

1735 TIMES

Brought to you by the Foundation for Historic Christ Church, Inc.



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CHRISTCHURCH1735.ORG

Reverend David Currie's Pocketbook

On July 18, 1743, vestrymen from Christ Church and St. Mary's White Chapel gathered for an important meeting. Although the two parishes would formally unite in November 1752, at this time each had a vestry of twelve members who met as a "General Vestry" when decisions had to be made about issues related to both parishes, such as the minister or the glebe, which they shared.

The meeting that July concerned finding a new minister to take over for John Bell, who had died a month earlier after leading Christ Church and St. Mary's White Chapel for thirty-one years. Appearing before the "General Vestry" was David Currie, a Scotsman who had been ordained by the Bishop of London in December 1742 and who had lived in Virginia earlier while serving as a tutor to the Lee family.

Currie brought with him a letter of recommendation that noted his recent ordination and his qualities as a "person of Good Life Conversa[tion] Merrit & Esteem to Suply the vacancy ocasioned by the Death of the Late Revd. Mr. John Bell Decd."



(From left) Carolyn Bobsin, her sister Jeanne Peifer, and her brother Philip Siebert join FHCC Executive Director Robert Teagle in the church to present a pocketbook that belonged to their ancestor Reverend David Currie.

By a unanimous decision, the seventeen vestrymen assembled (six from St. Mary's White Chapel; eleven from Christ Church) agreed that the "Sd. Mr. David Curry be Entertained in these P[a]rishes and in ye Church of Each parish as hath been heretofore Used."

Like Bell, Currie would rotate Sundays between Christ Church and St. Mary's White Chapel, performing Divine Service and preaching a sermon at one while at the other in his absence a clerk read the service from the Book of Common Prayer as well as a homily. Each parish contributed 8,000 pounds of tobacco towards Currie's salary, which Virginia law in 1696 had established as 16,000 pounds of tobacco plus cask for packing it.

The vestrymen's decision that day proved to be a wise one: Currie would serve Christ Church Parish for the next 48 years, leading it through the tumultuous years of the American Revolution and the disestablishment of the Church of England. At his death early in 1791 he requested in his will that his "Dust" be buried in the churchyard at Christ Church (provided he died at the glebe).

Thanks to a gift from his descendants, Historic Christ Church now has a special connection to Reverend David Currie. In April, siblings Jeanne Ellen Peifer, Philip Ellyson Siebert and Carolyn Dorothea Bobsin donated a pocketbook that once belonged to Currie. According to retired Colonial Williamsburg textile curator Linda Baumgarten, pocketbooks were a typical accessory carried by men to hold letters, paper currency and other items. Embroidered in canvas and measuring about six inches wide by four inches tall, Currie's pocketbook features the "Queen's stitch," a more time-consuming stitch compared to the more typical wool "Irish stitch."



This closeup shows the detailed "Queen's stitch" in the pocketbook carried by the Reverend David Currie.

— Continued on page 7

Herb Garden Gets Interpretive Panel

Dedicated in the summer of 1986, the herb garden has been a labor of love for the hundreds of volunteers who have worked to maintain it over the past four decades. Created at a time when the landscape included the church and just a single building that housed a small museum, research library and office, the herb garden has grown into an important part of an expanded campus, serving both as a beautiful welcome point for visitors and a place to educate them about life in colonial Virginia.

This educational role expanded this summer with the addition of an interpretive panel that highlights the essential ways plants shaped the daily lives of early Virginians. Funded by a generous grant from The Garden Club of the Northern Neck, the panel resulted from the efforts of volunteers Val Verburg and Sally Beard, who in 2020 created a partnership between Historic Christ Church and the Master Gardeners of the Northern Neck to restore and care for the garden.

The panel includes an example from Robert "King" Carter's diary on his use of herbs as well as a description from the colony's first native-born historian Robert Beverley on "kitchen gardens," which Virginians cultivated adjacent their houses with vegetables, flowers, fruit trees and other plantings. The panel also features a QR code that users can scan to see a list of current plantings in the garden, historical uses for different plants, primary documents, and other materials that Beard has assembled through her meticulous research. Visit ChristChurch1735.org/about/herb-garden to learn more.



Sally and Val with new herb garden sign

Save the Date

Saturday, October 18 - 4:00 p.m.

