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**Hayes Barton  
United Methodist Church**

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Rev. Rick Clayton  
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Rev. Eric Carson  
Minister of Visitation

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July 26, 2005

Dear Members of Hayes Barton United Methodist Church,

Greetings to you during these mid-summer days! Ministry at the church continues at a rapid pace with the completion of Vacation Bible School, the second ASP team returning from a week of mission work, and classes quickly filling for fall Bible and Spiritual Formation Study. Likewise, committees continue to meet and support the fine ministries provided at Hayes Barton.

**The purpose of this letter** is to inform you of the diligent work of the Chancel/Organ Renovation Committee and action of the Administrative Board. In September 2002 this Committee began its work to:

- Formulate recommendations for repair/renovation of the organ which was originally installed 50 years ago; and
- Consider potential improvements/renovations to the sanctuary to provide for the Worship needs of Hayes Barton over the next 50 years. These issues were considered in tandem as any significant work on the organ will require considerable construction in the chancel and additional acoustical modifications will impact the sanctuary itself.

All of the above was to be considered with the objective of enhancing the worship experience, particularly the sacraments of Word, Table, and Baptism.

The Committee sought reputable professional guidance. Eason & Farlow Church Renovation Architects provided valuable guidance in an extensive assessment of the chancel needs. Drawings offering optional modifications were provided.

Meanwhile, Tom Brown, the organist at First Presbyterian in Chapel Hill, consulted with the Committee regarding the various needs and concerns regarding our organ. An acoustical engineer, Dana Kirkegard, provided a comprehensive assessment of improvements that could enhance the sanctuary to provide more effective sound for the total worship experience.

The Administrative Board authorized two presentations on Sunday, February 8, 2004 to explain to the congregation the results of the study and to receive feedback. Over the last eighteen months the Committee explored the concerns, suggestions, and encouragement of the congregation in consultation with Eason & Farlow and modified the drawings.

One further event has helped to clarify the options available, as the manufacturer of our organ, Austin Organ Company, has gone out of business. This casts considerable doubt on the wisdom of proceeding with a plan of repair as the appropriate strategy for the stewardship of our organ for the next fifty years. A potential benefit of installing a new organ is that it would not require the large room-sized wind chambers required by an Austin Organ. Replacing the organ would allow for a much-needed sacristy (storage area for paraments and other sacramental supplies) to be placed in the area currently occupied by the wind chamber located behind the choir on the lectern side of the chancel.

At the Administrative Board meeting on July 20, 2005, the Chancel/Organ Renovation Committee presented the following recommendation:

- Renovate the chancel in accordance with the revised design concept set forth in Eason & Farlow's latest drawing; and
- Search for an appropriate organ builder to design and install a new, custom-designed organ.

While this study committee has spent extensive time to research and report, it does not have the authority to move forward to determine an exact cost for such renovation. Our consultants, Eason & Farlow, suggested a potential cost for the Chancel Renovation of approximately \$1.3 million. This includes not only design renovations but substantial improvements to the infrastructure of the sanctuary, such as upgrading the electrical, lighting, mechanical, HVAC, and sound systems. The committee has not sought estimates for the cost of a new organ, but average costs for an organ of the size and type appropriate to our Church are in the range of \$500,000 - \$800,000. To accurately determine the cost of this project, architectural drawings must be prepared and bids solicited, which requires the formation of a Building Committee charged with that responsibility. Once a cost has been determined, that committee will also will be charged with determining if sufficient financial support exists to proceed further, or if the plans should be modified to fit the project within the Church budget.

The Administrative Board voted at its July meeting to recommend a called Charge Conference for the purpose of electing a Building Committee. The Building Committee is to provide a cost analysis of the following proposal:

- Renovate the chancel in accordance with the revised design and solicit quotes for the purchase of a new organ.

