

December 2–8, 2007

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

News and Opportunities

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

A Fair Trade Gift Bazaar, sponsored by the Mission Committee and featuring global gifts, takes place today from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Anderson Hall and helps support families around the world.

An Advent wreath workshop for families takes place today at 10:30 a.m. in the Lower Level Activity Center.

A midweek Advent service is held at 7:30 p.m. in Blair Chapel each Wednesday of Advent.

The annual Vespers Festival of Advent Lessons and Music will be next Sunday, December 9 at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. A cookies-and-hot-chocolate reception hosted in Anderson Hall by Women@Fourth Connect will follow.

The Christmas cantata *A Ceremony of Carols* by Benjamin Britten will be sung by the Morning Choir during 9:30 and 11:00 worship on Sunday, December 16.

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.

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.

WBBM-TV (CBS) will broadcast the 8:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service at 11:35 p.m. on December 24 and 9:00 a.m. on December 25.

Daily Advent devotions written by Fourth Church members and staff are available in printed booklets found in the church literature racks and by e-mail (send e-mail addresses to devotions@fourthchurch.org).

“Operation Christmas Gift Bag” provides holiday gifts for Sunday Night Supper guests. Filled bags can be returned to the church today and next Sunday, December 9.

The “Christmas Wishes” gift project, sponsored by Women@Fourth Connect and the Mission Committee, collects holiday gifts for more than 700 children in need. Wish lists are available—and gifts can be dropped off—during Coffee Hour in the Center for Life and Learning Lounge off the Chestnut Street lobby. For more information, call Anne Ellis at the church at 312.573.3369.

“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. Details are available in the brochures in the church literature racks and on the church website.

Memorialize or honor loved ones by contributing to the purchase of Christmas flowers and garlands for the sanctuary. A list of those remembered will be printed in the Christmas bulletin. Contributions can be made by completing the forms available in the literature racks. Completed cards must be returned by Friday, December 14 in order for names to appear in the bulletin.

Chicago Lights Holiday Cards, designed by Tutoring students, are available for purchase during Coffee Hour. Cards are also available at www.fourthchurch.org. Proceeds benefit the Tutoring and Scholarship program of Chicago Lights. Holiday cards from previous years are on display in the Gallery until January 7.

ENRICHMENT

A new Academy for Faith and Life class begins today. “**The Mysteries of the Eastern Orthodox Church**,” taught by Bruce Rigdon, takes place at 9:30 a.m. in the Anderson Hall S. Balcony. Beginning next Sunday, December 9 is “**The Birth of Christ as Told by Matthew and Luke**,” taught by Tom Rook (Anderson Hall S. Balcony), at 11:00 a.m.

Bible Study opportunities:

John Knox, Sundays at 9:30 a.m.
Morning, Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.
Noonday, Wednesdays at 12:10 p.m.
Life and Learning, Fridays at 10:00 a.m.

Men’s Bible study will meet next on Tuesday, December 4 at 7:00 a.m. at an office building in the Loop. Advance registration is required. For more information and to RSVP, call Christina Wollerman at the church at 312.573.3364.

VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS

Volunteer Needs

Servers for a congregational Christmas Dinner, 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 25

Guides for participants in a low-vision conference near the Merchandise Mart; shifts are available on December 6, 7, and 8

Tutors for the Chicago Lights Tutoring program, Thursdays from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Grocery shoppers for Sunday and Monday night suppers

Vespers bread cutter for third Sunday of the month

Ushers for Vespers on a rotating schedule

Current Donation Needs

Men’s casual winter clothes, especially warm coats, jeans, and belts in larger sizes

For more information and a list of additional needs, stop by the Volunteer table during Coffee Hour or call Larry Nicholson at the church at 312.981.3382.

STEWARDSHIP

Thank you to everyone who has made a commitment to the 2008 Stewardship Campaign. We have received \$2.9 million in commitments from 975 households. Our goal is to have 100 percent member participation and raise \$4 million in pledges. If you have not yet completed your pledge card, please place it in the offering plate this morning or mail it to the church. Pledge cards are available in the pew racks. For more information, call Lisa Radetski, Director of Giving Ministries, at 312.981.3380.

News and Opportunities, which is distributed during Sunday worship, is also available in the church literature racks and at www.fourthchurch.org.

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CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND, FAMILY

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

FELLOWSHIP

The Gathering, a fellowship opportunity for individuals in their twenties and thirties, meets today at 12:15 p.m. in the Randolph Room.

“Books by Women” will discuss *Water for Elephants: A Novel* by Sara Gruen on Tuesday, December 4 at 6:00 p.m. in the Large Conference Room.

