

# News and Opportunities

## **VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS**

### **Current Volunteer Needs**

**Candle sleeves** on December 22 or 23 to prepare for Christmas Eve services

**Servers** for Christmas Day congregational dinner; 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Temporary data entry volunteer** to assist Tutoring program; Monday–Thursday, 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m.

### **Current Donation Needs**

**Filled Christmas gift bags** for Sunday Night Supper guests; instructions and a bag to fill are available during Coffee Hour and at the reception desk

*For details and a list of additional needs, contact Larry Nicholson at 312.981.3382.*

## **MUSIC AND THE ARTS**

**Fourth Acts will perform *A Child's Christmas in Wales*** today at 12:30 p.m. in the Activity Center. All are welcome.

**A photographic print featuring the 2004 sanctuary installation of stars and doves** is available in Coffee Hour.

**The annual Festival of Advent Lessons and Music** takes place today at 4:00 p.m. in the sanctuary (note this year's new time). Following the service, all are invited to Anderson Hall for a cookies-and-cocoa reception hosted by Women@Fourth Connect.

The annual **Christmas Cantata** will be part of 9:30 and 11:00 worship next Sunday, December 20, with the Morning Choir singing Arnold Schönberg's *Freide auf Erden*.

## **NEWS AND RESOURCES**

**Thank you to those who have already fulfilled their 2009 pledge.** There is still \$824,000 in outstanding pledges from 820 households that is needed before year-end, so the Resource Development Committee asks those who have not fulfilled their 2009 pledge to please do so in the next three weeks.

**A survey about the ways in which people with disabilities are included** in the life of this congregation is available online at [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org) and, in paper form, during Coffee Hour. Please take the time to respond to the survey today or in the week ahead.

**The Project Second Century Steering Committee** recently reported to the Session and Trustees that basic concepts have been outlined for a new four-story building and that proposals from architects are currently being reviewed, with the intent of bringing final designs and plans to the congregation in June 2010. For more information, visit [www.fourthchurch.org/P2C.html](http://www.fourthchurch.org/P2C.html) or contact Rob Holben at 312.274.3821 ([rholben@fourthchurch.org](mailto:rholben@fourthchurch.org)).

**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, at [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org), and by contacting Kathryn Johnson at 312.640.2576. Information is also available about tax advantages that are possible for **those 70-½ and older who make charitable gifts from IRAs.**

**Including Fourth Church in your estate plans** will help ensure that the mission and ministry of Fourth Church and Chicago Lights will continue for generations to come. For details about how to include the church in estate plans, contact Kathryn Johnson at 312.640.2576.

## ENRICHMENT

### **Weekly Bible Study opportunities:**

*Women*, Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

*John Knox*, Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

*Noonday*, Wednesdays at 12:10 p.m.

*Life and Learning*, Fridays at 10:30 a.m.

**The Advent book study of *Advent and Christmas Wisdom*** by G.K. Chesterton meets today at 12:30 p.m. in the Manse.

**Men's Bible Study meets this Tuesday** at 7:30 a.m. in the Loop. For details, contact Anita Bright at 312.573.3364.

**A Nia "Splash Out" session** will be held this Saturday, December 19 at 10:00 a.m. in Anderson Hall; that morning, new or gently used socks and running shoes will be collected for women from Deborah's Place and Sanctuary Place. A 12-week Nia series will begin Wednesday, January 6. For details or to register, call the Nia Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 371 or visit [www.niachicago.com](http://www.niachicago.com).

*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).

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago • John M. Buchanan, Pastor  
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**Books by Women** will meet Tuesday, January 5 at 6:00 p.m. in the Manse to discuss *Olive Kittenridge* by Elizabeth Strout. All are welcome.

**An eight-session T'ai Chi course for beginners** will start Thursday, January 7 at 5:00 p.m. For more information or to register, call the T'ai Chi Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 388.

**"Seasons of Friendship"** is the theme of the Fourth Church women's retreat, which will be held the weekend of January 22–23. For details, contact Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369.

**The Community Book Group** will meet Tuesday, January 26 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss *Abraham: A Journey to the Heart of Three Faiths* by Bruce Feiler. Joyce Shin will lead the conversation.

## CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY

**Sunday School** classes meet 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 6–7) in the Manse basement, Fourth Church Rising (grade 8) in the Page Smith Room, and Senior Highs (grades 9–12) in the Crow's Nest.

**The annual La Posada Family Night** will be held Friday, December 18 at the church. Families will reenact Mary and Joseph's search for lodging by traveling around the building; families with younger children are invited to arrive at 5:30 p.m.; families with older children may arrive at 6:15 p.m. For more details, contact Melissa Scanlan at 312.640.2578 ([mscanlan@fourthchurch.org](mailto:mscanlan@fourthchurch.org)).

