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Elizabeth's Historic Old First Presbyterian Church Gets New Steeple



New Jersey's oldest English-speaking church - Old First Presbyterian Church in Elizabeth - is rich in Revolutionary - era history and modern mission. That history was on display this August when the church replaced the steeple that was destroyed by fire in 1946, with an aluminum steeple modeled after one erected in 1795. The steeple is part of a \$9 million renovation to the church's main building, centuries-old cemetery and parish house, largely underwritten by the Harold B. and Dorothy A. Snyder Foundation.

Old First, founded in 1644, played an important role in state government when Elizabeth Town became New Jersey's first capital in 1751. During the American Revolution, the adjacent commons - now a cemetery with over 2300 historic grave makers - served as the local militia's mustering point. The church and steeple were burned by the British in 1780.

Today the Old First parish house sits on the original site of a college founded here and today known as Princeton University. Now the church's social service ministry is based in the parish house - providing free meals, free clothes, counseling and support to those in need. How fitting that this place that played so prominent a role in the struggle for our nation's freedom should today help those struggling for individual freedom.

Celebrate the 225th Anniversary of General Washington's Residence at Rockingham in 1783

August through November 2008

Join the celebration and meet some of early America's most famous people while enjoying traditional music and storytelling!

Additional Events

Sept. 3, 2008-June 2009
Exhibition - Stand Up, Speak Out: Princeton's Citizens Find Their Voice
[Princeton Historical Society](#)

September 4, 2008
2:30 PM
Liberty Lecture Series: The Boudinots and the Washingtons

October 2, 2008
2:30 PM
Liberty Lecture Series: Documenting Princeton 1783
[Morven Museum & Garden](#)

September 6, 2008
1:30 to 3:30 PM
Weaving Wick Style - Hands on Demonstration of Period Weaving Techniques Used by Henry Wick's Family
For More Information Call the Jockey Hollow Visitors Center at 973-543-4030

September 6-7, 2008
Revolutionary War Encampment at Historic Cold Spring Village, Cape May. Demonstrations of camp life, infantry tactics, artillery.
[Historic Cold Spring Village](#)

September 21, 2008
Colonial Life 101 at the Red Bank Battlefield Park - Try Your Hand at Feather Pens, Candle Dipping, and More!
For More Information Call 856-853-5120

September 28, 2008
Presentation and Lecture by Wayne Daniels
"The Baylor Massacre - A Revolutionary War Crime Unearthed"
[Old Barracks Museum](#)

Custom Stamp Cancellations

Representatives from the Kingston and Rocky Hill Post Offices will attend four of these events to hand cancel mail with custom -designed hand cancellation stamps. Bring your stamped mail to be mailed or to keep as a collectible or purchase a stamped postcard to be stamped as a collectible.

*225th Anniversary
Station
Washington at Rockingham
1783-2008.*

*August 23rd, 2008
Rocky Hill, New Jersey.
08553*



"Receiving the Commander in Chief"

General Washington Arrives "Near Rocky Hill," 1783
Saturday & Sunday, August 23 & 24, 2008, all day.
Rockingham Historic Site, Kingston, NJ

"In Whatever Situation I May Be"

Martha Washington, General's Wife at Rockingham
Presenter: Pat Jordan, American Historical Theatre
Sunday, September 7, 2008, 3:00 pm.
Rocky Hill First Reformed Church, Rocky Hill, NJ

"Never Rise to Speak Till You Have Something to Say"

Meet Rev. John Witherspoon
Presenter: George Luck
Saturday, September 20, 2008, 2:00 pm.
Kingston Presbyterian Church, Kingston, NJ
(No Stamp at This Event)

Music for the Washingtons

Performers: Practitioners of Musick
Saturday, October 18, 2008, 2:00 pm.
Rocky Hill First Reformed Church, Rocky Hill, NJ

"The Curtain of Separation Will Soon be Drawn"

The General Takes His Leave, Rockingham 1783
Saturday & Sunday, November 8 & 9, 2008
All day
Rockingham, Kingston, NJ

For More Information visit [Rockingham Historic Site](#)

250th Anniversary of the Trenton Barracks Rafters Raising in 1758

September 20th & 21st, 2008
10am -5pm

The Trenton Old Barracks will celebrate the raising of the roof with a weekend of events!



Audience Participation!

Colonial craftsman plying authentic hand tools will build exact, hand-made, full-size replicas of the original rafters before your eyes. Visitors can participate helping to raise this replica roof in the Barracks yard.

**October 2, 2008
7:30 PM**

Lecture by Gregory J.W. Urwin Ph.D

"There is No Carrying on the War without Them: The Continental Light Dragoons, 1776-83"

[The David Library of the American Revolution](#)

October 5, 2008

Walnford Day - Enjoy the Sights and Sounds of the Past While Learning About the Evolution of Historic Walnford and It's 18th Century Gristmill.

[Historic Walnford](#)

October 11-12, 2008

Weekend Journey Through the Past - Free tours of historic sites throughout [Somerset County History In a Weekend](#)

October 25-26, 2008

Fall Encampment at the Dey Mansion - Re-enactors Perform Musket Drills, 18th Century Dancing, Crafters, Blacksmithing, and More.

For More Information Call 973-696-1776.

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Historical Commission

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Whose Side Will You Take?

Debate 18th century Trentonians as they speak out for and against building a barracks in Trenton. Sign your name with a quill pen on the petition to the Colonial Legislature if you are a supporter.

Enjoy the Colonial Atmosphere!

Colonial merchants will sell authentic replica products, colonial musicians will be playing music throughout the day, fresh bread will be baked in our colonial clay oven.

Archeology Lecture

Lectures will be given by Hunter Research archeologists, Richard Hunter and Ian Burrow, within site of the ongoing archeological dig behind the barracks where artifacts have been excavated from the 1735 Trenton steel plating mill.

Cost: All events are scheduled both days. \$8/adult, \$6/senior, \$6/child. Old Barracks Association Members are free.

A Colonial Feast

Saturday evening, September 20th, 6pm, a Colonial Feast will be served at \$30/person. Reservations are required.

**For More Information or to Make Reservations, Call
(609)396-1776**

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Crossroads of the American Revolution National and State Heritage Area

Managed by the Crossroads of the American Revolution Association

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