

Bless your Pastor

Dear Alliance family,

As my wife, Ruth, and I moved from Colorado Springs, Colorado, to the Columbus area during 2021, we of course needed to transition from one Alliance church to another. We so appreciated our pastor, Tim Fulkerson, at ClayHouse Church in Colorado Springs, and his faithfulness to preach the Word and his care for us during our time there. Now we've been warmly welcomed by our new pastor, Brian Neville at Antioch Alliance Church in Logan, Ohio, and are appreciating his rich ministry in the Word from week to week. Pastors play a very important role in our lives as they lead and feed the flock the Lord has entrusted to them.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month. This gives us all a special opportunity to say "THANK YOU" in a tangible way to the pastoral couples who bless us so richly. I encourage you to send a card to your pastor and wife with a personal note included that expresses your appreciation for their ministry and lets them know that you are standing with them through your regular prayer support. If possible, please include a gift card or check as an expression of your gratitude and as a way to bless your pastor and his wife or participate in an offering that your church family is gathering for this purpose. The expression of appreciation and encouragement is especially important in this season of our lives when pastors have been involved in making some very difficult decisions and have come under some undeserved criticism for those decisions.

Additionally, The Alliance is a participant in a National Association of Evangelicals' program that may possibly help you Bless Your Pastor even more. If your church is participating for the first time in Bless Your Pastor, your pastor can receive a \$100 Amazon gift card. Here's all you need to do to make this possible:

1. Share the list of "50 Creative Ways to Bless Your Pastor" with your church family
2. Take up an Appreciation Offering for your pastor that totals at least \$100.
3. Celebrate your pastor by collecting cards or notes, or even planning a special appreciation meal for him and his wife. [Here's the link](#) to see the details of this program and to apply for the gift card for your pastor.

If you've taken advantage of this program in previous years and do not qualify for the gift card this year, I encourage your church to purchase a \$100 gift card and include it in the ways you are blessing your pastor.

THANKS for your extra effort in blessing these pastoral couples who bless us in so many ways!

Keep the faith!



Terry D. Smith
Vice President for Church Ministries