



Press Release

Hammonton, NJ (January 21, 2012). The Historical Society of Hammonton invites the public to a free community program to be held Thursday, February 2nd, 8:00 PM in the sanctuary of the Presbyterian Church of Hammonton.

The program for the evening will be presented by church member and Clerk of Session, Michael Petri on the 150th Anniversary of the church – 1861 – 2011.

In 1866 the first church building located on northern Bellevue was dedicated only to be moved to the current church location in 1879.

In 1896 a new sanctuary that stands today was built and the 1866 church building moved to Tilton and Pleasant Street for use by the Italian Evangelical Presbyterian Church. In 1917 a new pipe organ was installed financed largely by the Carnegie Foundation and Henry D Moore.

Michael has discovered situations such as in the heart of the depression, in 1935, a leaky roof, pastor not fully paid and a cash balance of three cents but by 1963 there was a new Christian Education **Building** followed in 1969 by a sanctuary renovation and in 1974 a new pipe organ.

Most recently, in 2010 there was yet another sanctuary renovation plus an elevator and additional rest rooms so as to be handicapped accessible.

Holding the meeting in the church will enable those attending to hear the story of and witness the Akron Style architecture where the warm browns of the arched ceiling create a sense of beauty and reverence.

Those attending can park in the adjacent lot and enter through the side door where you will be directed to the sanctuary or if you wish through the front door on 326 Bellevue. Please join us.

About The Historical Society of Hammonton

The Historical Society of Hammonton was established to provide for generations to come a living collection relating to the rich and unique social, political, economic and cultural heritage of the Town of Hammonton, New Jersey. The mission of the society is to increase awareness of history relating to Hammonton, New Jersey environs and to establish public access to that history by collecting, conserving, studying, interpreting and promoting the history to the widest audience.

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