

Sabbath Rest

In other words...

"Churches and clergy tend to stay healthy and grow when all parties recognize that ministry takes its toll on any leadership team. By establishing policies for sabbaticals, churches can retain their pastors, and pastors can develop lasting ministries because they have been honored with the gift of time. (...) By developing a plan, with the primary goal of allocating a large amount of time for rest and restoration, churches can help their ministers and congregations to be healthier."

From the Pastor's Advocate Series, Focus on the Family, Sabbaticals for Ministers: The Benefits for Pastors and Congregations.

The annual Clergy CareGivers Conference www.caregiversforum.org is behind us, and we are pumped up and encouraged to keep on keeping on. H.B. London as the keynote speaker highlighted just those thoughts to the 144 participants in two of his four messages titled "Having Joy Along the Journey" and "Keeping the Dream Alive".

The partnership amongst the many likeminded ministries with a broad geographical range (from across the USA, Canada, the Philippines and one being developed in Brazil) was so evident, and especially visible during the breakout sessions, the small group gatherings and the many spur-of-the-moment discussions over a meal or in one of the gathering places throughout the beautiful Winshape Retreat Center. www.winshape.org

Having this conference in Georgia provided an opportunity for people from 5 ministries in New Hampshire, South Dakota, Arizona, Wisconsin and Ohio, to spend a few days at Shepherd's Refuge to exchange ideas and enjoy a time of fellowship. They all admired the progress being made with the Selah Cabin construction, and we were proud to show off the work the volunteers and trades people have done, a true work of excellence.

You may notice that our "Take-Away" segment below remains



Take Away:

unchanged from the Summer Newsletter. Why? The message stays the same. Times of rest and renewal for those in church leadership and missionaries are still not emphasized and taken seriously enough!

- ⇒ Encourage and support your pastor to decide to take time off.
- ⇒ Help him/her to remove the feeling of guilt when they do decide to get away.
- ⇒ Think about the health of their own family relationship.
- ⇒ Consider the benefits to the congregation from a well rested pastor.
- ⇒ Understand the consequences of a burnt-out pastor!
- ⇒ [You can decide to make a difference](#)

Inside this issue:

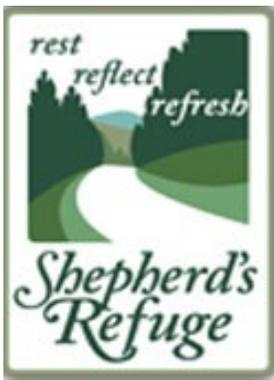
- ◆ In other words
- ◆ Take away
- ◆ Thank-you
- ◆ No Glossy Paper



Keep this in mind:

Check out our [web-site](#) and our [Face Book page](#) for the latest news and updates.

Progress reports are available online, or by sending us an email, or even better, by giving us a call!



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A non-profit ministry
recognized as a 501 (c) 3
organization.

The purpose of Shepherd's Refuge is:
To strengthen His church in fulfilling its Great Commission
by caring for its leadership!

"How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God!
How great is the sum of them!"
Psalms 139:17

A Great BIG Thank You!

We can serve pastors, ministry leaders and missionaries because individuals, churches and corporations are partnering with us with their financial support, either on a one time, or on a monthly basis. Their gifts primarily provide for accommodation and food for the guests, and to a very small portion for administration expenses. Over the years we have been diligently setting aside funds for the Selah Cabin construction, allowing us to build it debt free. Yes, indeed, a great, big thank you to all partners from those we may serve on your behalf. Another way to support the ministry is through www.goodsearch.com and www.goodshop.com as well as www.gooddining.com, all web base applications that do not cost the user anything, yet provide funds to Shepherd's Refuge.

A great, big thank you goes out to those partners, as well.

NO Glossy Paper!

Many worthwhile non-profits are gearing up to send out their glossy paper year-end fundraising appeals. Not so Shepherd's Refuge. We present the vision, and trust the Holy Spirit to move on peoples' hearts to join in partnership with us, providing a place of refuge for the weary souls who work on the front lines.

They need a safe place of rest, to get renewed and refreshed. Healthy pastors equal healthy churches, and missionaries with renewed vision will carry the gospel into further fields.

Prayerfully consider how you can get involved!

ANOTHER Great BIG Thank You!

The [Smoke Rise Missions Team](#) has done it again! On October 13, they spent their Saturday helping with the Selah Cabin construction, hanging sheetrock, and painting trim as well as the retaining wall. Then they also improved one of the trails, built another bridge and cleared the brush along the creek! And, thanks to some ladies, all enjoyed delicious food and great fellowship around the table.

Our heartfelt THANK YOU goes out to these dedicated Volunteers!



Words of Wisdom

"We make progress if, and only if, we are prepared to learn from our mistakes. (Karl R. Popper 1902-1994)