

# FRIENDS of HISTORIC SECOND CHURCH

# THE HERALD

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**Fall 2018** 



# GROVER CLEVELAND ATTENDS SECOND PRESBYTERIAN BEFORE OPENING THE WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION OF 1893



During the spring of 1893, President Grover Cleveland traveled to Chicago to open the World's Columbian

Exposition, the much-anticipated showcase of inventions, new technologies and cultures from around the world. Cleveland, along with Vice President Adlai Stevenson, Secretary of State Walter Gresham, and Secretary of the Interior Hoke Smith, stayed in

Cleveland and several friends breakfasted in his suite of rooms at the Lexington. It was over this meal that Cleveland decided to accept an invitation to attend services at nearby Second Presbyterian Church (Cleveland was the son of a Presbyterian minister and had been raised in the Presbyterian faith). Despite a severe rain storm, the President and several cabinet members made their way to Second Presbyterian and were ushered to pews near the front of the sanctuary. President Cleveland's visit to Second Presbyterian had been unannounced, and few congregation members were present at that morning's service. Accounts of the day state that



\$2 bill (numbered A1940559) on the pile.

After services had ended, several church members introduced themselves to the President and shook his hand. Aside from this and the Rev. Dr. S. J. McPherson's special blessing during the service to those in positions of authority, no other fanfare was made of Cleveland's presence at the church. The following day, May 1, 1893, President Cleveland officially opened the fair that would eventually attract more than 27 million visitors (roughly half the U.S. population at the time) during its six-month run.



luxurious apartments at the Lexington Hotel, located two blocks south of Second Presbyterian Church at Michigan Avenue and 22<sup>nd</sup> Street.

On Sunday, April 30, 1893,

Cleveland respectfully and reservedly sat through the service, paying close attention to the sermon but not participating in the responses. When the collection plate was passed around, Cleveland discreetly left a

Docent Al Walavich and others contributed to this article.

# THE WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION IN MUSIC AND STORY

Step back in time 125 years to relive the grandeur and majesty that was the World's Columbian Exposition. The Fair was attended by 27 million people between May and October 1893 and secured Chicago's place as a world-class city.

This very special performance will feature musical selections related to the fair, performed on the historic 4 manual Austin organ of Second Presbyterian Church by its music director Michael Shawgo. Music was an integral part of the fair, ranging from formal concerts by the Exposition Orchestra led by

Commentary during the performance will provide a rich variety of stories about the Fair, its impact on Chicago and the world, and how Chicagoans honored their fallen mayor as the Fair drew to a close.

Doors will open at 2:00 pm for docentled tours of the National Historic Landmark sanctuary. A reception will feature selected food items introduced at the Fair, including brownies which were developed at the request of Bertha Palmer. A small exhibit of Fair memorabilia will be on display.

This event is co-sponsored by Glessner House Museum.

\$25 per person / \$20 for members

To purchase tickets visit www.glessnerhouse.org for more information.



Theodore Thomas, to six-weeks of band concerts led by John Philip Sousa. The Midway introduced Fair visitors to a variety of music from around the world, much of which had never been heard in the United States.

October 28th also marks the 125th anniversary of the assassination of five-time Chicago mayor Carter H. Harrison, Sr. The tragic event sent the city into deep mourning and the elaborate celebration planned to close the Fair just two days later was replaced by a large public memorial service.

# 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.

# NARTHEX LIGHT FIXTURE NEEDS REPAIR

Lighting in the narthex is provided by a row of seven pendant lanterns suspended from a 17' long beam that stretches across the length of the vaulted ceiling. This light fixture, original to the 1901 Shaw design, is in need of repair. The seven Arts and Crafts style lanterns in the fixture are rectangular, with frosted glass panes set with lead came. In one of the lanterns, the glass shade has completely separated from its metal cap. It is currently held together by wire.



