

December 13–19, 2015

**FOURTH  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**  
*A Light in the City*

# News and Opportunities

## MISSION AND OUTREACH

A “Christmas Wishes” gift-wrapping party will be held today from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room.

Due December 20 are applications for the mission trip to Cuba. Details are posted online at [www.fourthchurch.org/mission/trips.html](http://www.fourthchurch.org/mission/trips.html)

The Book Nook is selling copies of *The Presbyterian Hymnal* at Coffee Hour this holiday season.

The Chicago Lights Gala of Hope will be Friday, March 4, 2016, at the Radisson Blu Aqua Hotel.

## CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY

A “Parenting in Faith” opportunity for parents to connect as a community through conversation and fellowship will be held today at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5E.

Sunday School classes meet today at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center.

No Sunday School or youth gatherings will be held on Sundays, December 27 or January 3.

## ADVENT

La Posada Family Night will be held this Friday, December 18 at 5:30 p.m. in Anderson Hall.

Expectations for the holidays can be different from the realities. Feelings of grief over losses can be heightened. Such experiences need not be dealt with alone. Fourth Church’s Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being offers various resources and a supportive environment for reflecting on, exploring, and coping with such experiences. To learn how the Counseling Center can help, call the Center at 312.787.8425.

### It’s easy to fulfill your 2015 pledge online:

Just go to [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org) (or scan this QR code) and click on “To Make a Gift.” There you will find an option to make a gift toward your Annual Appeal pledge for 2015.

On the same page you can also make Light Up a Life gifts in honor of friends, family, and colleagues, gifts that offer important year-end support to programs that serve others.



**“Holiday Pops”**—a concert with Chicago Chamber Orchestra and cabaret duo Beckie Menzie and Tom Michael—will take place today at 2:00 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

**Today the Festival of Advent Lessons and Music** will take place at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. A cookies-and-cocoa reception will follow in Anderson Hall.

**A Lakeside Singers holiday concert** will be held this Friday, December 18 at 8:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Tickets are available at [www.lakesidesingers.com](http://www.lakesidesingers.com)

**A “Christmas with Tower Brass”** concert will be held this Saturday, December 19 at 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. A \$20 suggested donation will be received at the door.

**A Christmas Cantata**, featuring John Rutter’s *Gloria*, will be sung by the Morning Choir next Sunday, December 20 during 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship.

**The “Longest Night” service**, which will be held Tuesday, December 22 at 6:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel, recognizes the feelings of loneliness, grief, and alienation that are often present during the holiday season.

**Four candlelight services** will be held on Christmas Eve: 4:00 p.m. (Children’s Pageant); 6:00 p.m. (Family Service); and 8:30 and 11:00 p.m. (Service of Lessons and Carols). The Christmas Day service will be at 11:00 a.m.

**The annual Christmas Dinner** will take place on Friday, December 25 at 12:15 p.m. in Anderson Hall. Tickets are available at the reception desk.

**The “Christmas Wishes”** gift project collects gifts for Chicago Lights Tutoring students who might not otherwise receive them. Volunteers are needed. To help, call Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369.

**A Christmas jazz service** will be held on Sunday, December 27 at 4:00 p.m.

## FELLOWSHIP

**Young Adults** will gather for discussion and fellowship today at 12:30 p.m. in Room 5A.

**ThirtiesForties** will meet today at 11:00 a.m. in Room 5D to discuss the topic of “Wisdom.”

**Presbyterian Women** will gather for a “Good News Fellowship” hour on Thursday, December 17 at 5:30 p.m. in the Bumpus Room.

## NEWS AND RESOURCES

**Follow FourthChurch on Twitter:**  
[@FourthChicago](https://twitter.com/FourthChicago)

**Visit the Fourth Church page on Facebook** ([facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://facebook.com/fourthchurch)) for sermon quotes, photos, and programming information. If you have a Facebook account, be sure to “like” our page to keep up-to-date on Fourth Church news.

## MUSIC AND THE ARTS

**The Bach Beethoven Ensemble** will perform this Friday’s free Noonday concert at 12:10 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

*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  
Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014; 312.787.4570  
Fax: 312.787.4584; [www.facebook.com/fourthchurch](http://www.facebook.com/fourthchurch)

## ENRICHMENT

**Weekly Seeds at Fourth**, a weekly women's Bible study that follows a lectionary-based curriculum, will meet today at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5F.

**Two Academy for Faith and Life** classes continue today: "Becoming a Vital Member of a Church Body" at 11:00 a.m. in Room 5E and "Handel's *Messiah*" at 12:15 p.m. in Room 4G.

**Men's Bible Study** will meet this Tuesday, December 15 at 7:30 a.m. in the Loop. For details or to RSVP, contact Anne Ellis at [aellis@fourthchurch.org](mailto:aellis@fourthchurch.org)

**Life without Parole** will be the topic of discussion facilitated by Claudia Boatright as part of the mass incarceration book series this Tuesday, December 15 at 5:30 p.m. in Room 4F.

