

Steeple Stories

NOVEMBER 2017

VOLUME 19, ISSUE 8

The newsletter of North Shore Baptist Church

5244 N. Lakewood
Chicago, IL 60640

39th Anniversary - Hispanic Congregation

All are welcome to lunch at **12:30pm** on Sunday **November 12, 2017**. Praise and Worship band, *Altar*, will be leading us in worship Saturday night. Pastor Freddy and Brenda Noguera will be preaching Saturday November 11 at 7:00pm, and Sunday at 9:30am. Come and celebrate with us!!!!!!

~ Pastor Rony Reyes



**NORTH SHORE
BAPTIST CHURCH**

Grupo de
Alabanza
Y Adoración:

ALTAR

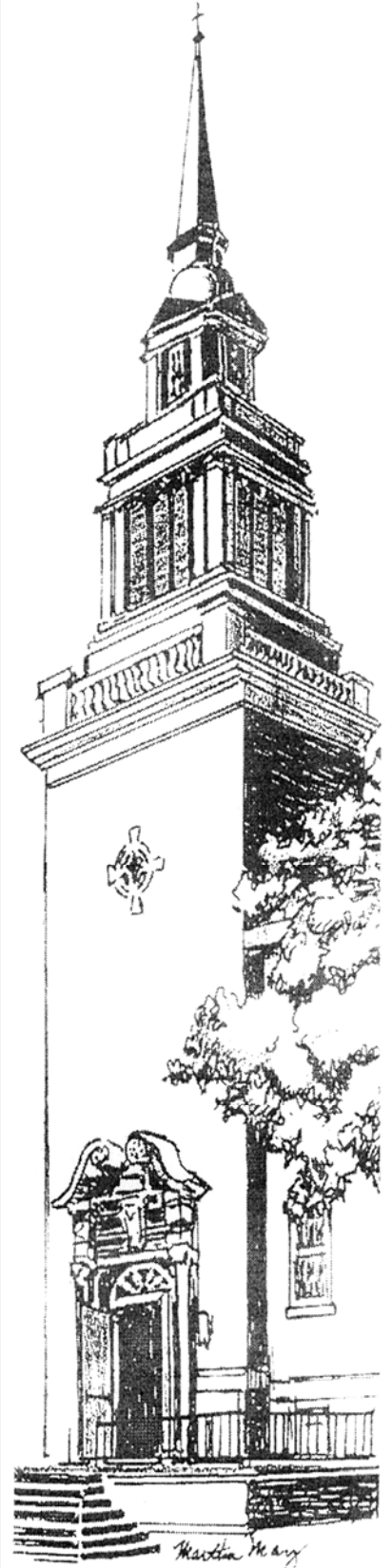
**SÁBADO 7PM
Noviembre 11&12**

39 ANIVERSARIO

PASTORES BRENDA Y FREDDY

Todos están cordialmente invitados a nuestro aniversario. Los pastora Brenda de la Iglesia de Dios bajo la Gracia van estar ministrando el Sábado a las 7pm junto con el Grupo Altar. Y el Pastor Freddy el Domingo en la Mañana. A las 12:30 hay una

5244 N. LAKEWOOD AVE., CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60640



Giving Today, Giving Tomorrow



"Everyone has something to offer"

We are right in the middle of our annual pledge drive, "Giving Today, Giving Tomorrow." By the time you read this, we will have celebrated Unity Sunday — Communion, Joint Worship, Fellowship, remembrance of the Saints of the church, and the presentation of our pledge cards. Everything about the day is important! It is a great celebration of our unity. And it is an important sign of our commitment to be one church when we all pledge our commitment to the support of the ministry.

If you haven't turned in your pledge card yet, you may do so in person in worship (via the offering) or by mail. Please do so — it helps us plan for next year's budget, and more importantly, it helps you deepen your intentions of generosity to the ministry of our church.

Pastoral Searches and our Church Constitution

Our church is in a time of transition and possibilities as we pursue calling two new pastors – one for the English language congregation and one for the Karen Fellowship. As both search committees are hard at work on our behalf, the Church Council has had the opportunity to review our constitutional requirements for calling a pastor. There is one section that we'd like to reconsider as we move forward. We believe a slight change could benefit the church and still maintain the spirit and intention of the constitution. Section 3 (Search Committee) of Article XI (The Pastorate) **currently** reads as follows:

*3. Secure the names of possible candidates, working in consultation with the appropriate national and regional American Baptist representatives, **and considering as possible candidates only ordained persons whose ordination is recognized by the American Baptist Churches, U.S.A.***

The Church Council will be considering an amendment that would allow the search committees to consider pastoral candidates who are ordained by a recognized Baptist body AND who are willing to pursue recognition of their ordination by the American Baptist Churches, U.S.A. We want to be open to God's spirit and the gifted folks who feel called to our ministries. North Shore also cherishes our American Baptist identity and clearly wants to continue in fellowship and leadership within our denomination.

