



St John's Pine Meadow Steeple Repair Project!

Background

Trivia time! Many of you may recall that New Hartford is also known as the home of 'The Church that stabbed itself'. This refers to the infamous 1912 incident in which the old Town Hill Church's steeple flipped over in a thunderstorm and pierced the roof. (*Believe it or not, the picture above is really of that event!*) To prevent history from repeating itself, St. John's has some urgent work to do.



It has been over twenty years since the steeple was painted; and, worryingly, it has developed a leak. This leak is caused by a missing piece of wooden trim, which rotted and fell off. (*see the pictures taken today of our steeple*) You can also see the water damage in the choir loft and in the back of the church.



The Project and Fundraiser

Repairing the rot, prepping and repainting the steeple will ensure that what appears to be minor damage does not become structural damage. We are planning on doing this work in April, our current quote for the work is

\$25,000, which includes the repair of the wood as needed, painting the steeple, and regilding the cross. As you know, we received a generous preservation grant from the Northwest Community Foundation for \$15,000. That leaves a substantial gap.

In order to complete the essential repairs to the steeple we need to raise an additional \$10,000. Fortunately, we have a generous anonymous donor who is willing to match up to \$5000 in donations.

In the coming month, we hope our church family will rally once more to support vital work on our historic church. All contributions will be gratefully received. Please let us know as soon as possible if you plan to contribute.

Finally, St John's is not only our parish home, it is a landmark of New Hartford, much as the Town Hill church once was. Let us ensure that our church remains a shining beacon of hope and faith for future generations, its spire pointing to the heavens.

[Learn More](#)



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