

Preserving Black Churches Grant to Chubb Chapel United Methodist Church Completed

Saturday, March 2 was a time to honor the hardworking men and women who turned the dreams of Chubb Chapel United Methodist Church into reality with the reconstruction efforts that will sustain the church for years to come. Chubb Chapel celebrated their dedication, skills, support, and innovations during a special dinner. With the Preserving Black Churches grant of \$50,000, Chubb Chapel accomplished many projects: removal of the bell from the bell tower, repairing plumbing issues, reconstruction of the rotten foundation, grading to remove moisture from the church foundation, rebuilding of the well pump house, and other projects.

Chubb Chapel was one of 35 churches nationally to receive a grant in 2023 and one of two churches in Georgia to be so honored. Preserving Black Churches, an initiative sponsored by the African-American Cultural Heritage Fund, is designed to assist historic Black churches across the country with restoring their buildings and maintaining their cultural legacies. Ms. Melissa Jest from Preserving Black Churches provided an update of the work they continue to do, supporting approximately 80 churches over three years with about \$10 million. The private National Trust for Historic Preservation, which includes Preserving Black Churches, has raised over \$100 million in its seven years of existence to support various program (visit savingplaces.org).



Ms. Melissa Jest of Preserving Black Churches discuss the National Trust of Historic Preservation

Special certificates of appreciation were available for all the key players in making the success of the grant possible.



Clemmie Whatley, Henry Chubb, Avis Freeman: Appreciation to Henry Chubb for providing ongoing support throughout the project



Avis Freeman, Clemmie Whatley, Beth Dunay with E. Dunay Design, who provided architectural leadership.



Avis Freeman, Clemmie Whatley, Todd Hooper, who provided support and guidance in various phases of the work including gradation and structural revamping.

Historic Chubb Chapel was constructed circa 1870 by the Chubbtown families. It is listed on the Register of Historical Places. The church has been active since its inception and offer services on second and fourth Sundays at 11:00 a.m. For more information on Chubb Chapel, visit the website: chubbtown.org or contact us at chubbchapelumc@aol.com.

Thanks to the Preserving Black Churches grant personnel and the many experts who helped with the reconstruction of Chubb Chapel so it will remain a viable place of worship: Making Disciples for Jesus. Chubb Chapel extends a special appreciation to its local partners: E. Dunay Design, the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church and the Polk County Historical Society for their support.