



PATH8301 EXPLORING ISSUES IN EFFECTIVE PASTORAL MINISTRY

A Professional Doctoral Seminar
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Church Ministry Division
Fall 2025
December 8-10, 2025

Dr. Preston L. Nix

Professor of Evangelism and Evangelistic Preaching
Occupying the Roland Q. Leavell Chair of Evangelism
Director of the Leavell Center for Evangelism and Church Health
Office: Dodd 206
Phone: 504.282.4455, ext. 8268
Email: pnix@nobts.edu

Mission Statement

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

Course Description

The purpose of this seminar is to examine current issues in pastoral ministry and leadership in order to determine effective means of ministry practice. The course will include challenging students to examine their pastoral theology in light of biblical principles and to engage various contrasting views of pastoral ministry. Seminar participants will examine the unique position of the senior pastor of a local church in his roles as leader, proclaimer, and pastoral care giver. Students will explore the implications of emphasizing the various components of pastoral ministry. Through a heuristic approach, students will confront the challenge of finding the most effective balance among the various components by assessing their own strengths and weaknesses, as well as the church as a whole in the context of its setting.

Student Learning Outcomes

When students have completed the seminar, they will have:

1. Clearly articulated their personal theology of pastoral ministry in the light of biblical principles;
2. Understood key classic and current models of pastoral ministry;
3. Identified and explored major issues of pastoral ministry that relate to their ministry setting;
4. Understood their ministry context as it affects leadership and pastoral ministry;
5. Assessed the strengths and weaknesses of their pastoral ministry;
6. Considered specific heuristic aspects in pastoral ministry in order to improve their personal effectiveness.

Required Textbooks

Akin, Daniel L. and R. Scott Pace. *Pastoral Theology: Theological Foundations for Who a Pastor Is and What He Does*. Nashville: B & H Academic, 2017.

Early, Dave. *Pastoral Leadership Is... How to Shepherd God's People with Passion and Confidence*. Nashville: B & H Publishing Group, 2012.

Laniak, Timothy S. *Shepherds after My Own Heart: Pastoral Traditions and Leadership in the Bible*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2006.

White, James Emery. *Meet Generation Z: Understanding and Reaching the New Post-Christian World*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2017.

Course Teaching Methodology

The teaching methodology of this seminar will consist of student research and written assignments as well as the sharing and presentation of papers. Brief lectures by the professor and guided discussion will be included.

Course Requirements and Schedule

Before the Seminar:

1. Read the Early textbook and select four (4) chapters from each of the five (5) Parts in the book. Compose a one-half page **Reaction** to each of the selected chapters (5 Parts x 4 chapters per Part for a total of 20 Reactions). The half-page Reactions are to be single-spaced, with the chapter title listed for each, and may be formatted to include two Reactions on one page, for a total of 10 pages of content. First person is allowed for this assignment. The Reactions should include agreements/disagreements (if any) with the author and the importance of this issue in the student's ministry setting/context.
2. Read the White textbook and write a **Personal Reflection** paper, to answer the following: Of the topics covered in Part 1: "The New Reality" reflect on (a) which were the most **surprising** to the student and why, and (b) which were the most **challenging** to the student and why. Of the topics covered in Part 2: "A New Approach" **for each chapter**, reflect on how the assertions of the author (a) are valid and applicable to the local church and (b) how the admonitions of the author could be implemented in your local church setting/context. The Personal Reflection should be approximately 6-8 pages in length. Format: single-spaced, a space between each single-spaced paragraph, with no paragraph indentions. Margins, pagination, and headings/subheadings should be in accordance with Turabian 9th edition. Documentations or quotes from the textbook can be referenced by citing the page number in parentheses. Example: "The heart of secularism is a *functional* atheism. Rather than rejecting the idea of God, our culture simply ignores him." (20). First person is allowed for this assignment also.
3. Read the Akin and Pace textbook and the Laniak textbook and then compose a **Biblical Theology of Pastoral Ministry for the 21st century**. The Biblical Theology should involve biblical and historical insights, principles, and observations from the textbooks and include significant implications for 21st century pastoral ministry. The Biblical Theology should reflect a synthesis of both textbooks. The Biblical Theology should be 10-12 pages, utilizing the following format: double-spaced; margins, pagination, headings/subheadings, and footnotes should be in accordance with Turabian 9th edition. Documentations or quotes from the textbooks and biblical material should be referenced by footnotes. **First person is not allowed in writing this assignment. This assignment will be graded for Turabian form and style in addition to content.**

Assignments 1, 2, & 3 are to be submitted in Canvas no later than 11:59 P.M., Friday, December 5, 2025.

