



11 Ways to Welcome Your New Pastor!

1. Continue to **pray**...(now its time to focus on a smooth transition – and a positive adjustment to the new setting and ministry!)
2. Stay in **close communication** with him as leaders - working together on transition plans/provisions
3. Re-affirm the **salary package** – consider 5 areas...(base salary; professional expense acct.; benefits package - including vacation/holidays and health insurance, education stipend; equity allowance if using a parsonage; retirement)
4. Pay for his **moving expenses** and enlist church helpers as needed and desired in the process.
5. Make sure **the pastor's study** is ready to go – with updated furniture, adequate shelving, and any needed new equipment.
6. If he plans to **live in his own home**...provide help in finding affordable housing. Assist him in making contact with local realtors. Be sure you are paying him adequately so he can afford to live as you do.
7. If he plans to **live in a parsonage** make sure it is in good condition with updated appliances and furniture – pay special attention to bathrooms and kitchens. Do some painting, replace worn out flooring, fix anything broken, etc. Exceed expectations!!
8. Schedule **welcoming activities** for his first Sunday at the church – perhaps with gifts, a food shower, a reception in his families' honor, etc. Pay special attention to the pastor's wife and children. Find ways to honor them and make them feel appreciated and welcomed.
9. Consider scheduling once a week **evening meals** with church families in the first few months after their arrival.
10. Help him connect with local businesses – as well as health and **service providers**.
11. Plan for an **installation service** after a month or two of service. Invite area pastors. Celebrate Gods provision through your new leader and his family.