

December 14–20, 2008

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

News and Opportunities

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

The annual Festival of Advent Lessons and Music takes place today at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. A cookies-and-hot-chocolate reception hosted by Women@Fourth Connect will follow.

“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 literature racks or at www.fourthchurch.org.

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.

Gift bags for Social Service Center guests can be dropped off today during Coffee Hour.

Chicago Lights Holiday Cards, designed by Tutoring students, are available during Coffee Hour, online at www.chicagolights.org, and at the reception desk.

A Wednesday Advent service is held weekly at 6:30 p.m. in Blair Chapel.

The “Christmas with Tower Brass” concert will take place Saturday, December 20 at 5:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

The annual Christmas Cantata, performed by the Morning Choir and Tower Brass, will take place Sunday, December 21 during 9:30 and 11:00 worship, with the Morning Choir singing Daniel Pinkham’s *Christmas Cantata*.

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.

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

Feelings of grief, loss, loneliness, sadness, and anxiety can become more pronounced during the holidays. The Lorene Replogle Counseling Center is available to offer support (call the Center at 312.787.8425), and the quietly meditative Taizé service on Friday, December 26 provides a Christmas worship opportunity for those who may find it difficult to share in the traditional celebrations on December 24 and 25.

A six-week Advent book study of *God with Us: Rediscovering the Meaning of Christmas* will meet today at 12:30 p.m. in the Page Smith Room. Copies of the book are being sold at a reduced price during meetings. Lunch will be provided upon request for \$5.

NEWS AND RESOURCES

The “Refreshing the Vision” long-range planning process for Fourth Church is underway. For more information, visit www.fourthchurch.org/vision.html. Questions or suggestions for the steering committee can be e-mailed to vision@fourthchurch.org.

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 Cerry Letrich at 312.981.3381.

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, and from Candi Wiggins at 312.274.3822 (cwiggins@fourthchurch.org).

WORSHIP

A Vespers Communion service is held each Sunday evening at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Tonight’s service will be a special Festival of Advent Lessons and Music.

Special prayer requests are included in intercessory prayer in Stone Chapel on Sundays. Individuals can leave their prayer requests written on paper in the box located outside the chapel or pray there with a Deacon at 12:00 noon.

A service in the style of Taizé is held at 7:30 p.m. in Anderson Hall each fourth Friday of the month. The next service will be held on Friday, December 26.

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 an opportunity to pray for those in need.

ENRICHMENT

Weekly Bible Study opportunities:

John Knox, Sundays 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 meets this Tuesday at 7:30 a.m. in the Loop. For details and to RSVP, contact Anita Bright at 312.573.3364 (abright@fourthchurch.org).

The Center for Life and Learning invites men and women sixty and over to a special meal in Chinatown led by culinary expert Dr. Anthony Yu on Wednesday, December 17 at 6:00 p.m. Registration is limited to twenty individuals; for more details and to RSVP, contact Patricia Amis at 312.981.3387.

Books by Women will meet Tuesday, January 6 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss *Talk Before Sleep* by Elizabeth Berg.

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

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago • John M. Buchanan, Pastor
Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014; 312.787.4570
Phone extensions: 312.787.2729; Fax: 312.787.4584

Cornerstones will meet Friday, January 2 at 6:00 p.m. in the Manse for an event featuring Richard Longworth, author of *Caught in the Middle: America's Heartland in the Age of Globalism*.

Live webcasts of noontime lectures from Calvin College's award-winning January Series will be shown weekdays at Fourth Church January 7–27 and are being hosted by the Academy for Faith and Life. For details about each lecture, visit www.calvin.edu/january2009/.

"Ode to Joy" is the theme of the Fourth Church women's retreat, which will be held the weekend of January 23–24. For details, contact Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369.

The Community Book Group meets Tuesday, January 27 at 7:00 p.m. in the Page Smith Room to discuss *Speaking of Faith: Why Religion Matters—and How to Talk About It* by Krista Trippett.

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 6–7) meets in the Manse basement, Fourth Church Rising (grade 8 confirmation) meets in the Page Smith Room, and Senior Highs (grades 9–12) meets in the Crow's Nest.

