



Friends of Historic Second Church

THE HERALD



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MOUNT OF THE HOLY CROSS WINDOW HAS FASCINATING STORY

This window, located on the south side of the sanctuary in the third bay from the front, is prominent for its beauty, but also for the fascinating story behind the donor family, and the scene that is depicted. Made by Tiffany Studios and installed in 1902, it is one of three windows that replaced memorial windows lost in the church fire of March 1900. The original window, installed in 1889 in the same location, was also made by Tiffany (at that time Tiffany Glass Co.), but was probably not of the same design, as it was set within the original wood tracery that was removed when this window was installed.

The current window, known as the Mount of the Holy Cross or Angel of Adoration, depicts a pair of angels looking through a lush valley toward a distant mountain with a large cross in snow on the peak. The robes of the angels contain excellent examples of Tiffany's drapery glass, which literally features folds of glass as though it were fabric. Likewise, the wings of the figures contain some of the finest pieces of feather glass in the sanctuary with tiny ridges simulating the texture of real feathers. Both of these types of glass represent the ways in which the Tiffany craftsmen manipulated the glass while in its molten state to achieve these special effects. Once cooled, the artisans would carefully examine each sheet of glass, selecting just those sections that would work perfectly for the finished window.

The window also exemplifies the effective use of plated (or layered)



Photo courtesy Martin Cheung.

glass. The large cross at the top of the mountain is seen at a great distance. To help reinforce that perspective, the cross is set into a secondary layer of glass, behind the visible layer. During the day, when the window is viewed with transmitted light, the cross is clearly visible. At night, however, when the window is seen by reflected light from within the sanctuary, the cross is completely invisible, and does not return until the sun rises again the next morning. It is art imitating life.

The Mount of the Holy Cross

The mountain depicted in the window represents an actual site in the Sawatch

Range of the Rocky Mountains, approximately 100 miles west of Denver. The cross, which is located on the east face and was visible two to three months of the year, was formed when snow would melt off the mountain, leaving snow deposits in two deep ravines which form the arms of the cross. The existence of the natural phenomenon was rumored for years, but it was not "discovered" until the late 1860s, due to its remote location. In 1873, a photograph of the 14,004-foot peak by William Henry Jackson confirmed its existence. That photograph, now at the Smithsonian, and an oil painting by Thomas Moran, completed in 1874, gave rise to the popularity of the site.

Moran's painting, (pictured at right) took some liberty with the surrounding landscape, including the foreground, and was likely used as a basis for the design of the window.



Henry Wadsworth Longfellow was inspired by Jackson's photo to write "The Cross of Snow" which reads in part:

*There is a mountain in the distant West
That, sun-defying, in its deep ravines
Displays a cross of snow upon its side.*

President Herbert Hoover designated the site as the Holy Cross

Continued

MOUNT OF THE HOLY CROSS WINDOW CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

National Monument in 1929, but the designation was reversed in 1950 due to the erosion of the right arm of the cross which seriously marred the image.

The Charles Kellogg Family

The window is a memorial to Charles P. Kellogg and his two sons Palmer and an infant. It is known that Kellogg took his family to Colorado for the summer in 1880, and it is possible that his widow Sarah chose the scene as a remembrance of that family vacation.

Charles Palmer Kellogg was born in Utica New York in 1837 and arrived in Chicago in 1856. He and his wife joined Second Presbyterian Church in September 1862 where he was active in its affairs, serving as a trustee (1867-1868), a member of the building committee during construction of the present building (1872-1874), and as superintendent of the Sunday School (1877-1878). In 1867, they purchased property at 1923 S. Prairie Avenue, and soon after had a large home in the Second Empire style built. Kellogg was owner and president of Charles P. Kellogg & Co., manufacturers of clothing. By the early 1870s, the company employed 3,000 workers, had nearly \$2 million in annual production, and was ranked as the largest clothing manufactory west of New York.

Like many Chicago businesses, Kellogg's factory was destroyed in the Chicago Fire of October 1871. The old structure for Second Presbyterian was also damaged in the fire, however, the exterior walls and bell tower remained standing. The congregation had moved out of the building one week prior to the fire, and had been trying to sell the structure at the time the fire took place. Kellogg took possession of the

building and quickly constructed a new roof over the sanctuary. By Dec. 1, 1871 he moved his business into the structure. A book on Chicago industry published in 1873 said of the company's destruction and quick rebuilding:

"They were burned out in the great fire at 24 and 26 Lake street, but with the proverbial heroism and energy that has made 'Chicago sufferers' so famous, they immediately went to work and fitted up the ruins of the old gray Presbyterian church, corner of Wabash avenue and Washington street, and commenced manufacturing again, thus giving employment to many 'fellow-sufferers' who would otherwise have had 'hard sledding' through the winter."