John H. Hunt II
Chesapeake History Forum
**"Saltwater Showmen:
The James Adams Floating
Theater, 1914-1941"**



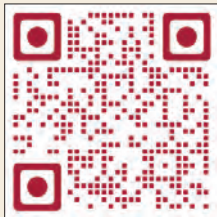
Kate Livie

Chesapeake author and historian Kate Livie returns to Historic Christ Church for a presentation about the "Chesapeake's Showboat," The James Adams Floating Theater. From 1914 to 1941, The James Adams Floating Theater enchanted riverside small towns and cities throughout the Chesapeake's tributaries with theater productions, musicals, and other entertainment. Long after its circuit was abandoned for motion pictures, the legacy of the magical little showboat lived on in the memories of its audiences. Livie will share images, stories, and history about the Floating Theater, its national impact, and the ways it shaped life in the Chesapeake for almost 30 years.

Livie appeared at the second *John H. Hunt II Chesapeake History Forum* (2023) with a fantastic presentation on the "Oyster Wars of the Chesapeake Bay." She is an excellent speaker who combines a passion for Chesapeake history with a delightful wit and grace. Her talk on the oyster wars also inspired what has become a tradition at the annual program that honors longtime HCC volunteer and friend John Hunt - fresh oysters!

Join us on October 18 for this special evening of history and storytelling. The event begins at 4:00 p.m. with craft cocktails, fresh oysters (raw, roasted and fried), and steamed shrimp in a courtyard reception before Livie's presentation at 5:00 p.m. with dinner and dessert to follow.

Tickets: \$100/person or \$175/couple.
Seats are limited.
Scan the QR code to get yours!



Entablature Conservation

Likely the finest of its type from colonial Virginia, Christ Church’s Ionic entablature marks the transition between the church’s soaring brick walls and hipped roof. Fabricated of wood and standing four feet tall, its three-part design includes a denticulated cornice, pulvinated frieze and three-stage architrave.

In his *Historic Structure Report* (1994) for Christ Church, Lancaster County, Virginia, Nat Neblett stated that the “wood entablature is quite remarkable for its date of construction and was among the most advanced stylistically in the colony at the time.” Except for Rosewell in Gloucester County, which according to architectural historian Ed Chappell “shared family connections and perhaps craftsmen,” no building from colonial Virginia had a full entablature like Christ Church’s. The feature provides a visually pleasing spot for the roof to “stand,” but it also establishes a principal decorative theme repeated in the church’s rubbed brick doorways outside and pulpit and chancel inside.

Threatened by flaking paint, natural weathering, and the buildup of surface dirt, mold, and cobwebs, the woodwork is in dire need of conservation. Workmen last cleaned and painted the entablature over a decade ago, and exposure to the elements and continued accretions of algae and dirt leave the wood vulnerable to deterioration.

Conservation of the entablature is more than just saving one element in Christ Church. The entablature is an integral part of the building’s pristine architectural character, and preserving it is critical to preserving the historic integrity of Virginia’s finest church. In recent years FHCC has conserved other parts of the church’s exterior woodwork, including the twelve compass sash windows (2021-2022) and the doors at each entrance (2022-2023). Cleaning and painting the entablature will return all three of the church’s exterior woodwork elements to their original beauty and ensure the survival of this unique surface for decades.



Entablature during conservation in 2004. Christ Church’s Ionic entablature consists of three parts from top to bottom: a denticulated cornice, pulvinated frieze and three-step architrave.



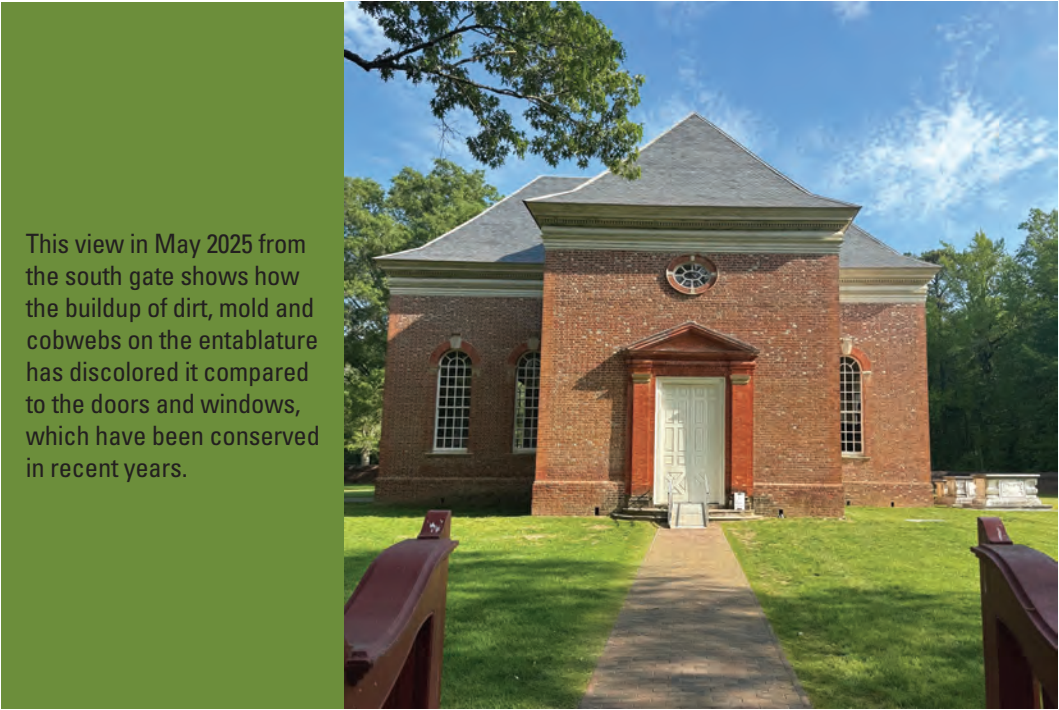
Mold, dirt and cobweb build up in southwest corner (April 2025).



