



300th ANNIVERSARY
BRUTON PARISH
1715-2015

CAMPAIGN FOR THE FOURTH CENTURY BRUTON PARISH CHURCH

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WELCOME to the inaugural issue of a newsletter dedicated to sharing plans and progress about our capital campaign. Shortly into these 50 days of Eastertide, it seems fitting to launch a new form of communication about a new initiative at Bruton Parish.

For exactly two years, the people of Bruton have taken part in getting ready for a campaign. A process of listening, study and survey has brought us to this point. The pace may have seemed slow, but perhaps a better word is "deliberate". Our discernment generated many ideas about improvements and ministries the parish should initiate, maintain, or strengthen.

WHAT WE'VE LEARNED: First, a campaign must be a response to current needs. Second, it must also help position Bruton Parish for the future. Third, our campaign must be structured so that every person or family has a way (or two or three) to give and participate. Finally, it must be structured to provide maximum flexibility for the church and for the donor. This means it must make sense for all areas of parish finances and allow everyone to pledge support in the manner that is right for them.

WHAT'S NEXT: This spring, the vestry will affirm a campaign plan, determine the timing, and confirm a lay leadership team. These items are evolving with the help of our consultant, Joe Gould. Mr. Gould is a development professional who resides in Williamsburg. We are pleased he will work with us to develop and implement the campaign's course.

IN CONCLUSION: Last year we wrote that this undertaking is about the right projects, at the right price, at the right time. This is still true. It has never been about meeting a deadline. Words of one collect for this season are well suited to this moment in our common life: "... let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new..." (BCP page 291). So be patient. Keep awake. This newsletter will be one means of making known the details. Thank you for becoming a faithful reader.

The Rev'd Christopher L. Epperson, Rector

Albert O. Louer, Senior Warden

"Bruton Parish has been loving the members of God's body for more than 300 years... We trust that while God's beloved will die, through the ages the body will continue to rise and transform the world toward the fullness of God's vision – the kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven."

The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop

April 12, 2015