

FOURTH PRESS

Annual
Report
Issue

The monthly newsletter of the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago • February 2007

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago 2006 Annual Report

Dear Friends,

It has been more than twenty years since I walked through the doors of this wonderful institution as its pastor, and there has not been a day in those years that I have not experienced a sense of wonder and deep gratitude for the great privilege of it. It's how I begin every Sunday. I like to walk the several blocks between home and Fourth Church early Sunday morning. The sidewalk is



mostly empty except for an occasional runner or walker or early-rising hotel guests sipping Starbucks while in search of a newspaper. The sanctuary doors are already standing open: ushers and house staff are making final preparations for the 2,000 or so people who will come to worship during the morning. No detail is too small: the tiny panes of glass in the narthex

doors are cleaned and polished; hymnals and Bibles are straightened and arranged in a precise alternating pattern in each pew rack; bulletins are in their assigned location; roses in the chancel are placed in their vase; water glasses behind the lectern are filled; organists are going over the morning's program and rehearsing the opening hymn. For me it is a private moment of gratitude and wonder, a call to worship and to the day's—and week's—busy mission. I often think to myself, "This is the day the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it."

I'm writing on the last day of 2006 and thinking about what a good and important year it has been in the life of the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago. We added two gifted Associate Pastors to our staff: Adam Fronczek in Adult Education and Worship and John Vest in Youth Ministry. Both Adam and John have made easy transitions into the life of Fourth Church and are already making major contributions. Ali Trowbridge returned from maternity leave after the birth of daughter Lilly to

assume responsibility for Congregational Care. Elizabeth Andrews moved to a part-time position of Parish Associate to work with Ali, and Joyce Shin, who was an intern here years ago and is in the PhD program at the University of Chicago, stepped in to help out with Congregational Activities. These additions bring the staff close to full strength, and the particular mix of these gifted colleagues makes coming to work a true joy. Dana Ferguson's strong and graceful leadership as Executive Associate Pastor is a real gift, as is the steady and faithful ministry of Calum MacLeod in Evangelism, Donna Gray in Children's Education, and Keith Harris in Community Ministry. Tom Rook and John Boyle, Parish Associates, provide additional pastoral care and leadership. Tom Schemper (Counseling Center), John Sherer (Music and Organist), Ann Rehfeldt (Communications), Lisa Radetski (Giving Ministries), and Beth Truett (Chicago Lights) complete the Program Staff, and each brings expertise, wisdom, and a lively personal faith to our common ministry. After a decade as my Executive Assistant, Judi Simon retired in August and moved, with husband Marc, to Moab, Utah. Barbara Cleveland, happily, is my new assistant. Barbara brings a wealth of skills and a deep understanding of and love for the church to her job. I could not be happier.

Several highlights of the year for me were—

- The two-week residency of Professor Walter Brueggemann, distinguished theologian and biblical scholar, in May and June. Walter preached twice and delighted and inspired large audiences with a series of lectures in Anderson Hall.
- The public lecture and reading by poet and author Wendell Berry, one of my favorite writers. The presence of Brueggemann and Berry were special gifts to me on the twentieth anniversary of my ministry here, an honor for which I am deeply grateful.

(continued on page 2)

The 137th Annual Meeting of the Congregation

Sunday, February 11, 2007 • In the sanctuary after 11:00 worship

Congregational dinner to follow in Anderson Hall

(February worship schedule and other monthly information is on pages 22–24)

- Dave Brubeck brought his quartet back to Fourth Church and presented a stunning concert of classical jazz and, with our Morning Choir, his own compositions of sacred music.
- Our mission outreach programs continued to serve our neighbors and, just as importantly, to make a visible witness to the world about what Christian faith is all about, a witness in sharp contrast to what the world sees and reads in the media about Christianity. Each program continued its mission faithfully:

