

December 16–22, 2007

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

News and Opportunities

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

The Christmas cantata *A Ceremony of Carols* by Benjamin Britten will be sung by the Morning Choir during 9:30 and 11:00 worship today.

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

The “Christmas Wishes” gift project, sponsored by Women@Fourth Connect and the Mission Committee, collects holiday gifts for more than 700 children in need. Gifts can be dropped off during Coffee Hour today. **A Christmas Wishes gift wrapping party** takes place today at 12:30 p.m. in the Manse. All are invited.

Christmas Day dinner tickets are available during Coffee Hour following 9:30 and 11:00 worship and at the reception desk during the week. This dinner will be served in Anderson Hall at 12:30 p.m. on Christmas Day.

There will be four candlelight services on Christmas Eve—4:00 (Children’s Pageant), 6:00 (Family Service), 8:30, and 11:00 p.m.—and an 11:00 a.m. service on Christmas Day.

WBBM-TV (CBS) will broadcast the 8:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service at 11:35 p.m. on December 24 and 9:00 a.m. on December 25.

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

“Light Up a Life” this holiday season! Gifts to this year-end giving campaign will make a difference in the lives of those touched by Fourth Church and Chicago Lights 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.

Chicago Lights Holiday Cards, designed by Tutoring students, are available for purchase during Coffee Hour. Cards are also available at www.fourthchurch.org. Proceeds benefit the Tutoring and Scholarship program of Chicago Lights. Holiday cards from previous years are on display in the Gallery until January 7.

FELLOWSHIP

The Gathering, a fellowship opportunity for individuals age twenty-five to thirty-five, meets today at 12:15 p.m. in the Randolph Room.

Cornerstones will meet on Friday, January 4 to discuss *90 Brothers and Sisters* by Lenore DePree. This book is available for purchase during Coffee Hour.

ENRICHMENT

Today's adult education opportunities, offered by the Academy for Faith and Life, are "**The Mysteries of the Eastern Orthodox Church**," taught by Bruce Rigdon (Anderson Hall S. Balcony) at 9:30 a.m. and "**The Birth of Christ as Told by Matthew and Luke**," taught by Tom Rook (Anderson Hall S. Balcony), at 11:00 a.m.

Bible Study opportunities:

John Knox, Sundays at 9:30 a.m.
Morning, Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.
Women's, Wednesday at 11:30 a.m.
Noonday, Wednesdays at 12:10 p.m.
Life and Learning, Fridays at 10:00 a.m.

Men's Bible study will meet next on Tuesday, December 18 at 7:00 a.m. at an office building in the Loop. Advance registration is required. For more information and to RSVP, call Christina Wollerman at the church at 312.573.3364.

"**Healthful Holidays**," an information session sponsored by the Center for Whole Health, will be held on Tuesday, December 18. The presentation begins at 12:00 noon; those who want to enjoy a time of lunch fellowship are invited to bring a brown-bag lunch to the Page Smith Room at 11:30 a.m.

A five-part French film series, offered by the Center for Life and Learning, will be offered on Wednesdays in January, beginning January 2, at 10:30 a.m. A time for discussion will follow the screening of each film. To register or for more details, call the Center at 312.981.3386.

VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS

Volunteer Needs

Servers for a congregational Christmas Dinner, 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 25

Tutors for the Chicago Lights Tutoring program, Thursdays from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Grocery shoppers for Sunday and Monday night suppers

Vespers bread cutter for third Sunday of the month

Ushers for Vespers on a rotating schedule

Current Donation Needs

Men's casual winter clothes, especially warm coats, jeans, and belts in larger sizes

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.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY

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

Fourth Church youth meet today from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. **Elevation** (grades 6 and 7) meets in the Manse basement, **Fourth Church Rising** (Confirmation) meets in the Page Smith Room, and **Senior Highs** (grades 9–12) meets in the Crow's Nest.

A mandatory rehearsal for children participating in this year's Christmas Eve pageant will be held next Sunday, December 23 in the sanctuary following 11:00 worship.

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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WORSHIP

A Vespers Communion service is held Sundays at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Morning Prayer is held each weekday at 9:30 a.m., except Tuesdays, when it is held at 9:00 a.m. All are invited to join staff for daily Morning Prayer, which takes place in Stone Chapel and offers opportunity to remember in prayer members of the Fourth Church congregation and those in need.

Special prayer requests are included in intercessory prayer in Stone Chapel on Sundays. Individuals can leave their prayer requests written on paper in the boxes located outside Stone Chapel, at the Volunteer table during Coffee Hour, at the reception desk, and in the Narthex. They also can pray together with the Deacon who is in Stone Chapel after 11:00 worship.

