

September 22–28, 2019

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago

News and Opportunities



We are glad to have you with us today and hope you will explore the many opportunities for learning, serving, and community building at Fourth Church! * **Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ**, we welcome everyone, without exception, into the life of this congregation. * **We invite you to join us** at this intersection of faith and life as we share God's grace with one another and the world through worship and ministries of healing, reconciliation, and justice.

The Session of Fourth Presbyterian Church has called a **congregational meeting** for Sunday, September 29 immediately following the 11:00 a.m. service of worship. The purpose of the meeting will be twofold: to elect an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee for the newly defined position of Associate Pastor for Evangelism and Community Engagement and to elect a congregation member to fill an unexpired term on the Officer Nominating Committee.

The **Officer Nominating Committee** ► needs to receive approximately 150 more names—before September 30—of individuals you recommend to serve as Elder, Deacon, Trustee, or member of the Officer Nominating Committee or Chicago Lights Board. Please take a moment to make your recommendations this week in Coffee Hour or online: www.bit.ly/fpcnominating



Are you interested in exploring membership at Fourth Church? Join us for a two-session Inquirers' Class on Sundays, October 6 and 13 from 12:15 to 1:45 p.m. We will share a light lunch and faith stories, while talking about Reformed theology and Fourth Church, as well as explore how you want to connect with this community.

Today's **"A Year with the Bible"** class at 9:30 a.m. will focus on Genesis 17; next week we will discuss Exodus 3. Each class is self-contained, so join us whenever your schedule allows! * On Sunday, October 6, popular Academy for Faith and Life instructor **Tom Dozeman** will return to teach a four-week 9:30 a.m. class on **"Job, Suffering, and the Limits of Pastoral Care."**

This "News and Opportunities" insert is our invitation to you to join us in taking part in the programs and resources available to you here at Fourth Church, all of which welcome newcomers. On our website you will find even more opportunities, as well as the page www.fourthchurch.org/sign-up with details about signing up for the programs listed here.

To receive our weekly email newsletter, subscribe at www.bit.ly/newsfromfpc

Today we **dedicate the painting *The Ascension* by Gerald Griffin**, which was commissioned by our Racial Equity Council. All are invited to the Commons at 12:30 p.m. for the dedication of this artwork based on texts from Acts and Revelation and celebrating our vision to be a church family in whom persons of color are valued and fully engaged. * In honor of this dedication the Racial Equity Council is sponsoring this morning's **Coffee Hour**. (*To sponsor Coffee Hour in honor of a loved one or special occasion, see the sign-up page.*) * The council also asks that if you haven't yet done so, please **complete a brief survey** online at www.bit.ly/fpcresurvey or during Coffee Hour today. The results of that survey, which closes on September 29, will help the council develop recommendations for our moving toward becoming a fully multicultural, antiracist church.

The World Mission and Social Justice Committee is offering two learning opportunities today. All are invited to PC(USA) mission co-worker Cesar Carhuachin's presentation on **"God's Mission in Colombia"** at 11:00 a.m. in Borwell. * Those interested in learning about the **Fourth Church Jail Ministry** and how to be of service are invited to an information session today at 12:20 p.m. in Room 4F.

Next Sunday at all four worship services we will begin a **six-week sermon series**, "Remembering Our Past, Inspiring Our Future." Each week we will explore defining moments in the story of Fourth Presbyterian Church ► that to this day influence our ongoing commitment to participate in God's redemptive work and that shape the church we are continuing to become.



Shannon Kershner will join **Women at Fourth** this Thursday, September 26 at 5:30 p.m. to talk about **"The Church (big C) in a New Day"** and the Church's (not just Fourth Church) past, present, and future. * Women at Fourth will also be **tying ribbons** for Domestic Violence Awareness Month on October 4. See the sign-up page for more information. * **Books by Women** will discuss *So Big* by Edna Ferber on October 8. * **"Making Prisons More Humane"** is the October 4 topic for Cornerstones, a group for those over fifty. See the sign-up page to register and for more information.

All singers are welcome at the ► **Choral Society's** weekly rehearsals, which start this Thursday at 7:00 p.m., for their November 15 concert commemorating 1969. * Those interested in the **2020 Music Mission Choir** trip to Cuba are invited to an information session on October 6 at 12:30 p.m.



Did you know that more than 4,000 people around the world receive **devotions** from Fourth Church in their inbox every morning? To receive them by email, sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions).

They are also available at **facebook.com/fourthchurch**, **Twitter** (@FourthChicago), and www.fourthchurch.org; and in booklets in the literature racks.

The **Interfaith Relations Committee** invites you to join them in attending a dialogue on “Predestination,” an event cosponsored by the Ecumenical Interreligious Work Group of the Presbytery of Chicago and the Council of Islamic Organizations of Greater Chicago, which will be held this Thursday, September 26 at the Mecca Center in Willowbrook. See the sign-up page for details.

