

# Sabbatical Planning

A sabbatical is **an invitation to walk closely with God for an extended period of time**. It allows a pastor the opportunity to enter into a unique space where God can work in new and deeper ways.

## Articles & Resources

1. [3 Reasons Your Pastor Needs a Sabbatical](#)
  - a. For physical rest
  - b. For mental and creative rejuvenation
  - c. For replenishment
2. [10 Ideas to Seed Your Sabbatical Thinking](#)
3. [Church of the Nazarene Manual Paragraph Concerning Sabbaticals \(129.10\)](#)
4. [Introduction to Clergy Sabbaticals](#)
  - a. Old article from USACR
  - b. Has a decent start for a policy
5. [Renewal Time: Planning Your Sabbatical](#)
  - a. Good overview of what a sabbatical is
  - b. Helpful info for the congregation and staff as well
6. [Sabbatical Packet](#)
  - a. Best practices
  - b. Policy
  - c. Guidelines for planning
  - d. Sample letters to the congregation
  - e. Additional resources
7. [Sabbaticals for Ministers: The Benefits for Pastors and Congregations](#)
  - a. From Focus on the Family
  - b. Very helpful overview
8. [SWOT Analysis](#)
  - a. Includes a sample analysis
  - b. Blank analysis
  - c. 7 questions to help you draw conclusions
9. [The Dark Side of Sabbaticals for Pastors](#)
  - a. Great insights and warnings
  - b. Recommended for both pastors and their leadership teams
10. [Types of Sabbaticals](#)
  - a. Old but good list of types
11. [Why You Should Make Your Pastor Take a Sabbatical](#)
  - a. Geared towards the congregation and staff
  - b. Lots of great resources at the bottom of the page
12. [Your Sabbatical: An Introduction](#)
  - a. COST: \$14.99
  - b. The best guide I found regarding personal preparation for sabbatical planning
  - c. "This PDF Sabbatical Guide will help you to prepare and plan for an extended time of spiritual rest to nourish your soul, blessing you to be a blessing to others."

Questions? Thoughts? Additions?

Please contact Rev. J. Jay Hawes ([jay@newtonnazarene.com](mailto:jay@newtonnazarene.com))

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## Financial Help & Resources

- [Lilly Endowment National Clergy Renewal Program](#)
  - Will provide grants of up to **\$50,000** each directly to congregations for getting started the support of a renewal program for their pastor.
  - The costs associated with family members who accompany a pastor may be included in the amount requested for the pastor.
  - Up to **\$15,000** of the grant may be used to help the congregation fulfill pastoral duties during the pastor's absence and/or to support activities that enable the congregation as a whole to be renewed in its ministry.
  - The recipients in the National Clergy Renewal Program will be notified in late August 2022.
  - A renewal leave funded by a grant in the clergy renewal program may begin no sooner than January 1, 2023, no later than December 31, 2023.
  - Email applications must be submitted to [clergyrenewal@cts.edu](mailto:clergyrenewal@cts.edu) by 3 PM Eastern Time on April 27, 2022.

## Lodging/Retreats

1. [The Abbey of the Hills](#)
  - a. Location: Marvin, SD
2. [En Gedi Retreat](#)
  - a. Cost: FREE
  - b. Location 1: Steamboat Springs, CO
  - c. Location 2: Cheyenne, WY
3. [Jabez Retreat Center](#)
  - a. Location: Moorsville, MO
4. [The Jerry D. Porter Mission House](#)
  - a. Cost: FREE
  - b. Location: Cornerstone Church of the Nazarene (Lake Jackson, TX)
5. [LifeChange Camp](#)
  - a. Location: Clinton, MO
6. MNU Pastor's Retreat
  - a. Cost: FREE
  - b. Location: Olathe, KS (at MidAmerica Nazarene University)
  - c. Contact Randy Cloud to schedule ([rrcloud@mnu.edu](mailto:rrcloud@mnu.edu))
7. [YMCA of the Rockies](#)
  - a. Cost: \$150 for 3 days, 2 nights (meals included)
  - b. Location 1: Estes Park, CO
  - c. Location 2: Granby, CO

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- d. Note: Call and ask for the "Pastor Discount"

## Podcasts

1. Emotionally Healthy Leader Podcast, by Pete Scazzero
  - a. [Sabbaticals Pt.1: What They Are and Why Every Leader Needs One](#)
  - b. [Sabbaticals Pt.2: How to Plan for a Transformational Sabbatical](#)

## Recommended Activities

- Games
  - Solitaire
- Leisure
  - Coloring book
  - Cooking
  - Learn to play an instrument (guitar, piano, etc.)
  - Photography
- Movies
  - Just Mercy
- Physical
  - Hiking/walking
  - Implement regular, consistent workout plan
- Read fiction books
- Relationships
  - Marriage getaway
  - Regular dating with spouse (focus on your relationship not just kids or the church)
- Travel
  - Stop at all "Scenic Overlooks"

## Recommended Non-Fiction Reading

Author	Title
Carnegie, Dale	How to Win Friends and Influence People
Mintzberg, Henry	Bedtime Stories for Managers
Nadella, Satya	Hit Refresh

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## Recommended Spiritual Reading

Author	Title
Bentz, Joseph	12 New Testament Passages that Changed the World
Bolsinger, Tod	Canoeing the Mountains
Bonhoeffer, Dietrich	The Cost of Discipleship
Cantalamesa, Raneiro	Sober Intoxication of the Spirit
Comer, John Mark	The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry
Dearborn, Bethany	From Burned Out to Beloved
Fadling, Alan	An Unhurried Life
Foster, Richard	Celebration of Discipline
Hollingsworth, Amy	The Simple Faith of Mister Rogers
Keller, Tim	Prayer
Kempis, Thomas á	Imitation of God
Lodahl, Michael	The Story of God
Nouwen, Henri	The Wounded Healer
Merton, Thomas	No Man an Island
Reynolds, Rebecca	Courage, Dear Heart
Root, Andy	<a href="#">The Pastor in a Secular Age</a>
Smith, James Bryan	The Good and Beautiful God
Tozer, A.W.	Living as a Christian
Tozer, A.W.	The Pursuit of God
Vail, Eric	Atonement and Salvation: the Extravagance of God's Love

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Villodas, Rich	The Deeply Formed Life
Zahnd, Brian	Water to Wine