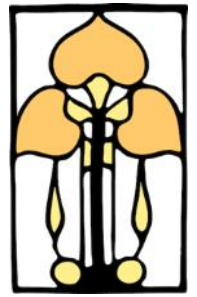


FRIENDS of HISTORIC SECOND CHURCH

THE HERALD

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THE ST. PAUL WINDOW RESTORATION IS UNDERWAY *by Nate Lielasus*



John Clark removing the St. Paul window.

Tom Venturella and Jim Murphy were back at Second Presbyterian Church in late March disassembling another of the church's monumental Tiffany

windows to commence a full restoration. It seems like only yesterday that Friends embarked on the restoration of the Peace Window, the completion of which represented the largest preservation project by Friends since being founded in 2006. During the restoration of The Peace Window, many cast a nervous eye at the St Paul Window, after Peace the window in the most fragile condition. And Friends worried that with so many priceless Tiffany windows in desperate need of restoration, we might not be able to raise enough funds to save them all in time.

It was Richard Driehaus who stepped in and kicked off the St. Paul Window fundraising when, during a celebration to mark the completion of the restoration of The Peace Window, he publicly announced his intention to fund a major portion of the project. Through a large gift from the Richard H. Driehaus Charitable Fund at the Chicago Community Foundation he fully funded the restoration of the stained glass portion of the project. Of course, a project like this

involves more than just the restoration of the window itself, additional work will include removal of the window and transportation to NYC, insurance, the temporary window infill, repair of the exterior masonry and brick arch, restoration of the plaster and repainting, reconstruction of the structural steel support frame and installation of protective Houdini glazing at the exterior of the window, amongst other things. The project was further assisted when a second large gift was received in memory of Mae B. and James D. Hinchliff. Additional donations totaling \$142,000 completed the fundraising. In all, generous gifts from 96 donors helped ensure the full funding of the project within just three years of the completion of The Peace Window restoration. However, even at this rate, the aisle windows in the sanctuary would not be fully restored for another 30 years or more.

During the window removal, Tom and Jim made several interesting observations about the St. Paul window.

While we know that the window has moved several times since first being installed at First Presbyterian Church in 1895 (see [The Herald Volume XIV, Number 3 - Fall 2020](#), "[The First Presbyterian Church Memorial Windows](#)"), the story is also born out in the physical evidence. The support frame installed at Second Presbyterian Church is not original. The team discovered evidence that the window as originally installed at First Presbyterian had individual panels stacked one on top of the

other and tied together with tie wires. While horizontal saddle bars spanned from jamb to jamb to provided additional support, the lower panels bore much of the weight of the panels above. When the window was installed at Second Presbyterian in 1927, a T bar frame was added to help hold the weight of each panel. A Tiffany frame responds to the scene depicted; structural members are bent to conform to the glass so as not to

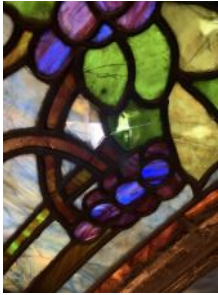


Showing St. Paul's face with T bar frame.

interrupt the image. The T bar frame at Second Presbyterian is a gridiron with bars cutting across the window, particularly noticeable where one crosses the neck of St Paul. The new structural frame will use bent bars to no longer disrupt the scene. The placement of bars will attempt to replicate the location of original saddle bars, to the extent possible, by investigating for signs of tie wires on the coming which indicate the locations of the original saddle bars.

Fragments of wood jamb material with sash weight pockets - remnants of the previous window in the opening that predated the installation of the St. Paul window – were discovered during the work.

Within the St. Paul window itself, there is evidence of some glass replacement. The most surprising replacement may be the face of St Paul himself. Other possible replacement glass occurs by Athena's shield and in a portion of the sky.



Border near top of showing cracks and holes in stained glass.

The Giannini and Hilgart border has many fractured pieces of glass that will need to be edge glued. Parts of the border were so out-of-plane that they rubbed against the

outer Lexan glazing. Unlike the Tiffany window, the surface of the coming in the border is not float soldered. When the window is put back together, the entire surface of the new coming will be float soldered, providing extra strength. The restoration of the window is expected to take 14 months. Like the Peace Window, the entire window will be disassembled and "re-woven" with new lead coming except for the few portions, like the base of the Acropolis, that were fabricated with copper foil. The

old, yellowed Lexan will be removed, and new Houdini protective glazing will be installed as a protective covering on the exterior.

