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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Greenwich Church Receives Landmark Grant to Save 120-Year-Old Rose Window

GREENWICH, NY — The Bottskill Baptist Church of Greenwich was recently awarded \$12,000 from the New York Landmarks Conservancy to repair the church's historic stained glass rose window. The funding, provided through the Conservancy's Sacred Sites Program, marks a major milestone in the church's "Preserving Our Light" campaign.

The 120-year-old window, a centerpiece of the church and Greenwich's architectural history, faces a dire future without intervention. Over a century of upstate New York winters have caused significant deterioration and cracking to the glass, lead mortar, and surrounding masonry.

"This window is more than just glass, lead and stone; it is a piece of our Church and the Greenwich community's shared history," says Roger DeKorp, one of the church's Trustees. "Without this significant repair, the window would simply need to be removed and boarded up."

At 8' in diameter and composed of hundreds of intricate glass pieces, removing and repairing the window is no small feat. The project is a complex undertaking handled by two teams of specialists. Ballston Spa's Chapman Stained Glass Studios and Sushan's Rushinski Masonry will work together with specialized tools and lifts to safely remove the delicate glass then to be transported to Chapman's studio for the months long work. Estimated at upwards of \$50,000, the project covers the removal and reinstallation of the window, meticulous repairs to its lead mortar, cracks, and bulging glass, and necessary structural restoration of the surrounding brick and wood. When the repair is complete a special weatherproofing glass protection will be added during the window's re-installation process.

The project carries a unique historical coincidence. Church historian, Ken Perry, discovered that Chapman Stained Glass Studio was the original designer of the church's Rose Window. "It was incredible finding that Champan created the window in the early 1900s and will again be working on the exact same glass in 2026. Since the window lasted over a century, we knew we were in good hands appointing Chapman Studios for the job", says Perry.

While the grant provides a strong foundation, the church still needs additional donations to reach its goal. Fundraising is ongoing and, most currently, includes an upcoming Washington County Band concert on the church green July 16th in which donations will be accepted. To date the church has raised just over the \$35,000 towards the repair.

Preparation for the window removal is currently underway with an anticipated project completion in the fall of 2026.

To make an online donation, find fundraising event details and view photos and history of the church you can visit bottskillbaptist.org. Or, or you can mail your helping donation to Bottskill Baptist Church, PO 45, Greenwich NY 12834.

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