Our Spiritual Formation Council invites you to take part in a weekend **contemplative retreat at St. Benedict's Abbey** in Benet Lake, Wisconsin, October 11–13. For details or to register, see the sign-up page. The registration deadline is Wednesday, September 25.



Calling all creatures great and small! We're having our annual ◀ **Blessing of the Animals** service this Saturday, September 28 at 10:00 a.m. outdoors in the Fourth Church courtyard (or in Buchanan Chapel if there's rain). All pets on leashes or in carriers are welcome. If you'd rather not bring your pet, you're invited to bring your pet's photo to be blessed instead. Come help us celebrate God's creatures! * We are also in need of **ushers for the Blessing of the Animals** service on Saturday. If you can help, please see the sign-up page for details!

We are in need of assistance this autumn. Might you be able to help? * **Ushers** are needed to serve at the 8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and the 4:00 p.m. Jazz at Four services. * Chicago Lights needs **100 new tutors** this fall. A one-session **tutor orientation** is offered for those interested. * Throughout September, Fourth Church Meals Ministry is holding a **snack drive** to collect individually packaged, single-serving snacks to put in the sacks distributed in Anderson Hall on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays as part of our Bag Lunch program. Learn more at the Meals Ministry cart during Coffee Hour! * For more information about these opportunities, please see the sign-up page.

Monthly Generosity Report

We are grateful to all who have made gifts in support of our mission and ministry this year. Thank you! The summary of those contributions to Fourth Presbyterian Church as of August 31, 2019, is as follows:

Fourth Presbyterian Church Generosity Report — Contributions as of August 31, 2019				
<i>YTD = Year-to-Date</i>	YTD Actual	YTD Budgeted	YTD Variance	2019 Budget
General contributions	\$568,117	\$683,742	(\$115,625)	\$1,346,343
Pledged contribution	\$1,971,819	\$1,968,667	\$51,430	\$3,110,225
Loose-plate offering	\$70,704	\$79,872	(\$9,168)	\$144,000
Restricted contributions	\$371,817	\$279,396	\$92,422	\$515,700
Total contributions	\$2,982,457	\$3,011,677	(\$29,220)	\$5,116,268

For details about events and opportunities, go to www.fourthchurch.org/sign-up

Calendar for September 22–28, 2019

Sunday, September 22	8:00 a.m. Worship • Rocky Supinger preaching.	Sanctuary
	8:00 a.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal	Buchanan Chapel Choir Loft
	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 a.m. "Economics of Discipleship"	Room 5E
	9:30 a.m. Junior High Youth Group	Bumpus Room
	9:30 a.m. "A Year with the Bible".	Room 5G
	9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday School.	Gratz Fourth Floor
	9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Worship • Shannon J. Kershner preaching.	Sanctuary
	10:30 a.m. All-Youth Fellowship.	Allison Library
	10:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. Time of Prayer with Deacons	Stone Chapel
	11:00 a.m. "Christian Meditation".	Room 5E
	11:00 a.m. "God's Mission in Colombia"	Borwell Dining Room
	11:00 a.m. Senior High Youth Group	Bumpus Room
	12:00 p.m. Sanctuary Tour	Sanctuary
	12:15 p.m. Organ Tour	Sanctuary
	12:15 p.m. LGBTQIA+ Brunch.	Meet at Coffee Hour
	12:30 p.m. <i>The Ascension</i> Dedication	The Commons
	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, September 23.	9:00 a.m. Day School (<i>also Tues.–Fri.</i>)	Day School Classrooms
	4:00 p.m. Meals Ministry Monday Night Supper	<i>Catholic Charities</i>
Tuesday, September 24	7:45 a.m. Sacred Pause Meditation	Stone Chapel
	12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Meals Ministry Bag Lunches (<i>also Wed.–Thurs.</i>)	Anderson Hall
	6:00 p.m. New Tutor Orientation.	Borwell Dining Room
Wednesday, September 25	9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer.	Buchanan Chapel
	9:30 a.m. Benevolent Guild	Room 5B
Thursday, September 26	7:00 a.m. Men's Faith Discussion Group	Randolph Room
	5:30 p.m. Women at Fourth	Bumpus Room
	6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
	7:00 p.m. Choral Society Rehearsal	Buchanan Chapel
Friday, September 27	12:10 p.m. Noonday Concert: John W. W. Sherer, organ.	Sanctuary
Saturday, September 28	10:30 a.m. Urban Farm Farmstand Open (<i>until 3:00 p.m.</i>)	444 W. Chicago Ave.

See www.fourthchurch.org/calendar
for a complete events calendar, including online registration links.

www.fourthchurch.org • www.facebook.com/fourthchurch • www.instagram.com/fourthchurch

News and Opportunities, which is distributed during Sunday worship, is also available in the church literature racks and at www.fourthchurch.org. The reception desk of Fourth Presbyterian Church is at 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014. Phone: 312.787.4570 | www.fourthchurch.org | www.facebook.com/fourthchurch