We are excited about new discoveries that will be made during the meticulous analysis and restoration of the St Paul window. During the Peace Window restoration, it was quite a thrill to uncover a long-lost Tiffany signature, buried behind the plaster sill. The salvaged piece of mud wasp nest extracted from that window is still in the Friends' archive.

In addition to Tom and Jim from Venturella Studio, the project benefits from the expertise of staff from Wiss, Janey, Elstner, Inc; Bulley Andrews Masonry Restoration, LLC; Kelly Plastering; and John Clark of Wardell Art Glass.

As during the restoration of the Peace Window, Tom and Jim have graciously extended an open invitation for interested folks to visit the studio and see restoration in progress. During the restoration of the Peace Window, Tom commented that more people from Chicago came to visit the studio than have ever visited a restoration in progress in the past. If you are interested in visiting the studio to see the restoration in action, please reach out to Heather Kendall at info@historicsecondchurch.org.

**IN MEMORIUM:
RICHARD H. DRIEHAUS**



Richard H. Driehaus, who passed away on March 9, 2021 at the age of 78 was a life-long Chicagoan who made an enormous

impact on this city that he loved, including on Second Presbyterian Church. He was raised in a Chicago bungalow, schooled in Chicago's Catholic schools and DePaul University and went on to an extraordinarily successful business career. His zest for the beauty of life and commitment to giving back to his community led to his being a prominent supporter of Chicago's built environment and its preservation. His generosity extended to Friends and Second Presbyterian Church. He was a decades-long benefactor of Friends' efforts to preserve the church's art and architecture. His most recent gift was the lead gift in support of the restoration of the Tiffany window, "St. Paul Preaching at Athens" that was removed for its fourteen month restoration during the week of March 22nd. The conservation of this beautiful window will be a fitting tribute to this man who gave so much to others and so appreciated the beauty of Tiffany's work. According to Sunny Fisher, the former executive director of the Driehaus Foundation, he was "an extraordinary philanthropist and a remarkable citizen of Chicago." He will be missed.



Jim Murphy removing the first pieces of Tiffany's original 1895 St. Paul Stained glass window.

Friends of Historic Second Church gratefully acknowledges the following memberships, donations, and contributions from November 8, 2020– March 28, 2021

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Albert Walavich	Luann Elvey	Nancy Robinson	Teresa R. Maher
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Michael & Ann Belletire	Glenn & Donna Gabanski	Stephen & Marilyn Scott	David W. Mattoon
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Heather J. Haberaecker	Karen Grant	Ray Hofmann & Tori Simms	Lynn Neils
Karen Lamb	Margaret Grinnell	William & Ingrid Stafford	Susan Ruff
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Sharon Sylvester	Kevin Hall	Michael Trier	Robert Schwendau
Jane & Howard Tiffen	Gloria & James Hennig	Jean Walker	William Simmons
Mark Veselack	Katherine M. Henrici	Allan & Angie Vagner	Norman Spielman
\$100 - \$499	Ernest Hodge	Scott Vandermyde	Dan & Linda Tretter
A Gift to Bross	<i>In Memory of Dr. M. Vance Hodge</i>	John Vinci	<i>In Honor of Our 50th Wedding Anniversary</i>
Bulley Charitable Fund at The Chicago Community Fund	Geraldine Jackson	Maria Wicks	Valery True
Robert Adamshick	Barbara Chasnoff & J. Thomas Johnson	Trisha Cassidy & Andrew Wycislak	Warren Vik
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		Tom Dodge	
		Jim & Judy Elsass	

AGNES NORTHROP WITH THE NEUSTADT COLLECTION

**Online Via Zoom
Thursday, May 13, 2021
7:00 pm to 8:00 pm**

**Price per device:
\$10 general admission/\$8 members**



As one of Louis Comfort Tiffany's main designers, Agnes Northrop was most likely introduced to him in the late 1880s and by the 1890s possibly due to their connections in Flushing, Queens, New York. She is known for creating many pastoral windows including Second Presbyterian's own. In this event Lindsay Parrott, Executive Director of the Neustadt Collection in Queens, New York, will remark on the creative genius of Agnes Northrop along with how she used the execution of Tiffany's famous glass techniques to produce the many arrays of stained glass windows during her tenure at the studio.

During Parrott's fifteen year career at The Neustadt she has conducted ground-breaking research on the manufacture and use of Tiffany's opalescent flat glass, and developed The Neustadt's partnership with the Queens Museum, which now houses a permanent gallery dedicated to changing exhibitions drawn from The Neustadt's collection.

