

**Letter to the Leadership of Bethlehem First United Methodist Church**  
**On Church Letterhead**

Joe and Mary Smith  
1243 Christmas Avenue  
Bethlehem, GA 30936

Dear Joe and Mary:

As you know, we have been diligently working to establish a Legacy Ministry program at **Bethlehem First United Methodist Church**. The idea of a Legacy program is long overdue and necessary if we are to create an endowment to ensure our future ability to “make disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

It starts with a church endowment, which is a permanent fund to establish a long-term source of income. It will be used for special needs of the church or ministries beyond the annual budget and provide a legacy for future generations.

It is the intent to make the Legacy Ministry an integral part of our church stewardship program, and it is our hope that it will become a part of every member’s long-term giving and estate planning. It is as simple as making a cash donation or including the church in your will and/or beneficiary designation.

Janice and I have already made our commitment and have decided to establish a charitable gift annuity that will pay us consistent income with the remainder to be given to the church upon our deaths. It has been a blessing to make these plans for our future and know that our gift will have a lasting impact on future generations at Bethlehem First.

You will be hearing more about the Legacy Ministry program in the days to come, but we are asking you as a leader in the church, to make an early commitment to the endowment. Your involvement will be critical in encouraging others to follow.

I would like to meet with you to provide you with additional information about **Bethlehem First’s** endowment and the various ways that families can give an endowment gift. I will call you next week to see if we might find a time that is convenient for you. In the meantime, you might find it helpful to look at our website and the Georgia United Methodist’s Foundation’s planned giving website at [www.gumf.org](http://www.gumf.org) to review the information on planned giving.

Thank you for your prayers for our church and your consideration in supporting the endowment to bring future generations to our Lord.

In His name,

David Smith  
Chair, Endowment and Planned Giving Ministry Committee  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_