



RESOLUTION ON MINISTER APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, ministers serve tirelessly to fulfill the responsibilities of their calling; and

WHEREAS, ministers who give encouragement and assistance to others need affirmation of their efforts; and

WHEREAS, other Christian organizations have designated the month of October as “Minister Appreciation Month;”

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Alabama Baptist State Convention recognize this designation and encourage local congregations to express their appreciation for and affirmation of their ministers during October of each year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we request the Alabama State Board of Missions designate and promote October as “Minister Appreciation Month,” placing it in the Church Planning Guide; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that we request *The Alabama Baptist* to publicize this designation each September as a reminder to the churches.

**-Adopted by the Alabama Baptist Convention,
November 1998.**

Minister Appreciation Day

Everyone likes to be appreciated, and that certainly includes your pastor and church staff. But sometimes we neglect the opportunity to encourage them simply because we don't take the time to do so. October is Minister Appreciation Month and would be a great time to show your pastor and/or church staff how much they mean to you. Included in this brochure are some specific ideas and suggestions to help you plan an appreciation event or emphasis in their honor.



Suggestions For Observing Minister Appreciation Day



Decide to conduct a Minister Appreciation Day.

- The initial recommendation may be made by the personnel committee, the deacons, the church council or an individual.
- Recommend the observance to the proper group (the personnel committee, the deacons and/or the church council).

Set the date.

SOME POSSIBILITIES—

- Honor pastor and staff during Minister Appreciation Month on a Sunday in October.
- Honor pastor and staff members on the anniversary date of the beginning of their ministry at your church.
- Honor pastor and staff on any date you choose.

Choose a team or committee to plan and direct Minister Appreciation Day.

- The committee could make recommendations to the church regarding Minister Appreciation Day and plan in detail the features of this observance.

Plan for recognition of the pastor and/or staff.

- Feature each minister and family in the church newsletter. Tell when the minister arrived at the church. Mention contributions made to the fellowship by the minister. A brief personal history and a photograph can be included.



- Recognition of each minister may be included in the Sunday bulletin.
- Have a time of recognition in the morning worship service. Consider the following:
 - A word from a civic official such as the mayor.
 - A “This is Your Life Presentation” with important people from the minister’s past.
 - A “bloopers video: or a verbal bloopers remembrance.
 - A highlights video or verbal highlights remembrance.
 - A plaque or a framed certificate of appreciation.
 - A portrait to hang in the foyer.

- Schedule a reception for the minister(s) and/or devote the Sunday evening service to a special emphasis on the ministry.

Consider appropriate expressions of appreciation.

- You may wish to include a gift to each minister as a part of the special recognition. Such gifts need not be expensive and may vary from flowers for the spouse and a coveted book for the minister, to a gift certificate for dinner at a nice restaurant, to a weekend at a nearby city, to a love offering. Your church will decide what is an appropriate expression.
- One of the most cherished gifts a minister can receive is a book of letters from individual members. This will convey personal expressions of love and gratitude for the minister.



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