



Indianapolis Center for Congregations

303 N Alabama Street, Suite 100
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2152

Telephone: 317.237.7799
Fax: 317.237.7795

www.centerforcongregations.org

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Resources for: Bivocational Pastors

Our mission is to assist Greater Indianapolis Area congregations in finding and using the very best resources available to address the practical challenges they face. This resource list was developed to supplement *The Bivocational Pastor in the 21st Century* workshop sponsored by the Center and led by Dennis Bickers, author and area minister for the American Baptist Churches of Indiana and Kentucky. Bickers recommends the following resources:

Bickers, Dennis W. *The Bivocational Pastor: Two Jobs, One Ministry*. Kansas City, MO: Beacon Hill Press, 2004.
Offers a more biblical way to measure the success of a bivocational church than merely counting “nickels and noses” and offers guidance on how to enjoy a successful bivocational ministry.

Bickers, Dennis W. *The Tentmaking Pastor: The Joy of Bivocational Ministry*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2000.
Explores the validity of the call to bivocational ministry, the advantages and disadvantages of such ministry, and addresses some ministry practices that will be helpful to the bivocational minister.

Daman, Glenn. *Shepherding the Small Church: A Leadership Guide for the Majority of Today's Churches*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 2002.
Provides five steps to effective church ministry regardless of the size of the church including a very helpful section on understanding the dynamics of a small church.

Pappas, Anthony G., ed. *Inside the Small Church*. Bethesda, MD: The Alban Institute, 2002.
Addresses four key elements to a thriving small church ministry through a series of 30 essays written by various small church authorities.

Stanley, Andy. *Visioneering: God's Blueprint for Developing and Maintaining Personal Vision*. Sisters, OR: Multnomah Publishers, 1999.
Helps pastors understand the importance of a God-given vision for their churches and provides helpful insights in the development, promotion, and implementation of that vision.

Visit the Congregational Resource Guide website, www.congregationalresources.org, to find more resources on this and many other topics of interest to congregations.