

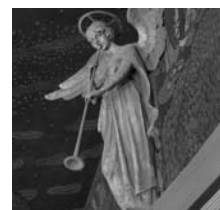


Friends of Historic Second Church

THE HERALD

VOLUME V, NUMBER 1

WINTER/SPRING 2011



“SAINT PAUL PREACHING AT ATHENS” WINDOW HONORS PASTOR

This figural window is located on the south side of the sanctuary in the bay closest to the pulpit. Designed by the Tiffany Glass and Decorating Company, it was installed in First Presbyterian Church in 1895, a memorial to their fifth pastor, Rev. Arthur Mitchell. It is one of three Tiffany windows moved to Second in 1927 when First Presbyterian relocated farther south.

The subject of the window is the apostle Paul preaching at Athens, based on *Acts 17: 16-34*. The theme has been used for centuries in churches, the most famous depiction being a tapestry in the Sistine Chapel designed in 1515 by Raphael. Another Tiffany window using this theme was made for the Classon Avenue Presbyterian Church in Brooklyn, N.Y. Our window features an unusually large number of figures for a Tiffany window, and displays the use of perspective, most visible in the depiction of the Parthenon at the top of the window. One of the most striking features is a

brilliantly colored crown at the bottom, composed of rough cut chunks of glass in red, orange, and yellow. (The elaborate grapevine border is not original to the window, and was

added in 1927 to compensate for the difference in size between the window and the opening).

Rev. Arthur Mitchell, D. D., was born at Hudson, N.Y., in 1835 and graduated from Williams College at the age of 18.

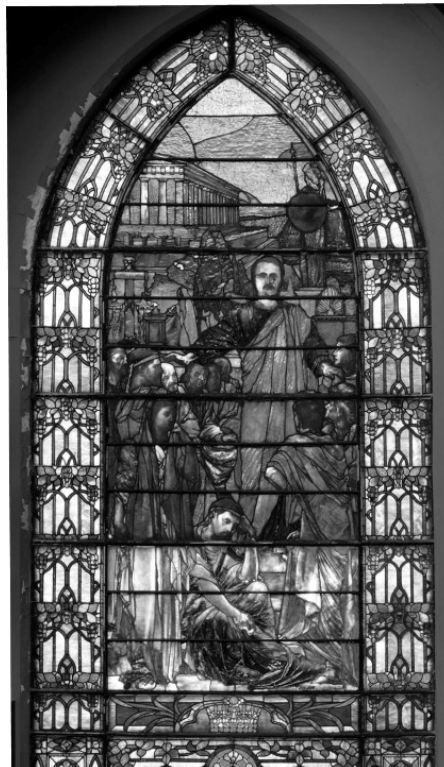
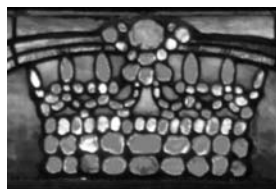


Photo courtesy Martin Cheung.

He graduated from the Union Theological Seminary in 1859 and served two churches before coming to First Presbyterian Church of Chicago in 1868. At that time, the church was located on Wabash between Van Buren and Congress. In May 1871, largely through the efforts of Rev. Mitchell, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church held its annual meeting at First Presbyterian (a large image of that

meeting currently hangs in the North Parlor of Second Presbyterian). First Church merged with Calvary Presbyterian in October 1871 and soon after completed a new building at the northeast corner of Indiana Avenue and 21st Street, designed by John C. Cochrane (architect of the Illinois State Capitol). The famous trial of Prof. David Swing (pastor at Fourth Presbyterian Church) on charges of heresy occurred during Rev. Mitchell's pastorate, and he acted as moderator during the trial which was held in the lecture room of First Church. He resigned his pastorate in 1880, after having brought in more than 750 members during his 12 years of leadership. He served a church in Cleveland and then devoted himself to mission work, spending time in Japan, Korea, China, Siam, and Syria. He died in April 1893.

In 1998, a 36" by 61" section of the window was removed and the glass was



Pictured at left: "Crown" detail of "St. Paul Preaching at Athens" window.

cleaned and re-leaded. The brighter colors in this section, which features a seated man wearing a red robe, provide a clue as to the original coloring of the window when it was first produced, and help us to understand how much brighter all of our windows will appear after they are properly cleaned and restored.