The Programs of Chicago Lights
Elam Davies Social Service Center
Center for Older Adults, recently renamed
Center for Life and Learning
Center for Whole Health
Near North Magnet Cluster
Tutoring and Scholarship
Summer Day
 The Chicago Avenue Community Garden
 The Lorene Replogle Counseling Center
 The Fourth Church Day School
 The Children's Center

In addition to these Fourth Presbyterian Church projects, we are involved globally in an AIDS clinic in Cameroon, Habitat for Humanity in Honduras, and mission work trips to New Orleans, Guatemala, the Pine Ridge and Rosebud Indian Reservations, and Cuba. We continue to support the worldwide mission of the Presbyterian Church (USA), the Synod of Lincoln Trails, and the Presbytery of Chicago and the work of various mission partners locally, nationally, and globally. Mission represents 40 percent of our budget, approximately \$3.6 million.

One of the most important activities during the year was one of the least visible. The management of this wonderful church is complicated, to say the least. Church budgets are built not only on missional aspirations but also financial realities, including income from invested funds, bequests and gifts, special offerings, program fees, and, the largest component, pledges and contributions. A special Financial Planning Task Force was assembled to evaluate our operations, budget processes, to make projections about future income and spending needs and to present recommendations to the Session and Board of Trustees. We put some of the best financial minds in the congregation to work on the project, and they have produced a very helpful and long-reaching report. Included are budget projections and disciplines going forward and a strong recommendation that we do a better job of communicating financial needs and realities of the church to all of our members. We began

to do that during the year with positive results, and we will continue. Our goal is for every one of our 5,771 members to know what our church is doing and to participate in its support with a generous and faithful pledge.

In the meantime, we continue to anticipate the expansion of our facilities and the strengthening of Fourth Church for the future through the goals of Project Light. Wonderful sanctuary improvements were accomplished during the year: a new floor, new pews fabricated and installed, and a new sound system that also includes an induction loop to augment hearing devices, in addition to exterior lights and repairs. The sanctuary is now compliant with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. We fully anticipate resolution in the next year to building plans to provide desperately needed new program and mission space.

What an amazing institution this is. What a privilege it is to be part of it all!

"This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Faithfully,



P. S. A note about our Christmas Eve broadcast in 2006: For the past four years, our 8:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols has been televised on CBS Channel 2 at 10:35 p.m. on Christmas Eve and again on Christmas morning. In 2005, a huge trailer loaded with equipment was parked in the church lot during the day of the 24th as cables were assembled and placed throughout the sanctuary and television cameras were stationed on the chancel floor and balconies. A Channel 2 crew worked that entire day setting up, expertly taped the 8:30 p.m. service and broadcast it at 10:35 p.m. that night. In 2006, however, because the 24th was a Sunday and the sanctuary was in use from morning till night, the necessary technological preparation could not happen that day. So Channel 2 suggested that we rebroadcast the Christmas Eve 2005 service. We agreed, announced for weeks in advance that was what we were doing, and also announced at the head of the program "This is a rebroadcast of the December 24, 2005, service."

I knew it didn't work when my son-in-law tuned in to Channel 2 on Christmas Eve and said to my daughter, "Your father must be losing it. He's telling the same stories he told last year."

So if you are wondering or if you are asked: the 2006 Christmas Eve and Christmas Day broadcasts were indeed a rebroadcast of the 2005 service.

Volume 21, Issue 6, February 2007. *Fourth Press* (USPS 015-016) is published monthly by the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago, John M. Buchanan, Pastor. Mailing address: 126 East Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014. Church office: 312.787.4570. Staff directory: 312.787.2729. Website: www.fourthchurch.org. *Fourth Press* is published for church members and friends. Periodical postage paid at Chicago, Ill. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Fourth Press*, 126 East Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014

In the spirit of good stewardship of God's resources, this newsletter is printed with biodegradable and soy inks on recycled paper.