Friends will contract with Lumenelle to repair and clean the fixture. Lumenelle is the company that repaired the globe light fixtures above the pulpit and the art glass light fixtures on the east wall of the balcony. The restoration work will take place in early 2019. The cost of this restoration is \$1,000. Donations to support this project are welcome. Help us light up our restoration work! Go online to www.2ndpresbyterianfriends.org and click on Donate or mail your check to Friends of Historic Second Church at 1936 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60616.

### PEACE WINDOW CELEBRATIONS

Over 100 donors came to celebrate the completely restored Tiffany Peace window on July 31. This first glimpse of the gloriously vibrant window showed what the window must have looked like when it was originally installed in 1903. The year-long restoration was completed at Venturella Studio in New York City by Tom Venturella and Jim Murphy who joined the celebration, told stories of the restoration process, and answered guests' questions. Barbi Donnelley, great-granddaughter of Silas and Maria Cobb, the early Chicago pioneers to whom the window is dedicated, spoke fondly of Cobb family history and her ties to the window. Attendees joined in a champagne toast to celebrate the restorers, the donors, and the beautiful Peace window.

The church also joined in celebrating the window's return by conducting a special service of dedication on Sunday, July 29 in which all the music and texts, and Rev. Neff's sermon focused on Peace, Hope and Consolation, the themes of the three medallions featured in the Peace window.



Tom and Barbi Donnelley with Tom Venturella and Jim Murphy during the July 31 celebration.

Photo credit: Martin Cheung

Friends of Historic
Second Church
gratefully acknowledges
the following
memberships,
donations, and
contributions from
May 21, 2018September 26, 2018.

### \$1,000 - \$2,999

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## \$500 - \$999

Heather J. Haberaecker Jacqueline Quern

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In honor of Jeff & Linda Miller's 50th Wedding Anniversary

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In memory of William Tyre's friend Julio Rios Michael & Ann Belletire

### **In-Kind Donations:**

Diane Anderson Mark Heffron Motor Row Brewing



# BASEMENT TO BELFRY: HALLOWEEN EDITION

Saturday October 27, 2018 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Architect Nate Lielasus will provide a Basement to Belfry tour of the church. During this popular tour at Second Presbyterian, guests will be given a behind the scenes look at areas of the church not typically visited on regular tours, from the basement dirt floor to the charred roof timbers. The tour will focus on original architectural features from the 1874



construction and evidence of changes during Shaw's reconstruction. Please note there are stairs, uneven ground, and several small spaces.

Ticket price: \$20

To reserve a space please go to our events page at: www.2ndpresbyterianfriends.org/visit/events

# EXHIBIT OPENING AT FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Second Presbyterian Church is currently the subject of an exhibit displayed in the loggia gallery of Fourth Presbyterian Church at 126 East Chestnut Street, at the corner of Michigan Avenue. The exhibit, sponsored by Friends of Historic Second Church, is titled "In the Company of Angels: The Art and Architecture of Second Presbyterian Church and Its Connections to Fourth Presbyterian Church." Featured are photographs and text highlighting the Arts and Crafts design of Howard Van Doren Shaw, along with the murals of Frederic Clay Bartlett and the various stained-glass windows, lighting and other crafts. There will be an opening reception following a Sunday service at Fourth Presbyterian. The exhibit is open to the public, and will be on display until late November.



Peace Window 2018 Photo Credit: Mark F. Heffron

### **NEW SANCTUARY CARPETING**

Due to the deteriorated condition of the historic 1901 carpeting on the two stairways leading up to the balcony, Friends recently approved replacing the carpeting. Once it has been carefully documented, the original carpeting will be removed and replaced with a temporary carpeting in a red tone to complement the pew cushions. The new carpeting will be installed in late September. The historic carpeting will remain in place in other areas of the sanctuary including the balcony and the side aisles on the main floor. For more information on the historic carpeting, see the Fall/Winter 2014 issue of The Herald. We look forward to the day when all of the major restoration work in the sanctuary is complete, and we can move forward with replicating and installing the historic carpet throughout the sanctuary and balcony.

