

## **Attitudes to Cultivate**

- Expect the best from your new pastor. Your positive attitude will enable him/her to meet your expectations.
- Avoid comparing the new pastor with the previous one. The minister should not be expected to fill the shoes of a predecessor.
- Be receptive to his/her ideas. Change is inevitable. Welcome your exposure to new ideas, new theological and social views, new practices, and new forms of worship.
- Let the pastor and his/her family choose their own friends. Don't assume that you or any other parishioner is entitled to become the family's best confidant or friend.
- Avoid airing the dirty church linen. Speak positively about your fellow parishioners. Forgive their mistakes and those of the former pastor.
- When determining the pastor's salary and the cost of the parsonage improvements, be generous. Your willingness to "go the second mile" will pay great dividends.
- Constantly inform your pastor and his/her family of your love and support. Daily hold them in your prayers.
- If you and others in your church welcome your new pastor in this spirit, I predict that you will have a significant ministry together.