

December 16–22, 2018

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago



News and Opportunities

Advent and Christmas

Advent Jazz worship with Communion is held Sundays at 4:00 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

Daily Advent devotions written by members and staff are available via email (subscribe online at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions); in the literature racks; and on facebook.com/fourthchurch, Twitter (@FourthChicago), and www.fourthchurch.org

The “Longest Night” service will be hosted by our Stephen Ministers this Tuesday, December 18 at 6:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. This “Blue Christmas” service recognizes the feelings of loneliness, alienation, and grief—personal and collective—that can make it difficult to share in the joyous celebrations of the Christmas season.

Next Sunday the Christmas cantata *A Ceremony of Carols* by Benjamin Britten will be sung by the Morning Choir as part of the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. services on December 23.

We will gather for four candlelight Christmas Eve services on Monday, December 24:

4:00 p.m. Children’s Pageant

6:00 p.m. Family Service

8:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols

10:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols

For those worshipping at 6:00, 8:00, or 10:00, all entry to the Sanctuary will be from Michigan Avenue entrances; those worshipers arriving before the Sanctuary has been emptied after the previous service will be invited to join the queue that will start at the glass Loggia doors (accessible via Michigan Avenue). Once those lines have dissipated, access will be allowed via the Sanctuary entrance on Michigan Avenue.

Nursery care on Christmas Eve will be available from 3:00 to 7:15 p.m. It will not be available during the last two services of the evening.

We will be live streaming the 8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service 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 at www.bit.ly/FPCworship will also be available after Christmas Eve.

We will worship on Christmas Day at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 25.

A traditional Christmas dinner will be held on Christmas Day at 12:15 p.m. in Anderson Hall as a time to share Christmas with friends new and old. Reservations (*required*) can be made online at www.bit.ly/cdin2018

A candlelit New Year’s Eve Taizé service will be held at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel on Monday, December 31. This service offers space for prayer as well as meditative pause for reflecting on the year past and looking ahead to the year to come.

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News and Resources

Expectations for the holidays can be different from the realities, and feelings of grief over losses can be heightened. Fourth Church's 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.

In order to conclude 2018 with a balanced budget, we are counting on gifts pledged for 2018 to be fully fulfilled by year end and welcome additional generosity where it is possible! If you anticipate being unable to fulfill your pledge, please let Andrea Miller know (312.640.2576) so we might plan accordingly. Thank you!

A weekday daytime training course for Stephen Ministers will begin in the spring. Those interested in this fifty-hour class—and making a two-year commitment to this ministry of caring—can find information at www.bit.ly/fpcstephen

The Deacons' Connection Corner during Coffee Hour offers opportunity to discover ways to get involved in the life of Fourth Church.

Worship

Individuals can lift up prayer concerns with a Deacon in Stone Chapel following 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship today.

Sacred Pause meditative silence—hosted by the Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being as well as our Spiritual Formation Council—is offered on Tuesdays at 7:45 a.m. in Stone Chapel.

Morning Prayer is held on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Buchanan Chapel as a time to join staff in prayer for Fourth Church members and those in need.

Mission

Fourth Church Prison Ministry is looking for volunteers to visit with men in a minimum-security space at the Cook County Jail. Learn more at an informational meeting today at 12:20 p.m. in Room 5F.

Mission trips to Cuba (May 6–15) and **Guatemala** (August 4–11) are being planned for 2019. Learn more or apply (*by January 15*) at www.fourthchurch.org/mission/trips

An insight trip to Alabama and Mississippi that focuses on the civil rights movement is being planned by the Racial Equity Council for October 26–November 2, 2019. Details and a trip application are available at www.bit.ly/crtrip2019

Information about ways to support immigrants at the southern border is available at www.bit.ly/fpcimmref or by contacting Vicky Curtiss (vcurtiss@fourthchurch.org).

The Gala of Hope—benefiting Chicago Lights, the nonprofit community outreach arm of Fourth Church, and the Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being—will be held Friday, March 1 at the Radisson Blu Aqua. Tickets will be available in January.

Enrichment

“Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about the Bible,” a monthly class led by Rocky Supinger and Matt Helms, meets today at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5G.

“Longing for God,” a class with Lucy Forster-Smith, concludes today at 11:00 a.m. in 5G.

Men’s Bible Study meets this Tuesday morning, December 18 in the Loop at 7:30 a.m. To RSVP (*required*), contact Anne Ellis (312.573.3369; aellis@fourthchurch.org).