During the Seminar:

Seminar Presentations: Each seminar participant will be involved in seminar presentations and discussions involving all three pre-seminar assignments as per the instructions of the professor.

Seminar Participation: Seminar participants are expected to be active participants in all sessions of the seminar.

After the Seminar:

1. **Interview** a pastor who is considered to be either a mentor or a role model (suggested length of the interview: one hour or less). The interview questions should relate to issues raised in the course. Write a four-page, single-spaced summary and reaction to the interview. A list of the questions asked should be attached as a separate appendix. The assignment may be done in informal style, first person allowed, but is not to be a verbatim of the interview. **Students are advised to secure the person to be interviewed and the time for the interview prior to the beginning of the seminar.**

2. Based on the readings, assignments, and seminar discussions in the seminar, each student will write a **Personal Assessment** of his strengths and weaknesses in pastoral ministry (at least three strengths and three weaknesses). For each strength, discuss an action plan for maintaining the strength. For each weakness, discuss an action plan for improving the weakness. Suggested length of the Personal Assessment: 8-10 pages, single-spaced, utilizing the format described in Pre-seminar assignment #2.

Both post-seminar assignments are to be submitted in Canvas no later than 11:59 P.M., Friday, January 23, 2026.

Assignments for Students Taking the Seminar as a Directed Study:

1. Directed Study students must complete and submit ALL of the assignments listed above by the due dates listed.

2. Directed Study students will also develop an **Annotated Bibliography** of fifteen books (excluding the textbooks listed above). Each bibliographic entry should be one-half page in length and give a brief statement in regard to the purpose of the book, the major themes of the book, and the strengths and weaknesses of the author's viewpoint. See www.annotatedbibliographymaker.com for guidance.

3. Directed Study students will select five (5) books from the following list and write a four-page (or less), single-spaced **Annotated Review** for each book (format the same as Directed Study Assignment #2 above), answering the following questions:

- a. What is a summary of the book and its purpose?
- b. What are the strengths of the book for pastoral ministry and leadership?
- c. What are the weaknesses of the book regarding pastoral ministry and leadership?
- d. What are the applications and implications of the book for pastoral ministry and leadership in the 21st century?

Baxter, Richard. *The Reformed Pastor: A Pattern of Personal Growth and Ministry*. Regent College Pub., 2001.

Biles, Deron J., ed. *Pastoral Ministry: The Ministry of a Shepherd*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2017.

Bisagno, John. *Pastor's Handbook*. Nashville: B & H, 2011.

Bryant, James W. and Mac Brunson. *The New Guidebook for Pastors*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2007.

Cothen, Joe H. *Equipped for Good Work: A Guide for Pastors*. 3rd ed. Edited by Jerry N. Barlow. Gretna, LA: Pelican, 2012.

Early, Dave and Ben Gutierrez. *Ministry Is... How to Serve Jesus with Passion and Confidence*. Nashville: B & H Publishing Group, 2010.

Hebert, Andrew. *Shepherding Like Jesus: Returning to the Wild Idea that Character Matters in Ministry*. Nashville: B & H Publishing, 2022.

Klick, Jeffery A., Rodney A. Harrison and Glenn A. Miller. *Pastoral Helmsmanship: The Pastor's Guide to Church Administration*. N.p.: ICM Publishing, 2015.

MacArthur Jr., John. *Pastoral Ministry: How to Shepherd Biblically*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2005.

Phillips, Jere L. *Pastoral Ministry for the New Generation*. Collierville, TN: Innovo Publishing, 2014.

Russell, Bob. *After 50 Years of Ministry: 7 Things I'd Do Differently & 7 Things I'd Do the Same*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2016.

Swetland, Kenneth L. *Facing Messy Stuff in the Church: Case Studies for Pastors and Congregations*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2005.

Thompson, James W. *Pastoral Ministry According to Paul*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academics, 2006.

Toler, Stan. *Stan Toler's Practical Guide for Pastoral Ministry*. Indianapolis: Wesleyan Publishing House, 2007.

Annotated Bibliography and Annotated Reviews from Directed Study students are to be submitted in Canvas by 11:59 P.M., Friday, January 23, 2026.

Course Evaluation

Assignments will be weighted approximately equal (20% each) with room for the professors' discretion in regard to assignments that are particularly outstanding or substandard.

Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu or My.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. Canvas@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Canvas Learning Management System (Faculty/Students/Staff) Canvas.NOBTS.edu.
3. [Video Conferencing Help Desk](#) - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Video Conferencing NOBTS classrooms (On and Off-Campus)
4. TelephoneHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS On-Campus Phone system.
5. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests in the Flex classrooms and for general technical questions/support requests. If you are not sure who to contact, use this email address!
6. [504.816.8180](tel:504.816.8180) - Call for any technical questions/support requests. (Currently available Mon-Thurs 7:00am-9:00pm & Fri 7:00-7:00pm Central Time)
7. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Disability Accommodations

Accommodations for students with disabilities are determined and approved by the Assistant Dean of Students for Student Affairs. If you, as a student, believe you are eligible for accommodations but have not obtained approval please contact Conner Hinton immediately at chinton@nobts.edu or 504-816-8246. Students must complete the Accommodation Request Form and provide documentation of their disability. The Assistant Dean of Students notifies students and faculty members of approved academic accommodations and coordinates implementation of those accommodations. While not required, students and faculty members are encouraged to discuss details of the implementation of individual accommodations. The seminary reserves the right to consider each request for special accommodations on a case-by-case basis pursuant to the criteria enumerated above.

Help for Writing Papers at “The Write Stuff”

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer. A copy of the approved NOBTS Style Guide can be found in the course Canvas shell, or can be located online at the Writing Center’s page on the seminary website at: <https://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf>

Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

Selected Bibliography

- Akin, Daniel L. and R. Scott Pace. *Pastoral Theology: Theological Foundations for Who a Pastor Is and What He Does*. Nashville: B & H Academic, 2017.
- Ammerman, Nancy T., Jackson W. Carroll, Carl S. Dudley, and William McKinney, eds. *Studying Congregations: A New Handbook*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1998.
- Anderson, Leith. *Dying for Change*. Minneapolis: Bethany House, 1990.
- Armstrong, John H., ed. *Reforming Pastoral Ministry*. Wheaton: Crossway Books, 2001.
- Bailey, Robert W. *The Minister and Grief*. New York: Hawthorn Books, Inc., 1976.
- Bandy, Thomas G. *Moving Off the Map*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1998.
- Barker, Joel Arthur. *Future Edge: Discovering the New Paradigms of Success*. New York: William Morrow and Company, 1992.
- Baxter, Richard. *The Reformed Pastor: A Pattern of Personal Growth and Ministry*. Regent College Pub., 2001.
- Biles, Deron J., ed. *Pastoral Ministry: The Ministry of a Shepherd*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2017.
- Bisagno, John R. *Pastor’s Handbook*. Nashville: B & H, 2011.

- Branson, Mark Lau and Juan F. Martinez. *Churches, Cultures, and Leadership: A Practical Theology of Congregations and Ethnicities*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2011.
- Bryant, James W., and Mac Brunson. *The New Guidebook for Pastors*. Nashville: B & H, 2007.
- Campbell, Barry. *Toolbox for [Busy] Pastors*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1998.
- Charles Jr., H.B. *On Pastoring: A Short Guide to Living, Leading, and Ministering as a Pastor*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2016.
- Cothen, Joe H. *Equipped for Good Work: A Guide for Pastors*. 3rd ed. Edited by Jerry N. Barlow. Gretna: Pelican, 2012.
- _____. *The Pulpit Is Waiting*. Gretna: Pelican, 1998.
- Criswell, W.A. *Criswell's Guidebook for Pastors*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1980.
- Cowen, Gerald P. *Who Rules the Church: Examining Congregational Leadership and Church Government*. Nashville: B & H, 2003.
- Croft, Brian. *The Pastor's Ministry: Biblical Priorities for Faithful Shepherds*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2015.
- Dale, Robert D. *Pastoral Leadership: A Handbook of Resources for Effective Congregational Leadership*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2001.
- Daman, Glenn. *Shepherding the Small Church*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2002.
- Duduit, Michael, ed. *Handbook of Contemporary Preaching*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1992.
- Early, Dave. *Pastoral Leadership Is... How to Shepherd God's People with Passion and Confidence*. Nashville: B & H Publishing Group, 2012.
- Early, Dave, and Ben Gutierrez. *Ministry Is... How to Serve Jesus with Passion and Confidence*. Nashville: B & H Publishing Group, 2010.
- Farris, Stephen. *Preaching that Matters*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1998.
- Fisher, David. *The 21st Century Pastor*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1996.
- Fry, John W. *Jesus: The Pastor*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2000.

