



KINGSTON IMPROVEMENT & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Dear Friends,

November 1, 2020

Historic building maintenance can be so thankless. As the loving custodial committee of this amazing structure, of all the things we would prefer to repair and restore, dormered roof windows don't really fall on the desired list radar. However, when the sills beneath the ancient chicken-wire filled glass triangles were found to be rotten, and water leaks were beginning to destroy age old ceilings and damage interior fixtures, it was time to do something about it, and FAST! It has likely been well over a half of century since those windows received any care whatsoever. Thanks to the help of Fremont Glass, a new durable product which should last another 50+ years was given an authentic and uniquely crafted use. Thanks to committee members Jon Beebe and Larry Barnum, the carpentry and repair expertise was done to these failing dormers and sills so the new windows could be installed. Far beyond the call of duty on a volunteer committee, these two men stepped up and did what nobody else was willing to help us do. A lift was rented, and they did the work over fifty feet in the air. The Board of the Church on the Plains, and **all the people who love the building** thank them both for their generosity and care. It is most certainly NOT thankless, and much appreciated.

Maybe you've noticed the excavation, preparation, and completion of the walkway project on the front lawn of the church. Hallelujah! Finally, the Doris T. Smith memorial walkway and the Judith Olje peace garden have come to fruition. **Thanks to generous donors like yourself** and members of the community purchasing walkway pavers and bricks, this amazing project now has been completed. With plenty more opportunity remaining to participate in other areas, the initial phase of the project is done.

The walkway project, which cost over \$17,000, and the dormered roof windows, which cost over \$8000, have depleted the resources of the K.I.H.S. New projects must now be put on hold until the committee is able to raise additional finances to move forward. Projects like continued building painting, landscaping, exterior lighting, granite posts and benches, amongst other necessities, will have to wait a while.

Although COVID has affected almost every walk of life in our society, it has not changed the desire of the K.I.H.S. to continue preparing a place for the people of Kingston to come for programming, services, historical significance, and now, peaceful rest. **Fully reliant upon your generous donation**, we march forward believing there is great reason to preserve this magnificent piece of history. Please give generously so the Church on the Plains can remain a strong and beautiful symbol of perseverance in a time where our world needs the visible reassurance of what is stable and good.

So take note of those windows the next time you drive by. Please thank Larry and Jon the next time you see them. And please give to the K.I.H.S. today to **show that it matters to you as well**.

The Members of the Kingston Improvement and Historical Society (K.I.H.S.)

P.S. With COVID and social distancing a concern, our annual raffle calendar will be available ONLINE this year beginning November 1. Also look for us in person at the Polls on November 3; we KNOW you wouldn't want to miss out on these early Christmas gifts and fabulous winnings! Thirty-one chances to WIN for only \$10! (put your camera over the QR code to the right to go to the online page)

