Pastor Salary Guidelines
Worksheet 2020-2021

Name of pastor: ________________________________________________________________

Effective dates of agreement From __________________________ To: __________________________

Date prepared: __________________________ Prepared by: __________________________

A pastor's leadership builds a church's ministry, and a pastor's compensation reflects in part a church's commitment to quality ministry. These guidelines provide a resource to start a conversation that supports ministers and their families, and is fair to the church and leadership.

I. Pastoral Salary Base for 2020-2021

II. Unit Value for Salary Adjustment

A. Experience Units
Add one unit for each year of accumulated pastoral experience for years 1-20. Add one-half unit for each year for years 21-30. Related experience may be allowed for at the discretion of the congregation, normally one unit for every two years of full-time experience.

Maximum experience units: 25 #_ x $809 =

B. Education Units
Select the number of units for the highest completed degree less than a doctorate from the chart. Then add one unit for each graduate degree other than seminary or for four terms of S/CPE.

Maximum education units: 8 #_ x $809 =

Units for Undergraduate Degree:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AA</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AA in Pastoral Min</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA, BS, BTh</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Units for Graduate Degree:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MA in theological studies</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDiv, BD</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add one salary unit for DMin, MTh, MA, PhD, ThD, or four terms of S/CPE.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. Responsibility Units
Add units according to the following chart for levels of responsibility.

Maximum responsibility units: 9 #_ x $809 =

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendance Average</th>
<th>1-99</th>
<th>100-199</th>
<th>200-399</th>
<th>400+</th>
<th>Area Conf</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Solo- or Co-pastor, Church Planter</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead Pastor of a team</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate / Assistant pastor</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive or Solo CM</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate or Regional CM</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

D. Geographical Units
Add 1-15 units related to effective buying income in your area by visiting everence.com/pastor-salary-guidelines and selecting state and county from the geographical units section.

Maximum geographical units: 15 #_ x $809 =
E. **Optional additional salary**

We recognize that the specific unit values identified on the worksheet may not meet the unique circumstances of every church or pastor. See interpretive comments for examples (II.E).

- **Total Unit Value**
  - Add lines 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6

- **Salary subtotal**
  - Add lines 1 and 7

- **Percentage of full-time equivalent (FTE)**
  - Multiply line 8 by line 9

III. **Self Employment Tax Adjustment**

Recognizing that the pastor is self-employed for purposes of Social Security, some churches choose to add to the salary an amount equal to half the self-employment tax.

- **Add 7.65% of the salary subtotal (line 10)**

**Total Salary before Housing Adjustments**

- Add lines 10 & 11

IV. **Housing Adjustments for Parsonage**

A. **Parsonage**

If parsonage is provided, you will need to deduct an appropriate percentage from line 12. This amount can be determined by local rental value of parsonage or no more than 25% of line 12.

- **Total Housing Adjustments**
  - Subtract 14 from 13

**Total Salary after Housing Adjustments**

- Add lines 12 & 15

Church officials are encouraged to separate benefits from salary (I-IV) and expenses (VI) when reporting to the congregation.

V. **Benefits**

A. **Medical Health Plan**

If a Single or family health plan is provided through the church, indicate that amount here.

B. **Pension Plan / Retirement Fund**

Annual contributions amounting to 8% to 10% of line 12 to a retirement fund but cannot exceed line 16.

C. **Life & Disability Insurance**

If Life insurance, accidental death and disability and long-term disability are not included in your church’s health plan, show additional cost of life or disability insurance here.
D. Continuing Education Allowances
The congregation should annually provide funds for pastoral growth and continuing education. Suggested range of $600 to $1000.

E. Other Benefits
E.g. some churches contribute to a Health Savings Account (see Interpretive Comments.)

Total Benefits
Add lines 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21

Total Salary and Benefits
(Pastor’s Total Compensation Package)
Add lines 16 & 22

Church officials are encouraged to separate the following expense items from salary (I-IV) and benefits (V) when reporting to the congregation. Financial reporting should not leave the impression that expenses are part of salary.

VI. Expense Allowances

A. Auto Expense
Auto expense for church related travel should be reimbursed at the current level of allowance by US Internal Revenue Service, currently at 57.5 cents per mile. (Estimate)

B. Conference Expense
The pastor’s attendance at area and denominational conference sessions is part of the pastor’s responsibility. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that registration, least expensive form of travel, lodging, and food costs for the pastor be paid by the congregation.

C. Professional Expense
Dues for professional groups and costs incurred on behalf of the church should be reimbursed to the pastor. Lunch or dinner meetings or visits for church or pastoral care would be another example.

D. Other Expense
Pastors are usually encouraged by their financial advisors to shift expenses to reimbursement categories whenever possible.

Total Expenses
Add lines 24, 25, 26 and 27

Total Salary, Benefits, and Expenses
(What it costs the church)
Add lines 23 and 28

Housing Allowance Designation $ _____________
In order for the housing allowance to be excluded from income, the governing body must approve the amount of the housing allowance and record the action prior to the time the income is received. The designation of the housing allowance does not affect other calculations of salary, benefits or expenses. See Interpretive Comments.