

December 24–30, 2017

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago



News and Opportunities

Advent and Christmas

Four candlelight Christmas Eve services will be held in the Sanctuary later today as we move from Advent to Christmas:

- 4:00 p.m. Children's Pageant
- 6:00 p.m. Family Service with Jazz
- 8:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols
- 10:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols

We will be live streaming tonight's Lessons and Carols service at 8:00 p.m. for those who are unable to be with us or who want to share the service with those who are out of town. The live stream will be online at www.bit.ly/FPCworship (and also accessible at www.fourthchurch.org), where it can be viewed again in the days ahead as well.

WGN Radio AM-720 will be rebroadcasting—at 7:00 a.m. on Christmas Day—our 8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service of Lessons and Carols.

Nursery care today is available from 3:00 to 7:15 p.m. It is not available during the last two evening services or this morning.

A different parking voucher is needed for parking in the 900 N. Michigan garage for this afternoon's and evening's Christmas Eve services. (*This morning's voucher will not work for parking during the remaining services today.*) The afternoon/evening voucher will be available immediately prior to and after the four Christmas Eve services. Those vouchers, which will only be valid for Christmas Eve, will enable worshipers to park for \$8. There will be no discounted Hancock parking this afternoon or evening.

We will worship on Christmas Day at 11:00 a.m. Nanette Sawyer will be preaching. Discounted parking (for \$8) will be available at the 900 N. Michigan garage only; the voucher will be available from reception (and valid only) tomorrow.



In order to conclude 2017 with a balanced budget, we are counting on gifts pledged for 2017 to be fully fulfilled by year end—and welcome additional generosity where it is possible! Those looking for information about making gifts through stock transfers or required distributions from one's IRA or even prepaying one's 2018 pledge are asked to contact Katy Frey Bever (312.981.3380; kbever@fourthchurch.org).

A **traditional Christmas dinner** will be served tomorrow at 12:15 p.m. in Anderson Hall as a time to share Christmas with friends new and old. Reservations (*required*) can be made with the receptionist.

A **New Year's Eve Taizé** service will be held at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel on Sunday, December 31. That day we will also worship in the morning at 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m. (*There will be no 4:00 p.m. jazz service on December 31.*) Nursery care will be available from 9:00 to 12:15 p.m. next Sunday, and usual Sunday morning parking discounts will apply. A special \$8 discounted parking voucher for the 900 N. Michigan garage will be available for worshippers attending 7:30 p.m. Taizé.

Through **"Light Up a Life" gifts**, you can remember or thank someone special while providing important year-end support of programs that help neighbors whose needs are great this holiday season. Gifts can be made online at www.fourthchurch.org

Expectations for the holidays and year end can be different from the realities, and the feelings of grief over losses heightened. Our Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being offers a supportive environment for reflecting on and coping with such experiences. For information, call the Center at 312.787.8425.

Daily Christmas devotions are available at facebook.com/fourthchurch, www.fourthchurch.org, and Twitter (@FourthChicago); via email (sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions); and in printed booklets in the literature racks.

Worship

Individuals can lift up prayer concerns with a Deacon in Stone Chapel following 11:00 a.m. worship today.

Weekly Morning Prayer will not be held this week but will resume on Wednesday, January 3 at 9:30 a.m. in Buchanan Chapel

Fellowship

The Young Adults group does not meet today or next Sunday but will resume their weekly Sunday Gatherings at 12:30 p.m. in Room 5A on Sunday, January 7.

Take part in our chili cook-off on Sunday noon, January 7! Enter your chili into the contest by signing up at www.bit.ly/chili1718. Or come enjoy chili for lunch that day. Proceeds support the summer youth mission trips.

Children, Youth, and Family

Sunday School does not meet today or next Sunday but will resume on January 7 at both 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Parents are encouraged to have their children join them in worship these weeks. Family worship bulletins are available from ushers.

Youth do not meet this Sunday or next but will resume their Sunday gatherings on January 7, when they will come together for fellowship at 10:30 a.m. in the Bumpus Room and group gatherings at 11:00 a.m.

Youth can sign up for 2018 summer mission trips at www.bit.ly/youthtrips2018

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
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Enrichment

Men's Bible Study next meets Tuesday, January 2 in the Loop at 7:30 a.m. To RSVP (*required*), contact Anne Ellis (312.573.3369; aellis@fourthchurch.org).

