A Visit in 1837

On June 23, 1837, William Meade visited Christ Church during his annual travels as Assistant Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church of Virginia. The day included several sermons as well as a tour of the church and tombs. Meade marveled at a building he said “exhibits to this day one of the most striking monuments of the fidelity of ancient architecture to be seen in our land,” a structure “whose sacred form and beautiful arches seemed to give force and music to the feeblest tongue.”

Meade spent the night in Lancaster, where an experience convinced him that “we of this day of progressive improvement are not in all things in advance of our fathers, but in some rather the contrary.” Staying with a friend whose house was “a new one scarcely finished,” Meade recalled how the next morning while lying in bed a large piece of the plaster ceiling fell upon him, but the church built a century earlier stood “perfectly sound and impervious to rain” except in a few spots where shingles had deteriorated. “Where is the house, built in these degenerate days of slight modern architecture,” Meade asked, “which may compare with Old Christ Church, either within or without?”

We might ask the same question today. Few buildings in Virginia or the nation compare to Christ Church. But preserving this special place comes with considerable costs. Your gift to the 2022 Annual Appeal (envelope enclosed) will ensure Christ Church’s survival and help visitors from around the world experience the same “deep impression on the eye and mind of the beholder” that Christ Church made on William Meade that summer day in 1837.

Thank you for your continued friendship and thank you for supporting the 2022 Annual Appeal.

John C. Bowden III Receives Dawe Award

This year’s Louise Belote Dawe Award winner John Bowden III has done it all for the Foundation for Historic Christ Church: docent, Chair of the Volunteer Council, Vice President, President, and member of the Board of Directors. In these leadership roles John has provided steady guidance on key preservation projects, including the restoration of Christ Church’s 1897 slate roof and the installation of a subsurface drainage system around the church to mitigate rising damp.

But it is John’s daily oversight of the campus at Historic Christ Church & Museum that continues to draw the admiration of volunteers and staff. As Chair of Buildings & Grounds, John has made long-lasting contributions in security and HVAC upgrades, landscape and parking lot improvements, restroom and research room renovations, collections storage, museum exhibitions and more. The Dawe Award noted John’s willingness to take on any task without a desire for personal recognition and always with an eye to excellence, integrity, and dedication to the Foundation’s mission. Thank you, John, and congratulations on a well-deserved award!
Archaeology and the Rising Damp Project

Archaeology plays a critical role in the Rising Damp Project. Before a contractor can install the subsurface drainage system that will capture and divert water from the church, archaeologists must excavate each section of the project area to recover artifacts and identify features that were part of the historic landscape. They must also identify the locations of any unmarked burials that might impact the project area.

Led by Katie Brauckmann, a team of archaeologists from DATA Investigations in Gloucester County has spent the past year excavating and documenting the site. These excavations, some of the most extensive undertaken at a colonial church in Virginia, have uncovered artifacts and landscape features that will add important new information to the Christ Church story.

South Walkway Burial – Excavations along the south walkway where a drain line carries water away from the church located a burial about midway down the line (darker soil left of orange cone). Because the burial lies in the project area, archaeologists will excavate any human remains they find and reinter them in another part of the churchyard. Depending on the types of bones that survive, archaeologists hope to send the remains away for forensic and DNA analysis before reinterment.

Northeast Burials and Scaffolding Posts – At the northeast corner of the church, archaeologists identified at least six unmarked burials, visible here as the lighter, rectangular soil stains running parallel along the east (left) side of the excavations. The two circular brick features about five feet from the church are postholes that anchored construction scaffolding. Here Katie Brauckmann explains these findings to Brad McDonald (jeans/hat) and Joanna Wilson Green (behind Katie) of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources while archaeologist Thane Harpole looks on.

Aquia Sandstone Windowsill Fragment – Excavations along the west walkway’s south drain line yielded an interesting collection of artifacts and features. Along with remnants of the original footings to the churchyard wall and a boundary ditch likely associated with the 1670 church, archaeologists found a fragment of Aquia sandstone that fit perfectly on a windowsill in the southwest corner of the church. Archaeologists theorize it may have been discarded into a trash pit near the west gate during repair work in the early twentieth century.

