

PastorCare Southwest

A Division of
PastorCare
Network

Ap-pre-ci-ate 1. To think well of; enjoy 2. To recognize gratefully 3. To estimate the quality or worth of 4. To be fully or sensitively aware of 5. To raise the price of – to rise in value.

Ap-pre-ci-a-tion
adj. feeling or showing appreciation.

October is Clergy Appreciation Month. Why do we need a special month to appreciate our pastor and church staff? Are they so insecure they need constant affirmation? That kind of question is like the man who says, “I told my wife I love her when we got married. If that ever changes I’ll let her know.” We all know how well that works.

Let me quote from a church newsletter of a friend of

mine.
“Numerous surveys have found that a very high percentage of ministers feel pressure to have an ‘ideal family’, to be the ideal role model of a perfect Christian family, which is impossible, of course. As a result, four out of five ministers feel their families are negatively impacted by unrealistic expectations – whether self imposed or congregation imposed - and that ministry is a downright hazard to the health of their families. Indeed ‘the pedestal’ is not all it’s cracked up to be. There is also the ‘fish bowl’ aspect of the ministry, whereby the entire lives of the pastoral families seem to be on public display. Anxiety is heightened when financial pressures also come to bear. Beloved, believe me; no one would chose

to live under these conditions unless they felt obliged to a higher, divine directive.”

Do something tangible to let your pastor, worship leader, youth pastor and other church staff members know that you love them, appreciate them and respect them as a chosen man of God.

For nearly four months, PCSW has been assisting Pastor Joshua Bencomo, a local El Paso pastor. In May, he suffered a hairlnfracture of his left arm when he fell walking off the church platform. And, he had no insurance. Another pastor, who learned of his situation contacted me, we contacted Joshua and in a few days made arrangements with an orthopedic surgeon who began treating

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him. Now, after months of office visits, x-rays, and physical therapy sessions, Pastor Bencomo’s arm is almost as good as new. We are most often involved with hurting pastors through mentoring and counseling or connecting them with professional counselors or retreat centers or often just letting them talk while we listen. But on occasion, what is needed is practical, hands on assistance.



*Pastor Joshua & Cindy Bencomo
with Burney Heath*

Meeting his medical needs was possible because of you and your faithful prayers and donations to PastorCare Southwest. We appreciate you and depend on you to make this ministry effective. We look to God for our provision and He uses you as a channel for His provision. As you know, Sandy and I do not draw an income from the ministry. All donations are used exclusively for ministry expenses unless they are clearly marked as a love gift for us. Thank you for your faithfulness.

For several months the PastorCare Network Regional Directors have been working with a professional website designer to produce a more effective website for PastorCare. It is just about ready to go on line. Check it out soon and get a new and broader picture of the purpose and ministry of PastorCare. (www.Pastorcare.org)

The PastorCare family was saddened on September 26, 2014 by the passing of our dear friend and fellow servant Gordon L. Densmore. Gordon served as minister at large from the earliest days of PastorCare. After his retirement as a Methodist pastor, Gordon and his wife Vernice connected with Dr. Bert Moore, founding director of PastorCare, and caught the vision of ministering to hurting pastors. They acquired a motor home and began crisscrossing the United States ministering to

pastors and their families wherever they were.

A few years ago, as health problems caught up with Gordon and Vernice, they retired and lived in Brenhem, Texas. He was a great and vibrant servant of God for many years. Our loss is Heaven's gain. I think all of heaven heard our Father boldly greeting, ***"Well done good and faithful servant. Welcome home."***

It has been a while since we mentioned receiving the PCSW Newsletter by email. If you would rather receive our newsletter by email than regular mail, please let us know by sending us an email at burneyheath6@gmail.com. This might be more convenient and quicker for you but would save us the cost of printing and mailing.

From time to time we are asked about our health issues. Sandy is seemingly doing well, although she is tired much of the time. We are praying God will make a way for her to retire from her job. I (Burney) have been dealing with a series of health problems for the past few years, even while we continue to be involved in ministering to pastors as the Lord allows. Since June of this year, I have struggled with extreme fatigue accompanied by dizziness at times. My doctors are doing tests to determine the cause, but have not come up with any answers

yet. Please pray with us and for us that God will give wisdom and insight to the doctors and strength for us.

We also want to thank you for all the cards, notes, emails and gifts sent as a part of the celebration of our 50th wedding anniversary. For you who were able to make it to our celebration, either in San Antonio or El Paso, we had such a great time with you our friends and family of fifty years and more.

Thank you for faithfully praying for us and supporting PastorCare Southwest



*Burney & Sandy Heath
50th Wedding Anniversary*

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