



# Steeple Stories

The newsletter of North Shore Baptist Church

MAY 2018

VOLUME 20, ISSUE 4

## 112th Annual Meeting

On Sunday, May 20, the church will once again gather to celebrate Pentecost with a joint worship service at 10:30 am, followed by a shared meal and our annual meeting at 12:00 pm. Olga Diaz is arranging what promises to be a wonderful luncheon.

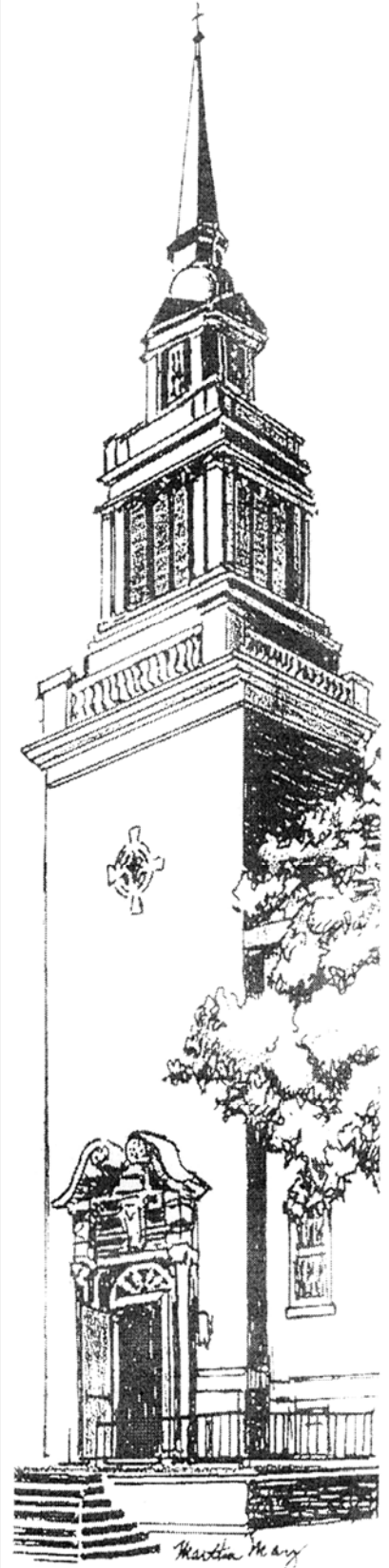
It has been almost two years since the church, and the English congregation in particular, entered a period of pastoral interim. During that time, the Karen Fellowship has also entered an interim period, with the retirement of Pastor Roger. We have accomplished much in those two years. We have reflected on the church's vision and hopes for the future in conversation with the pastoral search committee. We have hosted two Martin Luther King, Jr. Day conferences, and begun "Wednesdays at Jerry's" gatherings and Friday night Bible studies. We have taken new steps in our online communications, creating a new website, Facebook group, and weekly e-mail updates. We have embarked upon the Young Adult Initiative, through which we will develop new ministry and outreach to adults in their 20s and 30s. We restarted the Renovation Task Force, which facilitated a feasibility study as the first step in a capital campaign to continue revitalizing the spaces in which we serve and worship.



All of these new endeavors are the fruit of a larger discernment process about who we are and who we are becoming as a church. During our joint worship, Pastor David will be offering a sermon that reflects upon all of the growth and learning that we have done on this interim journey together these past two years. We will also be extending the right hand of fellowship to five new members.

During the Annual Meeting, as always, we will recognize our Faithful Servant and scholarship recipients. This year, we will also celebrate the work of New Alternatives. For many years, New Alternatives provided social and spiritual support to NSBC's senior community and outreach to the wider neighborhood through a variety of gatherings and outings. We will also be honoring Margo Bach for her faithful leadership of this ministry. In addition to receiving annual ministry reports and voting on a new slate of leaders for 2018-19, we will also be voting on a constitutional amendment to establish an all-church Outreach Ministry. See the article inside for an explanation and text of the amendment. We look forward to doing this important work and celebrating the presence of the Holy Spirit among us on May 20!

