

ABOUT THIS OLD CHURCH

PRESERVING VERNON

Like much of my family, I grew up in Vernon, NY. Our house was built in 1803, a former tavern on West Seneca Street (Route 5) with a slate roof and Victorian touches throughout. My parents did a ton of work fixing it up, finding century-old newspapers behind the horsehair plaster and knob & tube wiring.

When I noticed that the Vernon Center Presbyterian Church was for sale in February, 2019, I decided to take a look. It was falling into disrepair, including serious roof damage jeopardizing the entire structure. Some spoke of tearing it down, or removing the bell and stained glass windows, or turning it into an apartment building. I could not, in good conscience, let any of those things happen. We have lost too much of Vernon's history already. So I choose to do something about it. I am proud Vernon, where I grew up, and I want to do my part however small in preserving our past and reassuring its future as a great place to grow up.

My goal is to preserve the historic building, showcase the history of its congregation and our area, and offer a space that again contributes positively to the vitality of our community.

Thank you for your support with this worthwhile endeavor.
Garrett Law

FOLLOW THE RESTORATION

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ThisOldChurch.com

The building is included in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Vernon Center Green Historic District.



Harvest Dinner

NOVEMBER 2, 2019 • VERNON CENTRE, NY



MENU



APPETIZERS

Fresh Milk Bread Salad Rolls
from Silver City Baking

Brussel Sprout Salad with Dried Cranberries

Charred Cherry Tomato Caprese

Endive, Apple and Smoked Almond Salad

Butternut Squash Hummus with Smoked Paprika
Squash from Swistak Farm

MAIN COURSE AND SIDES

Coq au Vin Chicken Legs

Braised Beef Short Ribs

Sweet Potato Mash with Chives
potatoes from Simmons Farms and Arnie's Produce

Roasted Rainbow Carrots with Ancient Seeds

DESSERT*

Silver City Baking
Flourless Chocolate Tort with Ganache Glaze, with Cranberry Sauce

Mini Cupcakes
Vanilla Bean Ricotta Cupcakes frosted with Italian Meringue Buttercream

the Cremeria
Pear Sorbet • Pumpkin Spice Gelato • Cinnamon Gelato

*Note: Baked goods were made in a facility that also processes peanuts (and/or other nuts)



PURVEYORS

Swistak Farms · Verona, NY · swistakfarm.com · Paul & Cindy Swistak
Simmons Farm · Vernon Center, NY · Frank Simmons
The Cremeria · Clinton, NY · thecremeria.com · Maria Macrina
Silver City Baking Company · Sherrill, NY · AndreaMaranville.com
Arnie's Produce · Sherrill, NY

ABOUT CHEF RON DESANTIS

Certified Master Chef, MBA
Principal Advisor, CulinaryNxt - CulinaryNXT.com

Certified Master Chef Ron DeSantis is at heart a passionate culinarian. Growing up in his family's local grocery store surrounded by old-world Italian ingredients Ron began his food immersion. After cooking in the US Marines, Ron's culinary career shifted into high gear when he graduated from the world's premier culinary college, The Culinary Institute of America.

Ronald DeSantis served as Director of Culinary Excellence and Quality Assurance for Yale Dining. In this role, Chef DeSantis oversaw the production of over 13,000 meals each day providing leadership for all facets of culinary concept design, development of innovative menus and cuisine and training of the culinary team. Before joining Yale, Ron was Director of CIA Consulting at The Culinary Institute of America.

Chef DeSantis is one of only seventy certified master chefs in the world, has served multiple U.S. presidents at Camp David and The White House.

MUSIC

THE HAMILTON COLLEGE SAXOPHONE ENSEMBLE

The ensemble was founded in 2007 as part of the chamber ensemble program at Hamilton College. They take pride in performing music from multiple genres and historical eras. This year's ensemble boasts thirteen members, with a select quintet of the most accomplished players.

Stephen Wisser - soprano sax · Jonathan Sills - alto sax · Jin Lee - alto sax
Anna Gagliardi - tenor sax · Tyler Boudreau - baritone sax

For information about the group please contact the director Monk Rowe at mrowe@hamilton.edu OR (315)859-4071

AUTUMN IN NEW YORK

Sean Lessard, accompanied by David Sills

BENEFITTING

50% OF THE PROCEEDS WILL GO TO EACH OF THE FOLLOWING:

1. The Stained Glass Windows

The stained glass windows were installed in 1885 during the gothic revival expansion of the building. While the artist is not yet known, these windows are unique and artistically remarkable. The architectural motifs, abstract design, hand-painted touches, remarkable colors, silver etched patterns (grissaille) create an astonishing combination. To be properly preserved, each window needs to be removed, taken to a restoration specialist, and then re-installed. Sullivan Studios in Chittenango is working on restoring the second Devotie window panel. One of the foremost experts of 19th century stained glass windows, Professor Virginia Raguin at Holy Cross, is helping research their provenance and is coming to see them in person.

2. Clear Path For Veterans

Chittenango, NY - clearpath4vets.com

Clear Path For Veterans, located in Chittenango, is a special place with a special mission. It is committed to providing resources – physical, emotional, spiritual – into the lives of Veterans in need. Our Canine Programming is but one of those resources that provides intensive service dog training to Veterans with PTSD or MST. We have given 8 graduating classes of Veterans the chance to be productive members of society with the presence of a service dog in their lives. Clear Path is devoted to making a difference in the lives and well-being of military members, Veterans and their families.

RAFFLE ITEMS - ALL RAFFLE PROCEEDS BENEFIT CLEAR PATH FOR VETERANS

Parkside Deli (Vernon Center, NY)
Peter Reynolds / The Blue Bunny Books and Toys (Dedham, MA)
The Savoy Restaurant (Rome, NY)
Swistak Farm (Verona, NY)
Orvis Rochester Store (Rochester, NY)

SPECIAL THANKS

Bill Kauffman	Savoy Restaurant
Evans Roofing Company, Inc.	Parkside Methodist Church, Vernon Center
Don Henry / Sullivan Studios	Vernon United Methodist Church
Urtz Service Company	Cindy Faulkner
Bartlett Tree Experts	Chobani
Simmons Farm	Ken Fort
Clinton Hardwood Floors	Larry and Wendy Watkins
Parkside Deli	Jim and Karen Brown
Orvis Rochester	Maple Hedge Farm (horse drawn carriage rides)
Crane Company	Monk Rowe
Ralston Supply	Ubaldo Valli
Delta Engineers, Architects, & Land Surveyors	Matt Lenhart
Katie & Aaron Falkenmeyer	Vernon Center Fire Department
Vinnie Bailey	Sherrill Kenwood Volunteer Fire Department
Sean Lessard	Alli Streeter
Peter White	

