

December 4–10, 2005

A LIGHT IN THE CITY
FOURTH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
www.fourthchurch.org

News and Opportunities

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

“Light Up a Life” this holiday season with a gift to this year-end giving campaign that combines the “Life-Changing Gifts” and “Christmas Joy” appeals of previous years. Gifts to “Light Up a Life” will make a difference in the lives of those touched by Fourth Church and its many programs while also serving as a meaningful gift and way to honor the special people in your life. Details are available in the brochures in the church literature racks and on the church website. Envelopes for making “Light Up a Life” gifts can be found in the pew racks.

A Fair Trade Gift Bazaar, sponsored by the Mission Committee, takes place today from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Loggia. Proceeds from the fairly traded handcrafts will help promote the social and economic progress of people in developing regions of the world.

Tonight is the annual Vespers Festival of Advent Lessons and Music. Nursery care will be provided and a cookies-and-hot-chocolate reception hosted in Anderson Hall by Women@Fourth Connect will follow.

A midweek Advent service is held at 7:30 p.m. in Blair Chapel each Wednesday of Advent.

Holiday Cards designed by Tutoring students are available during Coffee Hour at the Chicago Lights table and, during the week, at the reception desk. They can also be ordered on the church website, www.fourthchurch.org. All proceeds benefit the Tutoring program. Fifteen years of Holiday Card designs are on display in the Gallery.

Memorialize or honor loved ones by contributing to the purchase of Christmas flowers and garlands for the sanctuary. A list of those remembered will be printed in the Christmas bulletin. Contributions can be made by completing the cards available in the literature racks and at www.fourthchurch.org.

The “Christmas Wishes” gift project, sponsored by Women@Fourth Connect and the Mission Committee, collects holiday gifts for more than 700 children in need. Wish lists are available during Coffee Hour or by calling 312.640.5495.

Donations for “Operation Christmas Gift Bag” can be dropped off at the Chicago Lights table during Coffee Hour today and, during the week, with the receptionist.

Christmas ornaments, depicting Fourth Church, and Tower Brass CDs are available at the Volunteers table during Coffee Hour.

Christmas Day dinner tickets are available during Coffee Hour and at the reception desk during the week. This dinner will be served in Anderson Hall at 12:30 p.m. on Christmas Day.

Daily Advent devotions written by Fourth Church members and staff are available by e-mail (send e-mail addresses to devotions@fourthchurch.org) and in printed booklets found in the church literature racks throughout the Advent season.

Tickets for "A Chanticleer Christmas," on Tuesday, December 6 and Wednesday, December 7 at 8:00 p.m. in the sanctuary, are available through the CSO box office only: 312.294.3000.

Blue Nativity will be presented by Quest Ensemble and its larger-than-life puppets on Friday, December 9 at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Chicago Chorale will perform a concert on Sunday, December 11 at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Tickets will be available at the door.

MISSION AND OUTREACH

A Fourth Church mission trip to Gautier, Mississippi, to help clean up after Hurricane Katrina will take place December 27 to January 2. For more information, call Erica Schemper at the church at 312.981.4034.

Applications for mission trips to China, Cuba, and Honduras are due in January. Information and application forms are available in the "Mission Trips 2006" booklet in the literature racks and on the church website.

FELLOWSHIP

The 30s and 40s, a gathering of individuals in that age range interested in faith, service, fellowship, and educational opportunities, meets today at 12:15 p.m. in the Manse.

The Gathering, the Young Adults weekly fellowship opportunity, meets today at 12:30 p.m. in the Randolph Room.

Fourth Forum, a gathering of Fourth Church gays, lesbians, and friends, will meet for brunch at a nearby restaurant next Sunday, December 11. For details and to RSVP, call the Fourth Forum Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 367.

Fourth Couples, a gathering of couples in their twenties to forties, will meet next Sunday, December 11 at 5:00 p.m. in the Manse for a potluck dinner. To RSVP, call the Fourth Couples Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 440.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY

Sunday School meets today at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in Westminster House.

Children's Corner, a time of storytelling, takes place today after 9:30 worship.

Confirmation Class (grade 8) meets today at 9:30 a.m. in the Crow's Nest. Class members are invited to then join the Junior Highs for fellowship.

Junior Highs (grades 6–8) meets for Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. in the Large Conference Room. The group then meets at 10:45 a.m. in the Crow's Nest.

Senior Highs (grades 9–12) meets today at 1:00 p.m. in the Crow's Nest.

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 • John M. Buchanan, Pastor
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ENRICHMENT

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

Wednesday Morning Bible Study takes place this Wednesday, December 7 at 9:30 a.m. in the Large Congerence Room. The discussion will be led by Paul Rutgers and all invited to attend.

Two new Academy for Faith and Life courses begin today: “The Madonna in Art” at 9:30 a.m. and “Fourth Church History” at 11:00 a.m., both in Anderson Hall N. Balcony. CDs of five previous courses are available during Coffee Hour. Gift wrapping will be provided.

“**Books by Women,**” a Women@Fourth Connect book group, will meet this Tuesday, December 6 at 6:00 p.m. in the Large Conference Room. The group will discuss *In Sunlight, in a Beautiful Garden* by Kathleen Cambor.

