

SHEPHERD GUIDES

The stresses of life and ministry can become overwhelming, leaving shepherds and sheep discouraged, cast down, or burned out. We walk alongside you as a Shepherd Guide and Pastor to help you thrive as a beacon of hope in your community.

We are delighted to see how God is growing and expanding the ministry of PastorCare West Michigan. We now have three Shepherd Guides to walk alongside the shepherds and sheep.

At the September meeting of the Board of Directors it was agreed unanimously that Renwick Brutus has been called and prepared by God to join the ministry team of PastorCare West Michigan as a Shepherd Guide. We are so excited that this great man of God, with such an inspiring story and vision for the church is joining our team.

Renwick recounted his upbringing in Guyana (formerly British Guiana) as the most formative part of his life. His father's intentionality and persistence made it possible for Renwick to receive an early education that set the trajectory for the rest of his life.

God used Renwick's desire to have a bicycle to drive him to pass the entrance exam required to get into the top high school in the country, accessible only by children of diplomats and scholarship. He got the bike, as well as access to the best education and the most influential school.



Shepherd Guide Renwick Brutus

During this time, Renwick's experiences raised many questions about self-image, success, and the future. Citing a wise proverb, "success leaves clues," Renwick set out on a journey to discover what accounts for success. What sets those who succeed apart from those who merely exist? During this time, Renwick experienced struggles and pushback, failures and discrimination, but he was always asking, "How can I use my gifts, my experience, and my life to glorify God?" He was confident that anything needed to do that, God would provide.

After immigrating to the USA in 1985, Renwick surrendered his life to Christ in New York City. Building on the experiences of the past and his family of origin's values, Renwick set out to be used by God to help people unlock their potential and become irresistible—to teach people how to find joy from the inside out, and to make the most of their lives.

In that pursuit, Renwick has highlighted the value of integrity, hard-work, a purpose-driven life, and the need to bless others. He currently works as a financial advisor and "life-coach," helping others to become financially and personally invincible; not narrowly focused on becoming wealthy in the traditional sense, but becoming all that God desires them to be.

After re-establishing ties with John Smith, Renwick has expressed the desire to work again with PastorCare, specifically leveraging the power of repetition that pastors have to lead effectively and help transform the lives of others. Citing Larry Orange, Renwick insisted that we focus on who we are as well as who we are not as we seek to become what God intended.

Renwick's desire is to use all of this to bless pastors and churches, reminding them that they can rise above the challenges of everyday life and ministry and do anything by the power of God's Spirit. Drawing upon his considerable expertise and experience, we would all like to welcome Renwick back to PastorCare, serving both shepherds and sheep as a Shepherd Guide.

Renwick provides guidance in the areas of self-awareness, personal productivity, personal leadership, motivational leadership, and strategic leadership. Renwick is ready to serve you as a Shepherd Guide.

[Contact Renwick Now](#)



Shepherd Guide Angela Denison

Angela is full of life, vitality, and joy, because she is full of the Holy Spirit. She is an inspiration to everyone she encounters on the journey of life. Angela connects quickly with people and demonstrates, care, empathy, encouragement, acceptance, genuine love, warmth and trust.

Angela's life experiences, her passion for learning and growing, as well as her humble, teachable spirit are tremendous strengths.

Angela understands the journey from being broken, lost, abandoned, rejected, betrayed, abused, and falsely accused—to becoming whole, healed, redeemed, restored, loved, filled with joy, mercy, grace, empathy, and compassion.

Angela enjoys the freedom and confidence to demonstrate her childlike faith. You may hear her say, "Jesus loves me this I know. For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son." (John 3:16) This has turned her passion into a mission of sharing the joy and love of the Lord with others.

Angela is an active listener. She asks great questions. She helps people sort through options. She is Spirit filled and Spirit led. Angela guides people from being bitter to becoming better, from being a victim to becoming a victor, from blaming others to taking personal responsibility for their lives.

Angela believes our choice is our consequence—good or bad. Our response is our responsibility. She also believes God's grace is enough to live life to the fullest giving GOD the glory (2 Corinthians 12:9). Angela learned to embrace the biblical truth that we are HIS sons and daughters—we are adopted by our Father God who created us in His image. We have a choice to seek, follow, listen, and obey our Abba Father or keep controlling all those around us and our circumstances, while deflecting responsibility. The ultimate choice is ours. Keep our eyes forward or keep looking in the rearview mirror. Angela prays you choose to move forward. The view is much clearer and there is light at the end of the tunnel. If God is for us who can be against us? (Romans 8:31). May the Joy of the Lord be your strength and may you focus on all the good that brought you together! Do not allow the enemy to lie, kill and destroy all the years and tears you have fought to build your family. Focus on Jesus Christ's promises.

Angela provides guidance in the areas of marriage and family, in-law and out-law relationships, betrayal, sexual abuse and exploitation, trauma, child advocacy, caregiving, and community involvement.

[Contact Angela Now](#)



Shepherd Guide John Smith

I love being a Pastor! It was my honor and privilege to serve for eight years as an Associate Pastor. I loved being in a number two role as an Associate Pastor with a wonderful Senior Pastor.

While I was serving as an Associate Pastor I completed my Doctor of Ministry degree. My dissertation was: Understanding the Role of an Associate Pastor in a Multiple Staff Ministry. As I explored the birth order factor it affirmed that as a second born, middle child of four, the role of Associate Pastor was a great fit for me.