Red Dust Mystery – Some archaeological features can be difficult to explain, like this deposit of red dust along the northeast wall. Archaeologists and architectural historians speculate that it could be one of several things:

1. discarded red wash that bricklayers applied to the small joints in the gauged brickwork around Christ Church’s doorways
2. discarded pozzolan or brick dust that bricklayers added to lime mortar to help the mortar set better
3. leftover brick dust from rubbed brickwork

Churchyard Excavations Begin – Archaeologists began excavations in November 2021 at a low point in the southwest churchyard that floods during heavy rains. A catch basin here will collect water and transport it under the churchyard wall through a drainpipe that connects with larger drain lines running to an outfall point near a ravine behind the Chase Center administrative building.

Jewelry Fragment – In addition to pipe stems, wine bottle fragments, and ceramics common to colonial sites, archaeologists have uncovered several rings and other personal items of jewelry, including a pair of copper cufflinks in the shape of seashells. This glass gem, either part of a ring or a sleeve button that was molded into a small copper setting, depicts a woman’s face or a colonial man in a wig.

Student Dig Day – As it has done with previous excavations, HCC&M hosted a “Student Dig Day” that gave local school children and their families the opportunity to participate in a real archaeological dig. The budding archaeologists excavated units near the Carter tombs and helped screen for artifacts. A group of children from Chesapeake Academy’s summer camp program also participated in the dig on another date.

Pipe Stems – Some of the dozens of pipe stems and bowl fragments uncovered in the churchyard have designs that both help date the pipes and reveal more about their origins. These and other bowl fragments have a decorative rouletting or stamping similar to pipes made ca. 1660 by a Native American Algonquian near Nomini in Westmoreland County about 40 miles west of Christ Church.
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.

If your name, or the name of a family member, is given incorrectly anywhere in this report, please contact the Foundation office so that it may be corrected for future publications.
2021 Annual Giving Memorials

Catherine Clark Barrett
The Reverend Stanton H. Barrett III
and Ms. Leslie A. Lawrence
Susan Dorn Barth
Mr. Richard C. Barth
Mary Garland Beard
Ms. Elisabeth H. Fournier
Family of Robert D. Bratton
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew R. Fietter
Douglass V. and Wynette S. Blevins
Mr. and Mrs. William H. Hurlbut II
Stuart T. Bray
Mrs. Eileen Cook Bray
Commander T. Nash Broadaus, USN
and Ms. Gloria Moncrief Broadaus
The T. Nash and Gloria M. Broadaus
Foundation
Edward J. Boucholz
Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Fryer
and Mrs. Luther R. Row.
David and Blancella Carlson
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth P. Mitchell
Robert Carter I
Mr. Lucius Willoughby
William Golden Carter
Mr. and Mrs. Katherine Marsh Lewis
Christine M. Chase
Mr. Charles C. Chase Sr.
James Flexner Chase, Jr.
Mr. Camille E. Bennett
Frederick Peters Cole
Mrs. Lois Cole Mitchell
Patrick Connolly
Mr. John W. Connolly
Edward and Evelyn Cornelius
Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Cornelius
Edward Cornell
Mrs. Colleen Cornell Blessing
Catherine Thorsen Crabill
Mr. and Mrs. Forrest F. Henry
Barbara G. Dillard
Mr. Marvin A. Dillard
Charles and Isabella Dorn
Ms. Paula L. Dorn
Eugene and Erma Doutre
Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Cornelius
William W. and Margaret C. Dyer
Mr. and Mrs. Jack K. O'Hanlon
John and Gibson Eppler
Mr. and Mrs. John W. Eppler
Fay and Louis Ford
Mr. and Mrs. Foster W. Ford
and Mr. Frederick H. Sandstrom