Celebration and Gratitude for Faithful Giving

We are deeply grateful for generous and faithful giving and pledging by members and friends of Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Thank you to all those who fulfilled 2006 pledges. Members and friends who have not fulfilled last year's pledges are urged to do so: at year end, more than 10 percent of 2006 pledges were unfulfilled. Not only does this create significant monetary challenges for the church, but it greatly inhibits the ability of church leaders to plan a budget based on pledges being honored. Each and every dollar pledged and received by the church makes a difference in the ministry and work of the congregation.

Thank you to all who made a pledge for 2007, particularly to the 461 households who raised their pledges and to the 211 households who made a pledge for the first time. The Stewardship and Giving Committee is working hard to increase the percentage of our members who support the church on a regular basis. While there are still 300 households who pledged in 2006 and have not yet renewed, compared to last year at this time participation has increased by 18 percent.

Thank you to everyone who has helped Fourth Church reach an all-time high of \$2.98 million in pledges, bringing the 2007 Stewardship campaign ever closer to the goal of \$3 million.

We are also profoundly grateful for those who made special year-end gifts and for an extraordinarily generous gift of \$500,000, which will enable Fourth Church to move into the new year with a responsible and balanced budget.

And so it is that Fourth Presbyterian Church will continue to serve our members and neighbors as a "Light in the City."

Thank you to all!

Milestones

During 2006, the following changes took place in the church records.

Total membership at the conclusion of 2006: 5,771

(Total membership at the conclusion of 2005: 5,554)

Persons received into membership: 309

Members transferred to other churches: 71

Persons ordained to Ministry of Word and Sacrament: 2

Members requesting removal, apart from transfers: 21

Members who died: 22

We regret to record the deaths of the following persons and wish to extend our sympathy to their families and friends.

June Allen	Virginia Keller	Lucile O'Daniell
Joan D. Armstrong	Jane Kennedy	Ruth Ostrom
Richard Aulie	Mary Catherine Lane	Joe Rapf
Robert W. Bergstrom	John L. Lowry	Theresa Sanderson
Marion Crosby	Rachel Marshall	Marian Shively
Marilyn Guild	James McWilliams	Phyllis Willett
Janice Hufford	Marisa Landa Ness	
William Hutchinson	Trinda O'Connor	

Milestones

We rejoice in the Sacrament of Baptism of the following children.

Amy Marie Ackerman
Joseph Justin Ackerman
Georgia Catherine Alford
Dominic Salvatore Amato
Elizabeth Ann Arnquist
Michael Steven Avakian
James Alexander Baverman
Zachary Alen Bedrosian
Jacob Walter Bennett
Luke Christopher Benson
Henry Theodore Berg
Lilliana Kearney Buchanan
Anna Brady Calkins
Zara Grace Campbell
Nathan Bruce Canning
John William Carlson
Aidan Cordell Castette
Kelsey Susan Castette
Benjamin Hanmin Cesario
Anabella Helen Cesca
Elizabeth Yuna Choi
Caroline Elizabeth Christon
Katherine Elle Clausen
Ava Fay Coghill
Timothy Paul Cook
Sydney Ray Cornell
Charles William Cox
Bradley Stockton Crawford
Caroline Shortridge Crawford
Katherine Mei Crawford
Catherine Elizabeth Cupps
Leigh Elias Curry
James Patrick Daw
Logan Michael Day
Maxwell Joseph Day
Connor James Patrick Dell
Anya Wen Donicht
Michael David Dutter II
Henry David Eldersveld
Maxwell Morgan Engel
Kamryn Reid Eskew
Anya Jean Farb
Sadie Elizabeth Feddersen
Benjamin Paul Finnane