The Fourth Church Men’s Group will meet for breakfast on Saturday, December 10 at 8:00 a.m. in the Dining Room. Carl Grapentine of WFMT 98.7 will present a program of music and commentary appropriate to the season of Advent. RSVP by December 9 by calling the church office at 312.787.4570.

“**The Challenges of Forgiveness,**” a Midwinter Conference sponsored by the Counseling Center and led by John Boyle and Jeanne Bishop, will be held Saturday, January 28. Brochures with details are available in the literature racks and on the church website.

Spiritual direction appointments can be made with spiritual director Suzanne Dunbar. Call the Counseling Center at 312.787.8425 for details.

WORSHIP

Special prayer requests are included in intercessory prayer on Sunday mornings. Individuals can leave prayer requests written on paper in the box outside Stone Chapel or they can pray together with the Deacon who will be by the pulpit after 11:00 worship.

Morning prayer is held each weekday morning at 9:00 a.m. in Stone Chapel.

For a preview of next Sunday’s worship, subscribe to the weekly e-mail newsletter News@FourthChurch by sending e-mail addresses to news@fourthchurch.org.

MUSIC AND THE ARTS

Meet the artist Mary Fisher, whose exhibition “A Whisper of Hope: Confronting the Plague that Thunders” is on display in the Loggia through December 18, today from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS

Current Volunteer Needs

Tutors for children on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Fourth Church

Assistants for Kids’ Cafe on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday

Servers for a congregational Christmas Dinner at Fourth Church

Current Donation Needs

Canned vegetables

Men’s clothing, extra-large sizes

Palm Pilots (with pens and adapters) in working order for children in the Fourth Church Job Training program

New and used dictionaries

Brown paper bags with handles

For more information and a list of additional needs, stop by the Volunteer Table during Coffee Hour or call Larry Nicholson at the church at 312.981.3382.

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 4–10, 2005

Sunday, December 4		
7:50 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.	Nursery	Westminster 14
8:00 a.m.	Morning Worship John M. Buchanan preaching	Sanctuary
9:00 a.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall
9:00 a.m.	Youth Choir Rehearsal	Dining Room
9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	Fair Trade Gift Bazaar	Loggia
9:30 a.m.	Morning Worship John M. Buchanan preaching	Sanctuary
9:30 a.m.	Sunday School	Westminster House
9:30 a.m.	Confirmation Class	Crow's Nest
9:30 a.m.	John Knox Bible Study	Page Smith Room
9:30 a.m.	Academy for Faith and Life	Anderson N. Hall Balcony
9:30 a.m.	Junior Highs Sunday School	Large Conference Room
9:45 a.m.	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Dining Room
10:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall
10:30 a.m.	Children's Corner	Anderson Hall
10:30 a.m.	Cherub Choir Rehearsal	Dining Room
10:45 a.m.	Junior Highs	Crow's Nest
11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship John M. Buchanan preaching	Sanctuary
11:00 a.m.	Sunday School	Westminster House
11:00 a.m.	Academy for Faith and Life	Anderson Hall S. Balcony
12:00 p.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall
12:15 p.m.	Intercessory Prayer	Sanctuary, by the Pulpit
12:15 p.m.	Church Tour	Sanctuary
12:15 p.m.	The 30s and 40s	Manse
12:30 p.m.	The Gathering	Randolph Room
12:30 p.m.	Fourth Forum	(see announcement)
1:00 p.m.	Senior Highs	Crow's Nest
1:00 to 3:00 p.m.	Artist's Reception	Loggia
6:30 p.m.	Festival of Advent Lessons and Music	Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.	Cookies-and-Hot-Chocolate Reception	Anderson Hall
Monday, December 5		
9:00 a.m.	Daily Prayer (Monday–Friday)	Stone Chapel
6:30 p.m.	Inquirers' Class	Page Smith Room
Tuesday, December 6		
6:00 p.m.	"Books by Women"	Large Conference Room
8:00 p.m.	Chanticleer	Sanctuary
Wednesday, December 7		
9:30 a.m.	Benevolent Guild	Page Smith Room
9:30 a.m.	Morning Bible Study	Large Conference Room
12:10 p.m.	Noonday Bible Study	Large Conference Room
7:30 p.m.	Advent Worship	Blair Chapel
8:00 p.m.	Chanticleer	Sanctuary
Thursday, December 8		
6:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Friday, December 9		
10:00 a.m.	Older Adults Bible Study	Page Smith Room
12:10 p.m.	Noonday Concert: Kelly Coyle, clarinet	Sanctuary
Saturday, December 10		
8:00 a.m.	Men's Group Breakfast	Dining Room
9:00 a.m.	Inquirers' Class	Page Smith Room

Preaching on Sunday, December 11

John M. Buchanan 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Patrick Daymond 6:30 p.m.

Parking is available Sundays at the John Hancock Center, 875 North Michigan Avenue (access Chestnut Street), at the rate of \$7.00 until 2:00 p.m. and at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$7.75 to 4:00 p.m. and \$6.00 after 5:00 p.m. Weekday parking is available after 5:00 p.m. at 900 North Michigan at the rate of \$6.00. Validation tickets must be picked up during Coffee Hour or from the Chestnut Street reception desk.