“Lose Waterbury French (December 9, 1929 – February 12, 2012)
Mr. and Mrs. Frederick F. Backwell III
Mr. and Mrs. Maurice W. Dickson
Mr. and Mrs. David B. Geesen
Mr. and Mrs. William H. Harrison, Jr.
Mr. David Lay
Mr. and Mrs. John A. Page
Mrs. Gwynne Waterbury Peiley
Colonel Peter B. Southmayd, USMC
(Ret.) and Mrs. Elizabeth Southmayd McCord
Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Teagle
Mr. and Mrs. A. Tobey Wheelock
Linda Frishie
Mr. John W. Frishie
John and Doris Gressett
Ms. Alexandra S. Gressett
Dr. Thomas F. Gressett
Ms. Alexandra S. Gressett
Rick Guthrie
Mr. Richard H. Austin and Mrs.
Francon M. Burnham
Frank Henry
Mr. Stephen M. Henry
Geraldine Host (Gerry) Holmes
Mr. John P. Holmes
The Honorable A. Linwood Holton, Jr.
Mrs. Virginia Rogers Holton
Madeline Hopeoper
Mr. and Mrs. Luter R. Rowe
Nannie Ball Carter Hubbard
Mr. Nancy Hubbard Clark
John H. Hunt II (April 25, 1942 – March 4, 2021)
Ms. Maile Sheehan Armstrong
The Bank of Southside Virginia
Mr. and Mrs. Frederick F. Backwell III
Ms. Camille E. Bennett
Mr. Jack H. Blaine and Mrs. Rita M. Thompson
Ms. Jennifer Byrd
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Chapman
Mr. and Mrs. David W. Cheek
Cheesecake Bank
Mr. Robert Z. Collins
Community Bankers’ Bank
Community Foundation for a Greater
Rappahannock
Ms. Sue Lane Conrad
Mrs. Anita Humphreys-Cook
Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Cornelius
Dr. Elizabeth H. Crowther
Ms. Harriet H. Crowther
Mr. and Mrs. S. Wallace Dawson, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Maurice W. Dickson
Mr. L. Archer Dowdy, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Dogan, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. L. Stuart Dunaway
Mr. Ammon G. Dunton, Jr.
Elliott Davis, LLC
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Eastop
Mr. Edward G. Feldman and Mrs.
Gail Johnson Feldman
Dr. Kathleen Page Galgano and Mr.
Laurence J. Galgano
Mr. and Mrs. Frederick A. Gaskins
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Gisse
Mr. and Mrs. Emsalum, L. Gravatt
Dr. and Mrs. Floyd L. Griffin, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Hekos
Mr. and Mrs. Paul L. Harris
Mr. and Mrs. Rachelle W. Harris
Mr. and Mrs. Steven D. Harris
Mr. and Mrs. Jon B. Hill
Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Hick, Jr.
Ms. Shelia D. Heimlich
Mrs. Eugene S. Huldrup, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Leon L. James
Mrs. Martha McLaughlin Johnson
Ms. Susan D. John
Mr. and Mrs. Craig J. Kelly
Ms. Gail Knoisty
Ms. and Mrs. William J. Koppik
Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey L. Lindsey, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. James W. Lucas
Mr. and Mrs. Terry K. McCarter
Mrs. Susan Dorn Meadell
Ms. Dorothy S. Meats
Mr. Gane M. Mapes
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald L. Mihlits
Mr. and Mrs. Edward F. Miles
Mr. and Mrs. Douglass D. Monroe, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Wallace J. Nelson, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. William M. Noftsinger, Jr.
Nest Family Fund of the Rural Counties Community Foundation
Mr. Philip Nabulus
Mr. and Mrs. William C. O’thele
Mr. John H. Page
Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. Porterfield
Mr. Robert B. Powell
Mr. and Mrs. Clyde H. Ratchliff III
Ms. Pamela W. Redmond
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Ridgely
Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Roccella
Mr. and Mrs. Walter H. Rogers, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm T. R unnion III
Mr. and Mrs. Donald F. Sleap
Mr. and Mrs. William F. Southmayd, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Smith, Jr.
Mr. Robert Lee Stephens
Mrs. Irving L. Talley
Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Temple
Mr. and Mrs. Wilson L. Throckmorton
Mr. Scott H. Vaden
The Virginia Yacht Club
Mr. Stevenson T. Walker
Mr. and Mrs. W. Reed West III
Mr. and Mrs. David S. Whiffow
Mr. and Mrs. E. Dixon Whitworth, Jr.
Mrs. Sherry Thrift Williams
Mr. Larry D. Worth and Mrs. Jill
Minnenworth Wood
Christina Zabrie
Ms. Kathleen Ann McGovern
Cassell and Clara Jennings
Mr. and Mrs. Edwin C. Jennings, Jr.
Roger and Louise Lindgrove
Mr. and Mrs. Henry T. Paix
Dale Losem
Ms. Mary Lynne O’Hoy
Becky McCarty
Mr. D. C. Anderson
H. C. McSwain
Mrs. Pamela McSwain Dwell
Ann Carter Marsh
Mrs. Katherine Marsh Lewis
Larry Martin
Mr. Donna D. Martin
Lucy Landon Minor
The Estates of Mrs. Rufus Barringer
Christine Chase-Moore
Ms. Jean F. Monroe
Patricia Myer
Mr. Robert G. Myer, Sr.
Rogers M. Money, Jr. (January 9, 1928 – March 9, 2021)
Mr. Nathaniel T. McMaster
Thomas N. Nance and Kelly S. Nance
Mrs. Barbara Lindsey Nance

