



May 7-13, 2006

News and Opportunities

ENRICHMENT

The John Knox Bible Study is celebrating its eighty-fourth year today. It is the oldest continuous Bible study in the city of Chicago. Combining lecture and discussion, it meets each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the Page Smith Room.

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

Academy for Faith and Life courses meeting today are: “**Introduction to the Talmud**” and “**New Testament Survey**” at 9:30 a.m. and “**Political Power and the Religious Right**” and “**What Presbyterians Believe**” at 11:00 a.m. The class meeting Thursday at 7:00 p.m. will discuss *Gilead* and *Housekeeping* by Marilynne Robinson.

Women’s Health Week is May 14–20. Each weekday a different health topic will be discussed over lunch at 12:00 noon in the Dining Room. There is no charge for admission and no reservations are required. Box lunches will be available for purchase. On Saturday, May 20, “Embracing Health and Wellness in Body, Mind, and Spirit: Matters of the Heart,” a Healthy Heart brunch featuring several speakers, will be held from 8:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Registration is required to attend the brunch. Call 312.787.2729, ext. 388 to register.

Dan Wakefield will discuss his latest work, *The Hijacking of Jesus*, on Thursday, May 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the Randolph Room. On Saturday, May 13, at the Men’s Group breakfast at 8:00 a.m., Mr. Wakefield will offer reflections on the spiritual journey. At 10:00 a.m. he will present a spiritual autobiography workshop. RSVP for the Men’s Group breakfast and the workshop by calling 312.787.2729, ext. 444.

Walter Brueggemann will be Theologian in Residence at Fourth Church from May 28 through June 8. He will preach Sunday morning May 28 and June 4, speak at 7:30 p.m. forums on May 31 and June 8, and lead two Bible studies (May 30–June 1 at 7:30 a.m.; June 6–7 at 6:30 p.m.). To register for the Bible studies, contact Paula Davis at 312.274.3815 (pdavis@fourthchurch.org).

NEWS AND RESOURCES

Fourth Church welcomes fourth and fifth graders from Third Baptist Church today. They are meeting with the fourth and fifth grade Sunday School class, which was welcomed at Third Baptist Church earlier this year.

Those graduating from eighth grade or high school or receiving a degree in 2006 are asked to call Natasha Holbert at 312.274.3831 by Monday, May 15 so they can be recognized on Baccalaureate Sunday, May 21.

WORSHIP

The third annual candlelighting Vespers for mental illness recovery and understanding will be held today at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary in observance of Mental Illness Awareness Month.

Special prayer requests are included in intercessory prayer in Stone Chapel on Sundays. Individuals can leave their prayer requests written on paper in the box outside the chapel or they can pray together with the Deacon who is in Stone Chapel after 11:00 worship.

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

A prayer service in the style of Taizé is held the fourth Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in Blair Chapel. The next service is Friday, May 26.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY

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

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

Junior Highs (grades 6–8) meets for Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. in the Manse. The group then meets at 10:45 a.m. in the Activity Center.

Senior Highs (grades 9–12) meets at 12:15 p.m. in the Crow's Nest.

To have Senior High youth help with "Ugly Jobs" and other spring chores on Saturday, May 13, contact Natasha Holbert at the church at 312.274.3831. Proceeds will support the youth's summer work camp trip.

The Junior High Flower Fund-raiser to benefit their June trip to work with Illinois Special Olympics will take place next Sunday, May 14 during Coffee Hour.

MUSIC AND THE ARTS

The Apollo Chorus will be in concert today at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Guest conductor Eric Whitacre will be conducting three of his own works. Tickets will be available at the door.

Festival of the Artful Spirit, featuring work by members of the Center for Older Adults and part of the NARSAD Artworks, museum-quality artworks by and on behalf of mentally ill persons, is on display in the Loggia.

Fourth Acts, a group that explores, expresses, and enjoys God's presence through theater, will present *Richard Cory*, a drama by A. R. Gurney, on May 12 and 13 at 7:30 p.m. in Blair Chapel. On May 19 and 23 Fourth Acts will present a dramatic reading of *Unholy Ghost*, a book by authors writing about their experiences with depression, at 7:30 p.m. in Blair Chapel. There is no charge for admission to these events.

The Chicago Chamber Orchestra will perform a free concert Sunday, May 14 at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

The Spring Showcase, featuring the Children's Choirs and solo performances by choir members, will be held as part of Family Night on Friday, May 19 at 6:00 p.m. in Anderson Hall.

Coronation Mass by Mozart will be performed by the Fourth Church Festival Chorus and the Millennium Orchestra on May 21 at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

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
Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014; 312.787.4570
Phone extensions: 312.787.2729; Fax: 312.787.4584

MISSION AND OUTREACH

May 15 is the deadline for the Fourth Church mission trip to Guatemala (September 5–14). For more information about this and other Fourth Church mission trips, contact Vicki Reynolds, Director of Mission, at 312.981.3384.

Information about mental health awareness legislation is available at the Advocacy table during Coffee Hour and at www.fourthchurch.org.