A prayer service in the style of Taizé is held the fourth Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in Anderson Hall. The next service is Friday, December 28.

Worship on New Year's Eve, with Chicago Sinai Congregation and Holy Name Cathedral, will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary on Monday, December 31. Alice M. Trowbridge will be preaching.

MUSIC AND THE ARTS

John W. W. Sherer, Fourth Church Organist and Director of Music, will perform Friday's free Noonday Concert at 12:10 p.m.

The "Christmas with Tower Brass" concert will be held on Saturday, December 22 at 5:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

STEWARDSHIP

Thank you to everyone who has made a commitment to the 2008 Stewardship Campaign. We have received \$3 million in commitments from 1,077 households. Our goal is to have 100 percent member participation and raise \$4 million in pledges. If you have not yet completed your pledge card, please place it in the offering plate this morning or mail it to the church. Pledge cards are available in the pew racks. For more information, call Lisa Radetski, Director of Giving Ministries, at 312.981.3380.

Year-End Gifts of Stock: Many people choose to make year-end gifts of stock to Fourth Church but have questions about how to do so. Information is available in the literature racks and on the website and from Lisa Radetski, Director of Giving Ministries, at 312.981.3380.

MISSION AND OUTREACH

This year's Mission Benefit, Carnival, will be Friday, February 1 at the Ritz-Carlton, Chicago. Invitations will be mailed at the end of December. To learn more about this annual event supporting the programs of Chicago Lights at Fourth Presbyterian Church, the Lorene Replogle Counseling Center, and other mission partners of Fourth Church, contact Katy Frey in the Chicago Lights office at 312.274.3816 (kfrey@fourthchurch.org).

Information about domestic violence, and a survey to fill out, is available at the Women@Fourth Connect table during Coffee Hour and also at www.fourthchurch.org. The confidential results of this survey will help guide and shape the response of the Fourth Church congregation and community to domestic violence.

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 16–22, 2007

Sunday, December 16

7:50 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.	Nursery		Westminister 14
8:00 a.m.	Morning Worship	John M. Buchanan preaching	Sanctuary
9:00 a.m.	Coffee Hour		Anderson Hall
9:30 a.m.	Morning Worship	John M. Buchanan preaching	Sanctuary
9:30 a.m.	Sunday School		Westminster House and Manse
9:30 a.m.	Youth Choir Rehearsal		Dining Room
9:30 a.m.	John Knox Bible Study		Page Smith Room
9:30 a.m.	Academy for Faith and Life		Anderson Hall S. Balcony
10:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour		Anderson Hall
10:30 a.m.	Elevation		Manse Basement
10:30 a.m.	Fourth Church Rising		Page Smith Room
10:30 a.m.	Senior Highs		Crow's Nest
10:30 a.m.	Cherub Choir Rehearsal		Dining Room
11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship	John M. Buchanan preaching	Sanctuary
11:00 a.m.	Sunday School		Westminster House and Manse
11:00 a.m.	Children's Choir Rehearsal		Dining Room
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		Stone Chapel
12:15 p.m.	Church Tour		Sanctuary
12:15 p.m.	Youth and Families Lunch		Dining Room
12:15 p.m.	The Gathering		Randolph Room
12:30 p.m.	Christmas Wishes Gift Wrapping Party		Manse
4:00 p.m.	Social Service Center Sunday Night Supper		Dining Room
5:30 p.m.	Vespers Choir Rehearsal		Sanctuary
6:30 p.m.	Vespers	Martha Langford preaching	Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.	Coffee Reception		Anderson Hall

Monday, December 17

9:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (also Wednesday–Friday)	Stone Chapel
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Tuesday, December 18

7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study	<i>(see announcement)</i>
9:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer	Stone Chapel
12:00 p.m.	"Healthful Holidays"	Page Smith Room

Wednesday, December 19

9:30 a.m.	Morning Bible Study	Large Conference Room
11:30 a.m.	Women's Bible Study	Page Smith Room
12:10 p.m.	Noonday Bible Study	Large Conference Room
7:30 p.m.	Advent Worship	Blair Chapel

Thursday, December 20

6:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
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Friday, December 21

10:00 a.m.	Center for Life and Learning Bible Study	Page Smith Room
12:10 p.m.	Noonday Concert: John W. W. Sherer, organ	Sanctuary

Saturday, December 22

5:00 p.m.	Concert: "Christmas with Tower Brass"	Sanctuary
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Preaching on Sunday, December 23

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