Dylan Gregory Forrest
Danielle Elizabeth Free
Isadora Love Fuller
Katherine Grace Garr
Samuel Richard Gault
Ella Cauvery Gauri
Ruth Isabel Gelling
Taylor J. Golubiak
Aaric Harrison Gray
John Connor Gray
Anne Evans Hallinan
Katherine Genet Hallinan
Taylor Dorothy Hannafan
Chloe Price Harwood
Lena Jane Heather
Matea Magers Hewitt
David Stephen Ho
Jackson Tyler Jafri
Audrey Witmer Jeffery
Chase Ann Kickhaefer
Gabriella Rose Knapp
Julia Marlene Kozlowski
Shane Kiril Leveau
Drew Emory Lingenfelter
Rocque Edward Lipford
Stuart Sinclair Lippincott
Camilla Reilly Locsin
Ryan Wilhelm Luedtke
Ewan Harrison MacLean
Kendall Grace Malover
Natalie Kate Malover
Victoria Crawford Makowski
Delia Grace Marianetti
Penelope Constance Marquez
Nolan Andrew Masters
Parker Ann Matthews
Hayley Engel McAdams
Alexander William McClory
Ella Kathleen McClory
Carly Rose McConnell
Rose Elizabeth McGrath
Jackson Menendez
Charles David Mitchell
Hayden Michael Mixon

Lydia Douglass Muldoon
Jack Tyler Murray
Sophia Morgan Nuciforo
Preston Tom Olofson
Kiley Dare O'Shaughnessy
Kees Ekko Ottens
Katelyn Joan Paeth
Molly Elizabeth Paeth
Ella Bohnet Patterson
Grant Robert Pearson
Hunter James Pearson
Amelia Grace Petty
William Tyler Phippen
Jackson Hendry Piermont
Jack Logan Racine
Olivia Mary Raemisch
Henry Thomas Zwingli Ramsey
Lucia Elizabeth Ross
Sydney Katherine Ross
Madison Sipay Rozwat
Alexander Hartley Ruppel
Livia Franzen Satre
Valerie Josette Schimp
Jonathan David Schroeder
Sara Nash Schubert
Blaire Margaret Sheftel
Daniel Theodore Shepin
Erica Irene Sherkin
David Charles Shuel
Lauren Elizabeth Smilie
Scarlett Engel Smith
Griffen Carlos Snyder
Kirsten Sophie Sprang
Benjamin Hamilton Starmann
Jessica Marie Steltman
Russell Paul Stewart
Sadie Loren Strong
Jane Hale Taner
Kellen David Tran
Haylee Eleanor Tripi
Tyler James Turner
John Patterson Ullem
Luke Christopher Van Overmeiren
Kathelyn Anita Wallace

The Boards

The belief that the people of God are called to be leaders is at the heart of the Presbyterian way. This commitment manifests itself in a style of “representative democracy” that is unique in the worldwide church. This representative democracy is embodied in the boards of the church: the Session, the Board of Trustees, and the Board of Deacons. The officers who serve on these boards have been identified for their gifts of leadership and commitment to the life and ministry of this congregation and are elected to three-year terms by the congregation. These elections are held each February. Officers are then ordained and installed in May, when they begin their term of service. This report gratefully acknowledges all those who served as officers during 2006: those whose term ended in May, those whose term began then, and those whose term continued throughout the year.



Fourth Church concludes its commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of John Buchanan’s ministry in Chicago by hosting an evening with poet, essayist, and novelist Wendell Berry. On October 4, Berry delights the large crowd with readings of some of his most recent poems, from 2005 and 2006, and the short story “The Requirement.”

The Board of Deacons

The Board of Deacons is often called “the heart of the church.” Deacons are responsible for the care of the congregation and outreach ministries. Each Sunday they staff the volunteer table during Coffee Hour, provide intercessory prayer in Stone Chapel after 11:00 worship, conduct a tour of the church, and welcome visitors to the narthex on Sunday afternoons.

