



December 14–December 20, 2003

News and Opportunities

SHARING GOD'S GRACE

Thanks to all the faithful members and friends who have already made contributions to Fourth Church's Capital Campaign, "A Light in the City: Sharing God's Grace." We have currently received 775 pledges totaling more than \$15.7 million toward our goal of \$30 million. In addition, we have received 854 pledges totaling more than \$2 million toward our annual Stewardship goal of \$2.6 million. If you have not yet made campaign and stewardship pledges, please do so. 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 can be placed in the offering or returned to the church office.

MUSIC AND THE ARTS

Fourth Acts, a liturgical drama group, meets today at 12:30 p.m. in the Randolph Room for a Christmas party and to hold auditions for *The Crucible*.

A sing-along *Messiah*, organized by the Chicago Presbytery, will be held today at 3:30 p.m. at Second Presbyterian Church (1936 S. Michigan).

Tower Brass and John Sherer perform a holiday concert on Saturday, December 20 at 5:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Christmas Cantata by Daniel Pinkham will be performed by the Morning Choir and Tower Brass next Sunday, December 21 at the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. morning worship services.

BELLOWSHIP AND COMMUNITY

Fourthlights (50s and above) meets today at 12:00 noon in Anderson Hall South Balcony. The group next meets at McCormick and Schmick's on Wednesday, December 17 at 5:00 p.m.

Fourth Forum meets for brunch today at the Whitehall at 12:30 p.m.

The Center for Older Adults meets on Friday, December 19 for a Dutch-treat dinner at Café Luciano at 5:00 p.m. For more information, call Mary Belcastro in the COA at 981.3386.

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.

A mandatory rehearsal for all children participating in the Christmas pageant takes place today in the sanctuary immediately after 11:00 worship.

Junior Highs (grades 6–7) meets at 9:30 a.m. in the Large Conference Room, followed by fellowship in the Crow's Nest at 10:45 a.m. RSVP to Liz Thomson for the December 21 ice skating trip.

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

Senior Highs (grades 9–12) meets at 11:00 a.m. in the Large Conference Room, followed by fellowship in the Crow's Nest at 1:00 p.m.

MISSION AND OUTREACH

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

Pewter ornaments depicting Fourth Church are available at the Sermon Tapes and Parking Validation Table during Coffee Hour. Proceeds support the mission and ministry of the Board of Deacons.

You can support Partners in Education (PIE) through a gift to United Way's 2003 Campaign. If your place of employment is participating in the campaign, you can designate a gift directly to PIE by submitting a "Donor Designation Pledge Form" along with your gift. Your gift will support PIE's many outreach programs.

Need a babysitter while you shop? Women@Fourth Connect will look after your children and feed them lunch between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Saturdays December 20 and January 3. Contact Judith Schneider at 640.5449 for costs and registration.

VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS

Current Donation Needs

New hats, gloves, and scarves for guests of the Elam Davies Social Service Center (men's size large preferred)

Christmas gifts for children ages 3–5.

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

Current Volunteer Needs

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

Cooks to help at Lakeview Shelter on New Year's Eve.

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

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

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

ENRICHMENT

Connections, an adult Sunday School class, meets today in the Page Smith Room at 11:00 a.m. Carol Allen will speak on "Ordination and Sexuality in the PCUSA."

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 "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.

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

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago • Joanna M. Adams and John M. Buchanan, Pastors
Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611-2094; 312.787.4570
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Young Adults meets next Sunday, December 21 at 7:30 p.m. in Anderson Hall for a discussion on "Imagining Christmas: the Holy Season in Poetry."

Bible Study opportunities this week:
John Knox, Sundays at 9:30 a.m.
Young Adults, Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.
Parents, Wednesday at 9:30 p.m.
Noonday, Wednesdays at 12:10 p.m.
Older Adults, Fridays at 10:00 a.m.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

Today is the last day to contribute to the purchase of Christmas flowers and garlands for the sanctuary. A list of those remembered and honored by these gifts will be printed in the Christmas bulletin. (Memorial contributions must be received today 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.

A Wednesday evening Advent service will be held December 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 available in the literature racks and on the website. For more information, call Tracey Althans at 274.3816.

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.

This year's 8:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service will be broadcast locally by WBBM Channel 2. Worshipers as well as worship leaders and the choir will be filmed as they participate in this wonderful service, which will later be shared with viewers throughout Chicagoland. The service will be broadcast at 10:35 p.m. on Christmas Eve and 9:00 a.m. on Christmas Day.

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
Calum MacLeod preaching*

*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 in Anderson
Hall will follow the service. 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 14–DECEMBER 20, 2003

Sunday, December 14

7:50 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.	Nursery	Westminister 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
11:00 a.m.	Christmas Pageant Rehearsal	Sanctuary
12:00 p.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall
12:00 p.m.	Fourthlights	Anderson Hall South Balcony
12:15 p.m.	Church Tour	Sanctuary
12:15 p.m.	Intercessory Prayer	Stone Chapel
12:15 p.m.	New Members Brunch	Dining Room
12:30 p.m.	Fourth Forum	(see announcement)
1:00 p.m.	Senior Highs	Crow's Nest
5:30 p.m.	Vespers Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
6:00 p.m.	Vespers Service David Aja-Sigmon preaching	Sanctuary

Monday, December 15

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

Tuesday, December 16

7:30 p.m.	Young Adults Bible Study	Randolph Room
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Wednesday, December 17

9:30 a.m.	Benevolent Guild	Page Smith Room
9:30 a.m.	Parents' Bible Study	Large Conference Room
12:10 p.m.	Noonday Bible Study	Large Conference Room
5:00 p.m.	Fourthlights	(see announcement)
7:30 p.m.	Advent Worship	Blair Chapel

Friday, December 19

12:10 p.m.	Concert: Evanston Township High School Choir	Sanctuary
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Saturday, December 20

9:00 a.m.	Inquirers' Class	Page Smith Room
10:00 a.m.	Holiday Babysitting	Westminster House
5:00 p.m.	Concert: Tower Brass and John Sherer, organist	Sanctuary

Preaching on Sunday, December 21

John M. Buchanan	8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Calum I. MacLeod	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.