

BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Christ Church Georgetown

February 2017

For two centuries, the church at the corner of 31st and O has extended Anglican worship and Christian scholarship into the busy life of the nation's capital. Here, the time-honored Book of Common Prayer, and the attendant musical and liturgical practices, have sustained an evolving community through a succession of political, social and economic upheavals. A thirty-minute walk from the White House, the church and its congregants have navigated civil war, assassination, global conflict, and depression.

OUR JOURNEY

Committee Formation *May 2016*

Summer Meetings *May 2016*

Deep Study of the Following *Summer 2016*

- Parish Profile
- Church History, prepared by Glenn Metzdorf
- Bicentennial Celebrations at other Episcopal churches

Adult Forum Presentation *August 2016*

Subcommittee Work *October 2016 -January 2017*

Recommendation of Projects *February 2017*

Vestry Presentation *February 2017*

BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Katherine Brown

Tim Carrington

Tim Cole*

Henry Courtney

Ed Crocker

Anne Gambal

Marcia Mayo

Glenn Metzdorf

Scott Plumridge

Evie Rooney

David Shepard

Page Smith*

Tom Smith *

Heather Stouffer

Christy Thorley

Sally Squires Wilhelm

Puffin Travers*

Harry Volz*

* Executive Committee

*We Will honor our history
We Will open our doors
We Will light the path to Christ*

Bicentennial Vision

Major Themes

Express Gratitude

- Guidance of the Holy Spirit
- Traditional liturgy
- Church family
- Music
- Education
- History
 - Women's roles in the church development
 - Recognition of our weathering great financial and political challenges
- Our position in nation's capital
- Architecture

Build Community

- Outreach. Reach and support all elements of our parish community – the young and the old, the healthy and the infirm
- Share our celebration with other churches and neighborhoods
- Attract new members
- Revisit small groups. Bring our existing community together as challenging given different services
- Reach 20's-30's. Bring them back into community.
- Welcoming culture

Inspire Growth

- Encourage lay leadership to be involved and take ownership
- Creativity
- Listening
- "without wavering"
- Pastoral care
- Our Christian duty is to serve others
- Commit resources to mission outreach in celebration
- Parish that is better connected as a church, a city and within the world
- Mutual love and respect between rector and parish
- Voice of past parishioners

Hopes and Concerns

VISUAL EXPRESSIONS



Christ Church
Georgetown
200 years

SUBCOMMITTEES AND CHAIRS

- Education: *Susan Davies and Anne Gambal*
- Events: *Janis Buchanan and Evie Rooney*
- Marketing & Communications: *Christy Thorley and John Wilhelm*
- Multimedia & Publications: *Kit Thomson and Sally Squires Wilhelm*
- Worship & Music: *Katherine Brown and Tom Smith*
- Inspire Growth: *Scott Plumridge*
- Build Community: *Martha Webb*

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Co-Chairs: Katherine Brown and Tom Smith

Their Recommendations:

Highest Impact

- Commission a congregational mass setting with choral embellishment to premiere at our first Bicentennial event, Sunday, November 12, 2017. Bishop Budde in attendance as well as The Very Rev. Ian S. Markham, Ph.D. from VTS.
- Commission a full set of festal Eucharistic vestments and matching paraments in celebration of the Bicentennial. Will premiere on Christmas Eve/Day 2018.

Expressions of Gratitude

- Compose a collect to be used at some/all parish liturgies during the Bicentennial. Perhaps used during the Prayers of the People
- Compose a new hymn text to be sung during the Bicentennial celebration.
- Plan opportunities to share the rich liturgical and musical life of Christ Church with the parish's mission partners
- In conjunction with the Rector and assisting clergy, schedule and plan an Instructed Eucharist for all who serve in the liturgy: acolytes, lectors, chalice bearers, ushers, members of the Altar Guild, etc.

EDUCATION

Co-Chairs: Susan Davies and Anne Gambal

Their Recommendations:

Projects for Sunday School and Youth:

- Offer activities to help children celebrate and better conceptualize 200
- Offer service opportunities to better understand 200
- Bury a time capsule
- Create a CCG scavenger hunt
- Have youth interview older parishioners
- Have Sunday School students learn a song

Projects for Adults:

- Explore history of the Episcopal Church. Including but not limited to exploration of role of Episcopal Church in founding of the US and history of the Prayer Book
- Explore history of CCG.
- Host panel of Georgetown religious leaders to discuss religious life in Georgetown

Projects for All:

- Offer service opportunities that focus on 200
- Share weekly fun fact/“One hundred years ago today ...”
- Create a coloring book of the windows
- Have different church groups or groups of parishioners play Christ Church Jeopardy
- Offer church tours that share history of the building, windows, needlework...