Children, Youth, and Family

Sunday School meets today and next Sunday at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center. Next Sunday, December 23, rehearsal for the Christmas Pageant will follow the 11:00 a.m. session. There will be no Sunday School on December 30.

The all-youth Christmas party for those in grades 6–12 is being held this morning from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Bumpus. Confirmation (grade 8), which visited Chicago Sinai Congregation last week, meets with Sinai youth at 11:00 a.m. in 4G.

“Cookies, Cocoa, and Caroling” Family Night will be held this Friday evening, December 21 at 5:30 p.m. in Borwell Dining Room and will include a shared meal, cookie decorating, games, crafts, and caroling.

Our Day School will hold an open house on Saturday, January 12 from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. as a time for parents and children to learn about our weekday preschool program.

Next Sunday is the last day to sign up for the youth ski retreat, which will be the weekend of January 18–20; register at www.bit.ly/fpcski2019

Details about summer 2019 youth trips to New Jersey, Detroit, and the Presbyterian Youth Triennium are posted at www.bit.ly/summertrips19; register by January 15.

Fellowship

Today’s Coffee Hour is sponsored in honor of John M. Buchanan and Tom Dozeman by Michael M. Kazanjian. To sponsor Coffee Hour in recognition of a special occasion or in honor of someone, contact Anne Ellis (312.573.3369; aellis@fourthchurch.org).

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers to unload food trucks on second and fourth Monday mornings

Sunday Night Supper greeters and servers on Sundays from 3:45 to 6:15 p.m.

Candle-sleevors on Thursday, December 20 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. to prepare for Christmas Eve candlelight services

To sign up or to learn about other volunteer opportunities or donation needs, stop by Coffee Hour today or contact Robert Crouch (312.981.3382)

Music and the Arts

Organist John Sherer will perform this week’s free Friday Noonday Concert.

Calendar for December 16–22, 2018

Sunday, December 16 <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i>		
	8:00 a.m. Worship • Rocky Supinger preaching	Sanctuary
	9:00/10:00/10:30 a.m. Cherub/Youth/Children's Choir Rehearsals	Room 4F
9:00, 10:30 a.m./12:00 p.m.	Coffee Hour	Anderson Hall / Commons
9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.	Nursery	Nursery / Day School
	9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Worship • Shannon J. Kershner preaching	Sanctuary
	9:30 a.m. "Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about the Bible"	Room 5G
	9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday School	Gratz Center, Fourth Floor
	9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Youth Christmas Party	Bumpus Room
10:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.	Time of Prayer with Deacons	Stone Chapel
	11:00 a.m. Confirmation	Room 4G
	11:00 a.m. "Longing for God"	Room 5G
	12:00 p.m. New Member Brunch	Page Smith Room
	12:00 p.m. Sanctuary Tour	Sanctuary
	12:15 p.m. Organ Tour	Sanctuary
	12:20 p.m. Prison Ministry Information Session	Room 5F
	4:00 p.m. Jazz at Four • Shannon J. Kershner preaching	Buchanan Chapel
	5:00 p.m. Meals Ministry Sunday Night Supper	Anderson Hall
Monday, December 17		
	9:00 a.m. Day School Preschool (<i>also Tues.–Fri.</i>)	Day School Classrooms
	4:00 p.m. Meals Ministry Monday Night Supper	<i>Catholic Charities</i>
Tuesday, December 18		
	7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study	<i>(see announcement)</i>
	7:45 a.m. Sacred Pause Silent Meditation	Stone Chapel
12:00 to 1:00 p.m.	Meals Ministry Bag Lunches	Anderson Hall
	6:30 p.m. "Longest Night" Service	Buchanan Chapel
	7:00 p.m. Meditation with Replegle Center	Boyle Conference Room
Wednesday, December 19		
	9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer	Buchanan Chapel
	12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Meals Ministry Bag Lunches	Anderson Hall
Thursday, December 20		
	12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Meals Ministry Bag Lunches	Anderson Hall
	6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Friday, December 21		
	12:10 p.m. Noonday Concert: John Sherer, Organ	Sanctuary
	5:30 p.m. "Cookies, Cocoa, and Caroling" Family Night	Borwell Dining Room

Worship on December 23 *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

	8:00 a.m. Victoria G. Curtiss Communion	
	9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Christmas Cantata: Britten's <i>A Ceremony of Carols</i>	
	4:00 p.m. Joseph L. Morrow Jazz Communion	

For a complete Fourth Church calendar that includes links to register for programs and to add events to your own electronic calendar, see www.fourthchurch.org/calendar

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.