# SECOND PRESBYTERIAN PUBLIC TOUR SCHEDULE:

Wednesdays: 1:00-3:00 pm

Saturdays: 11:00-3:00 pm

Sundays: 12:15 pm (after worship service)

Or call 1-800-657-0687 to arrange a private tour

# TAX INCENTIVE MAKES GIVING EASY

Federal legislation provides tax incentives for seniors over 70 ½ to donate to their favorite non-profit without triggering any federal income taxes. A person can make a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from an individual retirement account (IRA) directly to a charity rather than withdrawing the money and paying taxes on it. Seniors can plan their giving over the course of a year and avoid paying taxes on charitable giving. We hope our supporters who are seniors will keep Friends in mind as they plan their minimum distributions. Please consult your financial advisor for rules and further information.

### FRIENDS' ANNUAL APPEAL 2018

Friends of Historic Second Church is having its busiest year ever. Friends has completed numerous preservation projects, the most exciting and visibly stunning is the re-installation of the Tiffany Peace window. If you have not yet visited the church to see it, we urge you to stop by. You will be awed by its transformation. This fall we present six interesting and diverse programs for your enjoyment. On October 13th and 14th we look forward to welcoming many Open House Chicago visitors to the National Historic Landmark sanctuary. All of Friends' work is made possible by your contributions.

Please help us continue our work of preserving this Chicago treasure by making a donation to the 2018 Annual Appeal. Your contribution makes possible our preservation work, tours, lectures, guided walks, our newsletter and new programming. Your contribution will ensure that we can say again next year, "2019 was our busiest year ever." Thank you.

### ANNUAL APPEAL FORM

Name:
Address:
City/State/Zip:
Telephone:
E-mail:
Enclosed is my gift to the 2018 Friends Annual Appeal in the amount of:
○ \$50  ○ \$100  ○ \$250  ○ \$500  ○ \$1,000  ○ \$2,500  ○ Other \$
My donation is in memory of:
My donation is in honor of:
Yes No You may acknowledge my contribution in Friends' publications Yes No Please send me information about membership.
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.2ndpresbyterianfriends.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.



1936 S. Michigan Ave. Chicago, IL 60616 Phone: 1-800-657-0687 E-mail: historic2ndchurch@yahoo.com Web: www.2ndpresbyterianfriends.org

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Contributors: Ann Belletire, Susan Burian, Heather Kendall, Nate Lielasus, Linda Miller, and William Tyre.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### Open House Chicago

Saturday October 13, 2018 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Sunday October 14, 2018 12:30 pm to 5:00 pm

As part of the Chicago Architecture Foundation's annual festival, come see our hidden gem with the many architectural treasures inside; it's one of the 250 sites open that weekend.

### Chicago Craftsmen and Second Presbyterian

Saturday, November 3, 2018 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Presentation by: William Tyre, Executive Director and Curator of Glessner House Museum

This program will begin with a PowerPoint presentation discussing the team that Shaw assembled for the commission he received to rebuild the sanctuary of the church after a fire in 1900, and their work at the church. Following the presentation, Tyre will lead attendees through the sanctuary pointing out significant artistic features by the team.

This special lecture and tour is being presented as a partner program with Art Design Chicago, a citywide celebration of the city's art and design legacy spearheaded by the Terra Foundation. To learn more, visit artdesignchicago.org.

Tickets are \$10. To reserve a space please go to our events page at : www.2ndpresbyterianfriends.org/visit/events.

### Arts and Crafts: Hull House and Shaw

Thursday November 15, 2018 6:00 pm tours and reception 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm lecture Presentation by: Jennifer Scott, Executive Director of Hull House Tickets are \$10.

### **Mission Statement**

The mission of Friends of Historic Second Church is to preserve and restore the art and architecture of Chicago's Landmark Second Presbyterian Church, educate a worldwide audience about its historical and cultural significance, and share those resources with the community.

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