

MANAGER'S DESK FOR MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2020

WELCOME TO THE MANAGER'S DESK, I'M MIKE CORNELL.

ALMOST LOST IN THE MIDST OF THIS COVID-19 PANDEMIC IS THE FACT THAT THIS MONTH IS RECOGNIZED AS 'PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH'. SOME CHURCHES ARE STILL NOT GATHERING IN PERSON AND RELYING EXCLUSIVELY ON STREAMING THEIR SERVICES ON SOCIAL MEDIA. OTHERS HAVE RESUMED SERVICES BUT SEE THAT MANY ARE STILL STAYING HOME. SO, IN ALL OF THIS, YOU MAY HAVE FAILED TO REMEMBER THAT OCTOBER IS PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH. I FOUND THIS ON THE FOCUS ON THE FAMILY WEBSITE CONCERNING THIS SPECIAL ANNUAL EVENT.

Pastor Appreciation Month is a special time that congregations set aside each year to honor their pastors and pastoral families for the hard work, sacrificial dedication and multiple blessings provided by these special people. It is typically scheduled in October but can be held at any time that is convenient for the church and the community. It is also important to remember that appreciation, affirmation and prayer support of our spiritual leaders is appropriate throughout the entire year.

The nature of the service provided by pastors and their families is unique. God has entrusted to them one of the most precious of assignments — the spiritual well-being of His flock. When a pastor becomes ineffective, the very souls of his or her parishioners are endangered. When eternity is in the balance, we should all be concerned.

Pastors and their families live under incredible pressures. Their lives are played out in a fishbowl, with the entire congregation and community watching their every move. They are expected to have ideal families, to be perfect people, to always be available, to never be down and to have all the answers we need to keep our own lives stable and moving forward. Those are unrealistic expectations to place on anyone, yet most of us are disappointed when a pastor becomes overwhelmed, seems depressed, lets us down or completely burns out.

That's why God has instructed us to recognize His servants.

"The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching" (1 Timothy 5:17).

The good news is that we can make a difference! Pastor Appreciation Month is one way we can counter the negative erosion in the lives of our spiritual leaders with the positive affirmation they need.

LET ME ENCOURAGE YOU TO GIVE SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF YOUR PASTOR IN SOME WAY THIS MONTH. IF NOT IN PERSON, A CARD OR PHONE CALL. THIS HAS BEEN A VERY CHALLENGING YEAR FOR THEM. LET THEM KNOW HOW MUCH YOU APPRECIATE THEM.

WE ARE DEEPLY GRATEFUL FOR EACH LISTENER WHO WRITES TO US WITH WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT. THIS HAS CERTAINLY BEEN A STRANGE YEAR FOR US, AS WELL. I AM SO THANKFUL FOR THOSE WHO HAVE REMEMBERED TO PRAY FOR US AND BEEN SO FAITHFUL, AND GENEROUS, IN THEIR FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO KEEP US ON THE AIR. I'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.

OUR MAILING ADDRESS IS: WRVM, PO BOX 212, SURING WI, 54174

OR GIVE ONLINE AT WWW.WRVM.ORG.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING ME FOR THE MANAGER'S DESK, I'M MIKE CORNELL.