It may surprise you to know that we currently have on staff three Baptist pastors who were initially ordained by alternate Baptist bodies. **Rev. Kathryn Ray** was initially ordained by the Alliance of Baptists, **Rev. Yuki Scroggins** was ordained by the National Baptist Convention, and **Rev. Roger Poenyunt** was ordained by the Karen Baptist Convention. Due to the nature of their initial job requirements and the particular language and cultural needs of the Japanese and Karen congregations, these leaders were hired and now bless us in so many ways today. All three pastors have since had their ordinations recognized by ABC of Metro Chicago.

As the search committees receive profiles and inquiries, they want to be able to consider candidates who may have a different Baptist ordination and not have to automatically close the door if they are not currently ordained ABCUSA. This amendment is not being proposed to cater to one specific candidate – rather, it is to recognize the unique needs of North Shore and be open to God's leading, while maintaining our close ABCUSA identity.

If the amendment is passed by the Church Council at the November meeting, we will present it for an all-church vote on **December 17**, when we will also be voting to approve the 2018 church budget. Please prayerfully reflect on this matter, and I hope we see you at the December church meeting!

Submitted by Sherry Nelson, Vice Moderator



NOVEMBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:30 pm Andersonville YPAA	2 6:30 Handbell Choir 7:30 Chancel Choir	3 6:00-8:00 pm FotL Youth Group	4 10 am AA Meeting 4 pm AA Meeting 4:00 pm Karen Music Rehearsal 5:30 pm Spanish Bible Study
5 <i>Unity Sunday</i> 10:30 am Joint Worship 12:00 pm Luncheon	6 6:30 pm AA Meeting	7 7pm Property Min.	8 6:30 pm Andersonville YPAA	9 4:00 Stewardship Ministry 6:30 Handbell Choir 7:30 Chancel Choir	10 6:00-8:00 pm FotL Youth Group	11 10 am AA Meeting 4 pm AA Meeting 4:00 pm Karen Music Rehearsal 7:00 pm Hispanic Congregation Anniversary Service
12 9:30 am Spanish Worship 10 am English Worship 11 am Japanese Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Time 11:30 am Ad. In Learning 12:30 pm Karen Worship 12:30 pm Hispanic Anniversary Lunch	13 6:30 pm AA Meeting	14 7pm Church Council	15 6:30 pm Andersonville YPAA	16 6:30 Handbell Choir 7:30 Chancel Choir	17 6:00-8:00 pm FotL Youth Group	18 10 am AA Meeting 4 pm AA Meeting 4:00 pm Karen Music Rehearsal 5:30 pm Spanish Bible Study
19 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 3:00 pm <u>ECRA Service</u>	20 6:30 pm AA Meeting	21	22 6:30 pm Andersonville YPAA	23  <u>Building Closed</u>	24 <u>Building Closed</u>	25 10 am AA Meeting 4 pm AA Meeting 4:00 pm Karen Music Rehearsal 5:30 pm Spanish Bible Study
26 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	27 6:30 pm AA Meeting	28	29 6:30 pm Anderson-	30 6:30 Handbell Choir 7:30 Chancel Choir		

Pastor Kathryn Assumes Regional Role

In October, Pastor Kathryn took over for Rev. Sarah Jay as the ABCMC Associate Regional Minister for Euro-American and Multiethnic Churches. She will be giving 5-10 hours a month to connect with pastors and church leaders in the region and plan quarterly conversations around issues affecting these local churches.

The appointing of Associate Regional Ministers (ARMs) is part of a relatively new ABCMC collaborative initiative. The region has established four collaboratives based on ethnicity: the Asian American Collaborative (led by NSBC member **Rev. Chakravarthy Zadda**), African American Collaborative (led by Rev. David Watkins), the Hispanic Collaborative (led by Rev. Shakespeare Osorio), and the Euro-American/Multiethnic Collaborative (led by Pastor Kathryn). The purpose of these collaboratives and the ARMs is to better provide culturally and linguistically appropriate support to the diverse churches of the region.



As an ARM, Pastor Kathryn will be able to use her experience in the multicultural setting of North Shore to contribute to the region's efforts to share power and provide support for its diverse members. Conversely, her work as an ARM will also give her deeper knowledge into broader concerns affecting Chicago churches (such as aging congregations and dwindling membership), and creative ways that different churches are responding to them. These insights will benefit her work at North Shore.

