



# Steeple Stories

The newsletter of North Shore Baptist Church

MAY 2017

VOLUME 19, ISSUE 4

5244 N. Lakewood  
Chicago, IL 60640

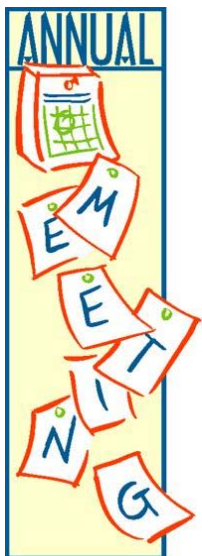
## 111th Annual Meeting

... suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

There is a certain kind of Christianity that gets labeled “pentecostal.” This branch of Christianity focuses on the presence of God’s Spirit at work in the church, and often features worship practices like speaking in tongues, faith healing, lively contemporary worship music, and even being slain in the spirit. Some of the members of North Shore have experienced this style of Christianity, and others haven’t. For some, it might seem foreign and unknown; for others, it is familiar and spiritually enriching. There are lots of different kinds of spiritual backgrounds here at North Shore — it’s one of our strengths!



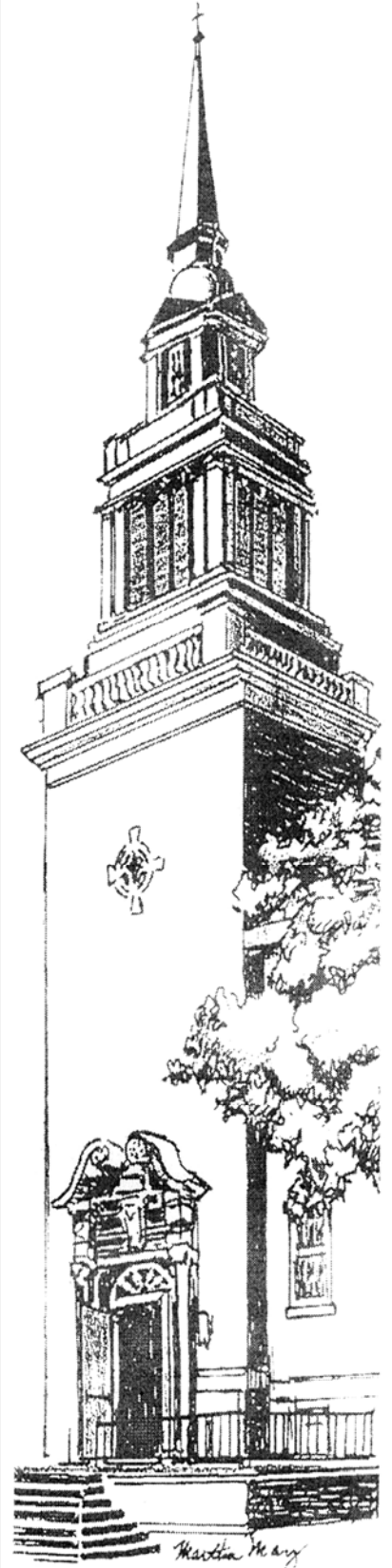
But there are two ways in which everyone at North Shore can feel comfortable in claiming the term “pentecostal.” The first is the fact that we are a church at all! Sociologists like to think of the church as a human phenomenon — an “interest group” or a social club. But for followers of Jesus, the church is also a spiritual reality, and we are together because God’s Spirit has gathered us together. God’s Spirit brings us into community with our talents and spiritual gifts for a purpose. We are gathered together to be a community of the Heavenly Reign, a foothold of God’s Beloved Community in this particular place, at this particular time, in the lives of this diverse group of people.



The holiday of Pentecost (which we are observing two weeks early this year) celebrates that gathering, when God’s Spirit blew among the first followers like a wind and burned in their hearts like a fire. Pentecost celebrates the birthday of the Church, when the Spirit gathered the followers of Jesus for the transformation of their lives and for the transformation of the world. So in that sense, everyone at North Shore is pentecostal — we belong together to a church created, gathered, and inspired by God’s Spirit.

