“Sacred Pause” will be offered each Tuesday at 7:45 a.m. in Stone Chapel beginning September 27. (Enter at 123 E. Delaware.) Hosted by the Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being and Tom Schemper, Vicky Curtiss, and Nanette Sawyer, this meditative time will offer space for twenty minutes of silence.

World Communion Sunday is next Sunday, a day when worshipers around the world gather for the Lord’s Supper. We will celebrate Communion at all four worship services that day.

Youth in grades 6–12 will come together for spiritual practices today at 10:00 a.m. in the Bumpus Room and hold gatherings at 11:00 a.m. in Room 4G (Junior Highs) and the Bumpus Room (Senior Highs).

The annual Smorgasbord of Schools will be held next Sunday, October 2 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room. Families are invited to come learn about elementary schools in Chicago.

News and Resources

Have you seen the dunk-tank photos and other pictures from our Kickoff and Get Connected Sunday events? You can view the pictures online at www.facebook.com/fourthchurch (even if you don’t have a Facebook account).

Follow Fourth Church on Twitter: @FourthChicago

The deadline for 2017 officer recommendations is this Friday, September 30. Before then, please share with the Nominating Committee suggestions of Fourth Church members who you think would serve this church well as elders, deacons, trustees, or Chicago Lights Board members. You can do that by completing the form in the pew racks and also online at www.fourthchurch.org

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A sacred sound meditation will be offered by the Replogle Center this Tuesday, September 27 at 7:00 p.m. in Boyle Conference Room. For more information, call 312.787.8425.

Discussion of Waking Up White, led by Vicky Curtiss, continues this Thursday, September 29 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the Page Smith Room. Beginning Thursday, October 6 Nanette Sawyer will lead us in discussion of The Righteous Mind: Why Good People Are Divided by Politics and Religion.

An “Introduction to Systemic Racism” workshop, sponsored by the Presbytery of Chicago, will be held this Saturday, October 1 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Friendship Presbyterian Church (6988 N. Northwest Hwy). Details are available by visiting the Mission table during Coffee Hour or by contacting Vicky Curtiss at 312.981.3598 (vcurtiss@fourthchurch.org).

Two adult education classes continue today: “Jeremiah and Discipleship,” led by Jeffrey Stackert, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5F; and “Charisma in One Week,” led by Tom Payne, at 11:00 a.m. in Room 5G.

Today “Humanitarian Crisis in Syria: Realities and Responses” will be held at 1:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. Presented by the Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago and the Syrian American Council, this discussion is sponsored by Fourth Church, Chicago Sinai Congregation, and Temple Sholom. All are invited.

A Bible study of the Gospel of Luke, led by Judy Watt, continues this Monday at 5:30 p.m. in the Page Smith Room.

Bookmark the Fourth Church website—www.fourthchurch.org—for easy access to the Fourth Church calendar, information about upcoming events, and more.

Have you made a 2016 pledge to Fourth Church and Chicago Lights? If not, please take a moment to do so, as we still need $57,268 to be pledged for 2016 to make our pledge goal. If you have already made a 2016 pledge, thank you! Pledged gifts make up approximately 40 percent of our annual revenue budget, meaning fulfillment of those pledges is critical to our annual planning and programming. New 2016 pledges can be made using the cards in the pew racks or by calling Andrea Miller at 312.640.2576. Online gifts toward your pledge can be made at www.bit.ly/FPCgiving

Mission and Outreach

A one-session orientation for new volunteers for the Chicago Lights Tutoring program will be held this Tuesday, September 27 at 6:00 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room. Another orientation will be held on Saturday, October 15 at 10:40 a.m. RSVP at www.bit.ly/chitutor1617

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. This Friday Women at Fourth will tie purple bows on the trees outside the Manse, as they do annually, to bring attention to the issue of domestic violence. To volunteer, call Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369.
World Mission Sunday is next Sunday, October 2. All are invited to visit Coffee Hour that day to learn about Fourth Church mission partners and 2017 mission trips.

Musicians from Northern Ireland will perform at an information session about the music mission trip to Northern Ireland and pilgrimage to Iona, Scotland, next Sunday from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

A Peace and Global Witness Offering, which supports efforts toward peacemaking in our denomination as well as local efforts to address violence in Chicago through CureViolence, will be received next Sunday, World Communion Sunday.