Karen Fellowship Celebrates 8 Years



Rev. Roger Poenyunt offers a prayer

Our Karen Fellowship celebrated their 8th Anniversary on Sunday **September 17th** at 12:30, following Adventure In Learning Classes. Special guest speakers included **Rev. Solomon Opehtoo** who gave the sermon in English Worship earlier in the day. Of course a wonder banquet of delicious Karen food (and cake!!) helped complete the festivities.



Pastor Roger cuts Anniversary Cake



Las Posadas

Las Posadas represents the troubles that Joseph and Mary faced in finding a room when traveling to Bethlehem. Latin American countries have continued to celebrate this holiday to this day. Typically, each family in a neighborhood will schedule a night for the Posada to be held at their home.

At North Shore we celebrate the Posadas as a time of fellowship with one another and enjoy the different dishes presented by the host. The Posadas are open to ALL people who attend NSBC. See you there! Here is the 2017 schedule of Posadas. The Posadas begin at **7:00 pm on the 8th**, and **4:30 pm on the 9th, 16th & 17th**.

Friday December 8, at the home of Pastor Rony Reyes, 5226 N. Lakewood, 2nd Fl. Chicago

Saturday December 9 at the home of Maria Nodarse, 6625 N. Kimball, Lincolnwood, IL

Saturday December 16 at the home of Viola Mayol, 1000 Monroe St., Evanston, IL

Sunday December 17 at the home of Manuel Sinchi, 1329 Brummel St. Apt. 1F, Evanston, IL

What's Up With Our Youth?



Under the leadership of Educational Ministry chair **Jen Mihalek**, the youth group cleared old furniture and a broken table or two out of the youth room. This month, we're ordering new, more moveable furniture. We hope to soon

have a more flexible space for worship, games, and conversation, which our current youth group can truly call their own.



We also went on our annual trip to the corn maze at Abbey Farms (picture, left). We had a bonfire, and many youth made a S'more for the first time!

Special thanks to **Gilberto Gonzalez**, who led the youth in putting on a talent show while **Pastor Kathryn** was away at the young adult retreat

Young Adult Retreat

At the end of October, eleven people from North Shore went up to the Green Lake Conference Center to enjoy a time of fellowship and spiritual retreat. The group consisted of **Cheryl Johnson; Becca, Sam, and Nora Hartman Pickerill; Yanira Silva; Eggee, Ceci, Amanda, and Amber Linares; and Pastors David and Kathryn.**

The theme for the weekend was walking as a spiritual practice. On Saturday morning, we reflected on various Scriptures about people on a journey (Ruth and Naomi, the Israelites in the desert, the Good Samaritan). We reflected on the road to Emmaus and other various biblical texts about people on a journey. We talked about where we have experienced God walking with us on our own journey, and how we have found grace in unexpected places. We cooked for one another, shared stories, walked the many trails of Green Lake, and left renewed.



One of the texts we reflected upon over the weekend was the following poem from Antonio Machado:

*Wayfarer, the road is just
Your footprints, nothing more
Wayfarer, there is no road
But that you make by walking
By walking, make the road
And turning to look back
You see the path you'll never
Tread upon again
Wayfarer, there is no road
But ripples in the ocean.*

*Caminante, son tus huellas
El camino, y nada más;
caminante, no hay camino,
se hace camino al andar.
Al andar se hace camino,
y al volver la vista atrás
se ve la senda que nunca
se ha de volver a pisar.
Caminante, no hay camino,
sino estelas en la mar.*



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North Shore Baptist Church

*"Serving All God's People
From This Corner"*

We're on the Web:

www.northshorebaptist.org



*"Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress;
working together is success." - Henry Ford*

ECRA Thanksgiving Service

This year we have the honor of hosting the

Edgewater Community Religious Association Thanksgiving Service at NORTH SHORE.

November 19 at 3 pm



This Interfaith service gathers over 300 people from a variety of religious communities and traditions — Christian (both Catholic and Protestant), Jewish, and Muslim — in gratitude for God's blessings in our lives and our unity as people of faith in this neighborhood. We will collect donations of food for Care For Real, our shared ministry to hungry people in our community. As usual, the service is held the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

This is a big undertaking for us. **We need lots of help** with ushering, hosting, and kitchen crew. Please talk to one of the Pastors if you would like to help. And in any case, please come, bring some canned goods or non-perishable food to donate, and participate by your attendance.

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