

Pastor's Post



8-22-18

“Under Construction - Entryway Project Underway”

If you walk down to the fellowship hall this coming Sunday, you might notice something a bit different while on your way. The renovation project of the “entryway” or “lobby” located in between the fellowship hall and the chapel began this week. As of today, (Thursday), the old ceiling tiles have been removed as well as a few items from the walls. More progress may occur between now and Sunday, so I invite you to go down and take a look if you are interested.

You may remember that this project was a previously approved Lillian Steele grant recipient, and that Session approved some additional funding for the project earlier this summer. The scope of the project includes the replacement of the ceiling tiles, new flooring, new paint, new windows in the stairwell, and also new drywall to replace the existing paneling. The improvements are sure to transform the space and make it more inviting and welcoming to both our guests and members.

I also want to tell you about a somewhat related project in the fellowship hall that the Session approved at their August meeting. A generous donor has supplied the funds so that a permanent projector can be installed in the fellowship hall that will have the capability to live stream the worship service or any other events that occur in the sanctuary. This new equipment will be a tremendous upgrade from what we currently use and will be of significant benefit to any program that takes place in that space.

It can be stressful to endure a period where we are “under construction” here at Starmount. We are aware that there are many programs and ministries that will be kicking off this fall, and we will work hard to ensure that they can continue even while construction occurs. If you have any questions regarding this or want to make sure we are aware of any potential conflicts, please don't hesitate to contact the church office. In the meantime, perhaps we can adopt the motto made famous in London during WWII, “Keep Calm & Carry On.”

While it is exciting to see construction projects underway at the church, and we will all be glad to see the physical improvements when they are complete, these projects also serve another purpose. They are a reminder that our church should always be “under construction.” I don’t mean that we should always be engaged in physical construction projects, but I do think that we should always be “under construction” spiritually and organizationally.

We should constantly be at work discerning God’s will for our congregation and moving in the ways we feel God calling us. This is a continual process that requires careful listening, a willingness to change, and the dedicated work of all those in the congregation. It can be exciting when we think about how God is at work in this church and in this community. In the book of Isaiah 43, God says, “See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up, do you not perceive it?” May we have ears to hear and a heart to perceive how God is at work in our midst, and the courage to follow where God leads us.

In Christ,
Charlie Lee