



SABBATICAL FAQ'S

What is a Sabbatical?

A sabbatical is an extended time away from the routines of normal ministry and daily life for enrichment, rest, renewal, and personal growth. A sabbatical recognizes the often depleting, 24-hours-a-day nature of full-time pastoral ministry, both on individual leaders and their family. A sabbatical fulfills the scriptural admonition in 1 Timothy 5:17 that we are to give honor to those who labor among us.

The sabbatical is a time to rest, reflect and be restored in one's relationship with the Lord. This restoration will enable the staff member to be revitalized for a life of service to others.

The purpose of a sabbatical is for mental, physical, relational, and spiritual replenishment to extend the length of time a person can be in ministry and to make his time in ministry more fruitful and energized. A sabbatical helps ensure continued ministry excellence and faithfulness both for the pastor and the church.

Why is Pastor Kevin going on sabbatical?

There is no crisis in Pastor Kevin's life that is necessitating this sabbatical. Instead, this is making a long-term investment into the health and vitality of Pastor Kevin and his family. We want the next season of Kevin's life and ministry here at restoration to be the most fruitful time of his life.

There are studies that show sabbaticals result in greater health and growth of non-staff leadership in churches that follow this practice. This sabbatical is meant to result in Pastor Kevin's continued thriving, the health of his family, and even the health and vitality of our church as a whole.

How long is Pastor Kevin on sabbatical? Is he coming back?

Pastor Kevin will be on sabbatical from June 1 to August 31. He is absolutely coming back! He will not be seeking any other position or speaking at any other ministries throughout this sabbatical. This is simply a time of rest and replenishment.

What will Pastor Kevin be doing?

He will spend his time resting, recharging, and being with his family. To accomplish these goals, pastor Kevin and his family will try to spend time away from the Yakima Valley to allow Pastor Kevin to disconnect from the daily pressures of ministry. In addition, Pastor Kevin's sabbatical will be overseen by a sabbatical coach / counselor who will guide Pastor Kevin through several counseling sessions and specific assignments including scripture meditation, prayer, and journaling.

What is the plan for Restoration Church while Pastor Kevin is gone?

Things will look much the same at Restoration. We are blessed with several gifted bible teachers at Restoration who will continue to preach the gospel on Sundays, in addition to a few exciting guest speakers. Church functions will continue throughout the summer, with Pastor Jacob taking on additional responsibilities and creating opportunities for other leaders to step up in this season.

Can I contact Pastor Kevin while he is on sabbatical?

We ask that you would respect this time of rest for Pastor Kevin. Please don't anticipate a response from his email, phone or social media. You are encouraged to reach out to Pastor Jake for any immediate needs or concerns while Pastor Kevin is on sabbatical.

What if I have spiritual needs or questions?

Spiritual leadership at Restoration has always been carried by a plurality of leaders. From our elders and Pastor Jake, to our life group leaders and others- there are many qualified leaders here to love and serve you in your spiritual growth.

What can I do to help?

Pray for Pastor Kevin and his family—that this time would be refreshing for them, and that Pastor Kevin would experience rest in his soul and intimacy with our Heavenly Father.

Consider a love-gift to bless the Deyette family this summer.

Continue to take steps in your own spiritual growth and discipleship to love Jesus more.

- Connect to a life-group to invest in your relationship with God and others.
- Join a serve team to meet the needs of our church family and community.
- Commit to personally read, study, and meditate through the Psalms this summer.