2021 Annual Giving Honors

Susan Dorn Barth
Ms. Paula L. Dorn
Camille Bennett
Mrs. Katherine F. Leggett
Mr. and Mrs. William G. Broadaus,
Mr. Visitation and their marriage
Mr. and Mrs. Anna Marie Whittemore
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Strickland
Ed Feddeman
Mr. James H. Gibbs and Ms. Jo Rita Perry
Larry and Kathie Galgano
Mr. John H. Page
Kathie Galgano
Ms. Sharon Nevins Holmes
Kay Inskopp, on the occasion of her
birthday celebration
Mr. John J. Page
Helin Kelley
Mr. and Mrs. Neal R. Crowley
Marjorie R. Page
Dr. Kathleen Page Galgano and Mr.
Laurence J. Galgano
Mr. and Mrs. Dabney Riley, Jr.
Clay H. Ratchliff III
Ms. James Pevey
Staff of the Foundation for Historic
Christ Church
Dr. Kathleen Page Galgano and Mr.
Laurence J. Galgano
Robert J. Teagle
Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Hedges
Rappahannock Community College
Education Foundation, Inc.
James and Catherine Thorsen
Mr. and Mrs. Forrest F. Henry
William Melville Watson, on the occasion
of his baptism
Mrs. Katherine Ambrose Smith
Matt and Paula Wood
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Linden

Mr. John C. Bowden, III and Mrs.
Rebecca Wright-Bowden
Roy Carter
The Chesapeake Bay Company
Mrs. Susan Cornwell McFadden
Mr. and Mrs. Richard F. Collens
Mr. and Mrs. William C. Otley
The Williams Family

2021 Gifts in Kind

Garden Club of Virginia
Bryan Hatchett
Mr. and Mrs. Richard J. Sadow
Mr. and Mrs. Melissa F. Sankey
Dr. Kathleen Page Galgano and Mr.
Laurence J. Galgano

2021 Memorial Bench

Shaun Herndon Rader and Robert Roder Rader, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Randy L. Goldens

2021 Grants

Bringing Music to Life Concert Series
The Edwin Trealake Foundation, Inc.
River Counties Community Foundation
Virginia Commission for the Arts
Conservation of Christ Church’s
Twelve Compass Sash Windows
Anonymous
Restoration of the Herb Garden
Garden Club of the Northern Neck

“My first encounter with Historic Christ Church was soon after my husband and I had moved to the Northern Neck. It was after visiting hours and Robert was locking up the church. We showed up at the west door and he kindly opened up for us. As I entered, I was impressed with its understated grandeur, its symmetry and its simple grace. I had been in many a church, chapel, cathedral before, but there was something special about Christ Church. I was in awe. Robert recruited me on the spot to get involved as a docent!”

New Board Member, Mikelie Graham
2021 Passages

Services of Holy Baptism
August 29 — William Melville Watson

Services of Holy Matrimony
March 27 — Miss Elizabeth Logan Hunter to Mr. Richard Pinkney Sowers IV
June 19 — Mrs. Suzanne LaPrade Haaland to Mr. William Gray Broaddus
September 18 — Miss Elizabeth Hunter to Mr. Richard Pinkney Sowers IV

Interments
March 12 — John H. Hunt II
April 30 — Clark M. Schumacher
May 7 — Catherine Thorsen Crabill
May 24 — Annie Sue Ferrand
August 28 — Mortimer L. Williams and Katherine Ryland Williams
August 26 — Diane Meyer Farley
May 24 — Catherine Thorsen Crabill
April 30 — Clark M. Schumacher
March 12 — John H. Hunt II
September 18 — Miss Kathryn Barclay Mapes to Mr. Joshua Earl Sullivan
June 19 — Mrs. Suzanne LaPrade Haaland to Mr. William Gray Broaddus
March 27 — Miss Elizabeth Logan Hunter to Mr. Richard Pinkney Sowers IV

Robert “King” Carter Society

The Robert “King” Carter Society recognizes with deepest fright the generosity and generosity of those who have included the Foundation for Historic Christ Church in their estate plans.