The theme “Faith in Community” has provided the foundation upon which current Deacon programming has been developed. Special speakers have illuminated this theme for the board: Cynthia Campbell, President of McCormick Theological Seminary, offered highlights from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA), and Homer Ashby, Professor of Pastoral Care at McCormick, spoke on vocation. The Deacons continue to live out their ministry through their help with Sunday Night Supper at Fourth Church, the Deacon-initiated Monday Night Supper at Catholic Charities, and Youth Tennis Camp. Enhancements to their fellowship opportunities have included a dinner prior to their meetings and working together on a Deacons plot at the Chicago Avenue Garden. Two significant new initiatives have been (1) a focus on “Protecting God’s Creation,” which has included working with other Fourth Church programs to host a screening of *An Inconvenient Truth* and an Academy class on ecology and theology and installing more energy-efficient lighting in the



*Fourth Church children and youth treat family and friends to two wonderful performances of the musical *The Rock Slinger and His Greatest Hit*, a lively retelling of the story of David and Goliath, on October 20 and 21.*



Jazz legend Dave Brubeck and the Dave Brubeck Quartet (including saxophonist Bobby Militello) fill the sanctuary for a performance with the Fourth Church Morning Choir and Tower Brass on Wednesday, October 11.



On Wednesday, January 25, the Souper Bowl Blitzathon makes its Illinois stop at Fourth Church, where Lieutenant Governor Pat Quinn holds a press conference in support of Souper Bowl 2006. Souper Bowl founder Brad Smith recognizes Fourth Church youth, who in 2005 collected the most contributions to the Souper Bowl of any Illinois group. In 2006, the youth are successful again, collecting \$3,900 to support the Elam Davies Social Service Center.

Page Smith Room and (2) enhancing the Intercessory Prayer program.

Ended their term of service in 2006: Vann Avedisian, Richard Barrett, Allison Burke, Ranjan Daniels, Lisa Garay, Marty Hansen, Emily Hartnell, Barbara Joabson, Greg Lewis, Clare Monroe, Dean Nelson, Ben Schemper, Jason Schubert, Marge Shelton, Jeff Spang, Christie Valentine, Doris Yancy

Continued their term of service: Lisa Armstrong, John Bell, Gayle Birdsong, Irene Bumpus, Esther Cesario, Milt Clark, Delia Coleman, Jessica Corlett Gregory, Todd DeStigter, Lou DiCerbo, Don DuPree, Debbie Frisch, Carol Gates, Ryan Gregory, Beverly Kowatch, Arnie Lenters, Diane Meister, Cris Ohr, Don Outlaw, Doug Pond, Jane Purdy, Byron Reed, Gail Riggs, Kari Sanderson, Andrew Shih, Rob Sinclair, Mark Staublin, Alison Thomas, Stephanette Walker, Mary Kay Wysham, Kim Yaung

Began their term in 2006: Florence Adibu, Stu Bradley, Ed Coke, Bennie Davis, Austin Garfield, Alison Gerlach, Alice Hamilton, Courtney Hartford, Deborah Johnson, Barbara Maloof, Melanie Oh, Lori Payeur, Joe Pixler, Leon Rinkenberger, Stanley Smith, Akiko Tarumoto, Seth Tuscher, Barbara Waters, Stuart Whitmore

Staff liaison: Alice M. Trowbridge, Associate Pastor

The Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees oversees the financial life of the church, including the endowment. Through their Investment Committee and with the assistance of investment consultants, the Trustees manage asset allocation and exercise the authority to receive, hold, manage, and transfer property.

Ended their term in 2006: Mark Bereyso, Katheryn Dutenhaver, Betsy Finkelmeier, Armon Haagen, Billye Jennings, Rick Mayer, Martin Sherrod, Anne Voshel

Continued their term of service: Nancy Brown, Marilynn Cason, Juli Crabtree, Lloyd Culbertson, David Eldersveld, Bryan Erler, Paul Gignilliat, Patsy Habicht, Elinore Hite, Clarence Johnson, Andy McGaan, Steve Philip, S. L. Van Der Zanden

Began their term in 2006: Deborah Bricker, Rebecca Dixon, Joan Hall, Susan M. Hill, Marc Miller, Bob Parsons, Dennis Thorn, Linda Valentine

Staff liaisons: John M. Buchanan, Pastor; Dana Ferguson, Executive Associate Pastor; Don Allerton, Interim Director of Project Light; Bob Doak, Interim Director of Business Administration; Lisa Radetski, Director of Giving Ministries

Joint Finance

The Joint Finance Committee is responsible for ensuring that the financial operations of Fourth Presbyterian Church are managed effectively to support internal programs and mission outreach. The annual budget of the church is approved by the committee, which includes members of the Board of Trustees and the Session.