**A screening and discussion of the film *Death Makes Life Possible*** will be hosted by the Replogle Center this Thursday, December 17 at 6:30 p.m. Register online at [bit.ly/dmlp2015](http://bit.ly/dmlp2015)

**"Fifteen Days of Free Liberal Arts Education"** describes the January Series of lectures offered by Calvin College and shown via live Internet video feed at Fourth Church on weekdays January 6–26. Lecturers include Eboo Patel, Ron Suskind, David Brooks, and Mitri Raheb. Visit [www.calvin.edu/january](http://www.calvin.edu/january) to learn more.

**A Michigan Avenue Forum** on mass incarceration will be presented by Iva Carruthers, professor emeritus and former chairperson of the sociology department at Northeastern Illinois University, on Monday, January 18 at 7:00 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

**"Claiming Our Faith Stories,"** a retreat for women, will be held on Saturday, January 31 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Led by Layton Williams, Vicky Curtiss, and members of Fourth Church, the morning will include a variety of workshops. Contact Anne Ellis ([aellis@fourthchurch.org](mailto:aellis@fourthchurch.org); 312.573.3369) for details and to register.

## WORSHIP

**Opportunity to walk the labyrinth** in Buchanan Chapel is available this week on Monday and Wednesday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Tuesday from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., and Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**A service in the style of Taizé** will next be held on New Year's Eve, Thursday, December 31 at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. It will be preceded by opportunity to walk the labyrinth in Anderson Hall from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

## VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS

### **Current Volunteer Needs**

**Candle sleeves** on December 22 and 23  
**Tutors** for the Chicago Lights Tutoring program; one evening per week, 6:00–7:30 p.m.

**Ushers** for the 11:00 a.m. worship service

**Nursery caregivers** on Sundays during 9:30 or 11:00 a.m. worship services

**Members to assist a child** with special needs during 9:30 a.m. Sunday School

### **Current Donation Needs**

**Men's and women's winter clothing**

**Clean blankets**

**Magazines**

*For more opportunities or to volunteer, contact Larry Nicholson at 312.981.3382 or visit [www.fourthchurch.org/volunteer](http://www.fourthchurch.org/volunteer)*

**CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 13–19, 2015**

**Sunday, December 13**

8:00 a.m.	<b>Worship</b>	<b>Victoria G. Curtiss preaching</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
9:00 and 10:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour		Anderson Hall
9:30 and 11:00 a.m.	Sunday School		Gratz Center, Fourth Floor
9:30 a.m.	<i>Weekly Seeds</i> Bible Study		Room 5F
9:30 a.m.	“Parenting in Faith”		Room 5E
9:30 a.m.	<b>Worship</b>	<b>Shannon J. Kershner preaching</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
10:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.	Intercessory Prayer		Stone Chapel
11:00 a.m.	<b>Worship</b>	<b>Shannon J. Kershner preaching</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
11:00 a.m.	“Becoming a Vital Member”		Room 5E
11:00 a.m.	ThirtiesForties		Room 5D
12:00 p.m.	Coffee Hour		Anderson Hall
12:00 p.m.	New Member Brunch		Randolph Room
12:30 to 3:30 p.m.	Christmas Wishes Wrapping Party		Borwell Dining Room
12:15 p.m.	“Handel’s <i>Messiah</i> ” Class		Room 4G
12:30 p.m.	Young Adults		Room 5A
2:00 p.m.	Holiday Pops!		Buchanan Chapel
4:00 p.m.	<b>Jazz Worship</b>	<b>Layton Williams preaching</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b>
6:30 p.m.	<b>Festival of Advent Lessons and Music</b>		<b>Sanctuary</b>
7:30 p.m.	Cookies-and-Cocoa Reception		Anderson Hall

**Monday, December 14**

7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Labyrinth Walk ( <i>also Tuesday</i> )	Buchanan Chapel
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Day School ( <i>also Tuesday–Friday</i> )	Gratz Center, First Floor
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.	Tutoring ( <i>also Tuesday–Thursday</i> )	Gratz Center, Fifth Floor

**Tuesday, December 15**

7:30 a.m.	Men’s Bible Study	( <i>see announcement</i> )
5:30 p.m.	Mass Incarceration Book Group	Room 4F

**Wednesday, December 16**

7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Labyrinth Walk	Buchanan Chapel
9:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer	Buchanan Chapel

**Thursday, December 17**

5:30 p.m.	Presbyterian Women	Bumpus Room
6:30 p.m.	Film Screening and Discussion	Boyle Conference Room

**Friday, December 18**

12:10 p.m.	Noonday Concert	Buchanan Chapel
5:30 p.m.	La Posada Family Night	Anderson Hall
8:00 p.m.	Lakeside Singers Concert	Sanctuary

**Saturday, December 19**

7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Labyrinth Walk	Buchanan Chapel
5:00 p.m.	Christmas with Tower Brass	Sanctuary

**Worship on Sunday, December 20**

8:00 a.m.	Shannon J. Kershner preaching
9:30 and 11:00 a.m.	Shannon J. Kershner preaching
4:00 p.m.	Layton Williams preaching