MEMORIALS

2021 Commemorative Brick Honors and Memorials

HONORS

John Broaddus Hunt and Mary R. Williams
Mrs. Page Gravatt Hunt

Dorothy M. Key

John Herbert Hunt II
Mrs. Page Gravatt Hunt

Dorothy M. Key

Mrs. John A. C. Keith

Mr. Stevenson T. Walker

John Herbert Hunt II
Mrs. James F. Chase, Jr.

Sarah Virginia Haynie McCarthy
Mrs. James F. Chase, Jr.

Dorothy M. Key

Stephen W. Gagnon

October 23 — Mary Garland Beard

Mrs. W. Mason Carliss

Mr. and Mrs. Maurice W. Dickerson

Mr. and Mrs. Dickerson Family Trust

November 27 — Edwin L. Love and Dwanda Weatherford Love

November 18 — Dorothy McTeigue Key

October 25 — Stephen W. Gagnon

May 24 — Catherine Thorsen Crabill

April 30 — Clark M. Schumacher

March 12 — John H. Hunt II

September 18 — Miss Kathryn Barclay Mapes to Mr. Joshua Earl Sullivan

June 19 — Mrs. Suzanne LaPrade Haaland to Mr. William Gray Broaddus

March 27 — Miss Elizabeth Logan Hunter to Mr. Richard Pinkney Sowers IV
### Financial Statements

**Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2021**

#### Statement of Financial Position

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets:</th>
<th>Liabilities &amp; Net Assets:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents</td>
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<td>Investments</td>
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<td>Pledges &amp; Grants Receivable</td>
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<td>Other Current Assets</td>
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<td>Land, Bldgs, &amp; Equipment</td>
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<td>Restricted</td>
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<td><strong>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</strong></td>
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#### Statement of Cash Flows

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<th>Income</th>
<th>Expense:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions &amp; Grants</td>
<td>$368,819</td>
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<td>Net Sales to the Public</td>
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<td>Net Investment Income</td>
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<td>Other Income</td>
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<td><strong>Total Current Income</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Change in Operating Assets &amp; Liabilities</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions &amp; Grants</td>
<td>$226,397</td>
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<td>General &amp; Administrative</td>
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<td>Fundraising</td>
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<td>Purchases of Property &amp; Equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Sales &amp; Purchase of Investments</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expense &amp; Purchases</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Net Increase in Cash</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$578,820</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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### Board of Directors and Staff 2021

#### Officers:
- **Mrs. Jill M. Worth**
  - President
- **Dr. Pamela A. Ward**
  - First Vice President
- **Mr. Edward G. Feddeman**
  - Second Vice President
- **Mr. Leonard R. Hoerneman**
  - Treasurer
- **Mr. Stevenson T. Walker**
  - Secretary

#### Directors:
- Mrs. Regina G. Baylor
- Mr. Michael W. Bombay
- Mr. John C. Bowden III
- Mr. William G Broaddus
- S. Wallace Dawson, Jr.
- Candace E. Franco
- Dr. Kathleen P. Galgano
- The Reverend Kimberly B. Glenn, *ex officio*, Rector of Grace
- Episcopal Church and Chairman of the Board
- The Right Reverend Susan E. Goff, *ex officio*, Suffragan Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Virginia
- Mr. Steven D. Harris, *Immediate Past President*
- Mr. R. Page Henley, Jr.
- Mr. Frank H. Miller, Jr.
- Mrs. Elizabeth J. Otley
- Mr. Thomas H. Richardson
- Mr. Craigan P. Shirley
- Mr. Alexander Smith, Jr.
- Valeria K. Verburg
- Mrs. Anne F. Warner
- Mrs. Robert A. Cornelius
- Mr. David A. Jones
- Dr. Carl R. Lounsbury
- Dr. Kathleen P. Moeller
- Ms. Ronnee R. Taylor
- Matson C. Terry II, Esq.
- Mr. Robert J. Teagle
- Ms. Paula D Stallard
- Mr. Nathaniel T. McMaster

