Preservation Progress!
Foundation Successfully Raises $100,000 to Match Cabell Foundation Grant, Construction Underway

Thank you to ALL the donors that made this project possible:
Anonymous
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Titmus Foundation
Windsor Foundation Trust
and countless, individual donors!

FOR MORE ON PRESERVATION WORK PAGE 7

The steeple is scaffolded for access by roofers and painters.

Workers from Saunders Roofing put the copper roof on the church.

Thanks to the generous support of foundations and individual donors, St. John's Church Foundation was able to start its Legacy of Liberty Preservation Project: Phase 2 this spring. The Foundation raised a total of $462,000 for Phase 2, thanks largely in part to a $100,000 anonymous gift and a $100,000 challenge grant from the Robert G. Cabell III and Maude Morgan Cabell Foundation. The Cabell Foundation challenge to raise $100,000 in matching funds was successfully completed in early January. The response to the challenge grant was tremendous. Donations included $5,600 from the National Society of the Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence - $100 for each of the 56 signers - and another $560 from the Virginia chapter of the descendants. Other donations came from the Titmus Foundation, the Garland and Agnes Taylor Gray Foundation, the Nocero Family Foundation, and one anonymous donor.

Work to be completed during Phase 2 includes the following:
• replacing three leaking roofs (church, parish hall and boiler house),
• painting the church and parish hall exterior,
• repairing or replacing the church shutters,
• plumbing repairs to the visitor center restrooms,
• undertaking a conservation assessment of the church's original 1741 sounding board above the pulpit, and
• conducting a structural analysis of the church roof and foundation.

For more on preservation work page 7
The mission of St. John’s Church Foundation, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded in 1938 is to promote and preserve historic St. John’s Church, a National Historic Landmark in recognition as the original location of Patrick Henry’s “Give me liberty or give me death” speech at the Second Virginia Convention of March 1775, for the education of present and future generations.

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A financial statement is available upon written request from the Office of Charitable and Regulatory Programs of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

New Members Join Foundation Board of Trustees

James B. Driscoll is a Managing Director and a founding partner of Gateway Healthcare Professionals, a healthcare recruitment firm based in Richmond. A native Richmonder, James spent the first part of his business career climbing corporate ladders and traveling around the world before coming back home to raise a family.

Outside of work, James enjoys giving back to the community by serving on various non-profit boards and volunteering at his church, St. Stephen’s. An avid sports fan, James enjoys playing basketball, softball, golf and squash. His most cherished time however is spent with his wife, Catherine, as they raise their two little boys.

Dr. Dan Roberts is the executive producer and host of the award-winning radio series, A Moment in Time. A Moment in Time originates in Richmond, Virginia on public radio station 88.9 FM--WCVE, and is heard by more than four million listeners each day on over 146 public and commercial radio stations throughout the United States.

Roberts received a B.A. in history from Presbyterian College in 1969, began training as a Presbyterian minister, and completed his professional education at Princeton Theological Seminary in 1974.

Roberts obtained a Master’s Degree from the University of Richmond and a Ph.D. in British and American Colonial History from the University of Virginia. He is currently Chair of the Department of Liberal Arts, School of Professional and Continuing Studies at the University of Richmond. Dan is a popular jazz pianist and an avid reader. Roberts has three children and a granddaughter.

Check out our revamped Visitor Center and Gift Shop. The exterior has been painted and the interior has been upgraded.

Save time! Shop online at: www.historicstjohschurch.org/shop
Did you know that on July 6, 1776 Patrick Henry became the first elected governor of Virginia?

We celebrated this important anniversary and join St. John’s Church Foundation for Revolutionary Richmond: Liberty or Death Night at the Diamond on July 6, 2015.

Patrick Henry, Thomas Jefferson, George Washington and many other Virginia Delegates who attended the Second Virginia Convention at St. John’s Church in March of 1775 were on hand to cheer on the Flying Squirrels.

