

Believers buck the recession with church work

A New Jersey development company has managed to buck the recession, thanks in large part to a series of building contracts with local churches.

Big Sky Enterprises has signed major deals with no less than five houses of worship, a run that has owner Michael Regina thinking someone up there is looking out for him.

“Despite the economic downturn and layoffs elsewhere, our church clients did not experience a reduction in revenue like so many entities in the private sector,” said Regina, who co-founded the firm with brother Ryan.

“This is, in part, is attributed to the fact that when times are challenging for church goers, most will give more rather than less because they believe giving is the gateway to receiving. This experience is dramatically different from what exists in the private sector. Even church members who are on unemployment compensation tend to still tithe or give out of that because of their belief system.”

While many commercial construction companies struggled in 2010, Big Sky won bids for a 50,000 s/f community center at Life in Christ Cathedral of Faith that will include a sanctuary, charter school, retail, office incubator and gymnasium;

A 60,000 s/f new construction Victory In Christ Christian Center church, sanctuary, offices, and café;

An 11,000 s/f new construction Delaware Valley Baptist Church sanctuary & offices;

Secured a strategic development planning, refinancing and project management contract for New Beginnings Christian Church;

And, through its Big Sky Financial, procured a construction loan for Bethel Baptist Church facilities.

Michael Regina — a former church deacon who sits on the advisory board for the Christian Chamber of Commerce — said Big Sky’s business model should also get some of the credit.

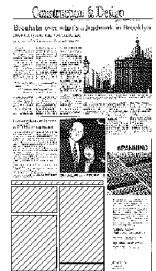
“Our unique business model takes the project management burden off of our clients and allows it to rest solely with us — proven field experts in all facets of the small- and large-scale project design, development, financing and execution

“Our one-stop, full-service professional oversight approach saves our clients’ time, resources and money, also allowing them to tend to other business matters integral to their own corporate growth.”

Pastor Kevin Brown of the Living Faith Christian Center couldn’t agree more. In a testimonial posted on the company’s website he says, “Big Sky understood our spiritual goals, helped us execute the vision, worked rapidly and professionally and stayed within budget.”

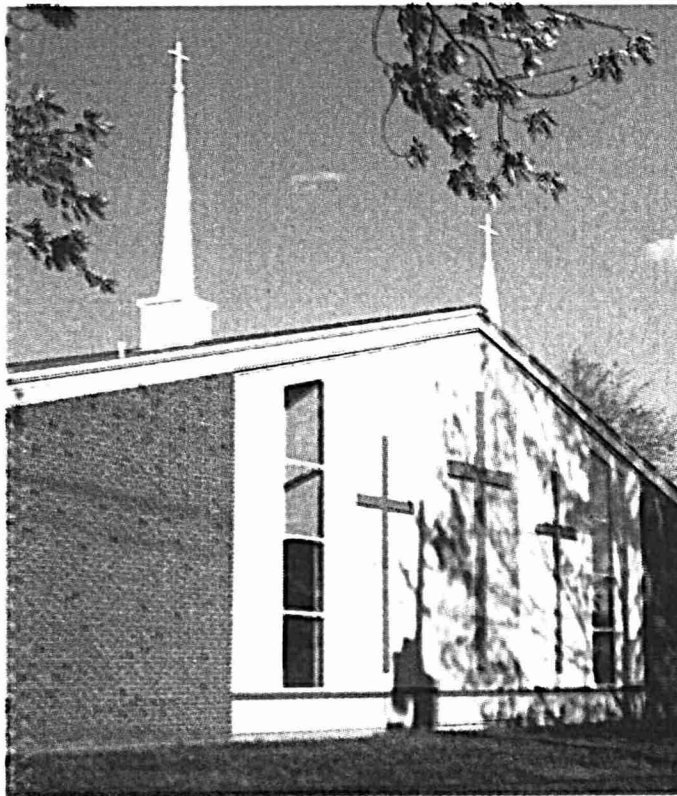
Looking ahead to the New Year, Regina said is forecasting Big Sky’s best year ever.

“I’m confident that, as the economy rebounds and the financial climate improves in the commercial construction marketplace at large, we are extraordinarily well positioned



to continue our sales and revenue growth.

“In fact, for 2011 we are forecasting our best year ever with multiple large-scale projects under construction and with our burgeoning financing company expanding nationally.”



Big Sky brought in the Victory in Christ project on budget and ahead of schedule.