



BRIDGE OF HOPE[®]
NATIONAL

e-News



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FINDING THE SOUL OF LEADERSHIP Plus - A Prayer for Summer

Dear Friends,

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"I had two small kids.
Things happened..."
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I can't believe it's been 20 years! To celebrate this milestone in my time with Bridge of Hope, I'll be taking a mini-sabbatical and some vacation time in July. One highlight will be a 3-day intensive course I'm taking with [Ruth Haley Barton](#). We'll practice the spiritual disciplines she outlines in [Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership](#), my favorite book by this author.

As an [executive director](#) for all these years, I've found that I need to plan time to just be still - whether during vacation or for 30 minutes each morning. In this time set aside for prayer, Bible reading and journaling, God meets me and gives me the wisdom and strength I need for the demands of the day.

It's what poet Ted Loder calls, "a time of gathering together the pieces into which my busyness has broken me." In celebration of the quiet and spiritually renewing moments that summer can bring, please enjoy the [full poem](#) (courtesy of the [Transforming Center](#)).

What's new?

- **Is your [Christian faith-based agency looking to multiply your efforts](#)?** Are you looking for a fresh and effective way to work in genuine partnership with local congregations? [Contact us](#). Through the [Bridge of Hope model](#), your agency can:
 - demonstrate your commitment to [permanent solutions](#)
 - build genuine [church partnerships](#)
 - make a lasting impact in the lives of [homeless single mothers & children](#)
- **You are invited!** [Ruth Haley Barton will present](#) *Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership* at the annual [Bridge of Hope Conference](#) on Sept. 30 in Akron, Pennsylvania.
- **The National Low Income Housing Coalition recently released their [annual analysis of U.S. rental housing costs](#).** Primary among the findings of the report was the level of this year's "housing wage". The report found that a household must earn \$18.44/hour in order to afford renting a modest 2-bedroom home. This amounts to \$38,360 - that's \$16,310 more than the federal poverty level for a family of four! The report also noted that there is no county in the U.S. in which a full-time minimum wage worker can afford even a 1-bedroom apartment.

With summer blessings,



Bridge of Hope National

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