- Gerkin, Charles V. *An Introduction to Pastoral Care*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1997.
- Gibson, Scott M. *Preaching with a Plan*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2012.
- Goodman, Thomas. *The Intentional Minister*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1994.
- Granberg-Michaelson, Wesley. *Future Faith: Ten Challenges Reshaping Christianity in the 21st Century*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2018.
- Harvey, Dave. *Am I Called? The Summons to Pastoral Ministry*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2012.
- Hebert, Andrew. *Shepherding Like Jesus: Returning to the Wild Idea that Character Matters in Ministry*. Nashville: B & H Publishing, 2022.
- Hemphill, Ken. *The Antioch Effect*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1994.
- Herrington, Jim, Trisha Taylor and R. Robert Creech. *The Leader's Journey: Accepting the Call to Personal and Congregational Transformation*, 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2020.
- Hicks, H. Beecher. *On Jordan's Stormy Banks: Leading Your Congregation Through the Wilderness of Change*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2004.
- Hiscox, Edward T. *The Star Book for Ministers*, 2d rev. ed. Valley Forge, PA: Judson Press, 1994.
- Hobbs, J. R. *The Pastor's Manual*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1962.
- Horner, David. *A Practical Guide for Life and Ministry: Overcoming 7 Challenges Pastors Face*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2008.
- Howe, Leroy. *A Pastor in Every Pew*. Valley Forge: Judson Press, 2000.
- Hughes, R. Kent. *The Pastor's Book: A Comprehensive and Practical Guide to Pastoral Ministry*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2015.
- Hunter, Rodney J., ed. *Dictionary of Pastoral Care and Counseling*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1990.
- Hybels, Lynne and Bill Hybels. *Rediscovering Church*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.
- Klick, Jeffery A., Rodney A. Harrison and Glenn A. Miller. *Pastoral Helmsmanship: The Pastor's Guide to Church Administration*. N.p.: ICM Publishing, 2015.

- Laniak, Timothy S. *Shepherds After My Own Heart: Pastoral Traditions and Leadership in the Bible*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2006.
- Lartey, Emmanuel Y. *Pastoral Theology in an Intercultural World*. Eugenn, OR: Wipf and Stock, 2013.
- Lawrence, Bill. *Effective Pastoring*. Nashville: Word Publishing, 1999.
- Lawrenz, Mel. *The Dynamics of Spiritual Formation*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2000.
- Lewis, Robert, and Wayne Cordeiro. *Culture Shift: Transforming Your Church from the Inside Out*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2005.
- Lutzer, Erwin. *Pastor to Pastor: Tackling the Problems of Ministry*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1998.
- MacArthur Jr., John. *Pastoral Ministry: How to Shepherd Biblically*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2005.
- Macchia, Stephen A. *Becoming a Healthy Church: 10 Characteristics*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1999.
- Malphurs, Aubrey. *Advanced Strategic Planning: A 21st Century Model for Church and Ministry Leaders*. 3rd ed.. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2013.
- _____. *Doing Church: A Biblical Guide for Leading Ministries through Change*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1999.
- _____. *Ministry Nuts and Bolts: What They Don't Teach Pastors in Seminary*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 2009.
- Maxwell, John. *Developing the Leader Within You*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1993.
- McCalep Jr., George O. *Faithful Over a Few Things: Seven Critical Church Growth Principles*. Lithonia, GA: Orman Press, 1996.
- McIntosh, Gary L. *One Size Doesn't Fit All*. Grand Rapids: Revell, 1999.
- McIntosh, Gary L. and Charles Arn. *What Every Pastor Should Know: 101 Indispensable Rules of Thumb for Leading Your Church*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2013.
- Means, James E. *Effective Pastors for a New Century*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1993.
- Miller, Calvin. *O Shepherd, Where Art Thou?* Nashville: B & H, 2006.
- _____. *The Empowered Communicator*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1994.

_____. *The Empowered Leader*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman Publishers, 1995.

Newton, Phil A. *40 Questions about Pastoral Ministry*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Academic, 2021.

Oden, Thomas C. *Classical Pastoral Care*. 4 vols. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1987.

_____. *Pastoral Theology*. San Francisco: Harper, 1983.

Olsen, David T. *Discovering Your Leadership Style: The Power of Chemistry, Strategy, and Spirituality*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2014.

Piper, John. *Brothers, We Are Not Professionals*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2002.

Phillips, Jere L. *Pastoral Ministry for the New Generation*. Collierville, TN: Innovo Publishing, 2014.

