

Guidelines for Sabbatical Financial Assistance
Church Staff Health Group
May, 2007

A sabbatical leave, unlike a vacation, is a time for reflection, study, and rest for ministers. This aids in the spiritual, mental, and sometimes physical wellness of the minister.

We encourage NorthStar churches to provide sabbatical leave for their ministers. NorthStar will provide a one-time financial assistance to the church, as funds permit.

Procedure: The church should contact Executive Director, preferably by written letter, asking for assistance with the name of their minister, tentative dates of leave, and how the sabbatical is to be used.

Within 2 months of the conclusion of the leave, ministers are requested to write a letter to the association explaining how their time was spent and benefits of the sabbatical.

Provisions: \$ 500.00 for the first month
 500.00 for the second month
 Not to exceed \$1,000.00

For churches with a current sabbatical policy who has never received financial assistance, the church may apply for a one-time grant of \$300.00.

Book Resources: “*Clergy Renewal*”
 The Alban Guide to Sabbatical Planning

 “*Journeying Toward Renewal*”
 by Melissa Bane Sevier

