

# The Eaton Bell

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## "Working on a Building" ...

Bill Monroe song

**And we are indeed working on a building!** Though it began as a relatively simple repair project in the springtime to replace rotten siding on the spire, it became clear that the spire was compromised, and the its strength diminished by up to 90% due to rot. The steeple had to come down. The new estimate for the steeple and belfry work stands now at almost \$150,000 and the expectation is that it the total cost will exceed that amount. The money just wasn't there for a project of this magnitude, so the summer was spent seeking donations and raising funds as aggressively as possible. Many prospective donors wanted to see multiple bids, and also wanted to see the work begin



before winter, so other builders were contacted and an engineering report was done to assess the structure. The clock was ticking. And donations began to pour in. Thanks to the generosity of so many people within the community and many from far beyond, and the enormous love held for this little gem, we now have enough to begin

rebuilding. Work began the week of September 23rd! The bell is removed and repairs to the belfry have begun. Spire to follow. Stay tuned.

Prayers are appreciated for good weather and smooth going!

*Photo by Debra Callis after steeple removal*

## Thanks for the Memories

Leo Robin lyrics

We are so grateful for the lovely memories of the Little White Church that have been shared by so many who have donated. (Some phrases are quoted here in the margins.) It has been

inspirational and sparked some ideas.

Please send us your memories. The plan is to compile as many personal stories as we can collect into a church

"memory" book, that those beautiful thoughts may be presented in a meaningful way for all to read.

*"It is very sad to drive by the church and see that it is hurt!"*

*"We ride by quite often and just love the church. So glad you all want to preserve our history."*

## A Bell Will Ring

The church bell was purchased in early 1904 through the efforts of then pastor, J. W. Farrell. It's clarion sound has been heard by thousands over the years, but it has been mostly unseen. With the work being done to replace the beams that bore its 1400 lbs., we are now able to have a look for the first time since 1904!

*photo by Debra Callis*



Gem Archer



*photo by Dana Cunningham*

## Emperor

Beethoven's Piano Concerto No.5

The best concerto ever written for piano deserves the best possible piano like the church's magnificent 1908 Steinway O Grand Piano. The unexpected and stunning generosity of a donor designated a portion of their donation specifically just for the restoration of the piano. This means that in addition to a shining new spire atop the church, the replacement of the piano's

sound board will happen this winter, bringing it back to the very best concert performance quality that any piano can boast. How sweet the sound!

An instrument of this high caliber is a strong draw to the best of performers, and it will be our happy objective to schedule as many of these types of concerts as possible.

Since the work to be done is highly technical and

requires exceptionally skilled piano specialists, it will be removed from the church while being serviced.

It is our hope that, providing the funds have been raised by then, to have the church carpet replaced during the piano's absence.

All help toward this goal is gratefully accepted.

## We've Only Just Begun

The Carpenters

The challenge of replacing our beloved church steeple has shown us that we were woefully unprepared to face such a major project. It is clear that we must have a new approach moving forward and begin a capital reserve for upcoming maintenance and improvements. Here are some of the things on our

list for which we will be continuing our fundraising efforts once the steeple has risen again:

Carpet replacement

Parking improvement

Install air conditioning

Replace septic tank

Major maintenance items such as furnace

replacement when needed, or bathroom and kitchen updates.

Install attic insulation

Eventual roof replacement and exterior painting

All of these things are chugging down the pike toward us, so we must be ready.

## The Calendar Song

Events at the church will continue even through the reconstruction project. Put these upcoming performances on your calendar!

**Nov. 1 at 6:00 pm** - The Silver Lake Singers Present "Songs for All Saints and Sinners" benefit concert.

**Nov. 8 at 6:30 pm** - "Fast and Slow and Jolly and

Haunting" - Piano and violin students present musical selections.

**Dec. 6 & 7 at 7:30 pm** - Annual Christmas Concert with Carol Noonan and Dana Cunningham and guests, cellist Max Dyer and guitarist, Kevin Barry. \$50.00. Tickets sold in advance only through Stone Mountain Arts Center.

Busy Beavers

**Dec. 8 at 4:00 pm** - Pianist Dana Cunningham and cellist Max Dyer perform. Ticket info/purchase at [danacunningham.com](http://danacunningham.com).

**Dec. 24** - Christmas Service

**(The piano will remain in place till after the concert season.)**

Book your private events for 2020 now. Call or



## That's What Friends Are For

So many have shown community spirit with the donation of their time, expertise, and materials, from supplies needed for the steeple, to repairs to the septic tank, to consultations on various aspects of the project. Everybody pitching in together. We are so proud of and grateful to this wonderful community in bringing our history back to its best possible condition! You rock!!

Here we see the bell being lifted from the belfry!

Dionne Warwick



*Bell removal photos by Thomas Costello*

## Helping Hand

(Amy Grant)

The Community Church of Eaton, aka, Little White Church Board of Directors, is inviting individuals who have an interest in serving, preserving, and ushering this Eaton treasure into a new era. Contact us or

talk with any board member for more information.

Present Board Members:  
President - John Hartman  
Treasurer - Joyce Blue  
Secretary - Sandra Thoms  
Trustees -

Dana Cunningham  
Holly Fortin  
Bill Weiss  
Barbara Holmes  
Debra Callis  
Dick Brisbois

Please join us. Bring your ideas and vitality!

*"We have great memories of our marriage at the church 21 years ago, Christmas Eve services and concerts as well."*

The Community Church of Eaton, The Little White Church  
2371 Eaton Road  
P. O. Box 31  
Eaton NH 03832

Phone 603 447 1881  
E-mail  
lwceaton@gmail.com

A White Mountains and New Hampshire treasure!



We're on the Web!  
[www.littlewhitechurch.com](http://www.littlewhitechurch.com)

## Amazing Grace

(Traditional)

Returning soon to Crystal Lake



## With a Little Help from My Friends

(The Beatles)

Thank you if you have already donated. If you are considering making a donation, checks & GoFundMe are always welcome, but here are some other ideas:

We have an offer from a donor for a **\$500 Stone Mountain Arts Center Gift certificate** for the next person who donates \$2500 or more.

We are now able to accept donations in the form of **stock transfers**. This is a great way to donate and provide tax benefits for the donor. Contact our Treasurer Joyce Blue for more information.

**Bid on a vacation week** at a

lovely chalet in Freedom! The location is 698 Eaton Road (Rt. 153).

*"Amenities: Non-smoking, fully furnished 5 room chalet with 2 bedrooms, loft, 2 baths and beautifully attached 4 season sunroom, burning wood stove, air conditioning, dishwasher, tv/vcr/dvd/cable, cooking utensils, gas grill, picnic table, wrap around porch/outdoor furniture, canoe and kayak. Also features a full bunkhouse!"*

The only dates not available are high season (July & August) and holidays. Submit your bid by sending a note with name, address, phone and bid amount to the Little White Church, PO Box 31, Eaton NH 03832.

**Bidding starts at \$100. Bids close on Dec. 1.**

**Questions? Contact us at [lwceaton@gmail.com](mailto:lwceaton@gmail.com).**

**Whether you donate \$25 or \$2500 or \$25,000, it all matters, as you are a part of something important, and lasting.**

**Thank you!**