The fun started when the gates opened at 6:05 p.m. Before the game, Patrick Henry delivered a portion of his world-changing “Liberty or Death” speech. Mr. Henry threw out the first pitch! And delegates mingled with the crowd. Check our social media for pictures of the event.
In Memoriam
Kevin Grantz
1956-2015

We dedicate our 2015 “Liberty or Death” reenactments to the memory of Kevin Grantz, our beloved George Washington.

Kevin Grantz in the role of Patrick Henry after the “Liberty or Empire?” performance in 2014.

Kevin captures the imagination of participants in our Colonial Kids Camp prior to his presentation. His performance as George Washington was always a huge hit with children.

Kevin in an undated photo.

Kevin Grantz, as George Washington, answers a question from an elementary school student in our “Give Me History!” program.

Kevin in an undated photo.
Celebrating 40 Years of “Liberty or Death” Summer Reenactments (1975-2015)  
“40 for 40” Campaign is Announced

In 1975, in preparation for the country’s bicentennial, Mr. Thomas McGranahan, Sr. began acting in the role of Peyton Randolph, the president of the Virginia Convention. On March 23rd, 1775, Peyton Randolph presided over the 2nd Virginia Convention held inside St. John’s Church where Patrick Henry delivered his famous “Liberty or Death” speech. Henry used his powerful oration to sway his fellow delegates to support his resolution to form a militia, thus putting the colony in a state of defense in preparation for the war he knew was coming.

Mr. McGranahan’s participation and leadership was just what the burgeoning “Liberty or Death” reenactment program needed. In the early years he often used his own money to pay the actors. It was his enthusiasm and generous spirit that launched the reenactment program and kept it going. Mr. McGranahan continued to act in the reenactments until 2010. Sadly, he died in 2013.

In later years the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation began helping support the summer reenactment through its grant program. Now, 40 years later, it is hard to image Richmond without the free “Liberty or Death” reenactments each Sunday in the summer.

Over the past 40 years countless thousands have been inspired by attending a “Liberty or Death” reenactment. Last summer was a record year, drawing an estimated 5,000 visitors. To help meet demand in the 2015 summer season, St. John’s Church Foundation has added Saturday performances in August along with its regularly scheduled Sunday reenactments.

To celebrate our success, St. John’s Church Foundation is announcing its “40 for 40” campaign. Donations to the “40 for 40” campaign will help the Foundation continue to provide educational programs, like the reenactments, and to continue to preserve historic St. John’s Church, a National Historic Landmark.

A gift to “40 for 40” will make the Foundation’s mission of education and preservation possible. Thank you for your consideration and support!

Yes, I want to support 40 for 40!

Name____________________________________________________
Address__________________________________________________
City, State, Zip_____________________________________________
Email____________________________________________________
Phone____________________________________________________

Your donation is tax deductible.

Please return your gift to:  For additional information or questions, please contact:
St. John’s Church Foundation  Sarah Whiting, Executive Director
2319 E. Broad Street, Richmond, VA  23223 swhiting@saintjohns.cc or 804-649-0263

This souvenir puzzle commemorates the first public reenactment held inside St. John’s on March 23rd, 1923. (Church archives)
Structural Study Results

by John A. Matteo, P.E., FAAR
Principal, 1200 Architectural Engineers PLLC

1200 Architectural Engineers, PLLC (1200AE) has been retained by St. John’s Church Foundation to perform a structural investigation and analysis of the existing roof structure as well as an assessment of conditions at the north end foundation wall. The structural investigation looked at the north addition truss system, both in its existing configuration as well as considering the possible removal of the tie rods. The roof structure analysis aimed to resolve the question of whether the tie rods could be removed following upon the reduction in roofing weight with the replacement of the Hendricks tile with metal. The existing configuration, a combination of historic timber framing with substantial reinforcement with structural steel from a 1963 renovation, was found to be robust structurally, having ample strength for the current and future loads. With the proposed removal of the tie rods, the structural analysis found the members of the structural system to still have sufficient strength to carry the required loads without failure, however the modification was found to result in excessive deflections of both the roof ridge and the tops of the supporting walls; in effect, with the removal of the tie rods, the truss bases would spread outward and the ridge would sag. In addition to being visually apparent, the predicted movement would also likely result in cracking in finishes and possible damage to the supporting wall construction and stained glass windows. As such, 1200AE concluded that the tie rod removal should not be implemented without also structurally strengthening the roof truss system.