Prime, Derek J. and Alistair Begg. *On Being a Pastor: Understanding Our Calling and Work*. Rev. and expanded ed. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2013.

Purves, Andrew. *Pastoral Theology in the Classical Tradition*. Louisville: Westminster, 2001.

Peterson, Eugene. *Five Smooth Stones for Pastoral Work*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Pub., 1980.

_____. *The Contemplative Pastor*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Pub., 1989.

Piper, John. *Brothers, We Are Not Professionals*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2002.

_____. *Living in the Light: Money, Sex, & Power*. North America: The Good Book Company, 2016.

Radcliffe, Robert J. *Effective Ministry as an Associate Pastor*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1998.

Rainer, Thom S. *Eating the Elephant*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman Publishers, 1994.

Ramey Jr., Robert H. *The Pastor's Start-Up Manual*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1995.

Rediger, G. Lloyd. *Fit to Be Pastor*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2000.

- Rohrer, David. *The Sacred Wilderness of Pastoral Ministry: Preparing a People for the Presence of the Lord*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2012.
- Russell, Bob. *After 50 Years of Ministry: 7 Things I'd Do Differently & 7 Things I'd Do the Same*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2016.
- Segler, Franklin M. *The Broadman Minister's Manual*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1968.
- Senkbeil, Harold L. *The Care of Souls: Cultivating a Pastor's Heart*. Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2019.
- Senkbeil, Harold L. and Lucas V. Woodford. *Pastoral Leadership and Strategy: For the Care of Souls*. Lexham Ministry Guides, Vol. 1. Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2021.
- Shawchuck, Norman, and Roger Heuser. *Leading the Congregation: Caring for Yourself While Serving the People*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1993.
- Stetzer, Ed and Thom S. Rainer. *Transformational Church: Creating a New Scorecard for Congregations*. Nashville: B & H Publishing, 2010.
- Stevens, R. Paul., and Phil Collins. *The Equipping Pastor*. The Alban Institute, 1993.
- Stott, John. *Basic Christian Leadership*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2006.
- Stowell, Joseph M. *Shepherding the Church in the 21st Century*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1994.
- Sweet, Leonard. *Aqua Church*. Loveland, CO: Group Publishing, 1999.
- Swetland, Kenneth L. *Facing Messy Stuff in the Church: Case Studies for Pastors and Congregations*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2005.
- Thomas, Curtis. *Practical Wisdom for Pastors*. Wheaton: Crossway Books, 2001.
- Thompson, James W. *Pastoral Ministry According to Paul*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academics, 2006.
- Toler, Stan. *Stan Toler's Practical Guide for Pastoral Ministry*. Indianapolis: Wesleyan Publishing House, 2007.
- Tripp, Paul David. *Dangerous Calling: Confronting the Unique Challenges of Pastoral Ministry*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2012.
- Troftgruben, Troy M. *Rooted and Renewing: Imagining the Church's Future in Light of Its New Testament Origins*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2019.

Warneck, Richard H. *Pastoral Ministry: Theology and Practice*. St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 2018.

Warren, Rick. *The Purpose Driven Church*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.

White, James Emery. *Meet Generation Z: Understanding and Reaching the New Post-Christian World*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2017.

_____. *The Church in an Age of Crisis: 25 New Realities Facing Christianity*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2012.

_____. *What They Didn't Teach You in Seminary: 25 Lessons for Successful Ministry in Your Church*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2011.

Wiersbe, David W. *The Dynamics of Pastoral Care*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2000.

Willhite, Keith and Scott M. Gibson. *The Big Idea of Biblical Preaching*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1998.

Wilson, Jared C. *Gospel-Driven Ministry: An Introduction to the Calling and Work of a Pastor*. Nashville: Zondervan, 2021.

Wilson, Jim. L. *Pastoral Ministry in the Real World: Loving, Teaching, and Leading God's People*. 2nd ed. Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2018.

Wilson, Michael Todd, and Brad Hoffman. *Preventing Ministry Failure*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2007.

Witmer, Timothy Z. *The Shepherd Leader: Achieving Effective Shepherding in Your Church*. Phillipsburg, New Jersey: P & R Publishing, 2010.

Wofford, Jerry C. *Transforming Christian Leadership: 10 Exemplary Church Leaders*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1999.

Woolever, Cynthia, and Deborah Bruce. *A Field Guide to U.S. Congregations*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2002.

_____. *Beyond the Ordinary: Ten Strengths of U.S. Congregations*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2004.