**New Delivery Option for
Receiving *The Herald*!**
Please see story on page 4.

TOUR SCHEDULE

Public tours of Second Presbyterian Church are given at the following times through April 30, 2011:

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

Every Sunday after church at approximately 12:05 p.m. Free.

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

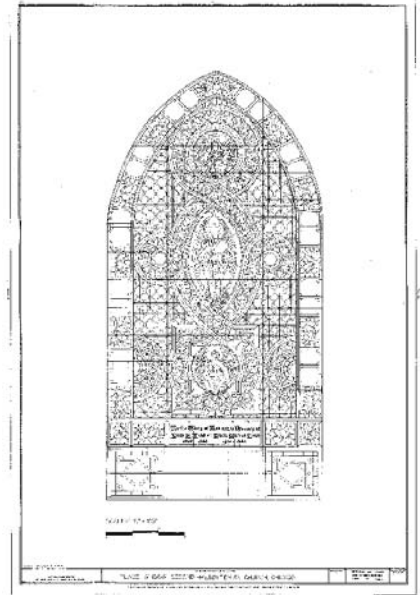
Expanded Saturday schedule begins May 1, 2011. See story on page 3 for details.

SAIC STUDENTS PREPARE HABS DRAWINGS

Second Presbyterian opened its doors in October 2010 to students from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago's M.S. in Historic Preservation program. Led by instructor Charles Pipal, AIA, students began physically documenting all aspects of the church structure including the exterior, windows, light fixtures, decorative details, and sectional perspectives. Completed drawings will be submitted to the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) in the Prints and Photographs Division of the Library of Congress.

HABS was created in 1933 as the nation's first federal preservation program to document America's architectural heritage. Now a comprehensive collection of achievements in architecture, engineering, and design in the United States, HABS represents buildings in a wide variety of types, styles and sizes.

HABS annually recognizes the best sets of measured drawings submitted to their collections by awarding the Charles E. Peterson Prize. In recent years, Pipal's students have been recipients of this prestigious prize. In 2007 students received an Honorable Mention for drawings of the Chicago Athletic Association; the 2008 Third Place prize was awarded for drawings of the Pullman Greenstone Church; and the First Place prize in 2009 was awarded for the documentation of the On Leong Merchant's Association Building in Chinatown. 2011 Peterson Prize winners will be announced in the Summer.



This year, SAIC's submission to HABS will include a drawing by Kristin Willison, a graduate of the Historic Preservation department. Willison drafted Tiffany's "Jeweled Window" for a school project in 2004. Friends of Historic Second Church has since commissioned Willison to draw the "Peace Window," a project she has completed, and which is shown above, as well as three more windows.

EVENING LECTURE SERIES RETURNS IN 2011

Friends has arranged a series of three evening lectures for 2011. The lectures bring together a diverse, yet complementary, range of topics for our members and the general public. This year the three speakers and their lectures will be: Barbara Geiger on "The Prairie Spirit: Native Plants, Natural Settings, and an Appreciation of Place" (March 31); Rolf Achilles on "Art Nouveau Book Art Design" (September 15); and Stuart Cohen on "The Architecture of Howard Van Doren Shaw: Reinventing the Traditional House" (November 3).

Geiger, who is an Adjunct Professor in the College of Architecture at the Illinois Institute of Technology, and also teaches at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and the Chicago Botanic Garden, will treat the audience to views of prairie landscapes and gardens, which will be a welcome change of scenery from

our recent, wintery Chicagoland! The lecture will examine native plants, once considered weeds in the Victorian era, but Chicago landscape designers O.C. Simonds and Jens Jensen saw things differently. They created enchanting, naturalistic settings with plants from the prairies and woodlands for such projects as Columbus Park, Graceland Cemetery, both in Chicago, and Sinnissippi Farm, Oregon, Ill. Come enjoy a taste of spring on Thurs., March 31st. The reception begins at 6 p.m., with the lecture following at 7 p.m., at Second Presbyterian Church.



Above: Image depicting South Park, Quincy, Ill., ca. 1910, as laid out by O.C. Simonds

ARCHITECTURAL RESTORATION COMMITTEE LAUNCHED

With the pace of Friends' restoration activities increasing, the Board has formed an Architectural Restoration Committee (ARC) to advise the Board on the priorities and techniques of the restoration work and to review bids and contracts let for this work.



Pictured from left, Anne Sullivan, Rolf Achilles, Gunny Harboe and John Vinci.

