

# FACT SHEET ON ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE FOR PASTORS

## **THE NUMBERS**

- Alzheimer's afflicts 10% members over age 65
- 60% of nursing home residents have Alzheimer's
- Most (70%) of Alzheimer's victims live at home

## **THE DISEASE**

- Some treatable diseases resemble Alzheimer's
- Alzheimer's has intellectual and psychiatric symptoms
- Alzheimer's kills the brain and spares the body
- Alzheimer's patients usually live 7 - 10 years

## **THE SYMPTOMS**

- Most Alzheimer's patients have memory and language problems
- Most Alzheimer's victims have behavioral problems
- Many Alzheimer's victims are confused and frightened

## **THE TREATMENT**

- Alzheimer's has no cure
- Every Alzheimer's patient deserve at least one careful evaluation
- Family caregivers need support and understanding
- Some behavioral problems are improved with medication

## **CONCLUSION**

- Alzheimer victims need patience and compassion
- Family caregivers deserve support and love
- Education for the pastor and congregation are essential
- Pastoral support is essential

**REMEMBER:**  
**Alzheimer's Can Destroy The Brain,  
But Not The Soul**

For more information, call the  
DEMENTIA EDUCATION & TRAINING PROGRAM at 1-800-457-5679