

# OLD WEST CHURCH

Calais, Vermont

## 200 YEARS

### Celebrate, Engage, Invest!

Since the first posts were raised in 1823, the Old West Church has stood atop a Calais hill connecting community from near and far for many of life's most important moments.

The simplicity and setting of this historic meeting house has inspired generations with **love, laughter, music, and spirit.**

With timbers hewn at Robinson Mill, cedar fronds collected from nearby woods, and wood panels making box pews, the Old West Church has **weathered two centuries because of the dedication of our community.**

- 1823 Frame raised by Lovell Kelton for \$23.13—about \$665 today
- 1825 Building completed for \$2,005—about \$61,000 today
- 1886 Proverbs 22:28 fashioned of cedar fronds installed
- 1921 Old West Church Association established
- 1953 Steeple hit by lightning
- 1972 Bell from the Maple Corner School installed
- 2018 Steeple restoration, Bell rope repair, Paint

The Old West Church connects us to our past, our present, and our future.

Through Celebration, Engagement, and Investment, **you can help us position the Old West Church for another 200 years.**



Painting by Bessie Drennan (photo courtesy of Janet Ancel)

### TOGETHER WE WILL:

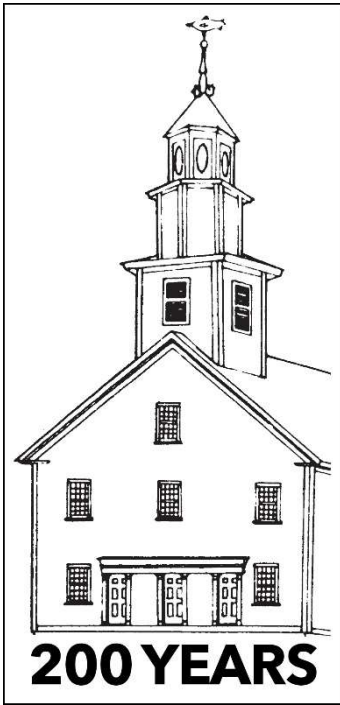
**CELEBRATE** the care and stewardship our community has invested to preserve this historic meeting house for 200 years!

**ENGAGE** those who have known these walls for all of their days *and* folks new to the incredible light, sound, and inspiration of an iconic building through our new summer music series—*Music Under the Steeple.*

**INVEST** in the future of the Old West Church. In commemoration of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary, our goal is to double the OWC financial reserves and create a music fund.

**We need your help to raise \$100,000.**

***Remove Not The Ancient Landmark Which Thy Fathers Have Set***



*A call was issued in 1823 for those interested in the building of a meeting house...a committee agreed upon a plan "forty by forty-two feet, forty pews on the lower floor, five feet by six, and eighteen above of the same bigness."*

*Excerpt article by Elizabeth H. Goldthwaite, The Christian Leader, October 7, 1897*

**It is our turn. Invest in the future of the Old West Church and help us meet our \$100,000 goal!**

**With your help, we will double our financial reserves** to support the long-term care and preservation of the Old West Church for generations to come.

We use our reserves to match grant funding, such as the steeple project, as well as for maintenance, such as the full exterior paint job.

In the coming years, large projects will include roof replacement, window preservation, and landscaping.

**Every gift, no matter the amount, will make a difference.**

<b>Pew Box 2023*</b>	<b>\$10,000 and up</b>
<b>Weathervane</b>	<b>\$5,000 to \$9,999</b>
<b>Steeple</b>	<b>\$1,000 to \$4,999</b>
<b>Bell Ringer</b>	<b>\$250 to \$999</b>
<b>Foundation</b>	<b>up to \$249</b>

\*Please note Pew Box gifts entitle donors bragging rights only. Pews remain open to all on a first come, first served basis.

### **Make Your Gift Today!**

**Donate online at:**

[oldwestchurchvt.org](http://oldwestchurchvt.org)

**By mail:**

Old West Church Association  
PO Box 73  
Calais, VT 05648

Be sure to let us know if your gift is made in honor or memory of someone special.

Please be in touch if you would like to make a planned gift.

The Old West Church Association is a nonprofit 501c3 organization. Donations are tax deductible according to the law.

**QUESTIONS?** Please contact: Barbara McAndrew, Old West Church Association  
c: 802-272-4129 or email: [info@oldwestchurchvt.org](mailto:info@oldwestchurchvt.org).

***Remove Not The Ancient Landmark Which Thy Fathers Have Set***