

*An Anthology of Epiphany History:
1888 -1988*

Edited by Lane McGovern

Foreword

With great joy The Parish of the Epiphany celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Episcopal church in Winchester in 1988. During our first 100 years many good people have worshipped in this parish, one where people gather to be strengthened and to learn about the glory of faith in God.

The commissioning of this history is a keystone among the many projects the parish undertook to celebrate the Centennial. With it, the parish builds on the history published in 1954 by Bradford Eddy and pays tribute to the events and people that have made this parish a lively, caring community.

To mark the Centennial year a formal logo was created by Inez Woodbury for use on pamphlets, programs, parish letterhead and other literature. A less formal design by Kent Suhrbier graced T-shirts that were sold to raise funds. Kent and his mother Nadine designed brightly-colored banners that now hang in Hadley Hall. Patterns in the banners reflect architectural details of the church. A cookbook of recipes by parish members was commissioned and completed under the aegis of the Women of Epiphany. Members of the parish contributed \$95,000 to a special Centennial Fund that was dedicated to projects in the areas of outreach, education, music, property, and endowment.

Centennial events were held from March to late May. On one evening a special concert was presented. On five evenings, former assistant rectors to the Reverend John Bishop were asked to speak on the Centennial theme, "The Future of the Episcopal Church." Highlighting the year was a catered banquet held on April 8. Parishioners crowded Hadley Hall to hear the Right Reverend John E. Spong, Bishop of the Diocese of Newark and author of several thought-provoking books on the Bible, speak on our theme.

In a sermon on April 10 the Rev. John W. Ellison, our sixth rector, traced the early history of the parish, punctuating his talk with interesting anecdotes about our church building. The last Centennial event was held on Sunday, May 8, when John J. Bishop, the seventh rector, gave a sermon in which he highlighted the major changes that had occurred during his twenty-three year rectorship.

With some trepidation holes were drilled to find the capsule that was placed in the cornerstone of the church in 1904, but it is well-hidden. Its discovery is left to a future generation!

As this volume goes to press we welcome the election of the Rev. Robert J. O'Neill as our eighth rector, and mark a new stage of our growth as faithful Christians.

We heartily thank Lane McGovern for writing and editing this anthology. The reader will recognize the talent that he has applied to bring to life our first 100 years. We also thank John Minniti for preparing the history for publication. His steadfast care lends emphasis to its value.

We thank all who so willingly contributed to the success of our Centennial year.

Faithfully,

The Centennial Committee:

Rev. John J. Bishop
Selby F. Holmberg
Constance Marshall
A. Lane McGovern
John C. Minniti
Mary A. Skates
Florence J. Smith
Walter J. Smith
Nadine G. Suhrbier

Lilwen Ann Craig and Steve J. Poulos
Co-Chairpersons

October 20, 1991

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Harmony Hall: Birthplace of the Episcopal Church in Winchester