



November 20, 2023

Dear Village of Cleveland Community Members,

The Cleveland Historical Society was transferred ownership of the former St. James Church and Friendship House on North Street in 2002. Since that time we have put the buildings to good use, and heard many historical presentations, and have seen performances of more than 35 children's plays.

The purpose of this letter is to ask for your assistance as we embark on our largest financial fundraiser. We have very few historic buildings left in our community, and the former St. James Episcopal Church is one of them. The church was built over 156 years ago and besides roof repairs, has little work done to it since erected. We recently had the building assessed by Crawford & Stearns a notable architecture firm to help us understand what needs to be done to preserve the building. Right now, it is no longer safe for entry with foundation work that needs to take place immediately.

The reason for this capital fundraiser is to raise the needed monies to make sure the building is preserved, and its charming gothic revival architecture remains a Cleveland landmark.

The members of the Board continue to hold fundraising events throughout the year, with our famous Spaghetti Dinner scheduled for January 20th. In the fall of 2024, we are planning another artisan craft and antique event at North Riding on Martin Road.

The Cleveland Historical Society is also the home of the Children's Glassworks Theatre. Marjorie Thomas will once again provide the children of the area with more wonderful opportunities to experience the joy and excitement of being in a theatrical production with plays planned in July and October to engage our youth in much needed creative activities. Once the updates to the building are completed we also intent to offer the former St. James to the community for historical and intellectual presentations, weddings and funerals.

Our Northshore community where we all call home holds a special place in each one of our hearts. Please help us in any way you can. No gift is too small. Please feel free to send in your donations of any size to: Cleveland Historical Society, PO Box 29, Cleveland, NY 13042.

Thank you kindly for your consideration!

Cleveland Historical Society Board Members; Marjorie Thomas, Joni Hinds, Suzanne Walters, Debra Everson, Rick Mansfield, Patricia Cerro-Reehil, Kathy MacDowell, Jack & Andrea Cottet, Geoff Gurskey, Joanne Demma and Rich & Dale Mizerski