## **Eastland United Methodist Church**



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September 20, 2018

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ of the Rappahannock River District,

Eastland United Methodist Church is in the midst of the construction of a new, approximately 1,950 sq. ft. fellowship hall that will create more space for the ministries of the church and for our community ministry partners. A new entry/exit ramp and new restrooms will provide full accessibility for the disabled for the first time at Eastland. A new kitchen is also included in the project. An open breezeway, covered by a roof, will connect the new building to the current church structure. The existing fellowship hall, restrooms, and kitchen date back to the mid 1950's.

After a three-year, prayer-filled discernment and planning process, church leaders came to the conclusion that we needed more space to better serve the spiritual needs of our congregation and our neighbors in the rapidly growing vicinity of the church.

In anticipation of the completion of the new hall, we have welcomed a good-sized Boy Scout troop, an AA support group, and the St. Vincent de Paul financial assistance ministry into our current, cramped facility in the past year. These ministry partners are likely to use the new fellowship hall. The new building will also provide more classroom space and allow for the growth of Eastland's food ministry and, possibly, a Spotsylvania County connection or expansion of our District Heartwood ministries.

Construction began in June and is expected to be completed by the end of November. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$680,000. To date, \$82,000 of construction-related costs have been paid. Currently, we are making interest-only payments during the construction phase of the project. We have secured a 20-year mortgage loan with Union Bank at an interest rate of 4.9%.

We thank you in advance for your financial support of Eastland's building project. We also ask that you would offer your prayer support as we seek to expand our Christian ministry and make new disciples of Jesus Christ in our growing community.

In Christ,

Rev. Craig Muffley

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