Mold, dirt and cobweb build up (April 2025). Note how the wood has become desiccated in areas.



The entablature below the roof repeats itself in the brickwork over the west door (left) and north and south doors (not shown here). Note the mold/dirt accumulation (April 2025).



This view in May 2025 from the south gate shows how the buildup of dirt, mold and cobwebs on the entablature has discolored it compared to the doors and windows, which have been conserved in recent years.

Conservation will include cleaning, lightly scraping/sanding, consolidating of rotten or friable areas in the woodwork with a faring compound, and painting with an egg-shell white determined by historic paint analysis to be the original color like that seen here following conservation in 2002.



The delicate nature of historic preservation and the remarkable quality of Christ Church’s entablature require the skilled hand of an experienced conservator to preserve this unique survivor from colonial Virginia. FHCC has secured an estimate from one of Virginia’s leading historic paint conservators to undertake this work.

Total estimated costs are \$80,299.00.
The Foundation has already secured almost \$25,000 in grants.
We need your help to raise the remaining \$55,000.

HOW TO GIVE:

Donate online at ChristChurch1735.org/donate. Select “Preserve Entablature.”

OR

put **Preserve Entablature** in the memo

and mail your check to **FHCC, PO Box 24, Irvington, VA 22480**

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The Foundation has hundreds of good friends, business sponsors, and organizations, near and far, who evidence their commitment to the preservation and interpretation of Historic Christ Church through their annual financial support. We send our appreciation to all for their generosity in empowering the Foundation to fulfill its mission.

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Elementary students August Goodrich and Mariah Veney as Robert “King” Carter and Betty Landon Carter during Historic Christ Church’s first ever wax museum in May 2024.

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Mr. Wilfred P. “Red” Montgomery & Mrs. Pauline O. “Pim” Montgomery
Mr. & Mrs. Nathaniel P. Neblett
Mrs. Mary Beard Owens
Dr. & Mrs. James R. Prince
Mrs. Cheryl Ann Sadler
Mr. & Mrs. Paul T. Sciacchitano
Mr. Stevenson T. Walker
Mr. & Mrs. D. Anderson Williams
Mrs. Walter Francis Witt

Indication of intent to remember Foundation in will or other instrument:
Anonymous
Mrs. Marian Carter Addy
Mr. & Mrs. Erich Newhill Ball Avedisian
Mr. Michael M. Beaudrias & Mrs. Elizabeth T. Beaudrias
Ltd. & Mrs. Frank S. Chase, USA (Ret)
Mrs. Nancy G. Collings
Mr. & Mrs. Maurice W. Dickerson
Mrs. Annice B. Dorsey
Mr. & Mrs. Ammon G. Dunton, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Frederick P. Engstrom

2024 Annual Giving Honors

Camille Bennett
Katherine Leggett
Carter farmers of Louisa County, Virginia
Michael Carter
Ed and Gail Feddeman
Anne Warner
FHCC Staff
Larry and Kathie Galgano
Linda Gayle
FHCC Volunteers
Linda Gayle
Kathie Galgano
Therese Horwath
Glasscock Descendants
Donald E. Radeke
Four Grandchildren who are Robert Carter descendants
Christine Czarnecki
Stevan E. Gressitt, MD
Alexandra S. Gressitt
Sandy and Floyd Griffith
Carol and Frank Burke
Patrick Heffernan
Francisca Sabadie
Barbara Hensler
Francisca Sabadie
Calder Loth
Dr. Ann Camille Wells
Miriam MacCarthy
Kenneth Levine and Margaret Gunn

