

Resources for Ministerial Search Committees

(Please note: Prices may have changed since resource list was compiled.)

A Change of Pastors...And How It Affects Change in the Congregation by Loren B. Mead

Discover for yourself what the Alban Institute learned in 18 years of studying congregations-how and why the change of pastors is a critical point in the life and development of the congregation. Among the findings: how clergy and laity each experience the moment of change, the impact of transition on congregations, what processes need attention if change is to produce healthy working relationships, what change can mean for the congregation's future. Paperback.

\$13.00 (\$9.75 for emmbers)

Running through the Thistles: Terminating a Ministerial Relationship with a Parish by Roy M. Oswald

Can how you leave a church affect your feelings about leaving or create "baggage" you take to your new congregation? Gain insight into termination styles and how they affect both you and your parishioners. Oswald guides you through Alban Institute research findings, using real-life illustrations. Booklet.

\$8.00 (**\$6.00** for members)

Saying Goodbye: A Time of Growth for Congregations and Pastors by Edward A. White

Leaving a pastorate is hard on both congregation and pastor. Learn how to make this transition a growth experience for all. Written for congregations and pastors, Goodbye skillfully weaves accounts from clergy, laity, and educators of seven denominations with White's own insight as a former General Presbyterian to create a resource for meaningful and healthy partings. Includes examples of a "farewell" worship service and litany for closure of a ministry. Paperback.

\$14.00 (**\$10.50** for members)

So You're on the Search Committee by Bunty Ketcham

This guide will help you face the task of searching for new clergy leadership in your congregation. Ketcham (a layperson, consultant, and veteran search committee member) presents a "roadmap" of the total search process, pointing out some of the predictable rough spots and suggesting effective and faithful ways of negotiating them-all in an easy-to-read, question-and-answer format. Makes an excellent gift of support and appreciation for an important and rewarding act of service. Paperback.

\$8.00 (**\$6.00** for members)

The Alban Guide to Managing the Pastoral Search Process by John Vonhof

Pastoral search teams for congregations in all denominations will find a wealth of information and ideas in The Alban Institute's new guide to the complex task of finding a new pastor. Every step is detailed: forming the search team, keeping the congregation informed, conducting a congregation self-study, communicating with candidates, developing selection criteria, conducting interviews, managing the call process, and arranging for a smooth transition. Sample letters, forms, and other tools are provided for use in major aspects of the search process. Paperback. **\$14.00** (**\$10.50** for members)

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Selecting Church Leaders: A Practice in Spiritual Discernment by Chuck Olsen and Ellen Morseth

When it comes to calling lay people and clergy to church leadership positions, the “how-tos” of structural procedures and church polity resources are readily available through denominational offices. But these resources, usually patterned on political and business decision-making models, often fail to consider the spiritual aspects of the selection process. Chuck Olsen and Ellen Morseth argue that, in the selection of church leaders, both the mystical aspect of guidance by God’s spirit and the human faculties of reason, imagination, and intuition should be operative.

Selecting Church Leaders looks at the human side that is redeemed, spirit-graced, and enlightened, along with the human shadow side, which is controlling, ego-driven, and destructive, and shows how these two sides need to be held in partnership and tension. The authors offer a prayer-full process of seeking God’s yearning in a particular setting, coupled with both biblical and contemporary illustrations, to show how the practices of spiritual discernment may be implemented to help church bodies on their way to this new way of working. Paperback.

\$14.00 (\$10.50 for members)

The above resources are available from the Alban Institute – www.alban.org; 1-800-486-1318



A Local Church Seeks a Pastor - published by the United Church of Christ

This notebook is a guide from the time a pastor resigns to the installation of the next pastor. It contains sample letters and forms and includes a progress poster to keep the congregation informed of where the committee is in the process. Some of the items included in the notebook are available for separate purchase. Cost is \$15.00 plus \$4.00 shipping and handling.

Note: The UCC is very similar in their church polity; you will find only slight difference in process and terminology from the Baptist perspective.

www.ucc.org; 1-800-537-3394

MinistryConnect Resources, including items listed below – all available through the CBF Store at 888.801-4223 (for description of services, go to ministryconnect.net)

Pastor Search Guide, CBF Edition - \$109

Church Staff Search Guide, CBF Edition - \$109

MinistryConnect for CBF Churches - \$329. This packet includes:

- Pastor Search Guide or Church Staff Search Guide (CBF Edition)
- Pastor Search Survey with Internet input and one report
- Church Profile including Internet input and printout
- Five MinisterSHAPes
- Seven LaySHAPes
- One Church Profile Matching Report

Your Sons and Daughters Will Prophecy an excellent four-week curriculum with DVD from the Network for Ministerial Excellence to help churches become more open to calling a woman as a senior pastor. Starter Kit is only \$20.00. Order from the CBF Store, 888-801-4223.