



Throughout Advent we are receiving a **“Light Up a Life” offering**, which helps shine God’s light of love on those who need it most this season, including **those in need of the warmth, clothing, and nourishment** provided by our Chicago Lights Social Service Center and Fourth Church Meals Ministry programs. Gifts can be made to this offering by noting “Light Up a Life” either in the comments section when giving online via **Venmo** or the Fourth Church website (**www.fourthchurch.org/give-online**) or on the memo line of a **check** payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church. ✨ Although we will not have our annual Cookies-and-Cocoa reception this year, Women at Fourth is **inviting individuals to bake cookies, brownies, and other sturdy sweets** to share with our Sunday Night Supper guests on December 20. For details, email Anne Ellis ([aellis@fourthchurch.org](mailto:aellis@fourthchurch.org)).

**The Longest Night Service, for those experiencing grief and loss this season**, will be held via Zoom this Tuesday, December 15 at 7:00 p.m. For Zoom details, register at [www.bit.ly/longestnight20](http://www.bit.ly/longestnight20) or email Carol Allerton ([callerton@fourthchurch.org](mailto:callerton@fourthchurch.org)). ✨ **On Thursday, December 24**, we will have two online services: the **Children’s Pageant** at 4:00 p.m. and the **Christmas Eve service** at 8:00 p.m. (*with a choral prelude beginning at 7:30 p.m.*). The services will be available on **our website**, [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org), at **www.bit.ly/FPCworship** as well as via **Facebook Live** ([www.facebook.com/fourthchurch](http://www.facebook.com/fourthchurch)) and **YouTube** ([www.bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)), where they can also be viewed afterwards. Those without Internet access are invited to join the services by **listening to them via phone by calling 888.916.9166 (toll-free)** at the time of the service. ✨ Our online **Christmas Day service** will be available via the same platforms, including by phone, at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, December 25. ✨ Likewise our online **New Year’s Eve Taizé service** will be available at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 31.

This year’s **Christmas with Tower Brass concert** will be online on Saturday, December 19 at 5:00 p.m. at [www.bit.ly/fpcprograms](http://www.bit.ly/fpcprograms) ✨ **Our organist, John Sherer**, will be playing this **Friday’s weekly Noonday Concert**, which will be streamed at 12:10 p.m. at [www.bit.ly/fpcprograms](http://www.bit.ly/fpcprograms), where the weekly performances can also be viewed in the following days.

**Advent devotions** written by Fourth Church members and staff are available as a **resource for personal meditation and prayer**. You can receive them in your inbox daily (sign up online at [www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions](http://www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions)) or read them online ([www.fourthchurch.org/devotions](http://www.fourthchurch.org/devotions)), via Facebook ([www.facebook.com/fourthchurch](http://www.facebook.com/fourthchurch)), or Twitter ([www.twitter.com/fourthchicago](http://www.twitter.com/fourthchicago)).

**Ensure you receive the latest updates** from Fourth Church by adding your email address to our distribution list. Simply sign up at [www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc](http://www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc)

On Thursday, December 17 at 6:00 p.m. **Women at Fourth** will hold a “**Christmas Joy**” Zoom fellowship time for women. For details about any of these three opportunities, email Anne Ellis ([aellis@fourthchurch.org](mailto:aellis@fourthchurch.org)). \* If you would like to connect with others for a time of fellowship following worship today, please join us following the postlude for **virtual Coffee Hour via Zoom at [www.bit.ly/fpcfellowship](http://www.bit.ly/fpcfellowship)** (Zoom details are posted at [www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org)). You can also take part in Coffee Hour **by phone**: dial 312.626.6799 and enter meeting ID number 963 5583 1751#. \* Another opportunity to connect with others is in our **small groups**, which meet via Zoom once a week for four to six weeks. To express interest in joining one of the groups forming in 2021, email Anne Ellis ([aellis@fourthchurch.org](mailto:aellis@fourthchurch.org)). \*

“**God in the Cubicle**,” a two-week online class taught by Lois Snavely, begins today at 9:30 a.m. It looks at what it means to be called by God to a world of “secular” service and how we can bring the sacred into the secular without isolating ourselves. For Zoom details, register at [www.bit.ly/aflcubicle](http://www.bit.ly/aflcubicle) \* The last 2020 session of our online “**Foundations of Faith: An Hour a Week with the Bible**” class meets today at 12:30 p.m. with Joe Morrow guiding us on “Scriptural Journeys: The Enduring Power of Migrations in the Bible.” For Zoom details, register at [www.bit.ly/fpcf20](http://www.bit.ly/fpcf20) \* Also meeting via Zoom are **Men’s Bible Study** on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. and the **Horizons Bible Study for women** on Wednesday, December 23 at 12:00 p.m. For Bible study details, email Anne Ellis ([aellis@fourthchurch.org](mailto:aellis@fourthchurch.org)).