Marianne Miller
Victoria and Amy Tillman
The Nickens Family
Thomas Walker
Mercer O’Hara
Mrs. Nathan V. Hendricks, III
Marge Page
Larry and Kathie Galgano
Therese Horwath
Marge Page’s 95th birthday
John Bowden and Rebecca Wright
Jennifer and Jessica Burmester
Katherine H. Chase
Ed and Shirley Crockett
Michael Galgano
David and Patricia Geeson
Mary K. Hoerneman
Therese Horwath
Robin Padavana
Kevin and Marie Page
Richard and Laura Schults
Rebecca Teagle
Beverly Kearney
Robert Teagle
Terence Eagleton
Beverly Kearney
Jerrilynn Ebby Macgregor
Jean Nelson
Rappahannock Community College
James and Sheila Sands
Mary Lynn Slaughter

2024 Grants

2024 Speaker Series The First Three: From Washington to Jefferson
The J. Edwin Treakle Foundation
VA250

Security Backup
Campbell Memorial Agape
River Counties Community Foundation

Wren Masters
Virginia Commission for the Arts

2024 Commemorative Brick Honors & Memorials

Walter Ford Carter
Joan Elizabeth
Edward G. Feddeman — FHCC President
2022-2024
William Graham, Jr.

Ellis Hamilton, Jr.
Julia Leigh “Juju”
William Rottkamp
George Stephen
Lewis Winston

2024 Passages

Services of Holy Baptism
6/2 Felix Alexander Randolph McDonald
6/2 Hutson Lee Stephens

Services of Holy Matrimony
6/22 Neal Cirone and Madison Dalton

Interments in Historic Christ Church Burying Ground
8/13 Stuart Thomas Bray, Jr.
5/18 Otis M. Brinn
12/5 Irene V. Buchholz

5/18 Dr. Robert E. Davis & Jean H. Davis
3/1 Frank H. Elliot
7/13 William James Glover
1/20 Clarence H. Hinnant IV
4/13 Elissa B. Hogan & Roger B. Hogan
2020 Anne Marie W. Jones
11/2 Margaret Sadler Kirby
2/10 Brigadier General William C. Louisell
10/19 Kerford A. Marchant, Jr.
8/10 Robert F. Murphy
1/22 Phyllis Fox Stump

2024 Deaths of Foundation Volunteers

Irene V. Buchholz - Clerical
Brig. Gen. William C. Louisell, Jr. — Board Member; President 1993-1996
Robert F. Murphy — Board Member, Docent, Marketing committee
Barbara Nance - Receptionist
Nathaniel P. Neblett — Author of *Historic Structure Report* (1994); Board Member
Arthur R. Neira - Receptionist
Evelyn Neira — Herb Garden
Curtis L. Sampson — Flowers
Col. Neil A. Smart — Organist for Annual Meeting and other events
Walter H. Rogers, Jr. - Husband of Sue Caroline Kirkpatrick Rogers (Board Member)



Volunteers Della and Keith Kidd join (from left) siblings Peter, Mary Virginia and Alexander “Sandy” Vietor following the annual Public Reading of the Declaration of Independence in July 2024. The Vietors read by each colony the names of the 56 men who signed the Declaration.

Financial Statements

Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2024 (Unaudited)

Statement of Financial Positions as of December 31, 2024 (Unaudited)

Assets:		Liabilities & Equity:	
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$37,524	Liabilities	\$34,270
Investments	\$5,974,126	Equity:	
Other Current Assets	\$25,791	Unrestricted Net Assets	\$7,158,854
Land, Buildings, & Equipment	\$2,522,951	Restricted Net Assets	\$883,363
Total Assets	\$8,560,392	Net Income/(Loss)	\$483,905
		Total Equity	\$8,526,122
		Total Liabilities & Equity	\$8,560,392

Income & Expense for the year 2024 (Unaudited)

Income:		Expense:	
Contributions & Grants	\$207,993	Program	\$442,409
Visitor Fees/Donations	\$11,228	General & Administrative	\$75,523
Events Income	\$9,303	Fundraising	\$10,497
Bayne Center & Gift Shop	\$13,294	Depreciation	\$89,952
Burying Ground	\$70,967	Total Operating Expense	\$618,381
Other Income	\$9		
Total Current Income	\$312,794	Investment Gain/(Loss)	\$789,492
		Net Income/(Loss)	\$483,905

The books of account of the FOUNDATION FOR HISTORIC CHRIST CHURCH, INC. are maintained in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The financial statements of the Foundation are audited or reviewed annually by Forvis LLP, Certified Public Accountants and Advisors, and garner unqualified opinions. Copies of the most recent audit report and of the federal tax return (Form 990) are available for inspection at the foundation office.