Committee members: Mark Bereyso; Vern Broders; Nancy Brown; Lloyd Culbertson; Ralph Fujimoto; Paul Gignilliat; Armon Haagen; Marilee Hopkins, treasurer; Tom Howell; Arnie Lenters; Larry McCracken; Andy McGaan; Marc Miller; Steve Philip; Tony Ruger; Marty Sherrod; Bob Unglaub; Linda Valentine; Doris Yancey

Staff liaisons: John M. Buchanan, Pastor; Dana Ferguson, Executive Associate Pastor; Don Allerton, Interim Director of Project Light; Bob Doak, Interim Director of Business Administration; Lisa Radetski, Director of Giving Ministries

The Session

The Session, which is the governing body of the church, is made up of thirty-seven Elders (the translation of the Greek word *presbyters*). The Session is responsible for the whole life and ministry of Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Particular Session responsibilities include receiving new members; leading the congregation in mission; providing for worship and the administration of the sacraments—baptism and communion; offering educational programs, care and nurture, and fellowship opportunities; and challenging the congregation in its stewardship of time, talent, and financial resources.

Included in the work of the Session in 2006, and in collaboration with the Trustees,

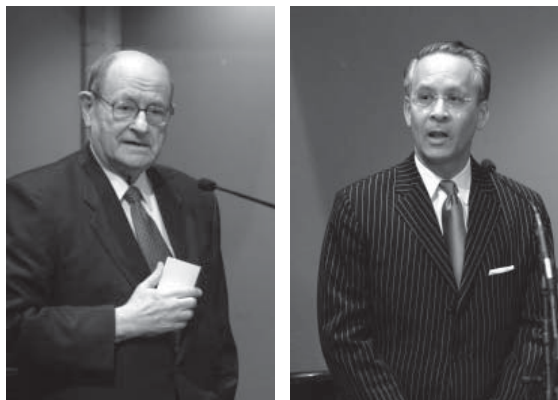


Audience members learn about the life, music, and legacy of Oscar Brown Jr. through the 2006 Festival of the Heart, "Never Too Far," on May 24–26. Students of the Cabrini-Green schools of Jenner Academy, Manierre, and Schiller take the stage for five performances of this original production, cowritten by Brown's daughter, Maggie Brown, and produced by Chicago Lights' Near North Magnet Cluster Director, Diana Anton.



For the ninth year, Fourth Church marks Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month by tying blue bows to the trees outside the cloisters. This year worshipers join in remembering abused children by tying bows to a rope in the Loggia after worship on Sunday morning, April 2. This rope is then added to the bows tied to the trees by Women@Fourth Connect and other volunteers on Monday. The activities on Monday begin with a prayer service and a statewide press conference, at which Senator Dick Durbin speaks.

Having served some twenty years as Clerk of Session (including two years under Elam Davies' pastorate), Clyde Bowles steps down in May to hand over the church's senior lay leadership position to the newly elected Martin (Marty) Sherrod.



One hundred and thirty-five years to the date of its first congregational meeting in 1871, Fourth Presbyterian Church holds its annual meeting on Sunday, February 12. The meeting includes the election of new officers, to be ordained and installed May 7. Afterwards, the congregation gathers for dinner in Anderson Hall, where John Buchanan and others pause to extend ninety-sixth birthday greetings to Helen Carstensen.



