My Dear People,

Whoever said that the church slows down in the summer has never been to Trinity Church Oxford! As I write this, we are in the final planning stages of the celebrations surrounding the 300th anniversary of the construction of our church building.

We all know that it is God and the people, not the building, that make the Church. But, having been the Church on this site since 1698, and in our building since 1711, God, our ancestors, and we have made this ground hallowed by our prayers, worship and love. Above the chancel arch is painted the opening phrase of Psalm 90: "Lord, Thou hast been our refuge, from one generation to another." Indeed, generation after generation of faithful Christians have made this place the focal point of their worship of God, and the place where they come to mark the milestones of their lives. It is therefore fitting that we should honor our forebears and give thanks for the gift which they have given us, and which we intend to give to our posterity-our church building. It is also fitting that these events should include the confirmation of ten young people who represent the future of our Church.

Details about our celebrations can be found in this issue of the Trinitarian. I do hope that you can attend all of the events we have planned, as each in its own way allows us to reach out to our community, thereby building bridges and letting Philadelphia know we're here. Please spread the word to your friends, neighbors, co-workers- anyone who will listen! I hope you are as excited as I am about sharing our treasure with ever-widening circles of friends, and I pray that you all have a happy and refreshing summer. Blessings, Father Richard

300 Year Anniversary

This month, we are celebrating 300 years of worship in our current building. Built in 1711, the church building predates Benjamin Franklin's arrival in Philadelphia, the construction of Independence Hall, and the founding of the University of Pennsylvania. In addition to the events below, there will be a historic exhibit & podcast in the Buchanan Building, a timeline in the churchyard and commemorative items for parishioners and visitors. Religious and civic leaders will attend the evensong, congregations throughout the diocese have been invited and the news media will
The final monarch to reign over Trinity during the early history of our parish was George William Frederick of the house of Hanover.

George III (4 June 1738 - 29 January 1820) was King of Great Britain and King of Ireland from 25 October 1760 until the union of these two countries on 1 January 1801, after which he was King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland until his death. He was concurrently Duke and prince-elector of Brunswick-Lüneburg ("Hanover") in the Holy Roman Empire until his promotion to King of Hanover on 12 October 1814. He was the third British monarch of the House of Hanover, but unlike his two predecessors he was born in Britain and spoke English as his first language. Despite his long life, he never visited Hanover.

George III's long reign was marked by a series of military conflicts involving his kingdoms, much of the rest of Europe, and places farther afield in Africa, the Americas and Asia. Early in his reign, Great Britain defeated France in the Seven Years' War, becoming the dominant European power in North America and India. However, many of its American colonies were soon lost in the American War of Independence, which led to the establishment of the United States of America.

In the later part of his life, George III suffered from recurrent, and eventually...
permanent, mental illness. Medical practitioners were baffled by this at the time, although it has since been suggested that he suffered from the blood disease porphyria. After a final relapse in 1810, a regency was established, and George III's eldest son, George, Prince of Wales, ruled as Prince Regent. On George III's death, the Prince Regent succeeded his father as George IV.

Historical analysis of George III's life has gone through a "kaleidoscope of changing views" which have depended heavily on the prejudices of his biographers and the sources available to them. Until re-assessment in the later half of the twentieth century, his reputation in America was one of a tyrant and in Britain he became "the scapegoat for the failure of imperialism".

George III lived for 81 years and 239 days and reigned for 59 years and 96 days: both his life and his reign were longer than those of any of his predecessors. Only Queen Victoria and Elizabeth II lived and reigned longer.

Recognition Sunday
Please join us on Pentecost Sunday, June 12, at the 10am service as we recognize all those who help make Trinity Church Oxford a beautiful, fun, holy and welcoming place throughout the year. Without our volunteers, we simply could not function and we are truly grateful! A picnic in the churchyard follows the service (just before our neighborhood open house). The vestry will provide most of the food, but volunteers are asked to bring salads (last names M-Z) and desserts (last names A-L).

Vestry Highlights
At the May meeting, our accountant Joseph Bachman reviewed the financial statements and provided a refresher in financial management. We also approved some property work to improve drainage and remove dead trees. All Vestry members need to meet briefly with Bishop Lee during his visitation on Trinity Sunday (June 19, exact time TBD) and the regular June Vestry meeting will be at 7pm on Monday, June 20, in the Buchanan Building.

Youth Group
The Youth Group is planning a mission trip for August 12-14 to the St. Francis Inn in Kensington. We will be putting our "faith into action" working alongside the Franciscan friars, sisters, staff and volunteers as we serve the people of Kensington. If you know of a high school age student who may be interested in joining the group, please speak to Emily or Phil Geliebter, or visit the Youth Group page on our website. Adults are welcome on the retreat too!

Calendar and Your Feedback
Using Google Calendars, we've created a new interactive online calendar on our website that allows you to view events at Trinity by week or month, and in a variety of formats. You can also print out the calendar in a way that works best for you. Please check out this new feature, post the calendar on your refrigerator or somewhere handy, and let me know what you think about it. Please also email any input for the July/August Trinitarian to me by Monday, June 27. Cheers, Pete (your Trinitarian editor)

Upcoming Events
Every Sunday, Mass at 8am (spoken) and 10am (with music)

Exception: Sunday, June 5 -- only one service at 9am, followed by clean-up and deanery picnic

Saturday, June 11, initial set up for picnic at 9:30am
Sunday, June 12, Community Picnic and Open House, Noon to 3pm (final set up between the 8am and 10am services)

Friday, June 17, 300th Anniversary Evensong & Rededication of Church Building, 7pm

Saturday, June 18, Confirmation class rehearsal at 9am

Sunday, June 19, Confirmations during the 10am service

Monday, June 20, Vestry Meeting at 7pm in the Buchanan Building

Just for fun...

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Forward email

Trinity Church Oxford | 6901 Rising Sun Avenue | Philadelphia | PA | 19111