Board of Directors and Staff 2024

Officers:			
Michael W. Bombay President	Laurie M. Goddin Vice President	Leonard R. Hoerneman Treasurer	Linda M. Coye Secretary
<hr/>			
Directors:		Advisors:	Staff:
Regina G. Baylor	Della B. Kidd	Robert A. Cornelius	Robert J. Teagle - Executive Director
S. Wallace Dawson, Jr.	Tom H. Richardson	David A. Jones	Paula D. Stallard - Assistant Director & Burying Ground Manager
Edward G. Feddeman	The Rt. Rev. E. Mark Stevenson	Carl R. Lounsbury	Jill M. Sears - Development Director
Margaret W. Gibson	Valencia K. Verburg	Kathleen P. Moeller	Debra P. Byram - Office Manager
The Rev. Kimberly B. Glenn	Stevenson T. Walker	Ronnee R. Taylor	
Melise R. Graham	Anne F. Warner	Alexander Smith, Jr.	
Jethro H. Irby, III	Jill M. Worth		
Hurst Kelley		Registered Agent: Jessica R. Haynie, Esq.	

Volunteer Council 2024

Chair - Valencia K. Verburg	Gift Shop - Gail E. Knisely	Research - Dr. Kathleen P. Galgano
Corresponding Secretary - Cynthia J. Johnson	Group Tours - Marilyn T. Loomis	School Programs - Della B. Kidd
Docent Coordinator - Laurie M. Goddin	Herb Garden - Valencia K. Verburg	Volunteer E-Newsletter - Kathleen P. Moeller
Education - Della B. Kidd	Historian - Walter D. Kolos	
Flower Committee - Laurie M. Goddin	Receptionist Coordinator - Richard M. Manson	

2024 Volunteers

Carol Adams	Carol M. Cole	Marge W. Gibson	Sarah D. Johnson	Katherine McConnell	Barbara G. Richards	Heidi Tracy
Sally J. Austin	Gail Cooper	Paul Gibson	David A. Jones	Carole Jean McConnico	Susie Rohrer	Carol Vaughan
Regina G. Baylor	Robert A. Cornelius	Alexandra L. Gifford	Daphne M. Kasteel	Susan T. McKenna	Noel Ross	Art H. Verburg
Sally Beard	Linda M. Coye	Laurie M. Goddin	Lorelei Kelley	Robert N. McKenney	Julie D. Rottkamp	Val K. Verburg
Jack H. Blaine	Shirley B. Crockett	Wells Goddin	Della B. Kidd	Harriet McManus	Page Rudolph	Mark Vick
Susan D. Bober	Roberta W. Curtis	Melise R. Graham	Keith Kidd	Dennis McNeely	Lillian Ryals	Connie Vinson
Joyce D. Bombay	Bonnie P. Dawson	Dianne D. Guensberg	Donald E. Kierson	Kathy Meyer	Nancy Sanders	Steve T. Walker
Michael W. Bombay	Wally Dawson, Jr.	Margaret B. Gunn	Barbara A. King	Marianne Miller	Laura K. Schults	Pam A. Ward
John C. Bowden III	Pauletta J. Dillard	Joan A. Harris	Peter G. Knight	Kathy P. Moeller	Herman W. Scott	Anne F. Warner
Dan E. Boyer	Cindy Dullea	Tommy Harris	Gail E. Knisely	Peter J. Moeller	Carol L. Sennott	Judy A. Werner
Cathy Bradley	Linda Erbe	Ratcliffe W. Harris	Walter D. Kolos	Mary Newton	Barbara H. Slack	Frances Westbrook
Marg Brandt	Edward G. Feddeman	Steve D. Harris	Karin L. Lamb	William J. Ogden	Alexander Smith, Jr.	Richard T. Wilson III
Lila S. Brent	Gail J. Feddeman	Patrick J. Heffernan	Martin S. Lane	Betty Otley	Janet Smith	Cheri S. Winkler
Betty P. Brown	Barbara J. Fentress	Page Henley, Jr.	Brenda Lassiter	Bill C. Otley	Mary E. Stewart	Tiffany Wittman
Eugene R. Bruner	Jo Ann Fickling	Barbara J. Hensler	Tom Leitch	Marjorie R. Page	Sharon Stieber	Susan P. Woodard
Mary Jo Bullock	Richard J. Fickling	Leonard R. Hoerneman	Marilyn T. Loomis	Liz Parker	Brian Swedberg	Jill M. Worth
Deborah Burgess	Ginny Field	Mary K. Hoerneman	Carl R. Lounsbury	Jo Ann Perkins	Ellen Swedberg	Larry D. Worth
Virginia C. Burnette	Kathie P. Galgano	Jodi Hoffman	Bob D. Lumsden	Ethel Pole	Mary Carol Taylor	Becky Wright-Bowden
Katherine H. Chase	Kayla Galgano	Pattie L. Hope	Miriam F. MacCarthy	Carol C. Poundstone	Ronnee Taylor	Eliza G. Wright
Anne H. Cheek	Larry J. Galgano	Page G. Hunt	Missy MacKimm	Jesse D. Powell, Jr.	Susan Taylor	Joy Young
Mark Christmas	Linda Gayle	Cynthia J. Johnson	Jo W. Manson	Margy M. Priddy	Rita M. Theisen	
Susan Christopher	Trish C. Geeson	Helen Johnson	Dick M. Manson	Julia Putney-Brandt	Gail L. Tiesenga	
Poppy Cockrell	Gale Gibson	Kenneth R. Johnson	Susan Martin	Lloyd Redlin	Sandra K. Toomey	