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# Outreach Ministry - Constitutional Amendment

As we continue to develop our communications with the wider community via online and social media, the pastoral team and Church Council have discussed the best way to integrate this ministry into the life and structure of the church. We decided that social media ministry is far enough outside the scope of existing Ministries that establishing a new Ministry would be in order. This Ministry would not only oversee the social media work of the church, but also build upon the vision and desire of NSBC to do more to connect with members of the community. This desire came across clearly in the reflections the church did last year as we began to think about who we are and who we would like to become, as we looked for a new English Language Pastor.

The purpose of the Ministry will be to oversee church communications (particularly via online and social media) and to develop programming that draws in members of the communities around NSBC. It will consolidate the work of two existing task forces: the **Social Media Task Force** and the **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Task Force**. It will also oversee the new project/s developed through the Young Adult Initiative in which NSBC is currently participating. In 2019, the budget for the Ministry will be created out of present funds designated for the work of these two task forces. As part of her work on social media and community formation, Pastor Kathryn will serve as the liaison from the Pastoral Team to this Ministry.

We will be voting on the amendment to establish this Ministry at the **Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 20**. The amendment would add the following section to:



## Article IX (Work of the Church Council and Ministries)

**Section 13. Outreach Ministry** Outreach Ministry shall be responsible for the communication of church vision, programs, and events with surrounding communities and the inclusion of those communities in church life.

The work of this ministry shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- A. Develop and oversee the social media and online presence of the church.
- B. Generate content pertaining to church life and regularly share content via selected social media platforms and other advertising methods, as appropriate.
- C. Periodically assess effectiveness of advertising, social media, and other online communication methods, and adjust strategies as needed.
- D. Develop church programming aimed at including members of the wider community in the life of the church.
- E. In cooperation with the annual budget process, present to the Stewardship Ministry a recommended Outreach budget for the following fiscal year.
- F. Monitor on a regular basis expenditures of budget line items related to Outreach Ministry.



# May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1  7pm Property Min.	2  6:30 pm Andersonville YPAA	3  4:00 Stewardship Ministry  7:30 Chancel Choir	4  6:00-8:00 pm FotL Youth Group 7pm Spanish Bible Study	5  10 am AA Meeting 4 pm AA Meeting  10 am Spanish Bible Study 4:00 pm Karen Music Rehearsal
6  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	7  6:30 pm AA Meeting	8  7pm Church Council	9  6:30 pm Andersonville YPAA	10  7:30 Chancel Choir	11  6:00-8:00 pm FotL Youth Group 7pm Spanish Bible Study	12  10 am AA Meeting 4 pm AA Meeting  10 am Spanish Bible Study 4:00 pm Karen Music Rehearsal
13  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 pm Karen Worship 12:30 pm Mother's Day Luncheon	14  6:30 pm AA Meeting	15	16  6:30 pm Andersonville YPAA	17  7:30 Chancel Choir	18   DINNER & MOVIE  6:30-Potluck & Movie Night 7pm Spanish Bible Study	19  10 am AA Meeting 4 pm AA Meeting  10 am Spanish Bible Study 4:00 pm Karen Music Rehearsal
20 Annual Meeting  10:30 am Joint Worship 12:00 pm Lunch & Annual Meeting	21  6:30 pm AA Meeting	22	23  6:30 pm Andersonville YPAA	24  7:30 Chancel Choir	25  6:00-8:00 pm FotL Youth Group 7pm Spanish Bible Study	26  10 am AA Meeting 4 pm AA Meeting  10 am Spanish Bible Study 4:00 pm Karen Music Rehearsal
27  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	28   MEMORIAL DAY  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">             Building Closed           </div>	29	30  6:30 pm Andersonville YPAA	31  7:30 Chancel Choir		

# Priscilla Eppinger Receives Honor

The **Rev. Dr. Priscilla Eppinger** was inducted into the Martin Luther King, Jr., College of Ministers and Laity at Morehouse College in a ceremony in Atlanta on April 4. Priscilla, a former Minister with Young Adults here at NSBC (1998-2002), has served for the past two years as the executive director of the American Baptist Historical Society, the oldest and most extensive Baptist archive in the United States. According to the American Baptist News Service, the MLK, Jr., College of Ministers and Laity was created “to honor individuals whose life and work exemplify the ethical ideals promoted by the College’s most prominent alumnus, Martin Luther King, Jr. Nominees to the College of Ministers and Laity have demonstrated and are evolving toward great achievement in their chosen vocations, a profound commitment to their community and society, the planet, and the cosmos, and are living their lives according to a high standard of cosmopolitan ethical principles.” Congratulations, Priscilla!