The Fourth Church Men's Group will meet next on Saturday, December 8 at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast and a program featuring traditional and contemporary seasonal music presented by Judith Valente and Charles Reynard. RSVP by December 7 by calling 312.787.4570.

Fourth Dimension will meet for a Christmas celebration on Saturday, December 8 at 7:30 p.m. at a member's home. Reservations are required; to RSVP, call the Fourth Dimension Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 494.

ThirtiesForties will meet next on Sunday, December 9 at 12:30 p.m. in the Page Smith Room.

Cornerstones will meet on Friday, January 4 to discuss *90 Brothers and Sisters* by Lenore DePree. This book is available for purchase during Coffee Hour.

WORSHIP

A Vespers Communion service is held each Sunday evening at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

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 Stone Chapel and offers opportunity to remember in prayer members of the Fourth Church congregation and those in need.

Special prayer requests are included in intercessory prayer in Stone Chapel on Sundays. Individuals can leave their prayer requests written on paper in the boxes located outside Stone Chapel, at the Volunteer table during Coffee Hour, at the reception desk, and in the Narthex. They also can pray together with the Deacon who is in Stone Chapel after 11:00 worship.

A prayer service in the style of Taizé is held the fourth Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in Anderson Hall. The next service is Friday, December 28.

MUSIC AND THE ARTS

Cellist Marina Hoover will perform Friday's free Noonday Concert at 12:10 p.m. in the sanctuary.

“Holidays a cappella” will be performed by Chicago *a capella* on Friday, December 7 at 8:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. For ticket information, contact Chicago *a capella* at 773.755.1628.

The “Christmas with Tower Brass” concert will be held on Saturday, December 22 at 5:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 2–8, 2007

Sunday, December 2

7:50 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.	Nursery	Westminster 14
8:00 a.m.	Morning Worship John M. Buchanan preaching	Sanctuary
9:00 a.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Fair Trade Gift Bazaar	Anderson Hall
9:30 a.m.	Morning Worship John M. Buchanan preaching	Sanctuary
9:30 a.m.	Sunday School	Westminster House and Manse
9:30 a.m.	Youth Choir Rehearsal	Dining Room
9:30 a.m.	John Knox Bible Study	Page Smith Room
9:30 a.m.	Academy for Faith and Life	Anderson Hall S. Balcony
10:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall
10:30 a.m.	Elevation	Manse Basement
10:30 a.m.	Fourth Church Rising	Page Smith Room
10:30 a.m.	Senior Highs	Crow's Nest
10:30 a.m.	Cherub Choir Rehearsal	Dining Room
10:30 a.m.	Advent Wreath Workshop	Activity Center
11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship John M. Buchanan preaching	Sanctuary
11:00 a.m.	Sunday School	Westminster House and Manse
11:00 a.m.	Children's Choir Rehearsal	Dining Room
12:00 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
4:00 p.m.	Social Service Center Sunday Night Supper	Dining Room
5:30 p.m.	Vespers Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
6:30 p.m.	Vespers Elizabeth B. Andrews preaching	Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.	Coffee Reception	Anderson Hall

Monday, December 3

9:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (also Wednesday–Friday)	Stone Chapel
6:30 p.m.	Inquirers' Class	Page Smith Room

Tuesday, December 4

7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study	<i>(see announcement)</i>
9:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer	Stone Chapel
6:00 p.m.	"Books by Women"	Large Conference Room

Wednesday, December 5

9:30 a.m.	Benevolent Guild	Page Smith Room
9:30 a.m.	Morning Bible Study	Large Conference Room
12:10 p.m.	Noonday Bible Study	Large Conference Room
7:30 p.m.	Advent Worship	Blair Chapel

Thursday, December 6

6:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
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Friday, December 7

10:00 a.m.	Center for Life and Learning Bible Study	Page Smith Room
12:10 p.m.	Noonday Concert: Marina Hoover, cello	Sanctuary
8:00 p.m.	Concert: "Holidays a cappella"	Sanctuary

Saturday, December 8

8:00 a.m.	Men's Group Breakfast	Dining Room
7:30 p.m.	Fourth Dimension	<i>(see announcement)</i>

Preaching on Sunday, December 9

John M. Buchanan	8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.
Festival of Advent Lessons and Music	6:30 p.m.

Parking is available Sundays at the John Hancock Center, 875 North Michigan Avenue (access Chestnut Street), at the rate of \$7.00 until 2:00 p.m. and at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$7.75 to 4:00 p.m. and \$6.00 after 5:00 p.m. Validation tickets must be picked up during Coffee Hour or from the Chestnut Street reception desk.