



January 11-17, 2004

# News and Opportunities

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## SHARING GOD'S GRACE

**Thanks to all the faithful members and friends** who have made contributions to Fourth Church's Capital Campaign, "A Light in the City: Sharing God's Grace." We have currently received 836 pledges totaling more than \$16.1 million toward our goal of \$30 million. In addition, we have received 962 pledges totaling more than \$2.3 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.

## NEWS AND RESOURCES

**Videotapes and DVDs of the 8:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service** broadcast on CBS are available during Coffee Hour and at the reception desk during the week.

## ENRICHMENT

**Connections**, an adult Sunday School class, meets today in the Page Smith Room at 11:00 a.m. John Boyle will speak on forgiveness.

**Adult education opportunities** being offered today by the Academy for Faith and Life are "John Calvin" (Anderson Hall N. Balcony) and "Old Testament Survey" (Anderson Hall S. Balcony) at 9:30 a.m. and "The Evolving Shape of Islam" (Anderson Hall N. Balcony) at 11:00 a.m. Meeting on Thursdays is "Competing Claims: The Gospels of Thomas and John" (Anderson Hall S. Balcony) at 7:00 p.m.

**A Leadership Training Seminar** on leading a group at Fourth Church will be offered on Monday, January 12, at 6:30 p.m. in Anderson Hall S. Balcony. This is one of two seminars required to lead a Faith Builder or Common Connection group. For details, contact Anne Crow at 573.3369.

### **"The Da Vinci Code—Decoded"**

This free Michigan Avenue forum will be offered on Monday, January 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Bruce Rigdon, Presbyterian pastor and president of Ecumenical Theological Seminary in Detroit, will explore some of the questions about Christianity raised in the best-selling novel *The Da Vinci Code*.

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

**“Women and the Word,”** a Bible study for women led by Carol Allen, meets Thursday, January 15 at 11:30 a.m. in Anderson Hall and is followed by lunch and fellowship. RSVP to Lisa Cochrane at 640.5495 by Tuesday, January 13.

**The Center for Older Adults** will sponsor a luncheon on Thursday, January 15 at 11:30 a.m. in the Dining Room. Reading Dallal, an Iraqi Jew, will share his perspective of the conflict in Iraq.

**A winter retreat for women** will be held January 16–17 at the Cenacle Retreat Center (513 W. Fullerton). Hosted by Women@Fourth Connect and led by Rebecca Prichard, the retreat will help participants consider new ways of sensing God’s life in us and in our everyday lives. Brochures with registration forms are available in the literature racks and at the website [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org).

**A renewal retreat for people who are unemployed** is being offered by the Crossroads Center and the Career Transitions Center of Chicago, of which Fourth Church is a sponsor. The retreat, “Finding Work without Losing Heart,” will be held at the Cenacle Retreat Center (513 W. Fullerton) Wednesday and Thursday, January 29–30. To register, contact Crossroads at 312.831.9350 or [crcinfo@crossroads-center.org](mailto:crcinfo@crossroads-center.org).

**“Filling Your Cup: The Benefits for You and Your World”** is the topic of this year’s midwinter conference sponsored by Fourth Church’s Lorene Replogle Counseling Center. On Saturday, February 7, participants will learn ways to restore themselves and to be more available in a variety of ways to those around them. For information, contact the Center at 312.787.8425.

## ELLOWSHIP AND COMMUNITY

**Cornerstones** (couples 50 and above) meets today at 11:00 a.m. at Mike Ditka’s Restaurant to discuss plans for 2004. The group next meets on Friday, January 16 at 6:00 p.m. at the Bristol Hotel (57 E. Delaware Place), where Margaret Hellie Huyck will speak about retirement options. RSVP for that event to Jenny Blandford at 981.4087.

**Fourth Forum**, a group for gays, lesbians, and their friends and families, meets today for brunch at 12:15 p.m. at McCormick and Schmick’s. The group next meets for a potluck dinner at a member’s home on Saturday, January 17 at 6:30 p.m. For details, contact Jenny Blandford at 981.4087.

## MUSIC AND THE ARTS

**Fourth Acts**, a liturgical drama group, meets today at 12:30 p.m. in the Randolph Room. All are welcome.

**“The Dream Revisited,”** an exhibit on display in the Loggia and Gallery through February, features work by locally, nationally, and internationally prominent African Americans.

*News and Opportunities*, which is distributed during Sunday worship, is also available in the church literature racks and at [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org).

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## MISSION AND OUTREACH

**The Mission Advocacy Committee** is seeking suggestions from the congregation as to important advocacy issues to focus on in the future. Please stop by the Advocacy Table in Anderson Hall during Coffee Hour to fill out a survey and offer suggestions.

