News and Resources

May 15-21, 2022

We are glad to be worshiping with you today and hope you will explore the many opportunities for learning, serving, and community building at Fourth Church!

** Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, we welcome everyone, without exception, into the life of this congregation. ** We invite you to join us at this intersection of faith and life as we share God's grace with one another and the world through worship and ministries of healing, reconciliation, and justice.



Although wearing a mask is not required at Fourth Church, we as a community have made a commitment to be a mask-welcoming campus, encouraging the wearing of masks by anyone who wants or needs to wear one. Now with the COVID risk level in Chicago increased to "medium," we are going a step further to **not just encourage but to recommend** (though not require) that individuals wear masks while on campus. This is consistent with city health officials recommending that—in light of the "medium risk" level—individuals wear masks indoors when they are not certain of the vaccination status of others present. As a mask-welcoming—and now recommending—campus, we also remain committed to ensuring no one will feel out of place should they choose to wear a mask while at Fourth Church. * Since some populations are more vulnerable to COVID-19 than others, some programs on our campus choose to require masks. ** Additionally, we are continuing our practice of not checking vaccination status, but **anyone coming on site certifies** by doing so that (a) they do not currently have COVID-19; (b) they are not experiencing COVID symptoms; (c) they have no reason to quarantine; and (d) they will wear a mask and practice social distancing if they are not vaccinated against COVID-19. ₩ In the Sanctuary, the front section on the pulpit side is for those required to or choosing to practice social distancing, and everyone sitting in that section is required to wear a mask. The remainder of the Sanctuary is open seating.



For those who prefer to worship online or who are unable to join us in person, we livestream our morning service at 10:00 a.m. on our YouTube channel (www.bit.ly/fpcvideos), where the service is also available for viewing afterwards. **** Those without Internet access** are invited to listen to the morning service via phone by calling 888.916.9166 at the time of the service.

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**

If you would like to join us for in-person worship, we gather each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary and at 4:00 p.m. for our Jazz at Four service in Buchanan Chapel. ** On Sundays the doors open for worship a half hour prior to the service. For the morning service, access is by the Michigan Avenue doors to the Sanctuary and the Delaware doors to the Gratz Center. For the Jazz at Four service, access is only by the Delaware doors to the Gratz Center. ** Sunday parking is available at 900 N. Michigan (access from Rush or Walton) at the rate of \$9 for 6 hours between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. (and \$18 for up to 12 hours) and at the Hancock garage (875 N. Michigan, enter from Delaware or Chestnut) at the rate of \$10 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Validation tickets for the garages must be picked up from an usher. ** Nursery care is not available at this time. ** Worship can be heard in the Sanctuary and Chapel through the "T" or "T-coil" setting of hearing aids. ** Please silence electronic devices when in the Sanctuary or Chapel.



Following worship, Deacons are available in Stone Chapel (through the door to the right of the pulpit) to pray with individuals who would like to offer prayers of praise or concern. ** We also gather on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. for Morning Prayer via Zoom and at 10:00 a.m. for in-person Morning Prayer in Buchanan Chapel. The chapel is open for opportunity to walk the labyrinth between 9:00 and 9:45 a.m. on Wednesdays and between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. on Thursdays. For Zoom details, email Nancy Benson-Nicol (nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org). ** A Sacred Pause time of meditation is hosted virtually by our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being on Tuesdays (7:45 a.m.) and Saturdays (8:30 a.m.) at facebook.com/reploglecenterforcounselingandwellbeing ** We invite you to use our Eastertide devotions, written by members and staff, as a resource for meditation and reflection. These devotions are posted at www.fourthchurch.org/devotions; to receive the meditations daily via email, simply subscribe at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions ** During the week we make the 10:00 a.m. Sunday service and sermon available via podcast on iTunes as well as Spotify (www.bit.ly/FPCpodcast). ** You can also receive the previous Sunday's sermon text by email by subscribing at www.bit.ly/fpcsermons



In the pew racks you will find a **Connection Card, which we invite you to fill out** and place in the offering plate. It provides opportunity for you to let us know in what ways you would like to connect with Fourth Church, to update your contact information, and to share prayer concerns.