The annual Women's Mission Tea will be held Saturday, May 13 at 2:00 p.m. in Anderson Hall. To make reservations, complete the form found in the literature racks.

The Near North Ministry Alliance Healthy Fun Fair will feature speakers, free health screenings, and entertainment in Seward Park on Saturday, May 13 from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. For information, call Catherine Knott at 312.640.5449.

The Chicago Avenue Community Garden will be open for gardening beginning Saturday, May 20 during the following hours each week:
Weekdays: 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
Saturdays: 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
For information about the community gardens, pick up a brochure from the literature racks, contact Anne Crow at the church at 312.573.3369, or visit www.fourthchurch.org/garden.html.

Orphans of Mathare, a film that documents the lives of former street children now living in an orphanage in the Mathare slum of Nairobi, Kenya, will be shown Sunday, May 21 at 4:00 p.m. in Anderson Hall.

VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS

Current Volunteer Needs
Servers for Tutoring banquets on May 8 and 9
RNs and hosts for blood pressure screenings
Tennis Camp coaches and helpers, Mondays and Wednesdays, June 19 to July 26, 5:15 to 6:30 p.m.

Current Donation Needs
Text books for Chicago Lights
Old cell phones, empty toner and ink cartridges to benefit a nonprofit agency serving homeless and formerly homeless women

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

SANCTUARY IMPROVEMENTS

Thank you to all who have provided feedback about the new sound system. The technicians are continuing to make adjustments based on those responses.

FELLOWSHIP

Fourth Forum, a gathering of Fourth Church gays, lesbians, and friends, will meet for brunch today at 12:30 p.m. at Tucci Benucch (900 N. Michigan).

Peter C. Hodgson, Professor Emeritus of Theology at Vanderbilt University Divinity School, will be speaking on "Christian Theology in an Age of Terror" at the Friday, May 12 meeting of Fourth Dimension. All are welcome at 6:00 p.m. in the Manse. RSVP by Thursday, May 11 by calling the Fourth Dimension Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 494.

CALENDAR FOR MAY 7-13, 2006

Sunday, May 7

7:50 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.	Nursery	Westminster 14
8:00 a.m.	Morning Worship Dana Ferguson preaching	Sanctuary
9:00 a.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall
9:00 a.m.	Youth Choir Rehearsal	Dining Room
9:30 a.m.	Morning Worship Dana Ferguson preaching	Sanctuary
9:30 a.m.	Sunday School	Westminster House
9:30 a.m.	John Knox Bible Study	Page Smith Room
9:30 a.m.	Academy for Faith and Life	Anderson Hall Balconies
9:30 a.m.	Confirmation Class	Crow's Nest
9:30 a.m.	Junior Highs Sunday School	Manse
9:45 a.m.	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Dining Room
10:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall
10:30 a.m.	Cherub Choir Rehearsal	Dining Room
10:30 a.m.	Children's Corner	Anderson Hall
10:45 a.m.	Junior Highs	Crow's Nest
11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship Dana Ferguson preaching	Sanctuary
11:00 a.m.	Sunday School	Westminster House
11:00 a.m.	Academy for Faith and Life	Anderson Hall Balconies
12:00 p.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall
12:15 p.m.	Intercessory Prayer	Blair Chapel
12:15 p.m.	Church Tour	Sanctuary
12:15 p.m.	Senior Highs	Crow's Nest
12:30 p.m.	Fourth Forum	(see announcement)
12:30 p.m.	The Gathering	Randolph Room
3:00 p.m.	Concert: The Apollo Chorus	Sanctuary
6:30 p.m.	Vespers Elizabeth Andrews preaching	Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.	Coffee Reception	Anderson Hall

Monday, May 8

9:00 a.m.	Daily Prayer (Monday-Friday)	Blair Chapel
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Wednesday, May 10

12:10 p.m.	Noonday Bible Study	Large Conference Room
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Thursday, May 11

6:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:00 p.m.	Academy for Faith and Life	Anderson Hall South Balcony
7:30 p.m.	<i>Hijacking of Jesus</i> Reading	Randolph Room

Friday, May 12

10:00 a.m.	Older Adults Bible Study	Page Smith Room
12:10 p.m.	Noonday Concert: Elisa Billey, soprano	Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.	Fourth Acts Present <i>Richard Cory</i>	Blair Chapel

Saturday, May 13

8:00 a.m.	Men's Group Breakfast with Dan Wakefield	Dining Room
10:00 a.m.	Spiritual Autobiography Workshop with Dan Wakefield	Manse
12:00 p.m.	Near North Ministry Alliance Healthy Fun Fair	(see announcement)
2:00 p.m.	Women's Mission Tea	Anderson Hall
7:30 p.m.	Fourth Acts Present <i>Richard Cory</i>	Blair Chapel

Preaching on Sunday, May 14

John M. Buchanan	8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.
Erica Schemper	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. Validation tickets must be picked up during Coffee Hour or from the Chestnut Street reception desk.