

Village Planning Board Secretary Sandy VanRiper

From: Helen Musumeci <helIngrace2@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2021 6:26 AM
To: Village Planning Board Secretary Sandy VanRiper
Subject: onnuri church
Attachments: chester methodist church.odt

Please share this letter with all relevant parties.
Thank-you,
Helen Musumeci

To: Village of Chester Planning Board
Sandra VanRiper, Secretary

47 Main St
Chester, NY 10918
RE: Onnuri Evangelical Church
47 Main St
Chester, NY 10918

To Whom It May Concern,

I was shocked to hear that the Onnuri Evangelical Church is proposing to demolish the old Methodist Church in Chester. I grew up and lived in Chester until early adulthood. I was baptized and confirmed in the Chester Methodist Church. Being in that beautiful building helped to form my knowledge and understanding of god and I am certain many others share this experience. The vitality of old architecture contributes significantly to formative experiences, not only for those who knew them as children, but for newer residents and visitors. They are not just buildings. And too many have been already been lost.

That the Onnuri Church and the planning board would even consider destroying this divine and splendid part of the the town's architectural history is most dismaying, despite the fact that it may be perceived as the most cost-effective or efficient. If commercial motivations are the case, the value of saving the building for the town and its people far outweighs the financial. I hope the Onnuri Church can see their way to serve in this way, to preserve rather than destroy, and that all involved, including the the people and government of Chester, can find a way to work unselfishly together to save this building.

Sincerely,

Helen Musumeci (a long time Elm St, Chester resident)
PO Box 1237, New Paltz, NY