Rev. Dr. Priscilla Eppinger

## Barlows to be Honored



The council of North Shore Baptist Church have named **Donna** and **Ron Barlow** to receive the Daily Disciple award for 2018. This award is given annually by the American Baptist Churches of Metro Chicago to recognize volunteer commitment and Christian service. Each church in the region names a recipient to be honored at the Disciples Dinner, which will occur May 19 in Evanston. If you would like to attend the banquet, North Shore will have several tables at the event, honoring the Barlows as well as all the other recipients of Daily Disciple and regional awards. Please see Pastor David.

### Bible Quiz

While in Jerusalem for Pentecost, people from many faraway lands miraculously heard the disciples preaching in their own native languages. Which of the following modern-day places was/were represented?



- A. Egypt
- B. Libya
- C. Crete
- D. Rome
- E. All the Above
- F. A, B and D

Answer: E (See Acts 2:9-11.)

### +Christian Symbol+



**Fleur-de-lis**

Because the fleur-de-lis resembles a lily — a symbol of purity — it is sometimes used to represent the Virgin Mary. Due to its three-petal form, the fleur-de-lis also symbolizes the Holy Trinity



# What's Up With Our Youth?



This month, we have been gearing up for our outing to see **Jesus Christ Superstar** at the Lyric Opera on April 27 (see group photo below). We marked Good Friday together by watching the 1970s movie version of the musical. In the following weeks, we watched key scenes from the musical (using the most recent live version with John Legend), read the Scriptures they were drawing on, and discussed how the musical interprets the story of Jesus' trial and crucifixion.

We also joined with other members of the church on April 20 for a movie night. We watched **All Saints**, which is about a small, rural, Anglo-American church that is transformed by the arrival of Karen refugees.



## La Importancia de Cada Pieza/The Importance of Each Piece



Thanks to **Thomas Acosta, Olga Diaz, and Pastor Kathryn Ray** we were able to have a good Sábado de Gloria (Holy Saturday) workshop. Pastor Kathryn spent the time including the adults and children in inter-generational activities. Olga Diaz taught us from biblical principles spiritual gifts and Tomas Acosta gave us an exercise of the importance that each piece has by helping us assemble a low voltage electric circuit. Pastor Rony helped with the music and to tie these principles of participation at the end. The event was from 10:00am to 3pm.

Right: Everyone celebrating when they saw the light bulb work, because all worked together to put together the low voltage electric circuit.



Above: Tomas Acosta teaching us how to assemble the electric circuit. On the left is Elena and on the right is Rosa Nava. Tomas states, "Just like the electric circuit has many parts to make a bulb work, likewise, we need to work as a team and to know that each piece is of equal value."



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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)



*"The point is not to pay back kindness but to pass it on." ~ Julia Alvarez*

## Summer 2018 Camping

With the impending sale of Camp Grow, I have been working with ABC Metro Chicago to identify options for youth who would like to attend summer camp in 2018.



If your child is in middle school or younger, I would recommend Camp Tamarack. It is an American Baptist camp in Waupaca, WI, about 30 minutes away from Camp Grow. Becca Hartman-Pickerill and I grew up going to this camp. More information is available at [camptamarack.org](http://camptamarack.org).

If you have a youth in high school, we are working to put together a group to go to Quest, a Baptist summer camp in Green Lake, WI. Quest takes whole youth groups, 6th-12 grade, at any of their four summer sessions. More information at [www.questglcc.org](http://www.questglcc.org). Please contact me if you would like to explore this option.

Robust financial aid is available from the church, camp, and region.