

Fun Fact, September 22, 2021

Question: During the American Civil War (April 12, 1861 – May 9, 1865) which Episcopal church in the diocese had its windows blown out?

Clue: It happened in the same year as the Battle of Gettysburg.

Answer: The State of Delaware remained in the Union at the commencement of the Civil War, and the then bishop, Bishop Lee, was strongly pro-Union, but there were southern sympathizers in Delaware.

Although there were no battles fought in Delaware, the whole state was affected by the events as men went off to fight on both sides, many never to return.

In Wilmington, the Du Pont Company ramped up production of black powder to provide to Union troops, and they only provided powder to the Union, not to the Confederacy.

Three separate explosions in the powder yards of the Du Pont Company in 1863 killed 17 men in all and did a tremendous amount of damage to homes and churches in the area, including Christ Church Christiana Hundred, which had many of its windows blown out, replaced, and blown out again over the years. There were those who suspected sabotage; but no one really could say what had caused them, and those who might have known were dead.

From *The Episcopal Church in Delaware 1785-1954* by Charles A. Silliman