Moving from the highest reaches to the lowest, 1200AE also explored the north end foundations and surrounding sanctuary floor framing. Although the majority of framing and foundation conditions were found to be in satisfactory condition, the northeast corner presented some troubling conditions where the foundations were locally undermined due to some earlier soil removals within the crawl space. Also in this same area, problems of framing deterioration due to past termite infestation were uncovered. Designs for repairs have been developed, which include locally underpinning the undermined foundations while also reinforcing the floor framing with new wood members from within the crawl space. Although the work is fairly limited in scope, the implementation of the repairs will require careful coordination and challenging access limitations.
It looks like holding off on our roof replacement project this winter has paid off. We are glad to see the snow go and with it, the warm and drier days of spring. We anticipate that Phase II of the Legacy of Liberty Project will take most of the summer – but the church will be open during construction for church services, weddings, tours, reenactments and special events.

Paul Saunders Roofing began replacement of the actor’s studio roof on March 9 and completed it by the end of March. Roof work on the Parish Hall began on March 16th. During Saunders’ work on the parish hall, they discovered that the internal gutters on the building were clogged and rotten. It was necessary to rebuild the gutters before working on the roof. This unanticipated repair was paid for out of the 15% contingency that was built into the Phase 2 budget to cover unexpected repairs such as this.

Despite having to take time and expense to undertake this repair, the project remains on schedule and budget.

The church shutters have been removed, cleaned, stripped and primed. All shutters will be repaired if necessary. Any missing shutters will be built using old wood and historically sensitive hardware.

As a National Historic Landmark, all restoration work which takes place on the church will follow the Secretary of Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation. The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties are common sense historic preservation principles in non-technical language. They promote historic preservation best practices that help protect our nation’s irreplaceable cultural resources.

A view of the west door of the church, the original entrance for the 1741 church.
Spotlight on Our Actors:

In Their Own Words

Our actors, part-time employees of the Foundation, are talented, dedicated and incredibly knowledgeable about American history. We want to celebrate them and our 40th anniversary of “Liberty or Death” reenactments by turning the spotlight on them. We asked them to tell us their favorite stories about the reenactments and what keeps them performing year after year.

John Tucker

Roles most often played: Patrick Henry, Edmund Pendleton

Years performing: 13

Why do you do it?

Prior to going to law school, I was a high school U.S. History teacher. I would often teach class in the “first person” (e.g., your teacher today is Daniel Webster, Abraham Lincoln, FDR, etc.). When teaching as Patrick Henry, I would give a portion of the “Liberty or Death” speech. My interest in history combined with the ham in me prompted me to audition.

What does the “Liberty or Death” reenactment program mean to you?

For me, the reenactment is both fun and fulfilling. I enjoy the camaraderie among the actors and the opportunity to be “on stage” so to speak. More than that, however, the reenactment has become somewhat of a vocation for me. Too often in our society we take our freedoms for granted. I believe that the reenactment is needed to teach or remind folks that this country came about by courageous people who put everything, their lives and their fortunes, on the line.

Charles Wissinger

Roles most often played: Patrick Henry, Edmund Pendleton, Benjamin Harrison

Years performing: 12

Why do you do it?

I do this show because of my love for our nation’s history. As an actor I love bringing to life one of the most important events that happened in Virginia.

Tell me about your interactions with visitors?

The story that comes to my mind is of those people that see it for the first time. The smiles and the compliments as they tell you how much they loved the show and how excited they are to return. They talk about how the language can be hard to understand when they read it, but seeing it performed really helps to explain how close the vote really was and why.

What does the “Liberty or Death” reenactment program mean to you?

