



TIP SHEET: PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

October is Pastor Appreciation Month with the second Sunday in the month being celebrated as Pastor Appreciation Day. This celebration was established in 1992 by a group of pastors and church leaders to honor those serving in ministry. Timothy 5:17 serves as the scriptural grounding for this recognition, "The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching." While it's not an official holiday Pastor Appreciation Month is nationally recognized and celebrated.

Our senior and associate pastors serve congregations across the state diligently and lovingly. They pour themselves into their ministries each and every day. And over the past two years even more so as they've adapted to life and ministry in a global pandemic. Our pastors do their best to serve and lead us. They pray with and for us, listen to our stories, preach and teach us God's word and love us well. Let us celebrate them well this Pastor Appreciation Month!

Keep in mind—you don't have pull out all the stops for Pastor Appreciation Month. Here are a few ideas that are intentional and thoughtful ways for you, your family, Sunday school class or small group to say thank you to all of our pastors. Hopefully these will inspire you and your congregation to show your pastors how much you care about them

- Celebrate and recognize the ministry of associate pastors as well as senior pastors
- Handwritten note of thanks and encouragement naming a way your pastor has been helpful in your life or a lesson they've shared that sticks with you
- Facebook post sharing a treasured memory with your pastor
- Say a heartfelt "thank you" for all your pastors do
- Allow your pastor extra time off this month, to be used at a time convenient for the pastor, to be with family/friends, to recharge
- A recognition of service during a Sunday morning service
- Yard cleaning/landscaping
- Gift card to pastor's favorite restaurant, grocery store, entertainment venue, etc.
- At-home movie night box with popcorn and candies
- Create a special piece of art inspired by a past teaching or sermon
- Invite your pastor and their family to join you for a sporting or cultural event
- Treat the pastor and family to a family vacation that works for their schedule
- Prepare and share a homemade meal
- Provide a travel communion set or Bible commentary set to enhance pastors' ministry
- Provide financial support for continuing education opportunities

