



Be Renewed

*"...but those who hope in the Lord will RENEW their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint." Isaiah 40:31*

A LETTER FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR

It has been such a blessing to see all the ways God has been growing us this year at Huntsville First UMC. We are excited about what is to come in 2026!

In order to influence our communities to know Christ in 2026, it will require self-examination and allowing God to grow us to greater levels of faith, commitment, and generosity.

As we now begin to focus on what our ministry plans will be for 2026 and how we will resource those plans, we want to introduce to you a generosity emphasis entitled, **Be Renewed**. Our desire is that 100% of the people who call Huntsville First UMC their church would respond to **Be Renewed** by turning in a commitment card on Commitment Sunday, November 16. This commitment will be the amount you will give in 2026 and will enable mission and ministry to thrive at Huntsville First UMC.

More than a number on a card, we truly believe that generosity is an expression of our discipleship.

Through this **Be Renewed** emphasis, you are invited to...

- yield to God's will in your life
- be open to how God will challenge you during this time
- consider honestly the condition of your heart
- openly talk in your household about generosity as an aspect of your discipleship
- be present in worship and ready to respond on **November 16**

Over the next four weeks we will reflect on Biblical passages that encourage us to trust in the Lord and to honor God by growing in our generosity. I'm excited to see what God will do in each of us individually and as a church body collectively as we are open to **Be Renewed** in our faith! Thank you, in advance, for being part of this united movement for the Lord.

Yours in Christ,
Byron Vance

Be Renewed

...AND TAKE HEART

Being renewed is a choice. Sometimes when we're dealing with the chaos of day to day life, fatigue, and frustrations that come our way, it is easy for those feelings to take root inside of us. But 2 Corinthians 4:16 gives us hope: *Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. You have a choice to be renewed and take heart!* We have a choice to take heart in our vision as a church and how God is calling each of us to give generously to that make that vision a reality.

...IN YOUR THINKING

In the fast paced world we live in with the barrage of messages from so many different communication outlets, it is easy for our thoughts to move away from God's goodness and grace. Ephesians 4:23 tells us to, *allow the Holy Spirit to renew our thoughts and our attitudes.* We can throw off the negative thoughts and be renewed in our thinking. As we each do this together it renews our thinking about our giving and generosity.

...WITH A STEADFAST SPIRIT

Psalms 51 talks about being *renewed with a steadfast spirit.* Being steadfast means to be unwavering. The idea of renewal is to be reinvigorated. The busyness of our day to day lives can put strain on our relationship with God and our resolve to be faithful in many of the spiritual disciplines, especially giving. We need to be renewed with a steadfast spirit in our relationship with God, His Church, and our giving.

...IN YOUR STRENGTH BY HOPE

Isaiah 40:31 says this: *...but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.* When we hope in the Lord our strength is renewed. Be Renewed is about each of us listening to the Lord and allowing our hope in Him to give us the strength to be faithful in every aspect of our walk with Him...including our giving. That may mean giving for the first time or taking a step of faith and grow in your giving. But if we will all respond to Be Renewed, just imagine the vision we can bring to reality through Huntsville First UMC.

Will you Be Renewed?

Will You...

Be Renewed and take **HEART**?

Be Renewed in your **THINKING**?

Be Renewed with a **STEADFAST SPIRIT**?

Be Renewed in your **STRENGTH** powered by **HOPE**?

Be Renewed isn't about giving more for the sake of giving more or to just start giving. It is about God changing you... speaking to you...and growing you spiritually to give and be generous in the way He wants for you.

Be Renewed isn't a transactional decision...it is a transformational response. God doesn't need our money, nor does He want us to give out of obligation.

God brings money into our lives so we can give and be a part of the life-changing ministry He wants to do here at Huntsville First UMC.

We are blessed to be a part
of a life-changing blessing to others.

*Join us for worship each week of **Be Renewed** as we learn how to be renewed at an even deeper level. Start praying now each day for how God will ultimately want you to respond to **Be Renewed** on **November 16**.*