This event is a collaborative partnership between The Neustadt Collection and Friends of Historic Second Church.

To register go to historicsecondchurch.org.

* All members must sign-in to our Neon database to receive member discounts. Member discount codes are no longer viable with check out. Try to create a login first and if you continue to have questions regarding setting up an account please email info@historicsecondchurch.org.

UNDER-BALCONY LIGHT FIXTURES IT'S THEIR TIME TO SHINE

By Jim Peters

In a church interior known for its spectacular stained glass windows, murals, crown chandeliers, and wood and plaster ornamentation, the 15 Arts and Crafts ceiling light fixtures under Second Presbyterian's three balconies often are overlooked.

Hopefully, that will soon change, thanks to the "Karen Oliver Memorial Light Restoration Project."



Archistoric

In February, as part of a demonstration project, the first of these light fixtures was restored by Archistoric

Products, a 98-year-old Chicago company best known for their restoration of light fixtures at the Civic Opera House, the Driehaus Museum, Union Station, and Unity Temple.

In early April, after the fixture was cleaned, stabilized, and rewired, it was reinstalled under the rear (east) balcony, along with a safer and more durable mounting system and new wiring to replace the old cloth wiring inside steel conduit. At the same time, the other two light fixtures under the rear balcony were removed and, following their restoration, they are expected to be reinstalled by this summer. (All of the electrical work is being done by B&Z Electric.)

As with all of the church's lighting, the under-balcony fixtures were designed in 1901 by architect Howard Van Doren Shaw, as part of his revamping of the church sanctuary following a disastrous fire in March 1900.

The fixtures were fabricated by the Willy H. Lau Company, one of the city's pioneering designers and manufacturers of gas and electrical lighting. A 1906 House Beautiful magazine article described

the firm in this manner: "For dignified simplicity it would be hard to find anything better than the work of Willy H. Lau, a Chicago man of unusual ability."



B&Z Electric

The design of the under-balcony light fixtures, like most of Shaw's work, is unique. They are suspended, at either end,

by chain links from an iron cross bar. Their yellow-and-orange stained glass panels feature stylized pomegranates, which is a common motif of Shaw's designs for Second Presbyterian (see Spring 2015 issue of The Herald).

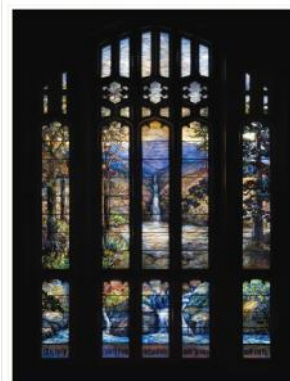
"The glass used to depict the stylized pomegranates is adorned with several small round glass pieces connected by thin wire suggesting seeds," wrote Catherine Acosta in the Summer 2014 issue of The Herald. And, as with many of the church's light fixtures, Acosta noted, the under-balcony ceiling fixtures also feature bare light bulbs.

This light fixture restoration project is being dedicated to the memory of longtime Friends of Historic Second Church docent Karen Oliver, who died unexpectedly in August 2020. Once this initial demonstration phase is completed, fundraising will begin for the restoration and rewiring of the 12 other ceiling fixtures lining the undersides of the north and south balconies.



*Complete restoration of the
Karen Oliver Light Restoration Project*

AGNES NORTHROP AND THE HARTWELL MEMORIAL WINDOW



The massive 23 feet tall by 16 feet wide Hartwell Memorial Window, recently acquired by The Art Institute of Chicago will be on display at

the museum starting May 29th. The window was originally installed in Central Baptist Church of Providence, Rhode Island (now Community Church of Providence) and is currently being readied for installation in the Henry Crown Gallery at the top of the Women's Board Grand Staircase.

While there has been a lot of anticipation about the unveiling of the restored Hartwell Window, many who are eagerly awaiting a look do not realize that Chicago has long had a monumental scenic window by Agnes Northrop available for public viewing - The Pastoral Window at Second Presbyterian Church.

Both windows date to circa 1917, when Northrop was at the height of her career, and both depict water serenely flowing from distant mountains through a lush landscape of trees and flowering banks. The towering mountain in the Hartwell Window is Mount Chocorua, in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. Both windows also display the full gamut of Tiffany glass types including foliage, streaky, spotted and acid etched.