#### Advisors:
- Registered Agent: Matson C. Terry II, Esq.

#### Staff:
- **Mr. Robert J. Teagle**
- **Ms. Paula D Stallard**
- **Mr. Nathaniel T. McMaster**

### Volunteer Council 2021

#### Chair
- Edward G. Feddeman

#### Vice Chair
- Laura Schults

#### Recording Secretary
- Anne F. Warner

#### Corresponding Secretary
- Cynthia J. Johnson

#### Costumes
- Pamela A. Ward, Ph.D.

#### Docent Coordinators
- Edward G. Feddeman
- Michael Bombay

#### Education
- Dr. Kathleen P. Galgano
- Pamela A. Ward, Ph.D.

#### Gift Shop
- Gail Kneely

#### Group Tours
- Marilyn T. Loomis
- Betty Riley

#### Flowers
- Karin Lamb

#### Historian
- Miriam F. MacCarthy

#### Hospitality
- Jo W. Manson

#### Receptionist Coordinator
- Shirley B. Crockett

#### Research
- Dr. Kathleen P. Galgano

#### School Programs
- Carol C. Poundstone

#### Volunteer E-Newsletter
- Dr. Kathleen P. Moeller

#### Herb Garden
- Val Verburg

#### Recognition
- Shirley B. Crockett

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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.
Education Programs Return

Fall Crawl Explores Colonial Williamsburg

Not since October 2019 had HCC&M hosted a “Parish Crawl,” the semi-annual excursions where volunteers explore other historic sites that enhance their understanding of early Virginia and give context to Christ Church’s place in that world. Covid put these on hold, but this September the Fall Crawl returned with a trip to Colonial Williamsburg (CW) where volunteers enjoyed private tours of several special sites.

The morning began at the Bray School, an institution established at the suggestion of Benjamin Franklin that educated enslaved and free blacks from 1760-1774. The structure had stood quietly on the campus of William and Mary, where it had been moved from Colonial Williamsburg in 1930, before dendrochronology confirmed the small frame building as the school that at one point enrolled 33 students under the tutelage of Ann Wager.

The group walked a few blocks to the next two stops along Nassau Street. At the First Baptist Church site, archaeologist Meredith Poole discussed the groundbreaking excavations at one of the nation’s oldest black churches, including the exhumations of several grave shafts of early members. Archaeologist Crystal Castleberry then led volunteers around Custis Square, a sprawling complex that included a four-acre garden complete with a topliary, classical statues and formal walkways that was home to merchant-planter and horticulturalist John Custis (1678-1749).

Following lunch in Merchant’s Square, the group enjoyed a private tour of “Restoring Williamsburg” with Dani Jaworski, who curated the small but fascinating exhibition that explores some of the 15,000+ architectural fragments that have guided CW’s restoration work for nearly a century. Dani then met the group at CW’s architectural collections storage for a behind-the-scenes look at architectural elements from hundreds of sites from the Chesapeake to England.

Local Students Enjoy Hands-On History

Like the “Parish Crawl,” it had been since October 2019 that HCC&M welcomed a group of local students for a field trip during the school year. Building on the successful program led for many years by volunteer Carol Poundstone, new School Programs chair Walter Kolos and staff member Paula Stallard recruited a host of new volunteers to join the program.

Over the month of October, some 235 elementary students (and many of their parents) from first, second and fourth grade visited Historic Christ Church. Dividing into small groups, the students in the morning rotated through four main stations with different hands-on activities: drawing the church’s architectural features from a spot outside the west door, touring the church’s interior and making grave rubbings, examining the church’s brickwork and hand molding bricks from clay, and touring the museum to see artifacts and build brick walls and arches like those in Christ Church. Students also tried their hand at writing with quill pens.

After a lunch break, the students dressed in colonial clothing to see just how different fashions were in the eighteenth century. They then split into groups again for four main stations: assembling a king-post truss using mortise and tenon joinery, playing colonial games, and excavating mock archaeological dig boxes to uncover reproduction artifacts typical to colonial sites.

The teachers were thrilled to get back to one of their favorite field trip sites, and the students impressed HCC&M volunteers and staff with their excellent questions and good behavior. The sounds of excitement, curiosity and discovery echoed across the campus, reminding us all how important it is that the next generation explore local history.

Your generosity makes it possible for the Foundation for Historic Christ Church to provide these programs at no costs to the students, who take home a newfound love of history and a souvenir bookmark.

Students excavate a mock archaeological dig box

Matt Webster, Executive Director of Colonial Williamsburg’s Granger Department of Architectural Preservation and Research, shares some of the findings he and his colleagues have uncovered as they research the Bray School in preparation for its relocation to Nassau Street next to the First Baptist Church site.

The photograph above shows pit saw lines (top) and hewn marks (bottom) on an original timber from Christ Church’s roof. The dates. Comparing Christ Church’s timbers with those from a regional growth-cycle directory spanning five hundred years, Miles and Worthington established the fall of 1731-winter of 1732 as the felling dates for Christ Church’s white oak roof timbers.

