



ECUMENICAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE
of the
World Council of Churches
National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA

September 29, 1993

Archbishop Khajag Barsamian
Diocese of the Armenian Church in America
630 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10016-4885

Your Eminence,

Several weeks ago I wrote concerning a meeting of those who give leadership to our church in the area of church foundations and the development of permanent funds. My request was for you to suggest someone from your church to whom an invitation might be sent. A copy is attached.

I now suspect I may not have been as clear as I intended. Our various churches are at different stages and even philosophies concerning the development of permanent or endowment funds, planned giving programs and denominational foundations. What I wanted to convey was that regardless of where your church may be in these matters, a person interested in these aspects of church fund development from your church would be entirely welcome.

The Presbyterian Foundation which hosts our meeting is the largest and oldest of the church foundations. Its president, Larry Carr, is eager to host a meeting that can be beneficial to all our churches, as well as helpful to EDI in its work.

The time is upon us when invitations need to be sent and arrangements for the meeting need to be completed. If you have someone, clergy or lay, who could appropriately represent your church at such a gathering, I would be grateful to have the name and address for contact.

Thank you for giving this your consideration.

Most cordially,


Albert M. Pennybacker

Enclosure: Letter #2

AMP/rgp

July 9 1993

Dear

It was especially important for the work of ecumenical funding development that there was time to consider EDI at the April 12 meeting convened by Joan Campbell. The universal readiness among those present to cooperate with the work of EDI means more than you may realize. I write now to enlist your cooperation as well.

The new director of the Presbyterian Foundation, Larry Carr, has agreed to convene and host a meeting this fall of his counterparts in other communion foundations, trusts and permanent fund repositories. This meeting will focus on EDI's work and explore the ways in which the various denominational permanent fund instruments can be drawn together to serve the need for major ecumenical fund development. I am, of course, extremely grateful for Larry's readiness to assume this supportive role. This can be a very significant meeting, both for the churches themselves and for an ecumenical development strategy.

Now, let me turn to my first request for your help. It has to do with developing an invitation list for the meeting described above. Simply, I do not know whom in your communion to invite. It would be good to have at least one representative from each of the member communions, even those which do not have formal foundations but may have one person identifiable as interested in permanent fund development. Perhaps there is more than one who should be invited. The patterns, I am sure, will vary from church to church, and you must be the judge. Feel free to suggest more than one.

The question in which I need your help is simply this: Who is the person (or persons) from your church who should be invited to the proposed meeting? Can you provide me the names, addresses, and identification of any from your church who should be invited? Your prompt response will be very helpful.

Further, would you have any objection to my using your name in connection with encouraging the one (or ones) you nominate to attend?

My hope is that this can establish a pattern for our working together. I will be in touch from time to time on other matters as well. Feel free to initiate contact with me whenever it appears important.

Thanks again for giving this your attention. I look forward

to your response.

With warmest regards,

Albert M. Pennybacker

cc: Joan B. Campbell
Larry Carr
Konrad Raiser