**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-Week Pastoral Sabbath Rest**

**Dates start \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_to finish \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Rev. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Entered Ministry: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ~~ Ordained: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Beginning Date of Present Pastoral Ministry: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**LOCAL CHURCH POLICY FOR THE PASTOR’S SABBATH REST**

**Pastoral Sabbath Rest Implementation for the Pastor**

Implementing the Sabbath Rest shall come under the encouragement and direction of the Local Church Board and in consultation with the District Superintendent.

The sabbatical policy shall read as follows: *We are called by God to observe the Sabbath Rest (Hebrews 4:9-11; Leviticus 25: 1-7). Therefore, as the Committee on Sabbatical Rest we recommend the following: That the Pastor participate in Sabbath Rest. Translated in practical terms, this means:*

* Every seventh day a Sabbath Rest
* Every seventh month a week of Sabbath Rest
* Every seventh year a seven-week Sabbath Rest
* That the Local Church Board Sabbath Rest Committee work with the pastor on a Sabbatical plan appointed for the following purpose:
* The Sabbatical Rest is to be in addition to the vacation time allotted for the pastor.
* The pastor’s salary will continue during the Sabbatical Rest.

**PROPOSED SABBATICAL PLAN**

**WHAT I WANT TO HAPPEN TO ME PERSONALLY: (to be updated by the minister)**

* A renewed fervor for ministry.
* A greater love and understanding for people through time spent with God.
* A more in depth devotion to God.
* A new challenge in my devotional life. I will look for ways to create new patterns of devotions.
* A greater love and appreciation for my local church family.
* A greater love and dedication to my family.

**HOW I WANT THE SABBATH REST TO AFFECT MY SPOUSE AND FAMILY: (to be updated by the minister)**

* Establish stronger ties in my relationship with my spouse.
* A desire to be a stronger spiritual leader in the future for grown children/grandchildren/family.
* A time to reflect on stronger ties with my family...emotionally and spiritually.
* I will not be traveling without my Spouse.

**PLACES I PLAN TO VISIT (to be updated by the minister)**

* Anna Maria Island, off the Florida coast from Brandenton, specifically *Beside Still Waters*
* Mobile, Alabama
* Dallas/Ft. Worth area for a Prayer Conference
* Miami, Oklahoma
* Mountains of Tennessee

**THINGS I PLAN TO DO: (to be updated by the minister)**

* To worship on Sundays without any responsibilities other than seeking God.
* I will dedicate time each day for alone time with Jesus as well as devotion time with Brenda.
* I will allow part of my time for prayer and fasting.
* I will not neglect my family during this time. We will check in weekly with them. I will use my time wisely so that I will have adequate time with my spouse.
* I will submit a final report to the local church board upon returning. I will share my Sabbatical results with the church board/local church following our arrival back home.

**BOOKS TO BE READ (to be updated by the minister)**

* Henri Nouwen’s, *“Sabbatical Journey”*
* A Book on Mother Teresa call of God

**SCHEDULE & Sabbatical Itinerary:**

* See Calendar

**SABBATICAL PLANS**

**Sabbatical Goals and (to be updated by the minister)**

1. Rest: relaxation and rejuvenation
2. Reconnect: with wife and family
3. Reading: Pleasure reading and at least one book related to ministry
4. Discovery: travel and exploration

**FINANCIAL**

* The pastor continues to receive full financial support from the church.
* All lodging and food allowance as deemed appropriate.
* Remuneration of those that will assist the church during the pastor’s absence.

**Assistance LIST (who will carry the pastor’s responsibilities during the leave)**

1. Name one
2. Name two
3. Name three
4. Name four
5. Name five

**RE-ENTRY FROM SABBATICAL**

1. A written report shared with the Church Board of my sabbatical.
2. Results of the sabbatical will be shared with the Congregation and District Superintendent.