



## CLINTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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August 17, 2011

Dear Church Family Member:

One of my ongoing prayers is that God would see fit to give us, Clinton United Methodist Church, the energy and passion to fulfill the vision he has given us. Any time the Lord gives a vision, God will supply for his people what is needed to make it reality. Our God given vision is a big one, or as some might think, a BHAG – big, hairy, audacious goal. But have you noticed, that those seem to be the only kind of real visions God gives? They force us to depend upon the Holy Spirit and the mighty power of our great God. That's really what faith is all about.

In this letter I want to take the opportunity to share some important information with you. I wish that I could personally visit with each household, but, obviously, that is not possible. Through what I am about to share, it is my desire that our church will sense the leadership of God as we are faithful to Him in the days ahead.

I know you would agree that the ministries of our church are a blessing, not only to our own church families, but also to those families outside our walls. And God continues to bless our efforts. Some years ago, before my arrival, church members felt a calling of God to purchase property for future development of community oriented ministry. As you know, that 40 acre property is a marvelous piece of land on Route 31 N, just south of Valley Crest Road. We are working toward retiring that debt so the reality of new ministry for Christ can move a step closer. The good news is that with refinancing, we will now save considerably more money and maybe even some time.

We do not want to hinder our giving to our current monthly expenses to operate our church and ministry, so we have a solution to maintain the positive ministry and mission of our church in the future. Our new capital campaign is called, ***“God's Future Forty: for such a time as this.”*** This is actually the third campaign for our “Future Forty” land, and thus far people have been overwhelmingly generous. It is our desire to step forward and continue the positive momentum towards meeting the financial needs of our church. As part of our *God's Future Forty* program, we are asking you and every household in our church to prayerfully consider making a sacrificial commitment (over and above your ongoing tithes and offerings) to be given over the next three years. It is our prayer to raise \$450,000 (or more) in order to move forward in our ministry. As you can see, *“God's Future Forty: for such a time as this,”* is an important step to our future and you are vital to its success.

The Reverend Dr. Lewis J. Hiserote  
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During the next week or so, you will receive a letter of invitation to attend one of the informational & inspirational Home Meetings that will be held in early October. (There is information in this mailing in case you want to respond earlier.) The purpose of these meetings is four fold: to inspire your heart with God's vision, to share information with you, to answer any questions you might have, and to encourage you to make this a special matter in your daily personal prayers. Following your receipt of an invitation, a church volunteer will contact you to confirm your attendance. Please know that your participation in a Home Meeting is very important. When you are called, be prepared to say "yes."

These are exciting days of decision in our church. Let us commit to know and do the will of God. He has granted to each of us the privilege of being a part of a fellowship where the Spirit of God is warm and alive. This privilege implies a responsibility of sharing our blessings with others. To the glory of God, we will step forward in faith.

In His name,

Rev. Dr. Lew Hiserote

## **VISION FOR OUR RT 31 LAND**

### ***"God's Future Forty"***

The land is our fundamental building block allowing Clinton United Methodist Church to grow today and tomorrow.

We see a campus – a beacon of light and the hope of Christ to the community – on a hill featuring a multi-purpose worship center that is large and flexible, able to host concerts, plays, conferences and other community events.

It is a mission station, a place for hosting missions work and bringing local churches together to share the love of Christ with the community.

The ministry campus is also home to indoor and outdoor activity space, walking trails, ball fields, an amphitheater and a large youth center to sustain a growing youth ministry. It provides a suitable place for spiritual exploration, Christian life development and education, room for pastoral counseling, reflection and senior gatherings.

It's a facility that is kind to our environment and efficient to operate, reflecting and respecting God's gift of nature to us.