



Church, Lower Gilmanton, N.H.

Harold V. Widan

December 2019

Dear Family, Friends & Neighbors,

For nearly 180 years the First Baptist Church has sat on the brow of the hill on Route 107 in Lower Gilmanton. Listed on the National Register of Historic Buildings, this church has served generations and is still providing summer services, Christmas celebrations, and other special occasions.

Maintenance of beloved old buildings is an ongoing task. Structural repairs are now needed to maintain this special landmark which includes a new roof, repairing and supporting the leaking bell tower, stabilizing the granite foundation, repairing and lining the two chimneys, and refurbishing the two woodstoves. The Gilmanton Historical Society, a 501 © 3 non-profit organization, is acting as our sponsor and supports the restoration of this building and has generously donated to the cause.

Grant applications were submitted to NH Preservation Alliance and the Land & Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP). The NH Preservation Alliance awarded us a grant to complete the building assessment and has selected the Church for its 2019 *Seven to Save* list. *Seven to Save* brings attention to threatened and endangered historic properties throughout New Hampshire. Just recently LCHIP awarded us a grant worth \$81,600.

Time has come to begin our Capital Campaign to raise the balance of \$98,400 to start the \$180,000 restoration project. We are hoping to begin the work by the spring of 2020. We believe you would like to be aware of these pressing needs and participate in this effort. Donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law and may be mailed to Gilmanton Historical Society, P.O. Box 236, Gilmanton, NH 03237 with a notation "Lower Gilmanton First Baptist Church." Gifts will be noted for posterity.

The First Baptist Church of Lower Gilmanton, NH thanks you for considering a donation to the fund-raising goal of \$98,400.

Sincerely,