

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

December 23–29, 2007

News and Opportunities

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

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 locally the 8:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service at 11:35 p.m. on December 24 and 9:00 a.m. on December 25.

"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.

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

NEWS AND RESOURCES

Keeping membership records up to date is an ongoing process at Fourth Church. Please notify the church office of address, telephone number, name, and e-mail address changes by e-mailing databasechanges@fourthchurch.org.

To subscribe to weekly news updates by e-mail, including information about upcoming Sunday services, send e-mail addresses to news@fourthchurch.org.

WORSHIP

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

Morning Prayer will be held this week on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday at 9:30 a.m. All are invited to join staff for 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.

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 this Friday, December 28.

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.

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

VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS

Volunteer Needs

Sunday School office assistant

People with IT knowledge to operate equipment during Sunday morning Academy classes

Assistants for the Fourth Church library

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

Cribs, car seats, strollers, infants and children's clothes, coats, and books

For more information and a list of additional needs, call Larry Nicholson at the church at 312.981.3382.

ENRICHMENT

Three new Academy for Faith and Life classes will begin on Sunday, January 20: **"Introduction to the Old Testament,"** taught by Adam Fronczek; **"History of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict,"** taught by Adam Rose; and **"Spirituality and the Reformed Confessions,"** taught by Calum MacLeod.

The John Knox Bible Study Class, now in its eighty-fifth year, 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.

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.

The Community Book Group will meet on Tuesday, January 22 at 7:00 p.m. Donna Gray will lead the discussion on *A New Religious America: How a "Christian" Country Has Become the World's Most Religiously Diverse Nation* by Diana L. Eck. For those looking to read ahead, the book for the February 26 discussion, to be facilitated by Elizabeth Andrews, will be *The Maytrees: A Novel* by Annie Dillard.

"Pilgrimage," a retreat led by Elizabeth Andrews and Joyce Shin for women of Fourth Church, will be held January 25 and 26. For details, call Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369.

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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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 Senior Highs Reunion (Senior High graduates) takes place today in the Crow's Nest from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

A mandatory rehearsal for children participating in this year's Christmas Eve pageant takes place today in the sanctuary following 11:00 worship.

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, but reservations can be made online at www.fourthchurch.org/chicagolights.html. 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, call Katy Frey in the Chicago Lights office at 312.274.3816.

Information about domestic violence, and a survey to fill out, is available 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.

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.

"Books by Women" will discuss *Eat, Pray, Love* by Elizabeth Gilbert on Tuesday, January 8 at 6:00 p.m. in the Large Conference Room.

MUSIC AND THE ARTS

Guitarist Kevin Manderville will perform Friday's free Noonday Concert at 12:10 p.m. in the sanctuary.

STEWARDSHIP

Thank you to everyone who has made a commitment to the 2008 Stewardship Campaign. We have received \$3.07 million in commitments from 1,105 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.

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 23–29, 2007

Sunday, December 23

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.	Youth Choir Rehearsal		Dining Room
9:30 a.m.	John Knox Bible Study		Page Smith Room
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.	Children's Choir Rehearsal		Dining Room
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.	Children's Christmas Eve Pageant Rehearsal		Sanctuary
12:15 p.m.	The Gathering		Randolph Room
12:30 p.m.	Senior Highs Reunion		Crow's Nest
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	Calum I. MacLeod preaching	Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.	Coffee Reception		Anderson Hall

Monday, December 24 *Christmas Eve*

9:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (also Wednesday–Friday)		Stone Chapel
3:30 to 7:15 p.m.	Nursery		Westminister 14
4:00 p.m.	Children's Pageant		Sanctuary
6:00 p.m.	Family Service	Calum I. MacLeod preaching	Sanctuary
8:30 p.m.	Service of Lessons and Carols	John M. Buchanan preaching	Sanctuary
11:00 p.m.	Service of Lessons and Carols	John M. Buchanan preaching	Sanctuary

Tuesday, December 25 *Christmas Day*

11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship	John W. Vest preaching	Sanctuary
12:30 p.m.	Christmas Day Dinner		Anderson Hall

Thursday, December 27

6:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal		Sanctuary
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Friday, December 28

12:10 p.m.	Noonday Concert: Kevin Manderville, guitar		Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.	Taizé		Anderson Hall

Preaching on Sunday, December 30

Adam Fronczek	8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.
John H. Boyle	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.