Within a year, the company completed a new manufacturing plant, and it continued to thrive, even after Kellogg developed consumption in the late 1870s. The family travelled extensively in the hopes of improving his health, including an extended trip to Europe in 1880, and the above-mentioned vacation in Colorado that summer, but to no avail. Charles Kellogg died of consumption on April 21, 1883 at the age of 46. His remains were shipped to

Utica, N.Y., for burial in the family plot at Forest Hill Cemetery.

Just six months later, his

father, Palmer V. Kellogg, also died, just one week after moving into his new home at 1709 S. Prairie Avenue. The company failed in the financial panic of 1893 and was assigned to creditors.

In that same year, Kellogg's only surviving child, Emma Lois Kellogg, was married in an impressive society wedding at Second Presbyterian. Her

husband was Pierrepont Isham, the son of attorney Edward S. Isham, the law partner of Robert Todd Lincoln. Unfortunately the union was not a happy one. They had one child, Lois, born in 1894, but divorced in 1899. (As an interesting side note, Isham's sister Ann Elizabeth, died in the sinking of the Titanic in 1912.)

Kellogg's widow Sarah died in 1915, leaving a sizable estate including a valuable art collection. She had disapproved of her granddaughter's behavior, and her will placed the estate in trust so that Lois could not access its principle until she reached the age of 45. Lois' mother contested the will claiming that her mother was not of sound mind, and the ensuing court case featuring the estate of "Madam Kellogg" and the plight of her granddaughter "Lady Lois" became a sensation in the media for three weeks. Ultimately the will was upheld.

Emma Lois Kellogg died in 1918 and her daughter Lois became one of the early settlers of Palm Springs, Calif., where she built a fabled estate known as "Fool's Folly" and befriended Rudolph Valentino and Lloyd Wright (son of the famous architect), among others. She eventually abandoned the estate for a vast ranch in Nevada where she raised Russian wolf hounds. In 1933, she had her family home on Prairie Avenue razed, and six years later, she finally came into control of the fortune left to her by her grandmother. Unfortunately she died less than five years later at the age of 49, bringing to an end the Kellogg family line. A biography of her life is currently being written. Today, the window is inspiring for its beautiful design, masterfully created glass, and depiction of one of the most fascinating sites in America's west. It also serves as a reminder of one of Chicago and Prairie Avenue's most interesting families.



Charles P. Kellogg



FINAL LECTURE OF 2010 BROUGHT DIVERSE CROWDS

Indianapolis Museum of Art's Design Curator Craig Miller's Sept. 23 lecture, "Saarinen/Girard/Kiley – Miller House: An American Icon" introduced a different audience to the Arts and Crafts-inspired sanctuary of Second Presbyterian: a modern architecture-loving crowd.

Miller's riveting lecture about the harmonious design of the architecture, interiors and gardens captivated the crowd, and his message resonated to those familiar with the unified decorative scheme of the church. On Oct. 21, a loyal audience listened to the final lecture of the 2010 Evening Lecture Series, which was presented by Ph.D. candidate Liz McGoey, who wrote her

M.A. thesis at Indiana University, Bloomington about the decorative interiors of Second Presbyterian Church.

For a group that knows a lot about Second Presbyterian, there were many surprising points of analysis that McGoey offered, particularly the individual European educational experiences of Howard Van Doren Shaw and Frederic Clay Bartlett and the influence on the collaboratively designed sanctuary. Both lectures were well attended and Friends thanks the Terra Foundation for American Art for their generous sponsorship of the 2010 lecture series. Please check our website for forthcoming 2011 Evening Lecture Series information.