After several weeks of rehearsals, the Children's and Youth Choirs join with the Morning Choir to present John Rutter's Mass of the Children during 9:30 worship on Sunday, February 26. A chamber orchestra provides accompaniment for this major work, a forty-minute piece that brings together the ancient text of the mass—Kyrie, Gloria, Sanctus, and Agnus Dei—with poetry by Thomas Ken, William Blake, Lancelot Andrews, and St. Patrick.

was a commitment to invest in the Middle East. As a result, Fourth Church set aside one percent of its invested funds to make a positive difference in Israel and the Palestinian territories. It invested a portion of that in five Israeli companies and committed \$20,000 to UNICEF for its work in relief for Palestinian children. The Session also continued its ongoing and wide-ranging work in the mission and ministry of this congregation, carrying out its responsibilities through the several committees that report to the Session. Those individual committee reports make up the remainder of this 2006 Annual Report and include a listing of those who so graciously gave of their time and talent in serving on these committees during 2006.

Ended their term in 2006: Phil Calian, Richard Carlson, Barbara Cleveland, Lillian Davidson, Andy Ekern, Mason Essif, Michelle Holmes, Tom Howell Jr., Missy MacLeod, Marc Miller, Karen Otto, Amy Pagliarella-Foley, Polly Peters-Bottrell, Jason Tuscher, Gretchen Wahl

Continued their term of service: Bill Becker, Betty Bergstrom, Jeanne Bishop, Gerald Bloomer, David Crawford, Beth Davis, Elizabeth Foster, Kerry Grady, Jane Hunt, Betty Hutchison, Jerry Latherow, Gunnbjorg Lavoll, Carl Lingenfelter, Carol Lobbes, Larry McCracken, Ann Mellott, Ed Miller, Mark Nelson, Sylvia Robertson, Rick Sabol, Sue Schemper, Bob Unglaub

Began their term in 2006: Mark Bereyso, Lisa Doak, Sam Evans, Arlene Faulk, Jay Frey, Ann Kingstrom, Lars Lofgren, David Miller, Francis Ntowe-Fankam, Janet S. Reed, Tony Ruger, Mary Schaafsma, Ben Schemper, Claudia Winkler, Allison Youngblood

Clyde O. Bowles Jr., Clerk of Session
(through May 12, 2006)
Martin Sherrod, Clerk of Session
(beginning May 12, 2006)
John M. Buchanan, Moderator

Adult Education

The Adult Education Committee provides for the education and spiritual growth of Fourth Church members and visitors through the Academy for Faith and Life, Bible study groups, officer training, Michigan Avenue Forums, the Borden Library, tape and transcript ministries, and educational collaboration with other church programs.

Through the Academy, the committee

offers courses in the areas of Bible, contemporary discipleship, history of the church and world religions, spiritual life, and theology. This year, the committee has been examining how it might broaden its audience and share its resources by experimenting with different teaching methods and schedules and working cooperatively with other Fourth Church programs. One example is the “Wrestling with Scripture” class, led by Adam Fronczek, which gave participants an opportunity to study the Bible in small groups facilitated by pastoral residents. The curriculum was shared with the Young Adults group later in the fall and will be a part of other educational offerings in 2007.

The Adult Education Committee also makes arrangements for a variety of additional opportunities for education at Fourth Church. Bible study and book groups gather throughout the week, and special events with outside speakers continue to bring top minds to the community. Novelist, poet, and essayist Wendell Berry and theologian Harvey Cox each gave presentations to large gatherings in the sanctuary. An educational highlight of 2006 was Walter Brueggemann’s visit during the month of June as Theologian in Residence. Dr. Brueggemann’s morning and evening lectures attracted hundreds of members and guests and provided great fodder for discussions throughout the year.

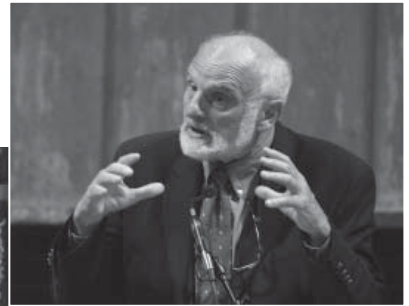
During the first half of 2006, the committee continued to provide excellent classes under the leadership of committee chair Jane Hunt and Pastoral Resident Erica Schemper. In May, the committee was pleased to welcome Adam Fronczek as Associate Pastor for Adult Education and Worship, and Carol Lobbes joined Jane Hunt in chairing the committee.