Reverend David Currie’s Pocketbook (cont.)

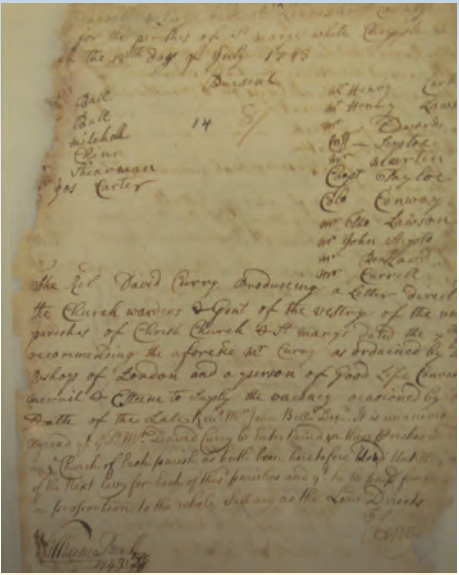
The pocketbook contained a sketch of the Currie family coat of arms as well as a note written June 13, 1859, by Currie’s grandson Dr. Ellyson Armistead Currie that stated the object was a thread case made for David Currie about 1720 while he was in school in Scotland. Baumgarten believes the pocketbook may date to the second half of the eighteenth century and said that many like Currie’s have “American histories of construction and use.” The embroidered ones, she notes, “were often made as a gift by a spouse or loved one.”

Ellyson Currie’s note does not indicate who may have stitched his grandfather’s, but it does provide evidence that the pocketbook belonged to Reverend Currie. One can imagine Currie carried it with him from the glebe when he traveled around Lancaster to preach a funeral sermon, officiate at a wedding, or conduct business at the courthouse. Now reunited with his beloved parish, the pocketbook provides a tangible connection to a central figure in Christ Church’s history, a man whose nearly half century leading the parish was matched by few ministers in colonial Virginia. Historic Christ Church staff will work with designers Riggs Ward of Richmond to display the pocketbook in a section of the museum that profiles Christ Church’s colonial clergymen.



Charles Carter

In his classic work *Old Churches, Ministers and Families of Virginia* (1857), Bishop William Meade published a letter from May 12, 1790, from Charles Carter of Shirley to his “dear friend” the Reverend David Currie. Informing Currie that he had received two of his letters, Carter expressed his pleasure on learning that Currie enjoyed “a tolerable share of health” and congratulated Currie and his wife Elizabeth on their children, whom Carter described as not only “dutiful, healthy, and robust” but “clever and sensible.” Carter also informed Currie that through his will he would direct 500 acres at “Nantypyron” [Nantepoyson/Antipoison Creek] in Lancaster County to be “laid off for the use of Mrs. Currie for and during her natural life.” *(Image courtesy of Historic Shirley)*



Record of the “General Vestry” for Christ Church and St. Mary’s White Chapel held July 18, 1743, where vestrymen unanimously agreed to hire David Currie to take over the parish following the death of the Reverend John Bell.

COLLECTION
Spotlight



In the summer of 1980, a team restoring the Carter tombs made a surprising discovery. After removing the top from the tomb of Robert Carter’s second wife Betty Landon Carter (1683/84-1719), conservators found two cherub heads inside that had once adorned the tomb of Robert’s first wife, Judith Armistead Carter (1655-1699). Made of oolitic limestone, they originally formed part of the decorative motif on the south panel of Judith’s tomb. Like their counterparts on Judith’s north side, the cherubs likely were set into a pair of wings joined by flowers that ran across and down the panel.