The second way in which North Shore is truly a pentecostal place is seen so clearly in the Pentecost

continued next page



story: everyone began to speak and understand other languages. The church of the Spirit's creation transcends human boundaries of race, nationality, and even language. Together as followers of Jesus, we learn to understand each other, as Jesus understands us all. We learn to hear each other's needs, fears, joys, celebrations, illnesses, failures, and successes. We learn to understand each other's testimony, the story of God at work across the globe and in all kinds of people. Every Sunday at North Shore, we re-create Pentecost, the miracle of people understanding and speaking in different tongues. So in that way, too, we are Pentecostal.

We will experience the depth of Pentecost on **May 21**, in a joint worship service and in our annual meeting. In worship (**at 10:30 am in the Sanctuary**), we will praise One God from Many Perspectives, speaking One Word in Many Languages, as One Church with Many Cultures. We will celebrate baptisms, remember those who have gone on before and commission our envoys and missionaries for the summer. Then we move to Howel Hall for our annual meeting luncheon, where the theme will be **CHANGES**. We will celebrate our Daily Disciple and our Faithful Servant, receive our annual report, and elect our leaders for the coming year. All members are urged to attend the day — we need your input and your vote! And most importantly, we need all our voices to praise God together as one Church, gathered by God's Spirit, speaking in many tongues, a double Pentecost. Please join us and experience God's Spirit at work!

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## New Website

This month, North Shore will be unveiling a new website. The Social Media Task Force, which includes **Pastor Yuki Scroggins, Madison McClendon, Chandra Mohan,** and **Pastor Kathryn Ray**, has been collaborating with RyTech LLC to create a new site that will effectively communicate information about our church to the wider community and more easily link to social media sites like Facebook. The website will be up by the end of the month at [www.northshorebaptist.org](http://www.northshorebaptist.org).



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## A Note from Our Treasurer



A friendly reminder from your Treasurer to make sure your offering pledge is up-to-date. Even when we are not here, our church ministry carries on! If you have questions about where your stand with regards to your pledge, please contact our Financial Office at 773-728-4200, or [financial@northshorebaptist.org](mailto:financial@northshorebaptist.org).

~ Kate Whitmore, Treasurer



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## SAVE THE DATE

**Annual Meeting Sunday** will be **May 21st** with Joint Worship at 10:30am followed by the Annual Meeting and Luncheon in Howel Hall at Noon.