** **Shannon Kershner is on sabbatical** and will return August 15. We hold Shannon in our prayers during this time of renewal and this fall look forward to learning from her experiences. During Shannon's time away, Lucy Forster-Smith, Senior Associate Pastor, is serving as Head of Staff.

Today is Dedication Commemoration Sunday at Fourth Church, declared by Pastor John Timothy Stone in 1914 to be observed on the third Sunday of each May. On Sunday, May 10, 1914, the Fourth Church congregation worshiped in the Michigan Avenue Sanctuary for the first time, having moved from its smaller facility on Rush at Superior. A series of dedicatory services were held the remainder of that week, and later that month, the new Sanctuary and Parish House buildings were host to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, including the assembly's communion service attended by more than 1,800 worshipers. ** The generations that have gone before us left a vibrant legacy, not only in the bricks and mortar of the Sanctuary and Parish House buildings but also in the financial foundation from which we carry forth our ministry. It was the \$25,000 that remained after the completion of the 1914 building project that began the Fourth Church endowment fund. Just as we carry on the work of the church today, so too we are committed to passing on the legacy of that ministry for future generations. If you have planned or are considering a legacy gift to Fourth Church or Chicago Lights as part of your will, we invite you to learn more about the Legacy Society by contacting Katy Frey Bever (kbever@fourthchurch.org).



Those worshiping with us in person are invited to greet one another during Coffee Hour in Anderson Hall or the Commons following worship. **Benevolent Guild—which has counted among its projects making stuffed animals and taggies for children in the hospital—meets in person this Wednesday morning. **Women at Fourth meets next Sunday, May 22 at 11:15 a.m. for a time of crafting with the Benevolent Guild while working on projects to support area dementia organizations and HelloBaby. Beginning crafters are especially welcome! To participate, please register online at www.bit.ly/waf0522 **Knitting and Crocheting will meet in person next Sunday, May 22 at 11:15 a.m. and will include opportunity to pick up yarn for the next project. Knitters and crocheters will then meet again, this time via Zoom, on Tuesday, May 24 at 4:00 p.m. To sign up for these activities—or to learn more about them—email Simon Crow (scrow@fourthchurch.org).



For those facing life's challenges, **Stephen Ministers** provide a listening presence. To arrange conversation with a Stephen Minister, please leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365. **

To explore options for teletherapy, call our **Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being** at 312.787.2729, ext. 2260. ** To **talk to a pastor** or **notify the pastoral staff** of personal concerns, illnesses, or deaths, please email caringministries@fourthchurch.org; if the situation requires immediate attention, please call the church at 312.787.4570 to be connected to the Minister on Call. ** To **submit a prayer request**, please email caringministries@fourthchurch.org

This morning Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger invite you to attend a **live taping of the podcast**, "Bible Top 10" at 11:15 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room, when they will talk about "Top 10 Mysteries in the Bible." To listen to previous episodes of their podcast, see www.fourthchurch.org/podcast

** Beginning next Sunday, May 22, Lucy Forster-Smith and Jim Ford will be leading a Sunday morning class exploring Barbara Brown Taylor's book The Luminous Web, which looks at the dialogue between science and faith. That class will meet at 11:15 a.m. in person and via Zoom.