How these cherubs from Judith’s tomb found their way into Betty’s goes back to the story of the first restoration of the Carter tombs. By the late nineteenth century, vandals, age, and weathering had taken their toll. Photographs show the tombs lying in fragments around the east side of the church with some pieces leaning up against the church wall. An observer in 1897 said the “scattered fragments...seem pleading with an eloquence mute but potent to be returned to their proper places.”

In 1926-27, Mrs. Bessie Carter Minor Funsten of Richmond led a committee comprised of notable Carter family members and other prominent Virginians to restore the tombs. With some of the panels and corner pieces from each tomb missing or damaged beyond repair, contractors William A. Gault & Son of Baltimore fabricated cast replicas, including one for the south panel of Judith’s that had held these cherubs. And although the tombs as originally constructed had been hollow, Gault’s team installed brick cores to hold the reassembled panels and corners together.

Gault’s workmen found a good use for the cherubs that survived from Judith’s tomb: they placed them as shims inside the gap between the brick core and a side panel in Betty’s tomb. Here the cherubs would remain undiscovered until 1980 when further deterioration compelled the Foundation to replace the tomb tops with new ones made of Culpepper Black granite. Today visitors can view one of Judith’s cherubs in the Carter Family section of the museum.



This photograph taken in 1932 by Thomas T. Waterman for the Historic American Buildings Survey shows the original panel on the north side of Judith Carter’s tomb after restoration in 1926-27. The same cherub heads that would have been on the south panel were the two placed inside Betty Landon Carter’s tomb during that restoration.

MOWTON “TONY” LeCOMPTE WARING JR., COLONEL, U.S. ARMY (RETIRED)
OCTOBER 1, 1934 - JULY 6, 2025

The Foundation for Historic Christ Church lost one of its dearest friends this July with the passing of Mowton “Tony” LeCompte Waring Jr., Colonel, U.S. Army (Retired). Tony excelled as a docent for more than two decades, sharing his love of Christ Church with visitors from around the world in tours that highlighted the building’s incomparable architecture. He served as a mentor to his fellow volunteers by inviting new docents to shadow his tours and by leading sessions at spring training programs.

A highly decorated officer of the United States Army and a natural leader, Tony chaired the Buildings & Grounds and Preservation Committees for many years, helping guide the Foundation through critical projects that included conservation of the church’s doors, windows, entablature, Carter tombs and slate roof. Near the end of his tenure, he helped initiate the discussions and research that began the rising damp project.

Tony also served on the Board of Directors, Executive Committee, and the Cultural Resources Management Committee, where he made important contributions to the layout and content of the new museum that opened in April 2009. As a member of the committee for revising the Red Book (a compendium on the history of the church, the parish, the Carter family, and more), he and Bonnie Dawson co-authored a new section on Christ Church’s architecture and preservation. From 2011-2013, Tony led the Foundation as President. In 2018, the Foundation presented Tony with its highest honor – the Louise Belote Dawe Award – for his three decades of service.

Tony was a regular on our annual Parish Crawl bus tours, adding humor and insight at stops across the Commonwealth to tour other historic churches, courthouses, archaeological sites and more. At concerts, speaker events, volunteer recognition brunches and other occasions at Christ Church he graciously served as wine pourer, chair mover, ticket taker, window opener, green gatherer, car parker, or member of the clean-up crew. Never seeking the spotlight and always with a quiet, matter-of-fact determination, Tony advanced the Foundation’s mission and embodied the spirit and dedication that makes Historic Christ Church the special place it is. Thank you, Tony, for your leadership, loyalty and friendship.



“When I came to FHCC I was experienced and competent in the management and funding of not-for-profits and well-schooled in health and human services. However, what I knew about preservation of historic buildings wouldn’t fill a small thimble. In short I had a very steep learning curve. I quickly learned that Tony would mentor me up that curve and that in his eyes there was no such thing as a ‘dumb question.’ Between Tony and Nat Neblett, I couldn’t have had better tutors.”

Bob Cornelius
Executive Director, Foundation for Historic Christ Church (1999-2006)

Clay Jenkinson and Listening to America Come to Historic Christ Church



The *Listening to America* Airstream sat outside Christ Church for a couple of days in May, drawing lots of attention from passerbys, including one who simply could not help herself and stopped in to ask “Is Clay Jenkinson really here?”



From the pulpit, Clay and presidential historian Dr. Lindsay Chervinsky presented a dialogue on “Religious Liberty and the First Amendment.” The program looked at Virginia’s unique role defending religious freedom and the contributions of Jefferson and others to this enduring theme in the American experience.