# MI

MAY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p><i>1</i></p> <p>6:30 pm AA Meeting</p>	<p><i>2</i></p>	<p><i>3</i></p> <p>6:30 pm Andersonville YPAA</p>	<p><i>4</i></p> <p>4:00 Stewardship Ministry 7:30 Chancel Choir</p>	<p><i>5</i></p> <p>6-8:00pm FotL Youth Meeting</p>	<p><i>6</i></p> <p>10 am AA Meeting 4 pm AA Meeting</p> <p>4:00 pm Karen Music Rehearsal 5:30 pm Spanish Bible Study</p>
<p><i>7</i></p> <p>9:30 am Spanish Worship 10 am English Worship 11 am Japanese Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time 11:30 am Ad In Learning 11:30 am Karen Worship</p>	<p><i>8</i></p> <p>6:30 pm AA Meeting</p>	<p><i>9</i></p> <p>7pm Church Council</p>	<p><i>10</i></p> <p>6:30 pm Andersonville YPAA</p>	<p><i>11</i></p> <p>7:30 Chancel Choir</p>	<p><i>12</i></p> <p>6-8:00pm FotL Youth Meeting</p>	<p><i>13</i></p> <p>10 am AA Meeting 4 pm AA Meeting</p> <p>4:00 pm Karen Music Rehearsal 5:30 pm Spanish Bible Study</p>
<p><i>14</i></p> <p>9:30 am Spanish Worship 10 am English Worship 11 am Japanese Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time 11:30 am Ad In Learning 11:30 am Karen Worship</p>	<p><i>15</i></p> <p>6:30 pm AA Meeting</p>	<p><i>16</i></p>	<p><i>17</i></p> <p>6:30 pm Andersonville YPAA</p>	<p><i>18</i></p> <p>7:30 Chancel Choir</p>	<p><i>19</i></p> <p>6-8:00pm FotL Youth Meeting 7-9 pm Viernes Familias</p>	<p><i>20</i></p> <p>10 am AA Meeting 4 pm AA Meeting</p> <p>4:00 pm Karen Music Rehearsal 5:30 pm Spanish Bible Study</p>
<p><b>21 Annual Meeting Sunday</b></p> <p>10:30 am Joint Worship 12 pm Lunch &amp; Program</p>	<p><i>22</i></p> <p>6:30 pm AA Meeting</p>	<p><i>23</i></p> <p>7:00 pm Renovation Task Force</p>	<p><i>24</i></p> <p>6:30 pm Andersonville YPAA</p>	<p><i>25</i></p> <p>7:30 Chancel Choir</p>	<p><i>26</i></p> <p>6-8:00pm FotL Youth Meeting</p>	<p><i>27</i></p> <p>10 am AA Meeting 4 pm AA Meeting</p> <p>4:00 pm Karen Music Rehearsal 5:30 pm Spanish Bible Study</p>
<p><i>29</i></p> <p>9:30 am Spanish Worship 10 am English Worship 11 am Japanese Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time 11:30 am Ad In Learning 11:30 am Karen Worship</p>	<p><i>29</i></p> <p><b>MEMORIAL DAY</b></p> <p><b>Building Closed</b></p>	<p><i>30</i></p>	<p><i>31</i></p> <p>6:30 pm Andersonville YPAA</p>			

# Hispanic Congregation Happenings

## Viernes Familiar/Family Time on Fridays (picture below left)

We are re-starting a monthly event where the Hispanic Congregation takes the time to fellowship with one another beyond just Sunday...we do a potluck, table games such checkers etc... and we also use the gym...Our next Viernes Familiar will watch a movie together



## Vigilia/Vigil (pictures above right)

In Hispanic Christian traditions it is very common to have a vigil, or as some people call it an “overnighter for adults”. We have different speakers throughout the night and worship. This Vigilia, held on Good Friday this year, Pastor Kathryn, Olga Diaz, and Thomas Acosta provided leadership. Of course, fellowship and food are enjoyed as well.

# Wilbur Warner Grant Recipients

This spring, the Wilbur Warner Grant Committee has awarded funding to six different organizations:

- ◆ **The American Baptist Churches of Metro Chicago** received **\$3,000** to support regional self-study and strategic planning in their search for a new Regional Minister.
- ◆ **Camp Grow** received **\$2,500** to purchase a new lawn mower.
- ◆ **The Centro Evangelístico Misionero de Las Asambleas de Dios** received **\$3,000** to replace the roof and install a ceramic floor in their children’s ministry building.
- ◆ **The Dr. Jorge Masa Christian School** received **\$2,000** to install electricity in their K-12 education building.
- ◆ **The Japanese American Service Committee** received **\$3,250** for improvements and upgrades for their facilities, including a bus, flooring, new chairs, and exercise equipment. The JASC has been adversely affected by Illinois’s current budget impasse.
- ◆ **The St. Martin de Porres House of Hope** received **\$3,250** to replace 30-year-old beds with 18 new bunk beds and mattresses for their shelter.

Wilbur Warner Grant



# Fruit of the Lord Youth Group



Fruit of the Lord  
**YOUTH**  
★ News ★

In April, Pastor David Gregg came to youth group to teach a bit about the Baptist history and values. We also discussed Psalm 139 and different ways that songs and artworks have depicted it. We meet each Friday evening from **6:00-8:00 p.m.** All **6th through 12th** graders are welcome!