"Fifteen Days of Free Liberal Arts Education" describes the January Series of one-hour lectures offered by Calvin College and shown via live Internet video feed at Fourth Church on weekdays January 3–23 at 11:30 a.m. in the Page Smith Room: www.calvin.edu/january

Sunday morning adult education classes begin again on January 14. Details are available in the literature racks.

"How the Constant Use of Technology Is Changing Us" will be the topic of a one-day conference hosted at Fourth Church on Saturday, February 24 by the Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being. For details, contact Darlene Cunneen (dcunneen@fourthchurch.org).

A spiritual pilgrimage to Ghost Ranch, New Mexico, will be held April 6–13. Applications are due Monday, January 15. Information and an application form are online at www.bit.ly/ghostranch18

Mission and Outreach

Applications for the Mexico mission trip (the week of March 6–13) are due next Sunday, December 31. Details and an application form are available in the literature racks as well as online at www.fourthchurch.org/mission/trips

Fourth Church Prison Ministry will be launching in the new year. A one-session information time will be offered Sunday, January 7 at 12:20 p.m. and repeated on Sunday, January 14 at 12:20 p.m.

Our 25th-anniversary Gala of Hope will be held March 2 at the Radisson Blu Aqua.

The 2018 Chicago Marathon team for Chicago Lights is recruiting runners. To sign up, contact Lauren Suppes (312.981.3383; lsuppes@fourthchurch.org).

Volunteers/Donations Needed

Hosts on weekdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for the January Series

Leaders for 2018 youth mission trips; details and a sign-up form are online at www.bit.ly/youthtrips2018

To sign up or for information about other volunteer opportunities, stop by Coffee Hour today or contact Robert Crouch (312.981.3382; rcrouch@fourthchurch.org).

News and Resources

Martin Luther King Jr. weekend events that the Fourth Church Racial Equity Council invites you to consider are a labyrinth walk Saturday, January 13, 10:00–11:00 a.m., in Buchanan Chapel; a performance of *Too Hot to Handel: The Jazz-Gospel Messiah* (use code *RECFPC* for our group discount on reservations at www.bit.ly/2kfFyfA); and a "Faith in Action" assembly with the Community Renewal Society on Monday, January 15 at Old St. Patrick's Church (register at www.bit.ly/CRSMLK18).

New Stephen Ministers will begin their training February 3. Application information is in the literature racks.

Music and the Arts

This week's free Friday Noonday Concert will be presented by the Beena David Quartet at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Calendar for December 24–30, 2017

Sunday, December 24	Fourth Sunday of Advent Christmas Eve	
11:00 a.m.	Worship <i>Shannon J. Kershner preaching</i>	Sanctuary
12:00 p.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall / Commons
12:15 p.m.	Organ and Sanctuary Tours	Sanctuary
12:15 p.m.	Time of Prayer with Deacons	Stone Chapel
3:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.	Nursery	Nursery / Day School
4:00 p.m.	Children's Pageant	Sanctuary
6:00 p.m.	Family Service with Jazz <i>Shannon J. Kershner preaching</i>	Sanctuary
8:00 p.m.	Lessons and Carols <i>Shannon J. Kershner preaching</i>	Sanctuary
10:00 p.m.	Lessons and Carols <i>Shannon J. Kershner preaching</i>	Sanctuary
Monday, December 25	Christmas Day	
11:00 a.m.	Worship <i>Nanette Sawyer preaching</i>	Sanctuary
12:15 p.m.	Christmas Dinner	Anderson Hall
Tuesday, December 26	<i>Church Office Closed</i>	
Wednesday, December 27		
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Labyrinth Walk	Buchanan Chapel
12:00 to 1:00 p.m.	Meals Ministry Bag Lunches	Anderson Hall
Thursday, December 28		
12:00 to 1:00 p.m.	Meals Ministry Bag Lunches	Anderson Hall
Friday, December 29		
12:10 p.m.	Noonday Concert: Beena David Quartet	Sanctuary
Saturday, December 30	<i>Church Office Closed</i>	

Worship on the First Sunday after Christmas, December 31

8:00 a.m.	Matt Helms preaching Communion
9:30 and 11:00 a.m.	Matt Helms preaching
7:30 p.m.	New Year's Eve Taizé service

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.