This reenactment is a chance to educate children that don’t understand how important this convention was to the founding of this nation. It is the ability to keep this important event in the hearts and minds of this generation, and generations to come.

Reenactments by the Numbers

- 22 actors are employed by the Foundation.
- 9 actors perform in each reenactment.
- Each costume is custom-made for each actor.
- Each costume costs about $500.
- Most reenactments performed in one day...4!
- In 2014, 121 reenactments were performed.
- Approximately 5,000 visitors saw our free, summer reenactments last year.
- It costs $16,500 a year to produce our free reenactment series.
Steve Hawkins
Role most often played: Peyton Randolph, Benjamin Harrison
Years performing: 13
Why do you do it?
For the love of colonial history. I took a trip in the fourth grade to Williamsburg and got hooked. This is a dream come true for me to participate in such a noble activity.
Tell me about your interactions with visitors?
There are two. The first came in my first year. I was playing Benjamin Randolph and got a little “animated” and my wig flew off. The lady sitting next to me gasped and I looked at her and quietly said, “you have now seen someone flip their wig!” I love the kids that come and their questions are so sincere and honest. Several months ago a young girl asked me “is that really your voice?”

Gerry Notare
Role most often played: Richard Henry Lee, Edmund Pendleton
Years performing: 17
Why do you do it?
It is an opportunity to do what you love and act in something that is vitally important, both as an educational tool and an inspiring dramatic representation.
What does the “Liberty or Death” reenactment program mean to you?
The reenactment still is vitally important to me. It is an opportunity to perform and I get a tremendous sense of accomplishment. I have become friends with many of my fellow actors. It became a labor of love for me. It began to become a family. Recently, I find I have developed a new enduring purpose. Knowing that the reenactments will continue into the future. A future that will someday not include myself, but new actors, younger actors who I hope will benefit as much as I have from involvement with it. I find myself more committed to its excellence and to continue the legacy passed to me by people like Tom McGranahan and Kevin Grantz.

What our visitors are saying...

“The feeling that I got (after seeing the reenactment was like) I was actually back in that time. I am totally hooked on the history and that was absolutely fantastic.”

“It is invaluable to witness student awe as they step into an old place that moves them to really look at history.”

“I saw your reenactment today and found it profoundly moving. Simply standing in that church was powerful, but listening to the debate brought home how courageous our Founding Fathers were.”
Parishioners and visitors are getting an up-close and personal view of our colonial era sounding board. In February, a group of professionals in the restoration and construction fields came together to remove this amazing artifact for close inspection by conservator Carey Howlett. Carey will be taking several samples from the surface of the board in order to determine the best conservation practice. The board will be on display in the church for several months during the process. This is a great chance to see it. A special thank you to our donors, including The Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors of The National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the Garland and Agnes Taylor Gray Foundation.

Once the conservation assessment is complete, the Foundation will begin raising funds for the conservation of this important Virginia artifact. We anticipate that the funds will be raised within a small time frame which will enable us to conserve the sounding board immediately. This means we can leave it down in between the assessment and conservation. The less we have to move it, the better it is for its protection.

A Brief Report from Carey Howlett:

After taking samples of representative areas of the painted surfaces and wooden elements of the pulpit soundboard (c. 1741), the coating samples are examined under low magnification in order to select the most complete examples for mounting. Each selected sample is carefully placed in the blue silicone rubber “cube tray” onto a cured clear polyester resin half cube, then additional liquid resin is poured over the sample to encapsulate it. Once cured, the sample cubes will be ground down to expose the edge of each sample, then highly polished to prepare them for examination under higher magnification using a research microscope capable of both visible light and near-ultraviolet light microscopy. Properly prepared, the samples will reveal a complete stratigraphy of paint and finish layers, providing insight into the history of paints and varnishes used on the soundboard.
Our reenactments are FREE, with a suggested donation of $5.00.

