



19 South Main Street, Post Office Box 627, Belchertown, Massachusetts 01007

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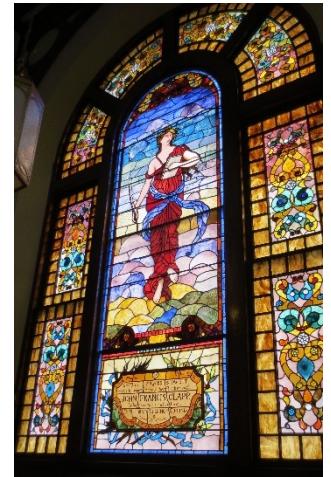
April 3, 2024

Greetings,

Each Spring, to coincide with Library Giving Day, the Clapp Memorial Library sends an annual appeal letter to Belchertown residents asking for donations. These gifts are essential to the continued maintenance and preservation of our 137-year-old building.

Your past generosity made many recent changes to the building possible, as the Library building is not town-owned, nor town-maintained. Last year, your support allowed us to improve the building's accessibility through the installation of an automatic door opener on our interior door and refurbishment of the main entrance. This year, we are continuing our focus on accessibility while also turning our attention to an important historic preservation project.

Our south facing stained glass window depicting the muse of poetry urgently needs repair and restoration. It is currently sagging in several places and pieces of individual glass are beginning to crack. A consultant has developed a work plan that addresses these structural issues and ensures this important work of art and historical treasure will survive for generations to come. But to make this happen, we need your help.



We are truly appreciative for the financial support we receive from the Town for services and the Friends of the Library for programs, but it is with your support that we continue to maintain this architectural gem and complete the many essential repairs and upgrades necessary in a historic building. Your tax-deductible gift helps us sustain the maintenance of this building and its grounds. We appreciate and value your continued support as we embrace the future while preserving the past.

Please join us in maintaining our historic building by making a tax-deductible gift. In hard times and easier times, our community is our most valuable asset. We appreciate and value your continued support.

Sincerely yours,

Cyndi Harbeson, Library Director

Bill McClure, President, Board of Trustees

**A library is not a luxury but one of the necessities of life.  
—Henry Ward Beecher**