Clay joins volunteer Melise Graham and Eddy Whichard at the courtyard supper that followed his and Lindsay’s presentation inside the church. Clay graciously moved from table to table to greet attendees, most of whom knew him from his three decades hosting the *Thomas Jefferson Hour* (now *Listening to America*).



The morning following their program inside Christ Church, Clay and Lindsay used the Bayne Center to record a podcast entitled “Ten Things: The Real Patrick Henry.” The podcast explored Henry’s rise from shopkeeper to governor of Virginia and one of the founders of the American republic.

To hear Clay and Lindsay’s program inside Christ Church and their podcast on Patrick Henry visit <https://ltamerica.org/listen-2/> or scan QR Code

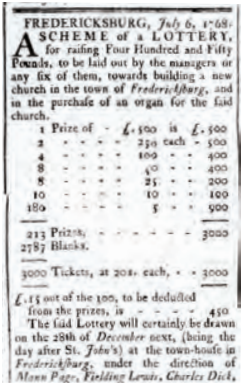


THE HCC LOTTERY IS HERE! What’s Old Is New Again

Last November, as we were putting together a development plan for 2025, we began by looking at our needs: estimated **preservation** costs, expenses associated with programs and events that bring **education** to our community, and necessary operating expenses. Then we explored our funding streams. In addition to generous individual annual giving, grants, business sponsorships, and a small profit expected from our popular speaker series, we needed a significant fundraising event to meet our budget.

Raise the Roof had been moderately successful as both a friend and fund raiser, but the event was always weather-dependent, required an enormous amount of time and overhead costs (tents, music, food, beer, etc), and had seen declining attendance and profits.

These factors made the decision to try something new easier. **Inspiration** came through a History Mystery. Here is an excerpt:



...This image from the Virginia Gazette of July 14, 1768, shows cash prizes for a lottery organized by some of Fredericksburg’s leading men, including Mann Page, Fielding Lewis, and Hugh Mercer. The “SCHEME” proposed 3,000 tickets at 20 shillings each. Of these, 213 tickets would be prizes, garnering anywhere from £500 for the grand prize to 180 prizes of £5 each; 2,787 would be “Blanks.” The gentlemen hoped to raise 450 pounds sterling for a new church in Fredericksburg as well as the purchase of this item, one seen in only a handful of churches in colonial Virginia, including Petsworth and Stratton Major, the latter who had theirs on loan from a parishioner who in announcing his intent to leave the colony in December 1772 advertised it for sale as “inferior to none on the continent.” The “item” in question was an organ for the church in Fredericksburg.

The HCC Lottery will support the general fund. Only 250 tickets will be sold as a nod to the upcoming 250th anniversary of our independence. There are no physical tickets, but a unique number is associated with your online purchase when you scan the QR code with the camera on your phone. If you would prefer to purchase through the office, please stop by or call Development Director Jill Sears at 804.438.2446.

Tickets are \$100 each, and the cash prizes will be drawn on October 18th at the *John H. Hunt II Chesapeake History Forum* in the Bayne Center at HCC. The grand prize is \$3,000, second prize is \$1500, and third prize is \$500! There will also be two interim drawings; on August 7th the prize is professional catering for a cocktail party for 8 at your home, and on September 11th we will draw for a beautiful piece of jewelry from Burke’s. Winning an interim drawing does not preclude you from winning a cash prize!

So, what’s old is new again! We hope you will support the lottery and share this exciting opportunity with your friends and family.

Good luck!
Jill Sears, Development Director

Lottery Tickets!



Historic Christ Church & MUSEUM
Preservation * Education * Inspiration

\$100 Each - All Proceeds Support HCC&M
Only 250 Tickets Being Sold!

ChristChurch1735.org

Multiple Drawings & Prizes!
*August 7: Cocktail Party for 8
*September 11: Jewelry from Burke’s
*Winners still eligible for cash prizes

October 18: Cash Prizes

- \$3000
- \$1500
- \$500





Since 1735, as it came from the hands of its builders

A Virginia and National Historic Landmark
Listed on the
National Register of Historic Places

**Foundation for
Historic Christ Church, Inc.**

PO Box 24 · Irvington, Virginia 22480
804-438-6855
info@christchurch1735.org
ChristChurch1735.org

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Executive Director

Paula D. Stallard
Assistant Director & Burying Ground Manager

Jill M. Sears
Development Director

Debbie P. Byram
Office Manager

1735 Times Contributors
Debbie Byram
Bob Cornelius
Len Hoerneman
Professional Printing Center
Jill Sears
Paula Stallard
Robert Teagle



HCC&M’s accountant
Gale Gibson, a CPA with
Dehnert, Clarke & Co.,
P.C., purchases the first
lottery ticket on July
2nd!