



The Strawbridge Shrine Association, Inc.

The First Home of American Methodism

2600 Strawbridge Lane
New Windsor, MD 21776
410-635-2600
www.StrawbridgeShrine.org
Info@StrawbridgeShrine.org

OFFICERS

Rev. Mary A. Buzby
President
Robert Shindle
Vice President
Rev. Dr. Wm. Louis Piel
Secretary
Rev. Sue Bowen
Treasurer
Helen Kemp
Curator

DIRECTORS

Charles Coles
Marian Goettee
Bonnie Graham
Tom Harford
Theresa Hebron
Don Ludke
Reuben H. Morningstar III
Keith Palmer
Ronda Robinson
Sally Stair
J. William Stonesifer
John M. Strawbridge
Wallace Wolff

HONORARY DIRECTORS

Eleanor Bowersox
Daniel D. Hartzler
Dorothy M. Shindle
Philip Snader
Rev. Julian Tavenner
Rev. Dr. Arthur Thomas

EX-OFFICIO

Rev. Megan Blizzard
Rev. Dr. Emora T. Brannan
Prof. Ryan Danker
Rev. Yujung Hwang
Rev. Shari McCourt
Rev. Bonnie McCubbin
Rev. Stephen Ricketts
Rev. Blango Ross, Jr.
Rev. Malcom Stranathan
Rev. Eliezer Valentine-Castañón

October 20, 2021

I want to share with you an urgent and unique opportunity for the Strawbridge Shrine and for anyone who appreciates history.

The campus of the Strawbridge Shrine is home to a number of significant historic structures; the Strawbridge House and the Evans House being the oldest and most famous. But the history of the Shrine is a living one, and history has continued to play out on the property.

The 19th century Bank Barn is a rare and wonderful example of Civil War era agricultural architecture. Few such structures of the time period survive in Maryland, and we are blessed to be stewards of this one.



Farming was vital to the livelihood of Robert and Elizabeth Strawbridge, and it was the foundation of the Sam's Creek community in which the first Methodist Societies were formed. Preserving this barn on the Strawbridge grounds now will enable us to tell this important part of our history as a denomination and as a growing nation. In addition, we expect it to bring new history and Civil War pilgrims to our "hidden treasure" site.

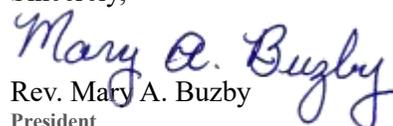
But if we don't act soon, time will work against us. The barn is in need of stabilization and restoration. As a first step, the Shrine Association is beginning a capital campaign to replace the roof to prevent water intrusion, and to give us time to raise money to preserve the remainder of the building.

Thanks to the generosity of one donor, **we have a limited time matching grant opportunity.** Every dollar we raise between now and December 31st, 2021 will be matched one-to-one, up to \$15,000.00. That means every dollar that supporters like you give is like giving two dollars. Every hundred dollars, is worth two hundred.

I urge you to take advantage of this limited time opportunity to double the value of your giving and to double the benefit to this important new project. Money raised as part of this appeal will be designated only to this effort. Previous gifts to the Shrine cannot be used for this project. We need your help now if we are to act in time to protect this historic gem.

I know this has been a difficult year. And I thank you for your commitment and support now, before this opportunity expires.

Sincerely,


Rev. Mary A. Buzby
President