Saturday, July 4 - 11:00 AM
Saturday, July 4 - 1:15 PM
Sunday, July 5
Sunday, July 12
Sunday, July 19
Sunday, July 26
Sunday, August 2
Saturday, August 8
Sunday, August 9
Saturday, August 15
Sunday, August 16
Saturday, August 22
Sunday, August 23
Saturday, August 29
Sunday, August 30
Sunday, September 6

Reenactment Program
1:15 p.m. Doors open, seating is first-come, first-served basis
1:30 p.m. Music program
1:45 p.m. Reenactment begins, doors close!

Stay after the reenactment, talk to the Delegates and have your picture taken!

Don’t Wait in Line...
Reserve Your Seat Online!

St. John’s Church Foundation is using Brown Paper Tickets, the online ticketing company for reserved seating for all of our public reenactments and other special events.

Reserved seats for public reenactments are $5. Avoid the line and get preferred seating! Go to [http://www.brownpapertickets.com/](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/) and enter “summer reenactment” in the Find an Event search menu.

**RENACTION FAQS**

- **Accessibility:** Historic St. John’s Church welcomes all visitors. We are fully wheelchair accessible. We offer handicapped parking on 24th street, directly in front of the elevator, which leads to the church grounds.
- **Parking:** A small parking lot at the corner of 24th and Marshall Streets is available for parking. However, street parking is plentiful.
- **Seating:** Seating is first come, first served. Seat saving will not be permitted. The entire party must be present before seating will take place.
- **Doors:** Doors will close once the church reaches capacity or when the reenactment or special event begins. *No admittance after the reenactment begins.*
- **Children:** This reenactment is not recommended for children under the age of 6. *We ask that parents escort restless children outside so that the audience is not disturbed.* Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!
- **Photography:** No still or video photography is permitted during reenactments. Actors will be available on the grounds for photos after reenactments.
- **Food:** No food, beverages, gum, strollers or backpacks are permitted in the church. Bags are subject to search.
St. John’s Church Foundation is very grateful to the donors who make our mission possible. The donors listed below made a gift to our annual fund which supports educational programming and special projects during the period of January 1 to December 31, 2014.

**LIBERTY SOCIETY**

The Liberty Society recognizes donors who have remembered St. John’s Church Foundation in their estate planning with a bequest or deferred gift, such as a charitable remainder trust, charitable gift annuity or designation of the Foundation as their beneficiary of a retirement plan or life insurance policy. St. John’s Church Foundation gratefully acknowledges our donors who have committed to ensuring Patrick Henry's legacy for future generations.

Clay D. Hamner

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Honor Roll of Donors
Legacy of Liberty Preservation Project: Phase 2

St. John’s Church Foundation is very grateful to the donors who gave generously to our preservation work during the period of January 1 to December 31, 2014.

# Contributed to the Cabell Foundation matching grant.  ## Contributed to the sounding board matching grant.

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### Gifts and Grants from $100,000

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The Robert G. Cabell III and Maude Morgan Cabell Foundation

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Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Pryor #
Mr. and Mrs. John B. Werner #
Chancellor Wythe Chapter
National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution
Mr. and Mrs. William A. Young, Jr.

+Deceased
Gifts from $250 to $499

Dianne C. Brown #
Walter Coles, Jr.
Sara G. Dale
Bensley and Maureen Field #

Jacob and Keri Geiger #, ##
David Hartley #
Holly Hartley #

Jane Koontz
Tom and Rose Swartz
Sarah F. Whiting ##

Gifts from $100 to $249

Hugh and Deane Adams #
Eleanor W. Barkley
Patricia O. Blyer #
Bryce and Nancy Bugg #
Richard Burke
Duncan and Susan Campbell #
Mrs. Sharon Charles

In memory of Donald Longcor Charles
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Clement #
Elizabeth H. Cole
Melissa Damiano #
Brydon DeWitt
Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Donnelly #
Mr. and Mrs. William Dvorak #

In honor of Wilson Dansey
Mr. and Mrs. William B. Fountain #
Dianne Forsythe #
Martha J. Frickert #

In honor of Wilson Dansey

Rick Gary #
Elizabeth and William Griffin
Jack D. Hardy
Mr. and Mrs. Marvin V. Headley
Heart of Virginia Tours
John R. Hebbert
Penny Cannon Hodge #
Phillip and Jillian Chamberlain Holt #
Phyllis W. Hubbard
Barbara Hultz #
Henry Hurt
Kenneth and LaVerne Jones
Dr. and Mrs. Muhammad Rehan Raza Khan #
Mary-Ball Massey #
Leigh McDonald #
Mary K. Lee McDonald
Mr. William L. Motley, Jr.