The Hartwell Window is a significant addition to the Art Institute collection and we urge everybody to go see it. But be sure to also come and see The Pastoral Window here at Second Presbyterian. Having both windows in Chicago provides an opportunity for deeper analysis and the chance to compare two masterpiece Northrop windows.



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Facebook

BECOME A MEMBER

2021 feels like a new beginning after a difficult and challenging past year. Even while Friends of Historic Second Church adapted as best we could in 2020 with online programs and limited tours, we still successfully continued our preservation work. That is because YOU, our faithful members, continued to support us with your memberships and gifts for restoration *despite* a worldwide pandemic. We will be forever grateful. Now we are poised for a much more exciting year with the March removal of Tiffany’s *St. Paul Preaching at Athens* and its delivery to Venturella Studio in New York for complete restoration. Fresh programs reflecting new partnerships are scheduled, and soon the church will re-open for Friends’ tours and other events. It’s the perfect time to join/renew your membership in Friends. Join because you believe in preservation as a civic duty or join because you enjoy seeing restoration come to life. But don’t miss out on your chance to be a vital part of living history – the restoration of Historic Second Church.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

All members receive the newsletter *The Herald* and are recognized as donors in the newsletter.

Tiffany Circle: \$40 Individual; \$55 Family; \$25 Student/Senior (62 yrs.+)

Benefits include: Free tours during regular tour hours, 25% discount on Friends’ merchandise.

Arts & Crafts Circle: \$100 and above

Benefits include: Free tours during regular tour hours, 25% discount on Friends’ merchandise, and invitations to special members-only tours and programs.



I/we wish to become a member of Friends of Historic Second Church or renew a current membership.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ for membership at the following level:

____ **Tiffany Circle:** \$40 Individual; \$55 Family; \$25 Student/Senior (62 yrs.+)

____ **Arts & Crafts Circle:** \$100 and above

____ Yes ____ No You may acknowledge my contribution in Friends’ publications.

____ Yes ____ No I prefer to receive my newsletter by e-mail.

____ Yes ____ No I am interested in volunteering for Friends’ activities.

If you wish to discuss sponsoring a restoration project, contact Friends of Historic Second Church at 1-800-657-0687.

Please return completed form with check made payable to:

Friends of Historic Second Church 1936 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60616.

Or renew online at www.historicsecondchurch.org.

Memberships and gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Friends of Historic Second Church is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization.



**FRIENDS of
HISTORIC SECOND CHURCH**

1936 S. Michigan Ave.

Chicago, IL 60616

Phone: 1-800-657-0687

E-mail: info@historicsecondchurch.org

Web: www.historicsecondchurch.org

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Contributors: Ann Belletire, Heather Kendall, Nate Lielasus, Jim Peters, and Linda Miller.

WELCOME BACK!

Yes, you and a small group of friends/family are now invited to come back for a tour of Second Presbyterian's stunning Arts and Crafts interior! Friends is currently enrolling groups of 6 or fewer to receive their own private tour with one of our very knowledgeable docents. All COVID health protocols will be followed including wearing masks, taking temperatures, signing in, distancing, hand sanitizer, etc. Please visit our website at www.historicsecondchurch.org or call 1-800-657-0867

SUPPORT FRIENDS WITH AMAZONSMILE

Friends has joined AmazonSmile, a website which allows non-profit organizations to receive donations from a 0.5% portion of sales made on the popular shopping website. To donate via AmazonSmile, visit: <http://smile.amazon.com/> and select Friends of Historic Second Church at the prompt.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**History of Brick Making and Architecture in Chicago
Wednesday, June 16, 2021**

Online webinar—via Zoom

7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Price per device

\$10 general admission/\$8 member

Will Quam of Brick of Chicago will present a history of Chicago bricks.

Graceland Cemetery Walking Tour

Sunday, August 8, 2021

10 am to 12 pm

\$20 general admission/\$16 member

Tour led by William Tyre, Executive Director and Curator of Glessner House.

To purchase tickets go historicsecondchurch.org.

* All members must sign-in to our Neon database to receive member discounts. Member discount codes are no longer viable with check out. Try to create a login first and if you continue to have questions regarding setting up an account please email info@historicsecondchurch.org.

Mission Statement

To preserve and restore the art and architecture of Chicago's landmark Second Presbyterian Church and to engage neighbors and the world in sharing our passion for its beauty and significance.

Friends of Historic Second Church is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation. All donations are deductible to the extent allowed by law.