

## **St. Bartholomew's Church**

### Resource History

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1849 - St. Bartholomew's Church was established by Rev. Lewis P. Balch on land adjoining his family home, provided for the church by the residents of Leetown. (JCDB 7/287). The church was built and consecrated in 1849, and funding for building the church was provided by congregants of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in New York City, where Lewis P. Balch served as rector.

1860's - The church served as a field hospital during the Civil War, during which it also suffered severe damage.

1900's - In May 1900, May 1903, May 1909, and again in May 1913, St. Bartholomew's hosted the Eastern Convocation of the Diocese of West Virginia. Despite these conferences, the church had difficulty maintaining a congregation during the 1900's and as a consequence the building fell into a state of disrepair. During the 1980's local residents and members of other churches contributed great effort to reestablish a congregation. This new congregation persisted until the Covid-19 pandemic, which effectively shuttered the church. At the time of this writing, St. Bartholomew's remains closed.