Caroline H. Neal
Jane P. Paret
Mr. and Mrs. James A. Pettit, Jr. #
Tom Phillips #
Anita and John Priddy #
Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rupel #
Dan Strawn #
Kathryn Strawn ##
Loretta Tabb #
Pattie Tobler #
Uptown Neon
Karen Ulfers #
Michael Vicars #
Jonathon and Jean Wight #
Robert and Jo Ann G. Witt #
Bruce and Brenda Wright

Gifts Up to $99

Mr. and Mrs. Hamid Akbarali #
All-Virginia Title & Escrow, Inc.
Anonymous (2) #
Carmen G. Andujar #
E. D. and Marilew M. Barnes #
Franck and Mary Boynton #
Linda and Gray Bradford
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bruton #
Donald and Sandra Collins #
David and Suzanne Crenshaw #
Glenn and Barbara Custis #
Betty D. Dahl #
Susan DeWeese #
Daryl Kay Driskill #
Tom and Linda Driscoll #
Dan and Marilyn Escalera #

Elizabeth Hooker #
Kamens Family Trust #
Mark and Erin Kenny
Alison Kent #
Arif Hussain and NajMusaher Khazi #
Jeff and Kim Marble #
D. Stephen Mayer #
Dr. James I. Masloff #
B. Scott McCord #
Rieman McNamara, Jr, #
William Myers
Charles H. Norris
Tricia Olaes #
Mr. and Mrs. Fred W. Palmore III

In honor of Lisa and Frank Wood
Betsy Perkins #

Kathy Reid #
Linda Seguin #
Mr. and Mrs. Narinder Nitin Sethi #
Bill and Jennifer Shirey #
Speakers Corner
Diane Starbuck
Janet Strawn #
Willard Strickland #
Janice N. Tate #
Steven Taylor
Richard Truscott #
Lynn Valeri
Ronald Wadsack #
Cary Upshur and William Washington
Tyler and Nancy Whitley #

2014 Financial Overview

Expenses

Gift Shop 8%
Marketing & Communications 3%
Historic Property Rent 12%
Administrative 11%
Development 4%
Gifts from $100 to $249

Gifts from $250 to $499

Gifts Up to $99

Income

Earned Revenue 43%
Unrestricted Giving 50%
Restricted Grants 7%
St. John's Church Foundation
Headquarters and Mailing Address:
2319 E. Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23223
Visitor Center: 804-648-5015
programs@saintjohns.cc
www.historicstjohnschurch.org

Visitor Center and Site Hours
MONDAY – SATURDAY:
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
The last tour leaves at 3:30 p.m. daily.
SUNDAY:
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Guided tours are led by trained interpreters. Purchase tickets at our Visitor Center which is located at the back of the property.

The Visitor Center is closed on Easter, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, and New Year's Day. Tours are also subject to close for weddings, funerals, or other church functions. There is a fee for tours or reenactments conducted outside our normal hours of operation. Please call the Visitor Center at 804-648-5015 for more information.

Save the Date!
Fall Special Events

Fancy Me Mad:
An Evening with Edgar Allan Poe with Graveyard Tour!
Saturday, October 17th
5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
$5.00 per person

Veterans Day
“Liberty or Death!” Reenactment
Saturday, November 7th
1:15 – 2:30 p.m.
1:15 pm – Church doors open
1:30 pm – Music program
1:45 pm – Reenactment begins
This event is FREE, with a suggested donation of $5.00.

For event details and more information:
804-648-5015
www.historicstjohnschurch.org