

## Spotting the lively ones



To explore the asset-based approach in your congregation, you'll probably want to find some "lively ones" to work with.

Fran always has a sparkle in her eyes, even after she lost her husband to cancer. She knows what "hope" is all about because she's lived it for so long. Fran is a "lively one."

Stephano and his grandfather Medardo have always "colored outside the lines," and everyone knows how creative they can be. Both are artisans who work with wood. They're quiet but their thoughts are always worth hearing. Stephano and Medardo are "lively ones."

Jeremy loves the fellowship of congregational meals. That's why he always volunteers to organize potluck dinners. Because he thinks ahead and knows how to spot missed details beforehand, Jeremy is a "lively one."

Tammy is a stay-at-home mom who can't take much time away from her children to give to church activities. Still, she's always been able to see the best in other people, and frequently tells them so. Tammy is a "lively one."

These are the kind of people who can make asset-based thinking and planning work well. They're willing to listen to new, hopeful ideas. They think ahead. They have energy and wisdom. They know and love other people.

Start looking for the lively ones; they're going to be your planning/thinking group. They may even end up being your friends!

### ANOTHER LOOK

**A LARGE  
CONGREGATION  
IN SOUTH DAKOTA  
FINDS MANY OF  
ITS LIVELY LEADERS  
AMONG MEMBERS  
OF ITS SPORTS  
TEAMS AND  
SPECIAL-INTEREST  
GROUPS THAT  
MEET FOR  
BREAKFAST.**