FRIENDS OF HISTORIC SECOND CHURCH GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE FOLLOWING MEMBERSHIPS AND GIFTS RECEIVED JUNE 1 THROUGH NOV. 30, 2010:

Bartlett Circle (\$250 - \$499):

David Moes & Jani Lesko

Robin Stout & Elise Wagner

Arts and Crafts Circle (\$100 - \$249):

Gail Atkins

Jim & Darleen Jackson

Virginia Kreger

Priscilla Mims

Stephen & Marilyn Scott

Robert Schrade

Clarann Stocker

Bonnie Bartlit

Vickrey

Andrew Wycislak & Trisha Cassidy

Tiffany Circle (Under \$100):

Martha Schuetz

Bjorkman

Rochelle M. Davis

Lillie Petit Gallagher

Louise Howe

Bob Jacobsen

Alek Jeskevica

Winfred M. Leaf

Wilma Lilly

Alister MacDonald

Belle Radcliffe

Miss Sprite

DOCENTS SOUGHT TO HELP SHARE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT HISTORIC CHURCH

The tour program is a key component of the mission of Friends of Historic Second Church – sharing the awe-inspiring artistic and architectural treasures of Second Presbyterian Church with tour guests.

Whether traveling from a block away or an ocean away, tour guests never cease to comment on the beauty of the church and the warm hospitality of the knowledgeable docents.

Friends invites all interested volunteers to consider participating in the next round of docent training beginning late spring 2011. The application form can be downloaded from www.2ndpresbyterianfriends.org under "Events and Tours."

Please e-mail completed form to preservationmanager@2ndpresbyterianfriends.org or call 1-800-657-0687. In addition to enjoying tour guests from around the world, including twenty-five countries in the past year, docents have the opportunity to participate in docent enrichment tours that allow them to see and learn about artistically interesting sites in Chicago and beyond. In 2010, docents toured Fourth Presbyterian Church, St. James Episcopal Church and Jack Simmerling's Blackwelder Mansion.

NEW ADDITION TO FRIENDS WEBSITE—ONLINE DONATIONS

Friends is continually adding to its website www.2ndpresbyterianfriends.org as a means of communicating with members and a general, worldwide public. One of the most recent additions can be found under the "membership" tab on the website—a donation link! Now, instead of mailing in your membership or a donation check to Friends to help aid in the restoration and preservation of our architectural gem, you can simply click on the donate link. You will be directed to a safe donation page through PayPal, and you may choose to pay via a PayPal account or any major credit card. Not only is it a secure transaction, but also, it is very straightforward. A few Friends have already donated online – won't you please join us in the preservation effort?

MISSION STATEMENT

THE MISSION OF FRIENDS OF HISTORIC SECOND CHURCH IS TO PRESERVE AND RESTORE THE INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED ART AND ARCHITECTURE OF CHICAGO'S LANDMARK SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AND TO EDUCATE A WORLDWIDE AUDIENCE ABOUT ITS HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE.

TOUR SCHEDULE

Public tours of Second Presbyterian Church are given at the following times:

First and third Saturday of the month from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., except holidays. Cost \$5.

Every Sunday after church at 12:15 p.m. Free.

Every Wednesday from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. Free.

CONSULTANT SULLIVAN COMPLETES PRESERVATION PLAN

The Friends Board eagerly gathered on the night of Aug. 2, 2010 to hear from Sullivan | Preservation's Anne Sullivan the details of her 350-page preservation plan for Second Presbyterian Church. This report was commissioned by Friends through a generous gift from an anonymous donor. A preservation plan documents original construction and alterations, as well as identifies current conditions, and makes prioritized recommendations for future work. It is intended to be used as a planning tool to establish a framework for consideration of physical alterations to the property, with the understanding of how the proposed work will affect the historic fabric and character of the building. It identifies costs and logical phases of restoration work. This extensive plan details the condition of all sections of the church property from basement to roof, exterior and interior, as well as addresses the mechanical systems. It divides the work into four priorities to be undertaken

over a suggested period of 10 years. Sullivan noted that this building was exceptionally well constructed in 1874 and lauded the "non-invasive stewardship" of the property, which has kept so much of the original design intact.

The areas identified as needing the most immediate attention include:

- replacing the outdated electrical wiring and rewiring all electric light fixtures,
- fixing the deteriorated plaster in the sanctuary,
- constructing handicapped accessible ramps into the facility and creating handicapped accessible restrooms and sanctuary seating,
- repairing the leaking vent stack in the existing restrooms,
- repairing selected areas of the exterior masonry and replacing the entry steps on the south and north exposures.

Sullivan suggested a pilot restoration project in the

North Parlor, removing the 1960s-era vinyl wallpaper, testing the underlying plaster to determine the original color scheme, and completing a general restoration of this lovely room.

