

A Letter from Pastor Peter

God's primary means of involvement in the world involves sending. When God wanted a people, He sent Abraham to a new place. When God wanted a deliverer, He sent Moses to Egypt. When God wanted a King, He sent David to battle. When God wanted a prophet, He sent Isaiah to the temple to pray. When God wanted a way-maker, He sent John the Baptist to the wilderness. When God wanted a church-planter, He sent Paul to His people.

For the most important mission, saving the world from sin and death, God sent his son, Jesus. God sent himself in Jesus, and in turn, Jesus sends the Holy Spirit with us. To respond to God is to be sent in partnership with Him.

Over the past 10 years, God's plan for Harrisonburg continues to include sending Eastsiders as "Rescued Rescuers." He has sent us to impact the children of Harrisonburg and our efforts have influenced the lives of many! In addition to this, we have sent Eastsiders to Jordan, Nicaragua and around the world. We've also sent pastors to other congregations, workers to local ministries and we've partnered with other churches to impact thousands.

As we've been on this journey of ministry together, we've noticed a deep connection between physical space and ministry. When we have space, like the "chicken coop" or college house, our ministry has rapidly expanded. Because of this, we believe that our current lack of regular meeting space has short-changed our ministry here. Over the past few years, we've invested time and energy into our organizational structures, now it's time for us to invest in our physical structure.

As part of this family, I am asking you to join me in participating in this great work! In order to make this vision a reality, we are asking everyone in the Eastside family to give above and beyond for this project. We have overheard God's call for the city of Harrisonburg, and this great work is the next step we are taking together. This is where God is sending us next!

Peter

SAVE *the* DATE

DESSERT GATHERINGS

September 10-21

PRAYER + WORSHIP NIGHT

September 19 | 7pm
at Church of the Incarnation

COMMITMENT SUNDAY

September 29

CELEBRATION SUNDAY

October 13



SENT



EASTSIDEHARRISONBURG.ORG/SENT

Initiatives

As a young church, we believe God has only started doing all that He desires to do in and through us! We know that currently we have limitations to our growth and programming. Through careful planning and much prayer, the leadership of Eastside has set out to accomplish these initiatives:

PERMANENT FACILITIES

We desire to have flexible, full-time spaces for worship services, kids, students, college ministries and other programming needs. We know that whenever we have dedicated space for these needs, we have a greater capacity to grow and see ministry flourish.

KIDS CLUB MINISTRY IMPROVEMENTS

We will dedicate 5% (up to \$20,000 total) toward improving our Meriwether Hills Kids Club location. These improvements will help this critical area of ministry as they continue to reach the children in this area.

FAQs

Q. What is the vision of Eastside Church?

A. The vision of Eastside Church is to be radically Christ centered, service oriented, and mission minded and to serve Harrisonburg while striving to reflect the cultural makeup of this diverse city.

Q. What is the purpose of the campaign?

A. God has sent us to join in His work here in Harrisonburg. We believe that a full-time facility is the next step in deepening our partnership with God's call for the city. Our goal is to lease or purchase a facility that will assist and propel us in current and new ministry. We also want to invest in our Kids Club ministry at Meriwether Hills and will set aside 5% (but not more than \$20,000) of the campaign funds to make improvements to the facility and widen our efforts there.

Q. What are the limitations of our current situation at Skyline from fulfilling our overall mission?

A. Skyline is not regularly available to us for family life and outreach. Where we have our own space, ministry is flourishing. Where we do not, ministry is constrained. We are currently renting the school for 3.5 hours a week and though those overall costs are less than renting or purchasing a facility, the cost per hour is significant.

Q. Are we considering building, purchasing or leasing?

A. We are open to all options which change month by month and are highly dependent on the amount of money we raise. The elders are committed to making faithful decisions. They will continue to enlist local experts, many of whom are in our Eastside family, to evaluate and pursue a future location. We deeply desire your prayers for God's provision and our discernment. Whichever choice we make, we will have a plan for paying those extra costs: insurance, maintenance, utilities and rent/mortgage.

Q. Will Eastside take on debt for this project?

A. In the event that we find and secure a leased facility, we would likely need to take out a short-term loan that could be paid off as the three-year pledges are paid to Eastside. In the event that we are able to find and purchase a facility, we will look at all lending options, both short and long-term.

Q. When do we hope to be in full-time facility?

A. The amount of funds that the Eastside family and friends of Eastside contribute will greatly impact our choices (lease or purchase) and timeframe. Our hope is to locate a full-time location within a year.

Q. What is the total campaign goal?

A. Our primary goal is that each regular attender and family member would participate in this vision campaign by giving financially! We believe that God will provide what we need for the next step of our journey together if each person gives as they are led by God. Our secondary financial goal is \$400K, but we are open to what God provides.

Q. So, what exactly are you asking me to do?

A. Everyday over the next few weeks, join together in seeking His direction. Begin by asking God, "Where have you sent me and why?" At this time in Eastside's life, all regular attenders and members are being asked to sacrifice for this project. He will guide us to the appropriate sacrifice of our time, talents, and treasures as we seek Christ. All of us are going to need to pray like never before, because this is a project like never before. We are going to need to do things we haven't done before, to go to places we haven't gone before. This is a season where we remember we have been Sent together, to the city, for His glory, for our neighbors, friends, family and co-workers. God has already done wonderful things, starting something from nothing. Imagine what He has in store for us next!