MULTIMEDIA & PUBLICATIONS

Co-Chairs: Kit Thomson and Sally Squires Wilhelm

Their Recommendations:

- Design a brochure highlighting the history and architecture of Christ Church
- Research and writing of our founder's biographies
- Update existing history prepared by Glen Metzdorf
- Conduct oral histories of long-time parishioners
- Collect and archive photographs, media and documents

EVENTS

Co-Chairs: Janis Buchanan and Evie Rooney

Their Recommendations:

- Christ Church, Georgetown, was organized on November 10, 2017. On Sunday, November 12, 2017 we will honor the founding of our beloved parish with a combined Holy Eucharist, at 10:00 a.m., featuring the premiere of a new congregational mass setting commissioned for the occasion. The service will be followed by a Founder's Festival and anniversary exhibition.
- The cornerstone of the first church building was laid on May 12, 1818. We will mark the occasion on Sunday, May 13, 2018 with a combined Holy Eucharist, at 10:00 a.m. A garden party and picnic at Georgetown's historic Tudor Place will follow.
- The first church building was consecrated on December 30, 1818. On Sunday, January 6, 2019 we will celebrate the 200th anniversary of this milestone with a Service of Lessons & Carols for the Feast of the Epiphany, at 4:00 p.m. The liturgy will be followed festive reception in the Parish Hall Auditorium.

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

Co-Chairs: Christy Thorly and John Wilhelm

Their Recommendations:

- Provide marketing and communications support to our Bicentennial efforts including:
 - Branding
 - Bicentennial Bulletin
 - Collateral Materials
 - Public Relations
 - Social Media
 - Bicentennial Memorabilia
 - Bicentennial Webpage

INSPIRING GROWTH

Chair: Scott Plumridge

"This working group, by researching the needs, attitudes and concerns of the wider community, will look outward to discern how pathways from ignorance of, to belonging to the Christ Church family might be built and sustained in order to inspire growth in the life of the congregation and to ensure that the generation of the Christ Church family that comes after us is found and finds Christ in this place."

– Rector *TAR Cole*

Objectives will be to:

- Bring people to Christ Church = opening our doors
- Bring Christ Church to people = lighting the path to Christ

A team of 13 parishioners, lead by Scott Plumridge, have been researching how we might engage distinct constituencies of differing demographics, deal with the competition of a secular society on Sundays as well as how we might use mission projects as a way to share our abundance while attracting new members in the community.

BUILDING COMMUNITY

Chair: Martha Webb

“This working group, by examining, reflecting and consulting on the strengths and challenges in our current experience of Church community, will look at how we might facilitate, develop and deepen our existing fellowship in Christ, our identity as a congregation and a sense of belonging across all ages in order to build community now and lay the foundations for the community that will come after us.” - *Rector TAR Cole*

Formed to focus on supporting each other in faith, building a strong identity as a Church family and generating a sense of belonging based on bonds of affection, trust and gladness. The group will research the experience of a breadth of people of varying demographics and circumstances, what people are looking for in the Church family and what obstacles exist.

Objectives include:

- Developing a clear idea of how to build a community that serves all ages and circumstances and identifying the key resources.
- Presenting a report to the Bicentennial Committee with a list of possible courses of action by July 1, 2017.

This working group is currently being formed.

MEASURING SUCCESS

- Number of bicentennial volunteers
 - Since May 2016 an original planning committee of 17 has already grown to over 100 enthusiastically engaged parishioners who are dedicated to the process of sharing creative ideas and offering their talents to this ministry of celebration. One can witness faith growing in the process even as we have yet to commence a proposed program or event. We are truly experiencing the effects of gratitude expressed in the form of diligence on tedious projects and a renewed openness to get to know one other better.
- Number of bicentennial volunteers who go on to join an established committee
- Number of bicentennial volunteers who go on to form new committees
 - Out of enthusiasm for our bicentennial, a new sewing group has been formed to create a needlepoint tapestry reflective of our rich history. This group is being led by Lorraine Cole.
- Development of new and existing lay leaders
- Increase with familiarity and appreciation of our history
- Heightened sense of community on the part of parishioners

MEASURING SUCCESS (CONT.)

- Number of people in attendance
- Number of non-members in attendance
- Staying within budget
- Number of hits on bicentennial webpage
- Amount of positive feedback as measured by number of emails, conversations and/or social media comments