We are pleased to welcome to the ARC: Rolf Achilles, art historian and curator of the Smith Museum of Stained Glass; Gunny Harboe, principal of Harboe Architects; Charles Pipal, principal of Charles Pipal AIA; Anne Sullivan, principal of Sullivan | Preservation; and John Vinci, principal of Vinci-Hamp Architects; along with Board member Monica Obniski, assistant curator of American decorative arts at the Art Institute of Chicago.

The first meeting of the ARC was held in January where the topics for review were bids received to conduct a finishes analysis in several areas of the church and the methodology for cleaning the delicate, limestone baptismal font. Friends thanks the ARC members for their time and thoughtful advice.

TOUR SCHEDULE EXPANDED

Friends of Historic Second Church is expanding its tour program to accommodate more guests who wish to enjoy the church's art and architecture. Beginning May 1, 2011, the newly refinished front doors of the church will be open *every* Saturday from 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Previously, only two Saturdays per month afforded guests the opportunity to enjoy a tour with a trained docent. Additionally, the new Saturday hours dovetail with tours at the nearby Glessner and Clarke House Museums. Guests will be able to tour these homes on Prairie Avenue and the church in a seamless time frame. The new schedule should entice history buffs and lovers of fine art and architecture to spend a Saturday afternoon in the South Loop. The remainder of the current tour schedule is unchanged, with tours every Wednesday from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. and every Sunday after church, at about 12:05 p.m.

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.

DOCENT TRAINING PLANNED

The expanded tour schedule (see article at left) underscores the need to expand Friends' cadre of docents. The docent training program for 2011 will include four 1½-hour Thursday sessions beginning at 6:30 p.m. on May 12 and 19, and June 2 and 9.

Topics discussed will include the Arts and Crafts Movement, the American and English stained-glass windows, the Pre-Raphaelite murals, Gothic Revival architecture, architects James Renwick and Howard Van Doren Shaw, artists Frederic Clay Bartlett and Louis Comfort Tiffany, and preservation philosophy and techniques. Trainees will also see and learn about recently completed preservation projects at the church.

The tour program is a key component of the mission of Friends of Historic Second Church. Friends invites all interested volunteers to consider participating in this new round of docent training. Please visit www.2ndpresbyterianfriends.org under "Events and Tours" to download the application form. Please e-mail completed applications to preservationmanager@2ndpresbyterianfriends.org. Call 1-800-657-0687 for additional information. Training will take place at the church.

FRIENDS OF HISTORIC SECOND CHURCH GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE FOLLOWING MEMBERSHIPS AND GIFTS RECEIVED DEC. 1, 2010 THROUGH FEB. 28, 2011:

Shaw Circle (\$500 - \$999):

Dr. Clifford & Barbara Crawford
Luann Elvey
Janelle Hoekstra & Jamie McMullin
Maria Wicks

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

Dr. John Burns
Wilda Dailey
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Donnelley II
Richard & Mary Gray
Robert M. Sedgwick

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

Barbara Chasnoff
Anna Cooper-Stanton
Edwin Ferguson
Patricia Fortine
Carol Hall
Gloria Matthews Harris
Katherine Henrici
Sue B. Ish
Bob & Sheila Joynt
Sandra Lancaster
Prairie District
Neighborhood Alliance
Natalie Sue Schmitt
Michael Shawgo
John Vinci

Tiffany Circle (Under \$100):

Anonymous
E. Carol Beck
Linda Jebavy
John Drummond & Romalda Lopat
Walter & Susan Kovalick
Karen Oliver
Thelma Lee Schwartz
Sharon Sylvester
Andrew & Ruth Zweifler

DAMAGE DRAMA: WINDOW REPAIR COMPLICATED BY HIGH WINDS

Despite complications from exceptionally windy weather in the famous Windy City, repair work to one of Second Presbyterian's weathered parish hall windows has proceeded, with the window expected to be re-installed in Spring 2011.

During an October 2010 windstorm that delivered gusts estimated to exceed 50 mph to the Chicago area, a portion of a window that had been scheduled for removal was detached prematurely from its location in the church building's south façade. "Part of the window unfortunately blew out yesterday," exclaimed Neal Vogel the day his company, Restoric LLC of Evanston, Ill., removed the window for the planned work to it.

"The wind ripped it right off," recalls Friends of Historic Second Church Historic Preservation Manager Katy Gallagher. Aside from some missing shards, she reported that, "The unit was still in one piece and in relatively good condition, considering it leapt to its death." The storm damage, however, would require some extra work to be performed by Vogel.