Deadlines for 2017 mission trip applications for trips to Northern Ireland (July 10–19) and Guatemala (July 2–9) are October 15 and 30, respectively. Information is available in the literature racks and at www.fourthchurch.org/mission/trips

Save the date for the Gala of Hope: February 24, 2017.

A spiritual pilgrimage to Iona, Scotland, will be held July 19–31, 2017. Space is limited; register at www.bit.ly/FPCIona2017 by October 15. Details are available in the literature racks and at www.fourthchurch.org/worship/spirituality

The Benevolent Guild gathers on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5B to create taggies and stuffed animals for hospitalized children.

Christian Century Study Groups will next meet next Wednesday, October 5 at 6:00 p.m. in the Randolph Room. To RSVP, call Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369.

Cornerstones will meet next Friday, October 7 at 6:00 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room for “The Genetics of Adulthood,” presented by Carmen Williams. To register (required), call Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369 by next Wednesday, October 5.

The Handbell Choir rehearses on Sundays at 8:00 a.m. in the Buchanan Chapel Choir Loft.

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist at Fourth Church, will perform this Friday’s free Noonday concert at 12:10 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

Volunteers and Donations

Current Volunteer Needs
Tutors for Chicago Lights Tutoring Program; one evening per week
In2It Café instructors
Shower Ministry Attendants to check in and provide supplies to guests of the Meals Ministry program
Sunday School teachers
Nursery caregivers on Sundays
Greeters and ushers

Current Donation Needs
Cloth ribbon, thread, and washable yarn
Men’s and women’s clothing

For more opportunities or to volunteer, visit www.fourthchurch.org/volunteer

Fellowship

Today ThirtiesForties will meet for brunch at Lyfe Kitchen (831 N. State) after the 11:00 a.m. worship service.

Young Adults gather on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. in Room 5A.
Calendar for September 25–October 1, 2016

Sunday, September 25

8:00 a.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary Choir Loft
9:00 a.m. Worship Abbi Heimach-Snipes preaching Sanctuary
9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Nursery Gratz Center, First Floor
9:30 a.m. Sunday School Gratz Center, Fourth Floor
9:30 a.m. “Jeremiah and Discipleship” Room 5F
9:30 a.m. Worship Shannon J. Kershner preaching Sanctuary
9:30 a.m. Weekly Seeds Bible Study Room 5H
10:00 a.m. Youth Spiritual Practices Bumpus Room
10:30 a.m. Time of Prayer Stone Chapel
11:00 a.m. Worship Shannon J. Kershner preaching Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. “Charisma in One Week” Room 5G
11:00 a.m. Youth Gatherings (see announcement)
12:00 p.m. ThirtiesForties (see announcement)
12:30 p.m. Young Adults Gathering Room 5A
1:30 p.m. “Humanitarian Crisis in Syria” Buchanan Chapel
4:00 p.m. Jazz Worship Shannon J. Kershner preaching Sanctuary

Monday, September 26

7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Labyrinth Walk Buchanan Chapel
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Day School (also Tuesday–Friday) Gratz Center, First Floor
5:30 p.m. “The Gospel of Luke” Page Smith Room

Tuesday, September 27

7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Labyrinth Walk Buchanan Chapel
7:45 a.m. “Sacred Pause” Stone Chapel
6:00 p.m. Tutor Volunteer Orientation Borwell Dining Room
7:00 p.m. Sacred Sound Meditation Boyle Conference Room

Wednesday, September 28

7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Labyrinth Walk Buchanan Chapel
9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer Buchanan Chapel
9:30 a.m. Benevolent Guild Room 5B

Thursday, September 29

6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Book Study: Waking Up White Page Smith Room
7:00 p.m. Choral Society Rehearsal Buchanan Chapel

Friday, September 30

12:10 p.m. Noonday Concert Buchanan Chapel

Saturday, October 1

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. “Introduction to Systemic Racism” (see announcement)

Worship on Sunday, October 2

8:00 a.m. Judith L. Watt preaching
9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Shannon J. Kershner preaching
4:00 p.m. Nanette Sawyer preaching

Parking is available on Sundays at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of $8. Validation tickets for the 900 garage must be picked up during morning Coffee Hour or from the Chestnut Street reception desk.