

The beautiful stained glass window in our narthex hallway has quite a history. The window (as well as the bell in our garden) came to us when the Methodist Church in East Windsor was sold in the late 70s. For many years the East Windsor church and the Windsor United Methodist Church were part of the same charge. The window refers to the East Windsor M.E. Church. M.E. stands for Methodist Episcopal. The Methodist Episcopal Church and the Methodist Protestant Church merged in 1939 to become the Methodist Church. In 1968 the Evangelical United Brethren Church and the Methodist Church merged and became the United Methodist Church. Therefore the window was installed well before 1939.

Janice Springsteen and her family were members of the East Windsor Church until it closed and remembers it as being a very active church with many members. Her son Mark was raised in that church but was confirmed by Reverend Ken Wood at our church on May 29, 1977, so the East Windsor Church had definitely closed by then.

Reverend Ken Wood confirmed that the East Windsor Church was closed during his tenure in Windsor, but neither the window nor the bell came to our church then. Some of the East Windsor church members joined our church. Others chose to attend the Ouaquaga Methodist Church when their church closed.

Lael remembers riding up to East Windsor Sunday mornings with Reverend Jose Valencia for an early church service before returning to our church for our service. Lael also remembers that Norm Gleason was the bell ringer at the East Windsor church. When he rang the bell, it was so heavy that it would lift him off the floor.

While the bell found a home in our garden a long time ago, the window remained in storage until now. Under the trustees' direction, the stained glass window has been cleaned, beautifully framed and back lit by Keith's brother, Kurt Royer and now graces our hallway. The window is a beautiful testament to our desire to honor our church's history. The refurbishing of the window is a gift to the church from the Royer family.

*Thank you Lael and John Bagg; Dottie and Bruce Stetson; and Janice Springsteen for providing history.*

