

Bicentennial Bulletin

Upcoming Events

Sunday, April 22, 2018

10:00–11:00 a.m.

Bicentennial Adult Forum

The Very Reverend Ian S. Markham, Dean and President of Virginia Theological Seminary, explores the state of the Episcopal Church in 2018.

Saturday, May 12, 2018

10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Bicentennial Floral Display and Open House

A multi-faceted event coinciding with the annual Georgetown Garden Tour, featuring architectural tours and musical offerings by the Choir of Christ Church.

Sunday, May 13, 2018

10:00 a.m.

Bicentennial Garden Party/Picnic

A combined celebration of the Holy Eucharist will be followed by a family-friendly Garden Party and Picnic at Tudor Place Historic House and Garden.

Fun Fact

Easter 1953

Unlike a decade ago in 1943 when the pews of Christ Church were not filled, people were turned away because capacity was reached. Christ Church became a truly metropolitan church.



Christ Church
Georgetown
200 years

The Peter Family of Tudor Place

Grant Quertermous, Curator, Tudor Place Historic House & Garden

After Thomas and Martha Peter purchased Tudor Place in 1805, they began attending St. John's Georgetown, and the family maintained ties to St. John's and Christ Church, Georgetown, for almost two centuries. In 1831, St. John's closed for eight years and the Peters began attending Christ Church. Thomas Peter's brother, George Peter, was also an early member of Christ Church, renting Pew 36 in 1819.

Thomas and Martha's youngest daughter, Britannia (1815–1911) had the longest association with Christ Church. However, she was confirmed at St. John's Lafayette Square because Rev. John Brook (Rector of Christ Church, 1829–1835) only confirmed those who renounced dancing. When Britannia married Commodore Beverley Kennon in December 1842, Rev. John Hoff (Rector of Christ Church, 1838–1843) officiated. Kennon died sixteen months later, leaving Britannia widowed with an infant daughter.

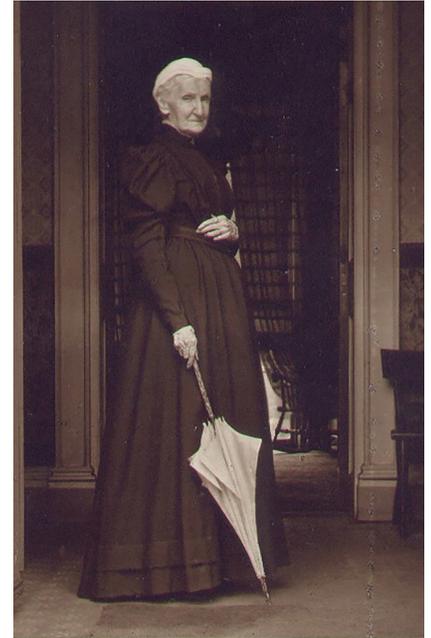
Each Sunday, Britannia walked the two blocks to Christ Church. She served as longtime president of the Sewing Society and receipts indicate that she rented Pew 60 and later Pew 85. When Britannia's daughter Markie married Dr. Armistead Peter in the spring of 1867, Rev. Walter Williams (Rector of Christ Church, 1866–1876) officiated. In 1882, Dr. Peter purchased property at 3044 O Street and constructed the house that still stands across 31st Street from Christ Church.

Robert E. Lee visited Tudor Place and attended Christ Church with the family in 1869. "I suggested, as the weather was so bad, we would not go to church in the morning," Britannia recalled, "but, if the weather cleared, we would go at night." It was communion Sunday, and Rev. Williams was disappointed they didn't attend that morning as he wanted to administer the sacraments to Lee.

Britannia died at Tudor Place on January 27, 1911, and her funeral was conducted by Reverend James Blake (Rector of Christ Church, 1902–1924).

Charles Alexander Burnett (1769–1849)

Charles A. Burnett was one of the initial pew subscribers with eight shares valued at \$200, and was one of the 26 committed pew owners. In 1818 he was one of a Committee of Three to purchase a lot for the new church. He subsequently was a pew owner. He also was a master silversmith who created the church's first communion service, as well as that of St. John's Church in Georgetown. The two original silver chalices and paten of the church's



Britannia Kennon of Tudor Place

communion service bear his hallmarks and are still used today.

Burnett's shop was located at what is now 3116-18 M Street, where he worked alone until 1840. He is regarded as Washington's leading silversmith during the federal era. His silver is highly prized by collectors. From his Georgetown shop Burnett cultivated business with the new national government and many of the leading political and social figures who populated the emerging capital. In addition to Washington and Jefferson, his recorded clients included presidents Madison, Monroe, John Quincy Adams and Jackson. Burnett silver is more widely distributed than that of most of his contemporaries since much of it was purchased by congressmen and senators who carried it home when their careers ended.

In addition to his work as a silversmith, Burnett served as a director and president of Union Bank and pursued a variety of successful investments.

His wife was Alethea Burnett (1778-1851), and they had at least one daughter. On March 5, 1822 a funeral was held at Christ Church for Mary, their infant daughter.

Charles Alexander Burnett died in May 1849 and his funeral was held at Christ Church. He and his wife are buried nearby at Oak Hill Cemetery.

For the complete articles on the Peter family and Burnett, visit the parish website's Bicentennial page: www.christchurchgeorgetown.org/bicentennial.

Bicentennial Flower Display and Open House

On Saturday, May 12, Christ Church, Georgetown, will open its doors to the wider community with a Flower Display and Open House, part of the parish's ongoing Bicentennial celebration. The multi-faceted event will coincide with the annual Georgetown Garden Tour, which is based at Christ Church. The doors of the church will be open to parishioners and visitors alike from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Guided architectural tours will be led by the clergy and a group of parishioner-volunteers. The Open House will feature an Easter-themed flower display created by members of Christ Church's Flower Committee. The Choir of Christ Church will offer two brief, informal, and identical choral programs at 1:30 and 4:00 p.m. Attendees will be encouraged to visit the Georgetown Garden Tour's boutique in the Chapel Garden and enjoy afternoon tea in Keith Hall from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Please add this event to your calendar and plan to join us as we share the history, beauty, and welcoming spirit of Christ Church with the community.

Bicentennial Garden Party and Picnic

The next major event in the parish's year-long Bicentennial celebration will mark the laying of the cornerstone of

the first church building on May 12, 1818, with a Garden Party and Picnic at Georgetown's Tudor Place Historic House and Garden, which will take place on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 13. Following a combined celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m., the Choir of Christ Church will lead parishioners and guests in an outdoor procession up 31st Street to Tudor Place. The Garden Party and Picnic will feature family-friendly food and drink, live jazz, activities for children, and tours of the Tudor Place and its gardens. Don't miss this historic (and fun!) event in the life of the parish community!

KIDS' CORNER

Eyes on 200 Dot to Dot

Begin with 1 and connect the dots. What did you draw?

Hint: It is an important part of Communion and for us, a part of our history of Christ Church. We have some of these, cared for by the Altar Guild, one, nearly as old as the church itself!

