



# The First Church of Christ in Hartford

*A member of the United Church of Christ — founded 1632*

*An Open and Affirming Congregation*

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## **PRESS RELEASE** **For Immediate Release**

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### **CENTER CHURCH ANNOUNCES MEETING HOUSE RESTORATION PLANS** **Steeple and Front Façade**

Hartford, CT, February 17, 2017: The First Church of Christ in Hartford (aka Center Church) has engaged historical architect Timothy Brewer of TLB Architects of Chester, Connecticut, to conduct a feasibility study and develop plans and specifications for restoration of the steeple and front facade of the Meeting House. The plans were developed with coordination with construction manager Lupachino and Salvatore, Inc. of Bloomfield, Connecticut.

The scope of work is outlined in this statement from the architect:

*“At the street level, the project will address re-pointing and caulking of the main exterior entry stair, painting and restoration of the ornamental iron rails. The primary thrust of the project, however, is aimed at stabilization and restoration of the steeple, from the clock level up to the top of the cupola and spire. The scope of the work will include complete restoration and reconstruction of architectural details adorning the Clock Level, Bell Level, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Balustrade Levels, the Cupola and Spire. Structural integrity will be returned to the internal tower access stair and tower framing timbers, and a cable-restraint system will be installed at upper levels, to allow safe and timely inspection and maintenance of the tower in the future. The lightning-protection system will be upgraded and new LED tower lighting will be installed. Finally, the iconic clock, inclusive of new movements, dials and hands will be restored and bell ringing equipment will be upgraded to state of the art.”*

The Center Church Property Committee has been working with the architect since 2013 to define priority work, as we are limited by budget constraints. The construction budget is approximately two million dollars.

**[www.centerchurchhartford.org](http://www.centerchurchhartford.org)**

*Center Church: where faith is a journey, not a destination*