



## Zion United Methodist Church

at Historic Spotsylvania Courthouse

[www.HistoricZionUMC.org](http://www.HistoricZionUMC.org)

*Rev. Barry Blakley, Pastor*

January 17, 2019

Rappahannock River District Office  
Board of Missions/Builders Club  
P.O. Box 100 Ladysmith, VA 22501

Dears Sirs and Madams:

This letter is in support of a request for funds from the Board of Missions/Builders Club for the Rappahannock River District (RRD Builders Club).

Upon appointment to Zion UMC in July, 2018, I found that the church was engaged in a project for the addition of a 24' by 36' trailer. The trailer was to be used primarily for housing the supplies needed in support of the monthly food pantry. As a reminder, Zion UMC was built in 1859, but the most recent addition, prior to the trailer, was a church expansion to include two classrooms, a nursery, a new kitchen, and a fellowship hall. This project was completed in 1994.

The monthly food pantry has grown to the extent that supplies were overtaking both of the classrooms. Recognizing the need, a member donated an old classroom trailer mentioned above. This trailer would accommodate the additional supplies for the food pantry and would free up the classrooms to allow for an increase in our adult Sunday School and to establish a children's Sunday School. Through donations of cash, building, engineering design services, much of the materials, and over 400 volunteer hours were contributed to setup the trailer and build the decks to connect the trailer to the fellowship hall. The total construction efforts were estimated to be worth \$35,000, but the final capital expenditures were only \$6,300. I think this was an amazing undertaking for a church with only 40 active members. Any help from the RRD Builders Club to help us to reduce the debt on this project will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
Barry Blakley