We are looking for Fourth Church members with **gifts for compassionate listening** to become Stephen Ministers and walk alongside individuals experiencing life challenges. The next fifty-hour **training course for new Stephen Ministers** will be offered in March 2021; for information about applying for the training, see [www.fourthchurch.org/caring/stephen-ministers.html](http://www.fourthchurch.org/caring/stephen-ministers.html)

“**Knitting and Crocheting** will meet via Zoom on Tuesday, December 15 at 4:00 p.m. and **Benevolent Guild**, which has been making face masks, meets via Zoom on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. For Zoom details for either of these gatherings, email Anne Ellis ([aellis@fourthchurch.org](mailto:aellis@fourthchurch.org)).

**We are grateful to all who have made gifts in support of our mission and ministry.** Thank you! This monthly generosity report summarizes contributions to Fourth Church as of November 30, 2020.

<b>Fourth Presbyterian Church Generosity Report — Contributions as of November 30, 2020</b>				
<i>YTD = Year-to-Date</i>	<b>YTD Actual</b>	<b>YTD Budgeted</b>	<b>YTD Variance</b>	<b>2020 Budget</b>
Pledged contributions	\$2,550,105	\$2,605,761	(\$55,656)	\$3,111,000
General contributions	\$1,439,148	\$1,839,143	(\$399,995)	\$2,270,929
Restricted contributions	\$457,747	\$428,882	(\$28,865)	\$573,100
<b>Total contributions</b>	<b>\$4,447,000</b>	<b>\$4,873,786</b>	<b>(\$426,786)</b>	<b>\$5,955,029</b>

**TwentiesThirties** offers online opportunities for young adults. For details, email Joe Morrow ([jmorrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto:jmorrow@fourthchurch.org)). \* **Sunday School and family activities** are being held online. For details, email Briana Belding-Peck ([bbelding-peck@fourthchurch.org](mailto:bbelding-peck@fourthchurch.org)). For details about **youth groups and Confirmation**, email Katie Patterson ([kpatterson@fourthchurch.org](mailto:kpatterson@fourthchurch.org)). \* For details about the **Center for Life and Learning** lectures and exercise classes for adults sixty and over, see [www.fourthchurch.org/cll](http://www.fourthchurch.org/cll) or email Susan Quaintance ([squaintance@fourthchurch.org](mailto:squaintance@fourthchurch.org)).

On Wednesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. we gather for **Morning Prayer via Zoom**. Email Carol Allerton ([callerton@fourthchurch.org](mailto:callerton@fourthchurch.org)) for the details. \* **If you have a prayer request**, Dave Handley ([dhandley@fourthchurch.org](mailto:dhandley@fourthchurch.org)) is receiving these requests as part of our Morning Prayer and Deacon Prayer Ministries. \* **If you would like to talk to a pastor**, please call the church (312.787.4570). \* **To explore options for teletherapy** with our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being, call the Center at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260. \* If you would like to have a **one-time phone conversation with a Stephen Minister or arrange for ongoing talks**, please leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365.

We encourage you to mark your calendars for two events planned for January 2021: **“Faith in Uncertain Times: Reflecting on the Past and Envisioning the Future”** is an online Michigan Avenue Forum that will be held Thursday, January 14 at 7:00 p.m. That evening Lucy Forster-Smith will moderate a panel discussion bringing together Shannon Kershner; Horace Smith, Pastor of Apostolic Faith Church; Otis Moss III, Senior Pastor of Trinity United Church of Christ; David Crawford, President of McCormick Theological Seminary; and Ozzie Smith Jr., Pastor Emeritus of Covenant United Church of Christ. \* On Saturday morning, January 23 at 10:00 a.m., David Hogue, Professor Emeritus of Pastoral Theology and Counseling at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary will lead a workshop on **“Loving Our Neighbor in a Time of Social Distancing.”** Watch for details about both of these events in the new year.

For the foreseeable future we are gathering online for **livestream-only worship**. \* In addition to livestreaming our 11:00 a.m. Sunday service at [www.bit.ly/FPCworship](http://www.bit.ly/FPCworship) (*where the service is available throughout the week*), we make the service available via **Facebook Live** ([facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://facebook.com/fourthchurch)) and **YouTube** ([www.bit.ly/fpcvideos](http://www.bit.ly/fpcvideos)) at 11:00 a.m. on Sundays. \* Those without Internet access are invited to join the service by **listening to the service live via phone by calling 888.916.9166 (toll-free)** at the time of the service (*the prelude typically begins around 10:45 a.m.*). \* During the week we also make the service and sermon available via **podcast on iTunes and Spotify** ([www.bit.ly/FPCpodcast](http://www.bit.ly/FPCpodcast)); you can also receive our sermons **by email** ([www.bit.ly/fpcsermons](http://www.bit.ly/fpcsermons)).

Watch our **website** ([www.fourthchurch.org](http://www.fourthchurch.org)) for additional resources and ways to connect. Online events are posted on the church calendar at [www.fourthchurch.org/calendar](http://www.fourthchurch.org/calendar); we also encourage you to follow us on **Facebook** ([facebook.com/fourthchurch](https://facebook.com/fourthchurch)) and **Instagram** ([instagram.com/fourthchurch](https://instagram.com/fourthchurch)) for updates, sermon quotes, images from Fourth Church, and more.