**The Winter Blood Donor Drive** will be held on Sunday, January 25 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Activity Center. All donors must schedule an appointment during Coffee Hour on January 18 or by calling the Donor Appointment Infoline at 787.2729, ext. 371. For more information, call the Blood Donor Infoline at ext. 388.

**Be a part of Caring Connection**, a program that provides social support and advocacy for members and friends of Fourth Church by calling, visiting, and sharing joys and sorrows. Those who would like to share a special interest or skill, keep in touch by phone, or make home or hospital visits are asked to contact Carol Allen, Associate Pastor, at 640.5398 (callen@fourthchurch.org).

## VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS

### **Current Volunteer Needs**

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

**Members** to serve periodically as ushers in Vespers services.

**Kids' Café helpers** from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday.

**People to put inserts in bulletins** on Friday evening or Saturday.

**Helpers to label and shelve books** on Saturday, January 24, from 9:00 a.m. to noon, at Schiller School in Cabrini-Green. Van transportation from the church departs at 8:45 a.m.

### **Current Donation Needs**

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

**Sofa, sofa bed, or twin beds** in good condition.

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

## 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 for class today at 9:30 a.m. in the Large Conference Room and for fellowship in the Crow's Nest at 10:45 a.m. The Junior Highs lock-in will take place January 16–17. RSVP today to Liz Thomson in the Youth office at 640.2576.

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

**Senior Highs** (grades 9–12) meets for class today at 11:00 a.m. in the Large Conference Room. Senior Highs fellowship will not meet today.

**College Connections** (undergraduate and graduate students) meets next Sunday, January 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the Page Smith Room.

**A parent fellowship** meets on Sunday, January 22 to discuss the topic "School Daze." RSVP to Liz Thomson in the Youth office at 640.2576.

## CALENDAR FOR JANUARY 11-17, 2004

<b>Sunday, January 11</b>		
7:50 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.	Nursery	Westminister 14
<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b> <b>John M. Buchanan preaching</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
9:00 a.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall
<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b> <b>John M. Buchanan preaching</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
9:30 a.m.	John Knox Bible Study	Page Smith Room
9:30 a.m.	Academy for Faith and Life	Parish House
9:30 a.m.	Sunday School	Westminster House
9:30 a.m.	Confirmation Class	Crow's Nest
9:45 a.m.	Junior Highs	Large Conference Room
9:50 a.m.	Children's Choir	Dining Room
10:15 a.m.	Youth Choir	Blair Chapel
10:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall
10:45 a.m.	Junior Highs	Crow's Nest
<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b> <b>John M. Buchanan preaching</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
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	Conference Room
11:00 a.m.	Cornerstones	(see announcement)
12:00 p.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall
12:15 p.m.	Church Tour	Sanctuary
12:15 p.m.	Fourth Forum	(see announcement)
12:30 p.m.	Fourth Acts	Randolph Room
5:30 p.m.	Vespers Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
<b>6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Vespers Service</b> <b>Tamara Leonard Lara preaching</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
<b>Monday, January 12</b>		
9:00 a.m.	Morning Prayers, Monday through Friday	Blair Chapel
6:30 p.m.	Leadership Training Seminar	Anderson Hall S. Balcony
7:30 p.m.	"The Da Vinci Code—Decoded"	Sanctuary
<b>Tuesday, January 13</b>		
7:30 p.m.	Young Adults Bible Study	Randolph Room
<b>Wednesday, January 14</b>		
9:30 a.m.	Benevolent Guild	Page Smith Room
12:10 p.m.	Noonday Bible Study	Large Conference Room
<b>Thursday, January 15</b>		
11:30 a.m.	"Women and the Word"	Anderson Hall
11:30 a.m.	COA Luncheon	Dining Room
6:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:00 p.m.	Academy for Faith and Life	Parish House
<b>Friday, January 16</b>		
10:00 a.m.	Older Adults Bible Study	Page Smith Room
12:10 p.m.	Concert: Shirley Grudzien, harpsichord	Sanctuary
5:00 p.m.	Women's Retreat	(see announcement)
6:00 p.m.	Cornerstones	(see announcement)
6:00 p.m.	Junior Highs Lock-In	(see announcement)
<b>Saturday, January 17</b>		
9:00 a.m.	Inquirers' Class	Page Smith Room
6:30 p.m.	Fourth Forum	(see announcement)

### Preaching on Sunday, January 18

Calum I. MacLeod	8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Keith C. Harris	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.