

Kaaterskill United Methodist Church

The Reverend Dr. Karen A. Monk, Pastor

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A spirited community, sharing God's grace.

March 17, 2015

Hunter Foundation
5994 Main Street
Tannersville, NY 12485

Dear Friends & Neighbors

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this grant request on behalf of the Kaaterskill Thrift Shop to assist in the repair of the building's roof. We respectfully request \$5,000 toward the estimated \$10,000 that is needed to repair a leak in the bell tower. The leak is undermining the ceiling and causing water to infiltrate into the Shop.

The Thrift Shop opened in the summer of 2010 and has grown to provide an important service to the mountaintop community and all who enter its doors. It is one of many community ministries offered by the Kaaterskill United Methodist Church, a congregation whose hearts, minds and doors are open to anyone in need.

The Thrift Shop not only provides low cost clothing, household goods, books, and toys to low and moderate income residents, it also distributes to persons in crisis both locally and through Capitol Rescue Mission, domestic violence shelters and even international connections. In its four years of service, the Thrift Shop has helped countless people from across the mountaintop and beyond, and has seen an increase in the number of disadvantaged people coming to purchase items. In order to continue providing this important service, repairing the Thrift Shop's bell tower is a priority this year.

We thank you again for considering this request and if you need additional information, please contact me.

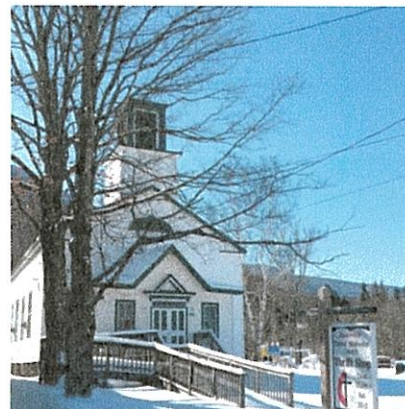
Sincerely,

The Rev. Dr. Karen A. Monk
Pastor

Mr. Eric Johnson
Chair, Board of Trustees

Brief description of the organization's purpose, history and forward outlook

The Kaaterskill Thrift Store opened its doors to the community in 2010 to provide a needed service to those with limited income and to families in need. It is operated under the auspices of the Kaaterskill United Methodist Church (KUMC), a church that offers community ministries through sharing God's love, joy and peace. KUMC's ministries respond to local needs, give back to the community and strengthen our capacity to support one another in times of hardship. The Kaaterskill Thrift Shop, the Food Pantry, and Community Garden are examples of the church's ministries responding to alleviate hardships for mountaintop residents.



Thrift Shop, Main St., Hunter, NY

The Kaaterskill Thrift Shop makes available low cost clothing and household goods, as well as books and toys in a welcoming setting. In the four years since it opened, the growth of the Thrift Shop's mission is an indication of the benefit that it provides to the region's economically disadvantaged residents. It is also a sign of the great need that is prevalent in our rural communities. All items are sold at very low cost, most for one or two dollars, and for those who cannot afford to pay, all items are free.

The Thrift Shop has also become a central place in the Village of Hunter where people can meet and share with each other and the compassionate staff their stories, their ideas and their challenges. It serves a useful purpose while providing a warm, friendly atmosphere for people to get to know one another. At the core is a team of dedicated volunteers who spend many hours preparing and operating the Thrift Shop and overseeing the building's needs.



Volunteer Joy Vanucchi

In addition to running the Thrift Shop three days a week during the six month season, volunteers yearly organize and deliver a truck load of winter clothes for adults and children, including toys and other items to the Capital City Rescue Mission in Albany. The Thrift Shop also supports a homeless shelter in Delaware County with items such as blankets and towels, works with a couple who forwards clothes to the needy in the Dominican Republic, and delivers clothes to individuals and other local organizations that serve the needy within the county. In short, the Kaaterskill Thrift Shop is a lifeline for many who live among us and well beyond our region.



Volunteer Dena Lawrence

For the coming year, volunteers hope to expand the service locally by using social media more effectively to identify those in need and provide assistance to them, such as identifying students of all ages through school programs.