**Thus at this stage of the journey, a called Charge Conference is set for 7:30 PM on Wednesday, September 21, 2005 in the Fellowship Hall.**

In order to provide a comprehensive package of plans and cost, this next step is necessary. A Charge Conference is a special meeting of the Administrative Board that is authorized and attended by the District Superintendent. All members of the Church are welcome to attend the Charge Conference. Please note that a Charge Conference to elect a Building Committee does not give authority for the project. As stated above, the building committee is only authorized to commission plans, solicit bids, and determine financing options. This is the first of many steps that we will take together and it is one that does not irrevocably commit the Church to any particular plan. Furthermore, while the Building Committee will be given the plans of the Chancel Renovation Committee, it is inevitable that the plan they eventually will draw will vary from the original based on the input of the architects, cost considerations, and additional constructive input from the congregation.

The Administrative Board affirms that receiving cost information is critical to enable the congregation to form a comprehensive view of this proposal during an extensive time of informational gatherings after the initial work of the Building Committee is complete. A long way down the road, a Church Conference (where the entire membership of the Church has the opportunity to vote) will be required for a building project to be implemented.

I am enclosing the recently completed work of the Vision committee and ask that you use it as the lens to consider this opportunity and the specifics of the proposal. In a short while, each of you will receive a package of materials that describes the recommendations that have been made by the Chancel/Organ Renovation Committee and includes a copy of the proposed updated Chancel design concept. We will each come to this proposal in a somewhat different way but hopefully all of us will come together to do what is best for Hayes Barton - In all that we do, may the glory be to God!

In His name,



Kevin T. Anderson  
Chair, Administrative Board

# HBUMC Mission † Vision † Core Values

**Mission:** A statement of purpose communicating the essence of an organization.  
What we exist to do. Our reason for being.

## **HBUMC Mission**

### ***Offering Christ, Community and Compassion***

In this congregation of the Body of Christ, we celebrate and share God's grace through worship, ministry, fellowship, mission, Christian education and service.  
As humble servants called to faithful discipleship,  
we offer open hearts, open minds and open doors to all those in need.



**Vision:** What God is calling us to do in the immediate future. A picture of what is possible.

## **God's Vision for HBUMC**

### ***To live as disciples of Christ.***

We accept God's call to know, experience and share God's transforming love.

*"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age." Matthew 28:19-20*

#### **Vision Strategy:**

- **Passionately put God first every day in all that we do.**

As we make daily choices, we yearn to discern God's will and desire, thus putting aside our personal agendas and worldly endeavors.

*"Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'... But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well." Matthew 6:31, 33*

- **Faithfully live new lives in Christ.**

As we come into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, we are born again through our baptism into transformed lives focused on God. We thereby surrender our self-centered lives and live God's purpose for us.

*"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God." John 3:3*

- **Boldly share the Gospel.**

We readily share the Good News through spoken witness and daily living so others may experience the boundless gift of God's love and grace.

*"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8*

- **Eagerly serve others.**

As part of the Body of Christ, we follow the example of Jesus and extend God's infinite love by serving others through mission and good works.

*"Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me." Matthew 25:40*

**In all that we do, may the glory be to God!**



**Core Values:** The commitments of an organization that shape the way it does its work; the guidelines, boundaries and priorities of a congregation.

## **HBUMC Core Values**

*As a witnessing community of faith in word and deed,  
we are committed to the following core values:*

- **Sacramental congregational worship**

*Through baptism we rejoice in God's forgiveness and the invitation to each of us to join in God's family of believers. Through Holy Communion we remember Christ's ultimate sacrifice for our sins.*

- **Service, mission, and evangelism**

*As faithful disciples, we share God's love and grace by serving others.*

- **Spiritual growth and formation**

*Opportunities are available for every individual to grow spiritually and to deepen one's personal relationship with God.*

- **Respect and compassion for all of God's children**

*We strive to be an open, loving congregation offering a warm and welcoming environment to all of God's children.*

- **Ministry to one another within this Body of Christ**

*We are a multi-generational, supportive, and nurturing Christian family.*

- **Christian education**

*Study of the Scriptures and additional Christian studies provide a strong foundation for our faith journey and equip us as disciples to better lead a Christ-like life.*