A few months after I graduated with my Doctor of Ministry degree, the Senior Pastor returned from vacation and took me out for breakfast. He shared that while he was away he felt God calling him to another church on the west coast. It wasn't the news I wanted to hear, but I agreed to pray with him to carefully and clearly discern God's calling on his life and ministry. I immediately could think of four options for me, and I didn't like any of them. One, I could go with him as his Associate Pastor. Two, I could start looking for a call to another church. Three, I could stay as the Associate Pastor and see who they would bring in as the new Senior Pastor. Four, I could consider the scary possibility of being considered for the Senior Pastor position.

Fortunately, by God's grace, we had six months to pray together about this before he decided to accept the call to the church in California. After he announced to our congregation that he was leaving, there was a strong movement among the leadership to ask me to serve as Senior Pastor. I told the church leaders that I was willing to be considered for the Senior Pastor position, only if they did a comprehensive, nationwide search for their new Senior Pastor. If at the end of the process they believed God was calling me to that position, I would prayerfully consider it. At the end of the search they called me to become Senior Pastor and I served in that role for the next fifteen years.

The transition to Senior Pastor was exciting, challenging, and in some ways more difficult than I anticipated. I served effectively, faithfully, and joyfully. Yet, there were times and seasons when it took a toll on me. By God's grace I navigated most of the highs and lows a pastor can experience in ministry.

I am convinced that everything I experienced was designed and orchestrated by God for my character development, growth, and maturity. God knew what I needed to experience in life and ministry to prepare me and train me to become a pastor to pastors, missionaries, and ministry leaders.

During the times when I was walking alone, it was almost unbearable. In some of those situations, if no one had walked alongside me, I would not have made it. I am forever grateful for the Shepherd Guides God sent into my life at just the right times.

I have been serving for eighteen years as a Shepherd Guide and Pastor to pastors, missionaries, and Christian leaders. I love doing what God calls me to do.

I provide guidance in the areas of anxiety, betrayal, burnout, calling, criticism, conflict, depression, discouragement, forced termination, forgiveness, identity, leadership, marriage, parenting, and transition.

I want to be there for you. I want to listen to your story. I want to walk with you, pray with you, and help you. You don't have to suffer alone in silence. I care about you, just the way you are. Please don't delay another day. Contact me today.

[Contact John Now](#)



Dr. John Walker, Blessing Ranch Ministries

God used Dr. John Walker to save my life. In 1999 I was so deeply wounded in ministry that I contemplated ending my own life. I am forever grateful to Dr. John Walker for saving my life, renewing our marriage, and restoring my call.

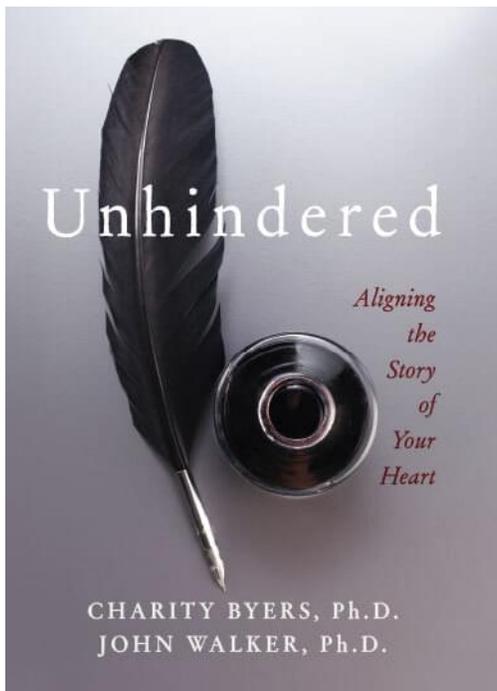
Since its foundation in 1992, Blessing Ranch Ministries has been a pioneer in the field of pastor care and an innovator in identifying and meeting the needs of Kingdom leaders by integrating theology and psychology. The heart of Blessing Ranch Ministries is to bless leaders and their families so that they can bless others. All services are tailored to each individual, family, or team by expert staff who are gifted at speaking into their hearts, lives and ministries. Dr. John Walker and Dr. Charity Byers direct the Intensive Counseling Services.



Dr. Charity Byers, Blessing Ranch Ministries

Dr John Walker is somewhat semi-retired now and Dr Charity Byers, his daughter is now the clinical director for BRM. They have written a book based on their insights and learnings from the ranch. For a limited time people can get the book free by covering the cost of shipping. [Get Your Free Book Now](#)

www.blessingranch.org



Unhindered: Aligning the Story of Your Heart

The story of your heart has been edited and influenced by myriad sources. Some of these influences—maybe family, friends, or loved ones—have helped write a story that's in line with the unhindered life God has for you. Others have taken up the pen and added negative influences: pain, fear, doubt, bitterness, and resentment. God's desire is to be the ultimate author and editor of your heart's story—to align your heart with the incredible, unhindered life that he crafted specifically for you!

How do we get there? In this book, we'll share our years of research, discoveries, and insights into the mind and heart. We'll unpack the Heart Shapers that have formed your story; the Sore Spots that have held you back; the Heart Logic questions that are pivotal to reaching your unhindered life; the biblical truths and strategies that will get you there...and so much more. Aligning the story of your heart isn't about trying harder, doing more, or being better—it's about surrendering the pen of your story to God and allowing Him to edit it according to his perfect will.



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Love and Blessings to you!! Shepherd Pastor John and Sue Smith

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