Pictured at left: Preparations are made for temporarily boarding up the window opening from which the damaged window was removed for repair work.

"Originally the repair effort was to involve the re-leading of the glass, and sash restoration," explains Gallagher. "But he needed to repair the leaded glass that came out, which took some more time at an additional cost."

Due to the relative simplicity and the sturdiness of the window, suggests Vogel, the damage presented more of an inconvenience than a major impediment to the repair process. "It would have been tragic if it was one of the sanctuary windows," he remarks.

Although the window's exterior is refinished in satin black, the original interior finish remains. Vogel notes, "The hardware on the parish hall window was made by Payson, a Chicago company that made solid, durable castings and hardware components."

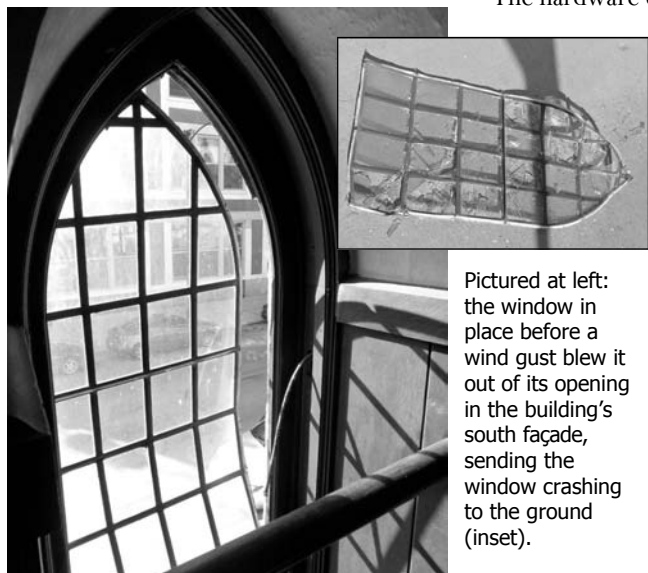
"This particular window will be reinstalled 'fixed,' although others may be restored to be operable," relates Vogel, who is scheduled to reinstall the window in the spring when

temperatures are expected to be moderate. "The epoxy," explains Gallagher, "will not set under 50-degree temperatures."

"I would bill this as an emergency stabilization repair," concludes Vogel. "But it could also be viewed as a mock-up for the restoration of the south parish hall windows, all of which have weathered bare and are in need of complete restoration."

KEEP *THE HERALD* COMING!

Friends has embarked on an effort to communicate with members, donors and interested parties via e-mail to reduce printing, paper and postage costs, as well as to do our part for the environment. Future issues of *The Herald* will be sent via an e-mail link. If we do not have your e-mail address, please send it to preservationmanager@2ndpresbyterianfriends.org. Members, donors, volunteers and docents who prefer to continue receiving a printed copy through the U.S. mail should inform Friends of their preference, and it will be honored.



Pictured at left: the window in place before a wind gust blew it out of its opening in the building's south façade, sending the window crashing to the ground (inset).



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, Ann Belletire and Barbara Dutton.

FUNDRAISING EFFORT UNDERWAY FOR MORRIS WINDOWS PROJECT



In a continuing effort to return the front façade of Second Presbyterian to its original appearance, Friends is calling for donations from members. The two east-facing windows designed by Edward Burne-Jones and made by William Morris and Co., are presently obscured behind protective plastic glazing darkened with age. Once funds are in place, Neal Vogel of Restoric LLC, Evanston, Ill., will remove the plastic glazing, clean the exterior of the windows, and install low-glare glass glazing that will reveal the vibrant windows and their Gothic stone framework from the exterior. At present Friends has \$1,175 in place, and needs to raise \$3,500 for the completion of this exciting project.

These two windows are amongst the most important in the church. It is estimated that there are less than two dozen Morris windows in North America, most of which are located on the east coast. The windows were originally exhibited in the "Morris Memorial Room" which opened at the Tobey Furniture Co., in Chicago in 1902. Saint Cecilia, the patron saint of music is depicted in a flowing blue robe holding a small portable organ (see image at left). Saint Margaret, the patron saint of childbirth is depicted in brilliant red robes atop a dragon (see image at right). Presbyterian theology does not incorporate the use of saints, so these windows were selected primarily for their artistic value. Donations may be sent to:

Friends of Historic Second Church
Morris Windows Project
1936 S. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, IL 60616

