

STRENGTHEN AND GROW YOUR MINISTRY

LCEF MINISTRY MOMENTS VIDEO SERIES

Sabbaticals

Rev. Tom Eggebrecht

LCEF Senior Vice President Ministry Solutions

The 24/7 nature of the pastoral vocation and the emotional toll it takes lead to burnout for many pastors at some point in their career.

How to provide a break for pastors?

1. Reasons for pastoral sabbatical

- Pastors are expected to be “on” and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Pastors get worn out, weary, and stressed from the toll of the job.
- When pastors are burnt out, they are not living a healthy, happy life and cannot serve the ministry in the best way possible.

2. Planning a sabbatical

- When you call a pastor, write a sabbatical directly into the call documents.
- Budget each year to put money toward a sabbatical.
- Seek alternate sources of funding.
- Plan for pulpit and visitation coverage while your pastor is away.

3. Benefits of a sabbatical

- A rested and energetic pastor.
- A new and creative approach to ministry.
- A draw for pastors during the call process.