

December 21–27, 2008

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

News and Opportunities

MISSION AND OUTREACH

Today a mission luncheon with the founders of the Lesideng Soup Kitchen will take place in the Dining Room following the 11:00 service. The Lesideng Soup Kitchen provides nutritional, medical, educational, and economic opportunities in Lesideng, South Africa.

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

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.

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.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

The annual Christmas Cantata, performed by the Morning Choir and Tower Brass, takes place today 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.

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.

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.

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

“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.

Daily Advent and Christmas devotions written by 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.

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 available at a reduced price during meetings. Lunch will be provided upon request for \$5.

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
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WORSHIP

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

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 will be held this Friday at 7:30 p.m. in Blair Chapel, as it is each fourth Friday of the month, and offers an opportunity for prayer, meditative singing, and reflection.

Morning Prayer will be held at 9:30 a.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and at 9:00 a.m. Tuesday. 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.

VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS

Current Volunteer Needs

Sunday School teachers for grades 1–3, to teach during 11:00 a.m. hour

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

Current Donation Needs

Infants’ and children’s gently-used winter clothes, strollers, cribs, car seats, and books to benefit the patients of a nonprofit clinic

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

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY

Sunday School meets today at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in Westminster House. There will be no Sunday school on Sundays December 28 and January 4.

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. There will be no Fourth Church youth meetings on Sundays December 28 and January 4.

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.

FELLOWSHIP

The Gathering, a fellowship opportunity for individuals age twenty-two to thirty-five, meets today at 12:15 p.m. in the Randolph Room. Today's discussion, led by John Vest, is about the origins of Advent and Hanukkah.

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*. All are invited.

ENRICHMENT

"Happiness and Health," a noonday session led by gerontological nurse practitioner Joann Gruca, will take place on Tuesday, December 23 in the Page Smith Room. At 11:30 a.m. that day, participants are invited to bring a brown-bag lunch and enjoy a time of fellowship.

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

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/.

An twelve-week Nia fitness class will begin Wednesday, January 7. Classes are held on Wednesday and Friday mornings at 10:00 a.m. at Fourth Church. Registration is required. To register or for information about class fees, visit www.niachicago.com or call the Nia Class Infoline at Fourth Church at 312.787.2729, ext. 371.

An eight-session beginners T'ai Chi course starts Thursday, January 8 at 5:00 p.m. Registration is required. To register and for more details, call the T'ai Chi Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 388.

A five-week foreign film series, hosted by the CLL, will take place Wednesdays beginning January 14 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. A series pass or individual tickets are available at the CLL desk. For details, call Patricia at 312.981.3387.

"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.

MUSIC AND THE ARTS

John W. W. Sherer, Fourth Church organist and Director of Music, will perform this Friday's free Noonday Concert at 12:10 p.m. in the sanctuary.

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 21–27, 2008

Sunday, December 21

7:50 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.	Nursery		Westminster 14
8:00 a.m.	Morning Worship	Jocelyn C. Cadwallader 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.	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		(see announcement)
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.	Lesideng Soup Kitchen Luncheon		Dining Room
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.	Vespers	Calum I. MacLeod preaching	Sanctuary

Monday, December 22

9:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer (also Wednesday and Friday)	Stone Chapel
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Tuesday, December 23

9:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer	Stone Chapel
12:00 p.m.	"Happiness and Health"	Page Smith Room

Wednesday, December 24

	Christmas Eve	
3:30 to 7:15 p.m.	Nursery	Westminster 14
4:00 p.m.	Children's Pageant	Sanctuary
6:00 p.m.	Family Service	Adam Fronczek preaching
8:30 p.m.	Service of Lessons and Carols	Sanctuary
		John M. Buchanan preaching
11:00 p.m.	Service of Lessons and Carols	Sanctuary
		John M. Buchanan preaching

Thursday, December 25

	Christmas Day	
11:00 a.m.	Christmas Worship	Joyce Shin preaching
12:30 p.m.	Christmas Dinner	Anderson Hall

Friday, December 26

12:10 p.m.	Noonday Concert: John W. W. Sherer	Sanctuary
3:30 p.m.	Serving Fourth Friday Supper	Catholic Charities
7:30 p.m.	Christmas Taizé Service	Blair Chapel

Preaching on Sunday, December 28

Alice M. Trowbridge	8:00 a.m.
Adam Fronczek	9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Victoria G. Curtiss	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.