



December 7–December 13, 2003

News and Opportunities

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY

Sunday School classes meet at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in Westminster House.

Children's Corner, a time of storytelling, takes place in Anderson Hall after 9:30 and 11:00 worship.

Junior Highs (grades 6–7) meets today at 9:30 a.m. in the Large Conference Room, followed by fellowship in the Crow's Nest at 10:45 a.m.

Confirmation Class (grade 8) meets today at 9:30 a.m. in the Crow's Nest.

Senior Highs (grades 9–12) meets today at 11:00 a.m. in the Large Conference Room. At 1:00 p.m., the group gathers in the Crow's Nest to depart for ice skating at Navy Pier.

College Connections meets today at 4:30 p.m. in the Page Smith Room.

SHARING GOD'S GRACE

Today is Celebration Sunday, a day to stand together as a Fourth Church family and celebrate with gratitude the progress of both our Capital and Stewardship Campaigns. Thus far we have received 715 pledges to the Capital Campaign totaling more than \$15.4 million toward our \$30 million goal. In addition, we have received 795 pledges to our annual Stewardship effort, totaling more than \$1.9 million toward our goal of \$2.6 million. If you have not yet made a pledge, please stand and be counted. Every pledge, no matter the size, helps us realize the goal of the Project Light vision. Commitment cards are available in the pew racks and during Coffee Hour and can be placed in the offering or returned to the church office.

Today is Celebration Sunday, December 7

when we celebrate the progress of our Capital Campaign

Morning Worship
8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.

Advent Festival of Lessons and Music
6:00 p.m.

Please note that this service begins a half hour earlier than usual.

Special Lighting Event

7:30 p.m. in the Garth

Be with us as we illuminate Fourth Church with new exterior lights

Cookies and Cocoa Reception

In Anderson Hall following lighting event

VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS

Current Donation Needs

Christmas gifts for children (see “Advent and Christmas”).

Fiskars scissors for children, yarn, 8" embroidery hoops, 8 oz. glue bottles, hole punchers, No. 2 pencils, and muslin fabric for students at Jenner Arts Academy.

Please label donations and drop them off at the reception desk (126 E. Chestnut).

Current Volunteer Needs

Helpers to label and shelve books on Saturday, December 13 at 9:00 a.m. at Schiller School in Cabrini-Green.

Tutors for children, at the church from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday.

Kids' Café helpers, 4:15 to 6:00 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday.

Helpers to put drip protectors on Christmas Eve candles, December 22–24.

Care team members to assist people living in zip codes 60640 and 60657.

MISSION AND OUTREACH

New Year's Eve.

For more information, stop by the Volunteer Table during Coffee Hour or call Larry Nicholson at 981.3382.

Personal shopping for children's Christmas gifts is available from Senior

Highs students. Donations from this service will support the Senior Highs programs and the Capital Campaign. For more information or to sign up, stop by the Youth Table during Coffee Hour or contact Keith Harris at 981.3598 (kharris@fourthchurch.org).

Information about incarcerated adults with mental illnesses is available at the Advocacy Table during Coffee Hour, as is a letter to Senators Durbin and Fitzgerald urging reform in the rehabilitation of these individuals.

Need a babysitter while you shop?

ENRICHMENT

your children and feed them lunch between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Saturdays December 13 and 20 and January 3. Contact Judith Schneider at 640.5449 for costs and registration.

Connections, an adult Sunday School class, meets today in the Page Smith Room at 11:00 a.m. Tom Rook will speak on “What Does Prayer Do?”

Adult education opportunities being offered today by the Academy for Faith and Life are “Old Testament Survey” (Anderson Hall S. Balcony) and “Friendship and Forgiveness” (Anderson Hall N. Balcony) at 9:30 a.m., and “Discerning Your Calling” (Anderson Hall S. Balcony) and “Hosea: Radical Prophet and Visual Aid” (Anderson Hall N. Balcony) at 11:00 a.m. Meeting on Mondays is “Introduction to Faith and Fourth” (Anderson Hall S. Balcony) at 7:00 p.m.

Normal forgetful behavior will be the topic of a seminar led by gerontological nurse practitioner JoAnn Gruca on

News and Opportunities, which is distributed during Sunday worship, is also available in the church literature racks and at www.fourthchurch.org.
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ELLOWSHIP AND COMMUNITY

Young Adults Bible Study meets on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the Randolph Room. The topic for December is "Advent: The Light of Faith."

Venture Fourth (30s and 40s) will hold a planning meeting on Tuesday, December 9 at 6:30 p.m. in the Page

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

Care of Creation meets Thursday, December 11 at 7:30 in the Randolph Room to discuss the Presbyterian response to environmental stewardship.