## MISSION AND OUTREACH

**Mission trip applications for the March 12–20 trip to Cuba** are due this Tuesday, December 15. Those interested in the June 18–July 1 trip to Tanzania and Kenya are encouraged to turn in applications well before the February 1 deadline as spots for this trip are limited. Details about these trips as well as the application form are available in the literature racks and online at [www.fourthchurch.org/missiontrips.html](http://www.fourthchurch.org/missiontrips.html).

## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

**“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.

**“Operation Christmas Gift Bag,”** which provides filled gift bags for the Sunday Night Supper guests, is in need of more gift bag donations. Instructions and a bag, to decorate and fill, are available during Coffee Hour or at the reception desk. Bags will be collected through Wednesday, December 16.

**A gift-wrapping party** to wrap Christmas Wishes gifts will be held today between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. in the Anderson Hall balconies. (This is the last day to turn in Christmas Wishes.)

**Chicago Lights Holiday Cards**, designed by Tutoring students, are available online at [www.chicagolights.org](http://www.chicagolights.org), during Coffee Hour, and at the reception desk; all proceeds benefit the Tutoring program.

**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 in printed booklets that can be found in the church literature racks, by email (send email addresses to [devotions@fourthchurch.org](mailto:devotions@fourthchurch.org)), and at [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org).

## WORSHIP

**Special prayer requests** are included in intercessory prayer in Stone Chapel on Sundays. Individuals can pray there with a Deacon at 10:30 a.m. or 12:15 p.m. or place their prayer requests, written on paper, in one of the prayer boxes.

**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 Blair Chapel and offers opportunity to pray for those in need.

**A midweek Advent service** is held at 6:30 p.m. in Blair Chapel each Wednesday of Advent.

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

**A New Year’s Eve service in the style of Taizé** will be held on Thursday, December 31 at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

## FELLOWSHIP

**The Gathering**, a fellowship opportunity for young adults, meets today at 12:15 p.m. in the Activity Center to attend Fourth Acts’ performance of *A Child’s Christmas in Wales*. The Young Adults will also gather for a Christmas party on Tuesday, December 15 at 6:00 p.m. in the Manse. For details, contact Liz Nickerson, Director of Young Adult Ministry, at [enickerson@fourthchurch.org](mailto:enickerson@fourthchurch.org).

## CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 13–19, 2009

### Sunday, December 13

7:50 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.	Nursery	Westminster 14
<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b> <b>Jocelyn C. Cadwallader preaching</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
8:00 a.m.	Hand Bell Choir	Dining Room
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Christmas Wishes Wrapping Party	Anderson Hall Balconies
9:00 a.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall
9:00 a.m.	Women's Bible Study	Large Conference Room
<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.	Sunday School	Westminster House
9:30 a.m.	Junior High Choir	Dining Room
10:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall
10:30 a.m.	Intercessory Prayer	Stone Chapel
10:30 a.m.	Elevation, Fourth Church Rising, Senior Highs	(see announcement)
10:30 a.m.	Cherub Choir	Dining Room
<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b> <b>John M. Buchanan preaching</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
11:00 a.m.	Sunday School	Westminster House
11:00 a.m.	Children's Choir	Dining Room
12:00 p.m.	Senior High Choir	Blair Chapel
12:00 p.m.	New Member Brunch	Dining Room
12:15 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.	The Gathering	Activity Center
12:30 p.m.	<i>A Child's Christmas in Wales</i>	Activity Center
12:30 p.m.	Advent Book Study	Manse
<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Festival of Advent Lessons and Music</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
4:00 p.m.	Nursery	Westminster 14
5:00 p.m.	Cookies-and-Cocoa Reception	Anderson Hall
5:00 p.m.	Sunday Night Supper	Dining Room

### Monday, December 14

9:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (also Wednesday–Friday)	Blair Chapel
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### Tuesday, December 15

7:30 a.m.	Men's Bible Study	(see announcement)
9:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer	Blair Chapel
6:00 p.m.	Young Adults Christmas Party	Manse

### Wednesday, December 16

12:10 p.m.	Noonday Bible Study	Large Conference Room
5:30 p.m.	<i>Christian Century</i> Groups	Page Smith Room
<b>6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Advent Midweek Worship</b>	<b>Blair Chapel</b>

### Friday, December 18

10:30 a.m.	CLL Bible Study	Page Smith Room
12:10 p.m.	Noonday Concert: John W. W. Sherer	Sanctuary
5:30 p.m.	La Posada Family Night	Anderson Hall

### Saturday, December 19

10:00 a.m.	Nia Splash Out	Anderson Hall
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### *Preaching on Sunday, December 20*

Calum I. MacLeod preaching	8:00 a.m.
John M. Buchanan preaching	9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Adam Fronczek preaching	4:00 p.m.

Parking is available on Sundays at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$7.75. Validation tickets for the 900 garage must be picked up during morning Coffee Hour or from the Chestnut Street reception desk. Discounted parking at the John Hancock Center, 875 North Michigan Avenue, is available at the rate of \$7.00 on Sunday mornings only for three hours. Hancock tickets must be validated in the Narthex.