

ST. ANDREW CHURCH

NEWSLETTER



NOVEMBER 2015

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Psalm 100

Praise the LORD.

Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens. Praise him for his acts of power; praise him for his surpassing greatness. Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise him with the harp and lyre, praise him with tambourine and dancing, praise him with the strings and flute, praise him with the clash of cymbals, praise him with resounding cymbals. Let everything that has breath praise the LORD.

Praise the LORD.

Psalm 150

It seems as if Thanksgiving is becoming the forgotten holiday. All of the malls have their Santa stands and decorations up. Black Friday has been replaced with Thanksgiving as the day to begin your annual Christmas shopping. How far we have come from that day on October 3, 1861 when President Abraham Lincoln at the urging of Sarah Hale declared made the following declaration. It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and voice by the whole American people. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens. Notice the emphasis President Lincoln placed on giving thanks and praise to the One who deserves our thanks and praise; to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens.

It is also important to note that this declaration was done in the middle of the Civil War which would not end for another two years. It is good for us who live in a nation that is so blessed not to forget to whom our thanks and praise belong.

St. Andrew Lutheran Church, 3658 S. Honore Chicago, IL 60609
St. Andrew Ministry Center, 3650 S. Honore, Chicago, IL 60609
773-376-5370 Visit us on the web: standrewchicago.org

GEOGRAPHICAL CENTER OF CHICAGO

Last month we told you about the history of discovery of the sign designating the corner of 37th and S. Honore Streets as the geographical center of Chicago. We are happy to announce that a new sign was erected in front to the church this month. The sign was dedicated on November 21. We will post a picture of the new sign on our St. Andrew Facebook page as well as on our church website www.standrewchicago.org. Our thanks to Dr. Roy Pletsch for his efforts to locate the sign and to the 12th Ward Office for arranging to have the new sign put up.

ST. ANDREW CHURCH NEWS

With our 124 year old building, we have run into some repair issues that could prove to be quite costly. We had our boiler checked for the winter and were told that there were so many problem with it that it that our best option was to replace it. Murphy and Miller heating company installed a new boiler and condensate tank over the past two weeks. The total cost of this project will come to around \$40,000. Our Ministry Council has agreed to start a special boiler fund to help cover the cost of the new heating system. Any help our members, alumni and friends can provided will be greatly appreciated.

We also had a structural engineer look at our bell tower. It will need extensive tuck-pointing both inside and out as well as repair of some of the braces on the inside. We do not know the full impact of this but it could be a rather substantial cost. We will keep you posted as things develop. Keep in mind that we are holding the mortgage on the school and the final payment of \$540,000 is still four years away so that money will not be available at this time. Needless to say we are facing some real challenges in the near future.

PASTOR SEMEMSNE ANNOUNCES HIS RETIREMENT PLANS

Pastor Semenske announced to the congregation on November 8 that he will retire from the ministry as of June 30, 2016. A copy of his official letter was sent in a separate email at that time. Pastor Semenske has served St. Andrew since June of 1980. His retirement will mark 36 years of service to St. Andrew and 40 years of service in the public ministry. The Ministry Council will meet with our Southeastern Wisconsin District President in the near future to begin the process of calling a new Pastor to serve here at St. Andrew. Please keep our Ministry Council and St. Andrew congregation in your prayers.

Our Pastor:

Doug Semenske,
773-376-5370
Cell: 708-899-9059
Email: pastor@standrewchicago.org

Our Secretary:

Margie Hendricks,
773-376-5370
Email:
churchsecretary@standrewchicago.org

Our Worship:

Sunday at 9:30am

Our Bible Study:

Sunday at 10:45am
Friday at 10:00 am

Our Sunday School:
Sunday at 10:30 am

Sermons on the Web

Listen to Sunday sermons on our web page. Go to standrewchicago.org Click on Church at the top then click on sermons to see a list of available sermons. Sermons are also available on our Facebook page and iTunes

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