As we look to open the Sanctuary on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday afternoons for those seeking a place of respite and prayer as well as those curious to learn more about Fourth Church, we are in need of Sanctuary hosts (five to six per afternoon) to commit to being a welcoming presence. If you can help make this opening possible by volunteering, please contact Tiffany Holmes (tholmes@fourthchurch.org) or sign up for "Sanctuary Opening" via VOMO at www.bit.ly/fpcvolunteers * Those who would like to take part in Fourth Church Jail Ministry are invited to an informational meeting next Sunday, May 22 at 11:15 a.m. in Room 4F (or email jailministry@fourthchurch.org). Those who are interested in singing with a Fourth Church Choir are invited to consider joining the **Fourth Church Gospel Choir**, which sings in morning worship and at Jazz at Four once a month each; the **Men's Choir**, which will sing in morning worship from May 29 through July 17 (rehearsing May 26 and June 16); or the Women's Choir, which will sing in morning worship from July 24 through September 4 (rehearsing on July 21 and August 18). For information about the choirs, email John Sherer (jsherer@fourthchurch.org). ** Adult chaperones are needed for our youth summer trips June 26–July 1 (junior highs to St. Louis) and July 9–16 (senior highs to Memphis). For details, see www.bit.ly/chaperone4youth; if interested, email Katie Patterson (kpatterson@fourthchurch.org). ** The World Mission and Social Justice Council of Fourth Church is seeking volunteers to assist sponsored refugee families coming from conflict areas around the world. Also needed will be items to help these families settle into a new home. **Those who are interested in helping** are asked to email refugeeproject@fourthchurch.org ** The Chicago Lights Social Service Center is in particular need of the following items, either new or gently used: especially doubled brown paper grocery bags; large cloth bags for groceries and clothing; adult backpacks; push carts for groceries; suitcases; men's jeans and casual pants (sizes 34-42 waist); white socks for men and women, sizes L and XL; men's tennis shoes (sizes 10-14); and women's tennis shoes (sizes 8-13). Donations can be dropped off at the church reception desk (enter via the Chestnut Street doors) or shipped, if ordered online, to Chicago Lights Social Service Center, c/o Theresa Thornburg, 126 E. Chestnut St., Chicago, IL 60611.2014.

As we return to more on-site programming, Fourth Church and Chicago Lights are implementing, effective this Monday, May 16, a new safety and security practice.

Beginning Monday, anyone present on the Fourth Church campus will be required to wear a campus badge while on site, except on Sundays and for other worship opportunities, concerts, and Meals Ministry meals. Anyone who does not already have a campus badge (except for those exceptions noted above) will be asked to pick up a single-day badge at the 126 E. Chestnut reception desk.

Reusable badges will be issued by some programs with regular, ongoing weekly programming, such as Chancel Choir. These reusable badges will only be available from the staff of those programs, not from the reception desk. Anyone who does not bring their reusable campus badge will be able to pick up a single-day badge.

To facilitate this process—as well as for safety and security reasons—**all access to the building will be through the 126 E. Chestnut entrance only,** except on Sundays and for other
worship opportunities, concerts, and Meals Ministry meals. Our ongoing commitment to the safety
and security of all on our campus undergirds this practice, which was been under discussion since
prior to the pandemic. (Implementation was set aside while the campus was largely closed.)

The campus badges and single-entry access point were strongly encouraged by our safety and security consultants and advisors and are also consistent with practices at other large, spread-out, multi-use buildings with spaces and uses like ours. They enable us to know who is in the building throughout the day. (*Previous unlimited access has at times resulted in unknown individuals hiding in corners of the campus.*) They also ensure that should we ever have to evacuate the buildings, we will know who was on site and needs to be accounted for.

As a congregation, we value radical hospitality and welcome for all, and we believe one expression of that is our care for the well-being of those who are present with us. This safety and security practice is but one expression of that. For those who will be joining us on site as programming on campus continues to expand, we look forward to seeing you!



For additional resources and ways to connect with Fourth Church and one another, watch our website (www.fourthchurch.org) and Facebook (facebook.com/fourthchurch). ** Online events are posted on our church calendar, which is accessible from the home page of our website and at fourthchurch.org/calendar ** To receive the latest updates from Fourth Church, including our weekly email newsletter, subscribe at www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc ** To learn more about Fourth Church or become a member, email member@fourthchurch.org