A year after Spanish explorer Ponce de León’s first expedition to Florida (1513), a seedling sprouted in the woods south of what would become the site of Christ Church. Over the next two centuries, white oak wood would be used to construct the building.

Like the “Parish Crawl,” it had been since October 2019 that HCC&M welcomed a group of local students for a field trip during the school year. Building on the successful program led for many years by volunteer Carol Poundstone, new School Programs chair Walter Kolos and staff member Paula Stallard recruited a host of new volunteers to join the program.

Over the month of October, some 235 elementary students (and many of their parents) from first, second and fourth grade visited Historic Christ Church. Dividing into small groups, the students in the morning rotated through four main stations with different hands-on activities: drawing the church’s architectural features from a spot outside the west door, touring the church’s interior and making grave rubbings, examining the church’s brickwork and hand molding bricks from clay, and touring the museum to see artifacts and build brick walls and arches like those in Christ Church. Students also tried their hand at writing with quill pens.

After a lunch break, the students dressed in colonial clothing to see just how different fashions were in the eighteenth century. They then split into groups again for four main stations: assembling a king-post truss using mortise and tenon joinery, playing colonial games, and excavating mock archaeological dig boxes to uncover reproduction artifacts typical to colonial sites.

The teachers were thrilled to get back to one of their favorite field trip sites, and the students impressed HCC&M volunteers and staff with their excellent questions and good behavior. The sounds of excitement, curiosity and discovery echoed across the campus, reminding us all how important it is that the next generation explore local history.

Your generosity makes it possible for the Foundation for Historic Christ Church to provide these programs at no costs to the students, who take home a newfound love of history and a souvenir bookmark.

Students make a grave rubbing from John Carter’s 1669 marker in the chancel

The photograph above shows pit saw lines (top) and hewn marks (bottom) on an original timber from Christ Church’s roof. The dates. Comparing Christ Church’s timbers with those from a regional growth-cycle directory spanning five hundred years, Miles and Worthington established the fall of 1731-winter of 1732 as the felling dates for Christ Church’s white oak roof timbers.

“Charytera” from Denis Diderot’s Encyclopédie (1751)
Welcome Office Manager Debbie Byram

Debbie Byram joined the Foundation staff in March as Office Manager. Debbie took over from Nat McMaster, who is pursuing a Bachelor of Theology at McGill University and a Master of Divinity at the Montreal Diocesan Theological College.

Debbie and her husband Steve moved to the area from Northern Virginia in the fall of 2021. Her background is in the customer service industry. Debbie said she loves her new career path and the opportunity to learn something every day. She enjoys working with all the interesting people connected with Historic Christ Church and appreciates their love of this special place. Debbie has already recruited several of her family members to volunteer. Welcome, Debbie!

New Members Join Board

At the Foundation’s 64th Annual Meeting held September 22, three new members joined the board of directors. Melise Graham (third from left) is a retired elementary school librarian who has lived in Ireland, England, Maine and Texas. Melise volunteers as a docent and is a regular on the Parish Crawls. Marge Gibson (fifth from left) is a retired nurse and master gardener. Marge and herb garden chair Val Verburg worked together in 2020-2021 to establish a partnership between HCC&M and the Northern Neck Master Gardeners to restore the herb garden at the visitor entrance to HCC&M. Jeff Irby (not pictured here) worked as an investment advisor for SunTrust Bank’s Wealth and Investment Division. Jeff also volunteers with Habitat for Humanity and is a member of Sons of the American Revolution. Retiring directors included Regina Gaskins Baylor (fourth from left) and Dr. Pamela A. Ward (not pictured here).

Hunt Chesapeake History Forum Premieres

A packed house enjoyed the premiere in late September of the John H. Hunt II Chesapeake History Forum. In “Virginia Roots Music with a Taste of the Chesapeake,” Library of Virginia historian and roots music scholar Gregg Kimball traced the history of traditional musicians from all walks of life who laid the groundwork for some of the most important genres of American music including Country, Blues and Gospel. Vocalist Cluny Brown and guitarist Michael Lawrence joined Kimball in a multimedia presentation that incorporated photographs and period recordings alongside live performance. The band performed songs by the legendary Carter Family, Galax’s original “Hill Billies,” and Tappahannock bluesman William Moore.

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—Google “YouTube Christ Church 1735” to see part of the performance.