

Design For  
Ministry™

Steward  
Leadership  
Institute

23-26 Sept.  
Louisville, KY

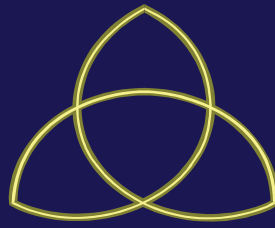
The Institute, sponsored by the Christian Leadership Alliance, is a foremost way to grow as one who raises support for ministry.

The Institute is a four-day learning program, providing 18 hours of continuing education from top professionals in their fields.

Classes are offered in Successful Annual Fundraising, Development 101, Gift and Estate Design, Major Donor Development, Biblical Foundations for Development Professionals and Executive Leadership.

Registration available on our home page:

<http://www.DesignForMinistry.com>



# Depth Perception

Lead . Solve . Think . Do

## Keeping a firstfruits commitment

My wife Lorie and I have now lived through nine years of cancer.

Lorie is currently in the middle of her 11th occurrence. She has suffered through four lung resections, four years of chemotherapy and three rounds of radiation. Her most recent procedure — a cyberknife regimen that removed a fast growing, brutal tumor positioned in the worst possible place — seemed like a cake walk compared to everything that preceded it.

I recite the struggle noting how precious it has been for us to keep our giving commitment as a firstfruits family, in spite of lost income and increased expense. We are convinced that God has provided well beyond our needs, and that the real wealth, the true estate we have acquired, is the extensive list of people we count as family and friends.

We believe this wonderful dynamic is in place because we chose to trust God's invitation to set aside time and resources to be

available for what God's concerns are — that we might be poised to respond. We learned that this choice also puts us in a position to receive what God wants to give — most especially rest, companionship, community, and abiding love.

In this 11th round of cancer, we commit ourselves, yet again, to celebrate all these blessings we receive, and to be quick and ready to share.

-mark I vincent

©2008 Design For Ministry.

All requests to reproduce content must be submitted in writing. To be added to the list of those who receive *Depth Perception*, write to: [info@DesignForMinistry.com](mailto:info@DesignForMinistry.com).