Interim Ministry Resources

Foreword

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Discernment for Entering Specialized Interim Ministry (3)
When a Synod Council Previously Agrees to Allow an Interim Pastor to be Available for a Regular Call to the Congregation Served (4) Interview Handout (5)

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Entry into a New Congregation

Encouragement

Make an appearance

A trip to the post office

Theological reflection

"Hi. How are you?" - NOT!

Caring on a Personal Level

Make references to the history

Build social capital

Being attentive

Angel of mercy

Hospice care

Stay in touch

Notice people

Local Context

Just askin'

Take an interest

Table fellowship

Show up

Learn names as quickly as possible

Bulletin boards for staff and council

Congregation and community cookbooks

"Invest in the people, and it will pay dividends"

Pastoral care in the context of total pastoral ministry

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Walking around the neighborhood Jesus didn't have an office

People like a pastor they can relate to

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7)	16	Low maintenance
8)	17	"Pay the rent"
9)	18	Accompaniment
10)	18	Get ahead of the curve
11)	19	Geometry comes in handy after all
12)	19	Flexible
13)	20	Technological savvv

14)	20	"If you can't get out of it, then get into it."
15) 16)	21 23	Manage expectations Build relationships with the leadership
17)	23 24	Hammer not the only tool in the tool box
18)	25	"Be strong and of good courage"
19) 20)	28 30	Plug away Start out with a bang
21)	30	Count on
22)	31	"In good hands"
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4)	13	Expect sabotage
5)	17	Expect criticism
6)	22	Expect to be contested
7)	23	Expect to be triangled
8)	27	Expect conflict
9)	27	Expect difficult behavior
10)	27	Expect the unexpected
11)	28	Deal with the emotional dynamics of the transition period
12)	35	Polarity Management
13)	37	In praise of independent thinking
14)	37	Figuring out the situation
15)	38	Congenial disputation
16)	39	What is right? not Who is right?
17)	39	Solve problems
18)	41	Irritating personalities
19)	42	Debt, debt, debt
20)	43	Beholden to benefactors
21)	44	Fascinating
22)	44	More than one side
23)	44	Take a stand but stay in touch
24)	45	Hold one's own
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26)	46	Digital Divide
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28)	48	When necessary, punt
29)	49	Walk away
30)	50	Save your chips
31)	50	Stay on your toes rather than sit back of your heels
32)	52	Do the right thing and cover your backside
33)	54	Choose your battles
34)	55	Watch your back
35)	55	Avoid the big hit
36)	56	Watch your step
37)	56	Tender-hearted and tough skinned
38)	57	Somewhere between Pollyanna and cranky
39)	58	The right touch
40)	58	Scalpel or sledgehammer?
41)	59	Moving from "Oh, no" to "Oh, yes"
42)	59	Partnership or Partisanship
43)	63	Losing a church member
44)	63	Perturbing the system
45)	63	Don't mess with success
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7)	20	Power groups
8)	20	Type A Personalities
9)	21	Obdurate
10)	21	When insight does not work
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	20)	35	Matriarch diatribes: Fight or flight?
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	23)	38	Hovering presence
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	25)	40	"If momma ain't happy, ain't nobody happy"
	26)	40	Crocodile tears
	27)	41	Insistent on things done her way
	28)	41	Power more decentralized
	29)	43	Nurse Ratched
	30)	43	Over-functioning mothers as evidenced by under-functioning sons
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6)	8	Wrestling and guns
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8)	9	Increasing activities for youth on Sunday mornings
9)	9	Stadiums have become shrines and cathedrals along the lines of the Roman Coliseum

10)	11	Is television the new home altar?
11)	14	Have casinos and shopping malls replaced churches and synagogues?
12)	17	The more urban, the less religious
13)	18	Creation worship or Creator worship?
14)	19	Boat or ark?
15)	19	What's more interesting?
16)	20	Venture out in bad weather
17)	20	Do your own thing or do the will of God?
18)	21	Self-interest or Great Commandment?
19)	22	Epicurean or Christian?
20)	23	Life's Equation
21)	24	Amnesia or awareness?
22)	24	Increasing prosperity
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24)	26	Creature comforts
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27)	30	By whose authority?
28)	30	True happiness
29)	31	Cosmic Therapist or Jesus Is Lord?
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32)	33	Eating out
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15)	13	Church sanctuary or county jail?
16)	14	If people don't want to show up for compensated work, will they ever want to engage in the work of worship?
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25)	21	Young parents not coming back
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27)	23	Activities that undermine the command to rest on the Sabbath
28)	24	Left behind?
29)	24	Increased mobility
30)	25	Indifference and persecution
31)	28	Regular attenders attending less regularly

32)	29	Where are the Chreasters?
33)	30	Taking the long view on attendance at services of worship
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35)	32	Secularism in Western Europe: Can this country be far behind?
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16)	31 32	Welcome statement on church sign Strong, Loving and Wise
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34)	52	Gathering-Word-Meal-Sending or Music-Message
35)	52	Respect for those in attendance no matter how many
36)	52	Who shall preside at Holy Communion?
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38)	56	Is all this acclamation by applause necessary?
39)	57	Cut the chatter
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42)	58	Be careful what you pray for
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45)	60	Should surveys be used to make decisions on scheduling services of worship?
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8)	14	Contrasting behavior patterns
9)	14	Worker bee and queen bee
10)	15	With or around
11)	16	Actions speak louder than words
12)	16	Saccharine and sabotage
13)	17	Do your job!
14)	17	In or out
15)	17	Bracketing a difficult matter
16)	18	Life is more than "follow your passion"
17)	19	Temptation to tinker
18)	20	Less than forthright
19)	20	Whose purposes are being served?
20)	20	Document/trail
21)	21	High maintenance
22)	22	Staying centered while feeling exasperated
23)	22	Reporting on the pastor
24)	22	Congregation members as staff
25)	23	Can the church secretary be trusted with secrets?

26)	23	Work history
27)	23	Let the game come to you
28)	24	Game face
29)	24	Telephone voice Get bucked off? Get back on!
30)	25	
31)	26	Talk to me rather than about me
32)	27	It doesn't have to be this difficult
33) 34)	27 27	Difference in working relationship
3 4) 35)	28	Threatening to quit Refusing to quit
36)	29	Ally or a pain
37)	29	Devoted or a diva
38)	29	Performative or participative?
39)	30	Power of church musicians
40)	30	Certain staff feel they need constant nurturance and reassurance
41)	32	Invitational or instructional
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43)	36	Digital communication unfortunately makes rude behavior that much easier
44)	37	Competent and cooperative
45)	39	Positional calculus
46)	39	Akin to an animal personality
47)	40	What does the personality of a pet say about its owner?
48)	40	When a staff member balks at completing a task
49 [°])	40	An attitude
50)	41	Insistent on things being done her way
51)	42	Can staff be expected to attend worship?
52)	42	Make-work
53)	42	When staff members ingratiate themselves with a congregation formal or informal leader
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