Sullivan identified 26 different types of windows within the church. Of highest priority among the windows is conservation of three of the stained-glass sanctuary windows; the Tiffany Peace window in the south balcony and the Millet "Cast thy garments about thee" window and the Tiffany "Behold the Lamb of God" window in the north balcony. Other windows needing prompt attention include several ground level windows and a stairwell window.

A finishes analysis, detailing the original and current condition of the painted surfaces and woodwork, is in the planning stages. With these two reports, Friends will possess the blueprint needed to plan the work of fundraising and preservation of this beautiful Arts and Crafts structure.

MEET THE NEW HISTORIC PRESERVATION MANAGER

Friends of Historic Second Church has hired Katy Gallagher as the new historic preservation manager for the landmark building. Katy holds an M.S. in Historic Preservation from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and has had some interesting work experience, including researching photos for historic documentary programs at the History Channel and WTTW Channel 11 Chicago.

Katy has also worked as an archaeological conservator for the National Park Service (NPS), and as a curatorial intern for the Glessner House Museum. She spent the summer in Fairbanks, Alaska working as a contract architectural historian for the Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands.

Katy recently settled in the Pilsen neighborhood and finds much enjoyment in the vibrancy of this historic Chicago community.



Katy works to restore a Civil War army building for the NPS.



Friends of Historic Second Church

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP LEVELS AND BENEFITS

All members receive the newsletter *The Herald*.

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

Benefits include: Two tickets to Art & Architectural Tour; 10 percent discount on merchandise, concerts and special events

Arts&Crafts Circle: \$100 - \$249

Benefits include: Two Tickets to Art & Architectural Tour; 10 percent discount on merchandise, concerts and special events; recognition in newsletter and publications

Bartlett Circle: \$250 - \$499

Benefits include: Two tickets to Art & Architectural Tour; 10 percent discount on merchandise, concerts and special events; photograph of church; recognition in newsletter and publications



Shaw Circle: \$500 - \$999

Benefits include: Four tickets to Art & Architectural Tour; 20 percent discount on merchandise, concerts and special events; photograph of church; recognition in newsletter and publications

Burne-Jones Circle: \$1,000 - \$2,499

Benefits include: Four tickets to Art & Architectural Tour; 20 percent discount on merchandise, concerts and special events; photograph of church; recognition in newsletter and publications; *Tree of Life* T-shirt

Renwick Circle: \$2,500 - \$4,999

Benefits include: Four tickets to Art & Architectural Tour; 20 percent discount on merchandise, concerts and special events; recognition in newsletter and publications; Two *Tree of Life* T-shirts; 11" x 14" color canvas image of church

I/We wish to become a member of Friends of Historic Second Church

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 - \$249

___ **Bartlett Circle:** \$250 - \$499

___ **Shaw Circle:** \$500 - \$999

___ **Burne-Jones Circle:** \$1,000 - \$2,499

___ **Renwick Circle:** \$2,500 - \$4,999

You may acknowledge my contribution in Friends' publications. ___ Yes ___ No

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

I am interested in volunteering for Friends' activities. ___ Yes ___ No

Please return completed form with check made payable to: *Friends of Historic Second Church, 1936 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60616*

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

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Contributors: Bill Tyre, Monica Obniski, Katy Gallagher, Linda Miller and Ann Belletire.

INTRICATELY CARVED FRONT DOORS RESTORED TO NEW LUSTRE



Before restoration

During the month of September 2010, Historic Second Church's beautiful front doors underwent extensive refinishing to restore the finish to its original appearance. These doors, which are part of the original 1874 Renwick design, are made of solid, old-growth walnut and feature intricate Gothic Revival detailing.

Deferred maintenance and their close proximity to Michigan Avenue resulted in the finish substantially failing, which in the long-term could damage the wood underneath. Friends believed that the doors are an important welcoming element for visitors, and chose to use unrestricted gifts as well as tour and membership revenues to undertake the restoration project.

Work involved the time-consuming process of sanding off the old finish both by hand and with precision instruments. Once the surface was clean, a three-part varnish and stain product was applied over several days. This new finishing system is designed to protect the doors long-term, and when properly maintained, will not require another full stripping. The top finish will be refreshed every one to two years, leaving the lower layers of finish intact, thus protecting the walnut.

Be sure to look at these beautiful doors on your next visit to the church!



After restoration