The "Christmas Wishes" gift program is still collecting gifts for Erie Neighborhood House, Christopher House, and the Elam Davies Social Service Center. A list of requested gifts is available during Coffee Hour in Anderson Hall at the Christmas Wishes Gift Table.

Tutoring Holiday Cards, which benefit the Tutoring Program, are available during Coffee Hour. They also are available at the reception desk during the week and can be ordered at www.fourthchurch.org.

Memorialize or honor loved ones by contributing to the purchase of Christmas flowers and garlands for the sanctuary. A list of those remembered and honored will be printed in the Christmas bulletin. (Memorial contributions must be received by Sunday, December 14 in order for the names to appear in the bulletin.) Contributions can be made by completing the cards available in the literature racks and on the website.

Wednesday Evening Advent Services will be held December 10 and 17 at 7:30 p.m. in Blair Chapel.

Give Life-Changing Gifts this season, in the names of friends, family, and colleagues, and make a difference in the lives of those facing challenges in daily life. Brochures containing detailed information and gift request forms are

Christmas Worship Opportunities

Christmas Eve Services

Wednesday, December 24 in the sanctuary

*4:00 p.m. Candlelight Service
with Children's Pageant*

*6:00 p.m. Candlelight Service
with Meditation by
Calum MacLeod*

*8:30 p.m. Candlelight Service
of Lessons and Carols
Joanna Adams preaching
Will be filmed by WBBM Channel 2
for local rebroadcast that evening*

*11:00 p.m. Candlelight Service
of Lessons and Carols
Joanna Adams preaching*

Christmas Day Worship

Thursday, December 25

11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary

*John Cairns preaching
A traditional Christmas Dinner will follow
the service in Anderson Hall. Tickets are
available during Coffee Hour and at the
reception desk.*

*Please note that the middle two Christmas
Eve services begin a half hour earlier than
last year, at 6:00 and 8:30 p.m.*

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 7-DECEMBER 13, 2003

Sunday, December 7

7:50 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.	Nursery	Westminster 14
8:00 a.m.	Morning Worship Joanna M. Adams preaching	Sanctuary
9:00 a.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall
9:30 a.m.	Morning Worship Joanna M. Adams preaching	Sanctuary
9:30 a.m.	Academy for Faith and Life	Parish House
9:30 a.m.	Sunday School	Westminster House
9:30 a.m.	Junior Highs	Large Conference Room
9:30 a.m.	Confirmation Class	Crow's Nest
9:50 a.m.	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Dining Room
10:15 a.m.	Youth Choir Rehearsal	Blair Chapel
10:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall
10:45 a.m.	Junior Highs	Crow's Nest
11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship Joanna M. Adams preaching	Sanctuary
11:00 a.m.	Connections Class	Page Smith Room
11:00 a.m.	Academy for Faith and Life	Parish House
11:00 a.m.	Sunday School	Westminster House
11:00 a.m.	Senior Highs	Large Conference Room
12:00 p.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall
12:15 p.m.	Church Tour	Sanctuary
12:15 p.m.	Intercessory Prayer	Stone Chapel
1:00 p.m.	Senior Highs	Crow's Nest
5:00 p.m.	Festival Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
6:00 p.m.	Advent Festival of Lessons and Music	Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.	Exterior Lighting Dedication	Garth
7:45 p.m.	Advent Festival Reception	Anderson Hall

Monday, December 8

9:00 a.m.	Morning Prayers, Monday through Friday	Blair Chapel
7:00 p.m.	Academy for Faith and Life	Parish House

Tuesday, December 9

7:30 p.m.	Young Adults Bible Study	Randolph Room
6:30 p.m.	Venture Fourth	Page Smith Room

Wednesday, December 10

9:30 a.m.	Benevolent Guild	Page Smith Room
12:10 p.m.	Noonday Bible Study	Large Conference Room
7:30 p.m.	Advent Worship	Blair Chapel

Thursday, December 11

6:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.	Care of Creation	Randolph Room

Friday, December 12

12:10 p.m.	Concert: Hideko Amano and Brian Torosian	Sanctuary
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Saturday, December 13

9:00 a.m.	Inquirers' Class	PageSmith Room
10:00 a.m.	Holiday Babysitting	Westminster House

Preaching on Sunday, December 14

Joanna M. Adams	8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
David Aja-Sigmon	6:30 p.m.

Parking is available Sundays at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$5.50 to 4:00 p.m. and \$6.25 after 5:00 p.m. and at the John Hancock Center, 875 North Michigan Avenue (access Chestnut Street), at the rate of \$5.00 until 2:00 p.m. Weekday parking is available after 5:00 p.m. at 900 North Michigan at the rate of \$6.25. Tickets must be validated in the coffee hour or at the Chestnut Street reception desk.

For child care arrangements (other than during Sunday morning worship services), call (312) 787-2729, ext. 282 at least three working days in advance.