

DID YOU KNOW...?

## Did you know that... help is on the way!

First of all, I hope that the summer has started nicely for all of you throughout the West Ohio Conference. In my personal situation I try to arrange adequate time for rest and relaxation in order to get re-charged for whatever comes next.

Regardless of the season, the *Strength for Today...Bright Hope for Tomorrow* Initiative is continuing to harvest measurable outcomes especially in the area of next generation leadership development. Over the coming weeks and months, under the leadership of Bishop Ough and in conjunction with the District Superintendents, we will be launching strategies in all eight districts to share success stories and to generate additional resources in support of this visionary Initiative.

As important as this Initiative is at the conference level in terms of leadership development, a major percentage of the resources that have been pledged to date for *Strength for Today...Bright Hope for Tomorrow* have resulted from local church capital campaigns. In my position as Capital Funds Developer, I continue to offer myself as a conference resource person to help the local church determine its readiness to enter into a capital fund drive along with initial goal setting and other required planning and execution aspects. One objective that I attempt to accomplish is a tithe from the capital campaign for a "missional" purpose. I encourage all or at least a portion of that tithe to be provided to the conference for next generation leadership development, especially in the areas of residencies and internships, as part of the *Strength for Today...Bright Hope for Tomorrow* Initiative.

Sometimes a church takes the approach that the capital campaign can be internally conducted, mainly to avoid outside consulting and fund-raising fees and to keep the campaign strictly local.

While that might end up being the case, I always suggest that the local church interview consulting firms because the benefits of engaging such a firm usually outweigh the costs. The key to success in this regard is to engage the right firm for maximum return on investment.

I contend that this is not a situation where one size fits all. Some consulting firms naturally fit better in a larger church setting, a smaller church setting, an urban setting, a rural setting, etc. The *Strength for Today...Bright Hope for Tomorrow* leadership staff has approved six vendors and in alphabetical order they are: Bountiful Harvest, Cargill, Generis, Injoy, RSI and WydenYourHorizons. This list of consulting firms covers a broad array of services available. Our conference has executed identical agreements with each firm without favoritism for one over another. However, I am available to assist a local church, if desired, in helping determine which firms might be best for consideration in a particular situation.

Information on each vendor will soon be posted on our conference web site under the Council on Development tab, and I am available at any time to share vendor information. I look forward to hearing from your church, regardless of the extent of the anticipated project. As a reminder, there is no charge to the individual church for my services.

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Capital Funds Developer

## COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENT

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