

October 25, 2018

Dear TCN Family,

The Church Network is a very special organization. Just as our rally cry states, we "don't go it alone." When someone in our association is going through a life event, we choose to come alongside to celebrate, grieve, or encourage as is appropriate to each situation. Today is a day for all of those things. Simeon May, our long-time CEO, has notified the Board of his plans to retire in July 2019. While we celebrate his service and his legacy, we grieve the end of an era, and we encourage you, our stakeholders, that there is hope for the future.

We are so grateful for Simeon's many years of service to The Church Network, as well as the entire field of church administration and leadership. Prior to his 20-year tenure leading the staff of TCN, he served as a Board member, including a 2-year term as President of the Board. He has served in the local church, as a chapter leader, and as a past president of the Baptist Leaders Network. He modeled education by becoming a CCA (Certified Church Administrator) and a CAE (Certified Association Executive) while maintaining his CPA (Certified Public Accountant) license.

During Simeon's time as CEO, there have been members, award recipients, suppliers, conference attendees, Board members, and many others who have been impacted by his service. As he goes on to pursue his next step on life's journey, we know things won't quite be the same. He will still be around, and I am sure we'll see him at conferences, like we do his predecessor, Marvin Myers. We are grateful for his service to a full generation of TCN colleagues.

Although change can bring obstacles, it also brings opportunities for shaping the future—the future of an organization that has meant so much to our professional lives, development, and friendships. In 2019, Deputy CEO Phill Martin will work alongside Simeon as well as the Board to ensure a smooth transition to that future. The future is one in which TCN will continue to be a beacon for church leaders, equipping church professionals to be excellent, and networking with others to encourage kingdom connections. We will reach the next generation of church leaders.

Simeon's CEO celebration will be in Charlotte, July 11-14, 2019. Make plans now to attend conference and celebrate with us. Come and see how God used Simeon through more than 20 years of service. Come and hear from other association leaders about the path and direction for the future. You are TCN. You are both the present and the future of this wonderful organization. Let's keep the music going; let's let the world hear our song.

In unison,

Denise Craig, President TCN Board of Directors

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