The annual La Posada Family Night will be this Friday, December 19 at 6:00 p.m. at the church. Contact Melissa Scanlan at 312.640.2578 for details.

The deadline to sign up for the Senior High Work Camp trip to Northern Ireland is Sunday, December 28. For details, contact Anita Bright at 312.573.3364.

MISSION AND OUTREACH

Available at the Mission Table is a letter to President Bush asking that the U.S. pay what has been promised for international AIDS relief and to increase funding for the Ryan White Act reauthorization.

The Middle East Task Force is hosting a luncheon program today following 11:00 a.m. worship, featuring Estephan Salameh, a Palestinian Christian who is currently completing his Ph.D. in Urban Planning and Public Policy at UIC. Mr. Salameh will be speaking about the peace process in Israel/Palestine.

A mission luncheon with the founders of the Lesideng Soup Kitchen will take place Sunday, December 21 following the 11:00 service. The Lesideng Soup Kitchen provides nutritional, medical, educational, and economic opportunities in Lesideng, South Africa. To RSVP, contact Natasha Holbert at 312.274.3831.

Cuba and Cameroon mission trip applications are due Thursday, January 15 (for the May 1–9 trip to Cuba) and Monday, January 19 (for the May 29–June 12 trip to Cameroon). Details about the trips as well as the application form are available in the literature racks and online at www.fourthchurch.org/missiontrips.html.

VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS

Current Volunteer Needs

Audio operator to record occasional services in the sanctuary during the week; training provided

Candle sleavers to prepare candles on December 22 and 23 for Christmas Eve

For a list of additional needs, contact Larry Nicholson at 312.981.3382.

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 14–21, 2008

Sunday, December 14

7:50 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.	Nursery	Westminster 14
8:00 a.m.	Morning Worship Adam Fronczek preaching	Sanctuary
9:00 a.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall
9:30 a.m.	Morning Worship John M. Buchanan preaching	Sanctuary
9:30 a.m.	John Knox Bible Study	Page Smith Room
9:30 a.m.	Sunday School	Westminster House
9:30 a.m.	Youth Choir	Dining Room
10:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall
10:30 a.m.	Elevation, Fourth Church Rising, Senior Highs	<i>(see announcement)</i>
10:30 a.m.	Cherub Choir	Dining Room
11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship John M. Buchanan preaching	Sanctuary
11:00 a.m.	Sunday School	Westminster House
11:00 a.m.	Children's Choir	Dining Room
12:00 p.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall
12:00 p.m.	New Member Brunch	Dining Room
12:00 p.m.	Middle East Luncheon Program	Activity Center
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.	Advent Book Study	Page Smith Room
4:00 p.m.	Social Service Center Sunday Night Supper	Dining Room
6:30 p.m.	Festival of Advent Lessons and Music	Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.	Holiday Reception	Anderson Hall

Monday, December 15

9:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (also Wednesday–Friday)	Stone Chapel
-----------	--	--------------

Tuesday, December 16

7:30 a.m.	Men's Bible Study	<i>(see announcement)</i>
9:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer	Stone Chapel

Wednesday, December 17

12:10 p.m.	Noonday Bible Study	Large Conference Room
6:00 p.m.	CLL Chinatown Trip	<i>(see announcement)</i>
6:30 p.m.	Midweek Advent Service	Blair Chapel

Friday, December 19

9:30 a.m.	CLL Bible Study	Page Smith Room
12:10 p.m.	Noonday Concert: Noah DeGarmo and Pauli Ewing	Sanctuary
6:00 p.m.	La Posada Family Night	Anderson Hall

Saturday, December 20

5:00 p.m.	Christmas with Tower Brass	Sanctuary
-----------	----------------------------	-----------

Preaching on Sunday, December 21

Jocelyn C. Cadwallader	8:00 a.m.
John M. Buchanan	9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Calum I. MacLeod	6:30 p.m.

Parking is available Sunday mornings at the John Hancock Center, 875 North Michigan Avenue, at the rate of \$7.00 for three hours 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 for the 900 garage must be picked up during Coffee Hour or from the Chestnut Street reception desk. Hancock tickets must be validated in the Narthex.