The **end-of-the-year lock-in** will take place from **Friday, June 9 to Saturday, June 10.**

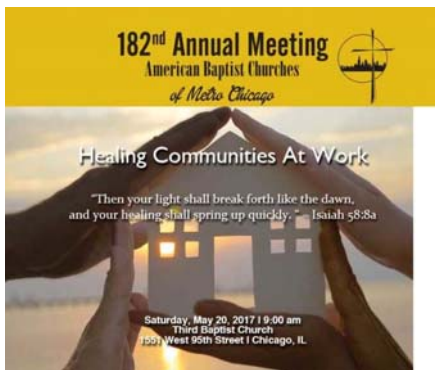
How to support the FotL youth ministry:

- ◆ Reach out to youth on Sunday morning! Get to know them and ask how they are doing.
- ◆ Remember our youth and youth ministry in your prayers.
- ◆ Accompany one of our special events. If interested, contact Pastor Kathryn at [kray@northshorebaptist.org](mailto:kray@northshorebaptist.org)

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## American Baptist Events

In the coming months, North Shore Baptist Church will participate in the major meetings of our wider, American Baptist Churches, USA family.



On **May 20**, the day before our own church annual meeting, is the 182nd Annual Meeting of the American Baptist Churches of Metro Chicago, our denominational region. The day-long event will feature the executive director of the American Baptist Home Mission Society, the Rev Dr Jeffrey Haggray. In the morning, Dr Haggray will lead a workshop called “Around the Nation: American Baptist Healing Communities at Work,” and in the afternoon he will be the preacher for a region-wide worship service. The annual meeting itself will be tasked with electing leaders for the new year and with deciding several weighty matters: a change to the region’s bylaws and the future of Camp Grow. There will be ample time for fellowship and networking. And the event concludes

with the Disciples Dinner, celebrating the year and its accomplishments and recognizing the recipients of the Daily Disciple award from each church (including NSBC) and of the region-wide awards. If you would like to attend the banquet or the whole event, please see Pastor David.

Then **June 30 - July 2**, the Biennial Convention of the denomination will meet in Portland, OR. The centerpiece of the convention is the “Mission Summit,” a series of table talks, conversations, and hands-on learning experiences by which hundreds of American Baptists from around the country learn about and shape the mission commitments of the denomination for the coming year. This is no “top down” program: the delegates to the convention drive the process, setting priorities for the regional & denominational officials to pursue for the next two years. There will be great preaching, great worship, election of denominational board and officers, and the introduction of the new General Secretary of the denomination. Combined with opportunities to learn about the many seminaries, ministries, agencies, and mission partners, this is truly a way to experience the entire denomination in one place. Here too, please see Pastor David if you would like to attend.





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North Shore Baptist Church

"Serving All God's People  
From This Corner"

We're on the Web:

[www.northshorebaptist.org](http://www.northshorebaptist.org)



"Do not be afraid of tomorrow, for God is already there."

~ Unknown

## Special Music Sunday

### *Vesperae Solennes*

by W. A. Mozart

In English Worship

**Sunday June 4 - 10:00 a.m.**



On **June 4** our Chancel Choir will offer a special work of music as a worship service; the ***Vesperae Solennes de confessore*** by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. According to Wikipedia, the *Vesperae solennes de confessore* (Solemn Vespers of the Confessor), K. 339, is a sacred choral composition, written in 1780 for soloists, chorus and orchestra. Our Music Director, **Susan Feiler**, will lead choir, soloists and organ accompaniment in what should be a very special and unique worship service. The soloists will be our own choir Section Leaders, **Mary Niedzwiecki**, soprano, **Lisa Roth**, alto, **Kyle Greer**,

tenor and **Ryan deRyke**, baritone. **Randy Fleer** will provide the accompaniment on the organ. Though most often performed today in concert, we will return this glorious music to the worship setting as it was originally composed for liturgical use in the Salzburg Cathedral. We will offer it as a part of our worship service in the original Latin with Pastor David offering words of inspiration in between each of the 6 movements. Please plan to be with us on the first Sunday of June for what is sure to be an uplifting musical and worship experience.

If you would like to receive *Steeple Stories* by e-mail (in color!), contact us at [office@northshorebaptist.org](mailto:office@northshorebaptist.org)