

December 20–26, 2009

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

# News and Opportunities

## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

**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. On Christmas Eve, nursery care is available between 3:30 and 7:15 p.m. only.

**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.

**Feelings of grief, loss, loneliness, sadness, and anxiety** can become more pronounced during the holidays. The Counseling Center is available to offer support (call 312.787.8425), and the “Blue Christmas” Service on Wednesday, December 23 provides a Christmas worship opportunity for those who may find it difficult to share in the traditional celebrations on December 24 and 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. “Light Up a Life” gifts can be made using the offering envelopes found in the pew racks. For details, pick up a brochure found in the pew racks or visit [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org).

**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).

## CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY

**A mandatory rehearsal for the Children’s Christmas Eve Pageant** will be held today at 12:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

**Sunday School** classes meet today at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in Westminster House. There will be no Sunday school on Sundays December 27 and January 3.

**Fourth Church youth** meet today from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Elevation (grades 6–7) meets in the Manse basement and Fourth Church Rising (grade 8) and Senior Highs (grades 9–12) meet in the Crow’s Nest. There will be no Fourth Church youth meetings on Sundays December 27 and January 3.

**Sheep ornaments, made by Sunday School children**, will be available for fifty cents today during Coffee Hour; proceeds will be used to purchase sheep, through Heifer Project International, for a family in need, providing them with vital income. To learn more about Heifer International, visit [www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org).

## MUSIC AND THE ARTS

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

**Friday Noonday concerts** will not be held on December 25 and January 1. This free concert series will resume on Friday, January 8 with flutist Mark Alan Longo performing at 12:10 p.m. in the sanctuary.

## ENRICHMENT

**Women's Bible Study** meets today at 9:00 a.m. in the Large Conference Room and the John Knox Bible Study meets at 9:30 a.m. in the Page Smith Room.

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

A **twelve-week Nia series** will begin Wednesday, January 6. Classes, which fuse martial arts, dance, and yoga, are held Wednesday and Friday mornings at 10:00 a.m. at Fourth Church. Registration is required. For details or to register, call the Nia Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 371 or visit [www.niachicago.com](http://www.niachicago.com).

**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. This low-impact exercise class utilizes slow, flowing movements and promotes proper breathing, balance, and relaxation. For more information or to register, call the T'ai Chi Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 388.

*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).

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**The Family-to-Family Education Program** is a twelve-week course for families and friends of adults living with mental illnesses. The first session is Monday, January 25 at 6:00 p.m. in the Page Smith Room. Registration for this free course is required; call the Family-to-Family Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 375.

**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.

## 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 two weeks.

**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 70-1/2 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 ([kjohnson@fourthchurch.org](mailto:kjohnson@fourthchurch.org)).

**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 ([rhoblen@fourthchurch.org](mailto:rhoblen@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** will be held Monday–Thursday at 9:30 a.m., and at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday. All are invited to join staff for daily Morning Prayer, which takes place in Stone Chapel and offers opportunity to pray for those in need.

**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.

**An Epiphany labyrinth walk** will be available on Saturday, January 9 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in Anderson Hall. (This meditative walk takes approximately twenty minutes to complete.)

## FELLOWSHIP

**The Gathering**, a fellowship opportunity for young adults, meets today at 12:15 p.m. in the Randolph Room.

**"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.

## MISSION AND OUTREACH

**Chicago Lights ornaments**, designed by students from the Tutoring program, are available during Coffee Hour today, along with student-designed holiday cards. The holiday cards are also available at the reception desk and online by visiting [www.chicagolights.org](http://www.chicagolights.org). All proceeds benefit the Tutoring program.

**Those interested in the mission trip to Tanzania and Kenya (June 18–July 1)** are encouraged to turn in applications well before the February 1 deadline as spots for this trip are limited. Details about this trip and other Fourth Church mission trips are available in the literature racks and online at [www.fourthchurch.org/missiontrips.html](http://www.fourthchurch.org/missiontrips.html).

## 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.
- Chamber Choir singers and instrumentalists** to assist in leading 4:00 p.m. worship
- Sunday School teachers** for 11:00 a.m. classes; alternating Sundays
- Reading and math tutors** for elementary children at two Cabrini-Green schools

### *Current Donation Needs*

- Greeting cards and stamps** for guests of Sunday and Monday Night Suppers, which serve those who are hungry or homeless
- Men's seasonal sturdy clothes** in larger sizes, especially pants, belts, and shoes

*For details and a list of additional needs, contact Larry Nicholson at 312.981.3382 ([lnicholson@fourthchurch.org](mailto:lnicholson@fourthchurch.org)).*

## CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 20–26, 2009

### Sunday, December 20

7:50 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.	Nursery		Westminster 14
<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Morning Worship</b>	<b>Calum I. MacLeod preaching</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
8:00 a.m.	Hand Bell Choir		Dining Room
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
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		<i>(see announcement)</i>
<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
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		Randolph Room
12:30 p.m.	Christmas Pageant Rehearsal		Sanctuary
12:30 p.m.	Advent Book Study		Manse
<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Afternoon Worship</b>	<b>Adam Fronczek preaching</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
5:00 p.m.	Sunday Night Supper		Anderson Hall

### Monday, December 21

9:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer		Stone Chapel
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### Tuesday, December 22

9:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer		Stone Chapel
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### Wednesday, December 23

9:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer		Stone Chapel
12:10 p.m.	Noonday Bible Study		Large Conference Room
<b>6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>"Blue Christmas" Worship Service</b>		<b>Blair Chapel</b>

### Thursday, December 24

	<i>Christmas Eve</i>		
9:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer		Stone Chapel
3:30 to 7:15 p.m.	Nursery		Westminster 14
<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Children's Pageant</b>		<b>Sanctuary</b>
<b>6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Family Service</b>	<b>Linda C. Loving preaching</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
<b>8:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Service of Lessons and Carols</b>	<b>John M. Buchanan preaching</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
<b>11:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Service of Lessons and Carols</b>	<b>John M. Buchanan preaching</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>

### Friday, December 25

	<i>Christmas Day</i>		
<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Christmas Worship</b>	<b>Adam Fronczek preaching</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
12:30 p.m.	Christmas Dinner		Anderson Hall

### *Preaching on Sunday, December 27*

Joann H. Lee preaching	8:00 a.m.
Joyce Shin preaching	9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Linda C. Loving 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.