so it would be wise to have them help design a team that will be most beneficial to their style of leadership.
- This team can be built from deacon leadership, but it might be helpful to have other lay leaders make up the team.
- Be sure those who make up this team are a true and good representation of the congregation.
- Clarify from the beginning the purpose and expectations of this team.
- You can find the descriptions of this type of team from partner congregations in our Resource Library.