Committee members: Annette Bacon, Michael Ban, Martha Brown, Allison Pay Crawford, Jan Feldman, Jane Hunt, Carol Lobbes, Missy MacLeod, David Miller, Deborah Mitchell, Ken Ohr, Larry Thomas, Nora Wiltse

Staff liaison: Adam Fronczek, Associate Pastor for Adult Education and Worship

Associate Pastor Nominating Committees

In May 2005, the congregation elected two Associate Pastor Nominating Committees to identify and present candidates for the positions of Associate Pastor for Adult



In late May and June, Fourth Church hosts Walter Brueggemann as Theologian in Residence. This event is part of the celebration of John Buchanan’s twentieth anniversary of ministry at Fourth Church. During his time in Chicago, Dr. Brueggemann, a renowned theologian and Old Testament scholar, keeps a full schedule of preaching, teaching, and speaking at Fourth Church.



On Wednesday, January 25, Martin Doblemeier, director of the film Bonhoeffer, participates in the panel discussion that follows a showing of the documentary at Chicago Sinai Congregation. Rabbi Michael Sternfield (left) and Martin Marty (right) join Bonhoeffer scholars Robin Lovin, Brent Laytham, and Nancy Bedford as panel members. The event, cosponsored by Chicago Sinai, Fourth Church, and the Christian Century, marks the 100th anniversary of Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s birth. The New York Times describes the film as “a touching narrative on the nature of faith.”



On Sunday, May 7, participants in the John Knox Bible Study gather to mark the class’s eighty-third anniversary. The oldest continuous Bible study in Chicago, this New Testament class was first held on May 6, 1923. It continues to meet year round on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the Page Smith Room and focuses each week on several biblical verses through lecture and discussion



On March 26, Junior Highs sort clothes donated to the Elam Davies Social Service Center. Their service project includes putting away the winter items and organizing spring and summer clothing.



On Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Fourth Church Senior Highs join 250 youth representing various faith communities, college campuses, and local organizations from the Chicagoland area for a day of meeting one another, engaging in a service project, and sharing how their faiths inspire them to serve the broader community.



Two Associate Pastors accept their first call, are ordained as Ministers of Word and Sacrament, and join the Fourth Church staff in 2006: Adam Fronczek (left), who is installed on July 23 as Associate Pastor for Adult Education and Worship, and John Vest, who is installed on October 15 as Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry.



Education and Worship and Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry

After a thorough and thoughtful search, the Adult Education and Worship Associate Pastor Nominating Committee recommended Adam Fronczek to the congregation on Sunday, March 12. He was enthusiastically elected by the congregation that day and joined the Fourth Church staff in mid-May. On Sunday, July 23, he was installed as Associate Pastor for Adult Education and Worship during the 11:00 service.

On Sunday, June 11, the Youth Ministry Associate Pastor Nominating Committee presented the results of their hard work, recommending John Vest as a candidate for Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry. He too was enthusiastically received and elected by the congregation. He began his work with the Fourth Church youth in July and was both ordained to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament and installed as Associate Pastor during Vespers on Sunday, October 15.

At a congregational meeting held on Sunday, October 22, the congregation heard that Ali Trowbridge, who had been on maternity leave from her position as Associate Pastor for Congregational Life, would be returning as Associate Pastor for Congregational Care, a role that Elizabeth Andrews had been filling on an interim basis after Carol Allen's retirement. (Elizabeth has since joined John Boyle and Tom Rook as a Parish Associate.) Consequently, the congregation voted to request that the Presbytery of Chicago establish an additional Associate Pastor position for Fourth Church, one that would be filled by a new Associate Pastor for Congregational Life. The congregation then elected an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee consisting of Kathryn Dutenhaver, Elinor Hite, Jerry Latherow, Sylvia Robertson, and Rick Sabol to search for a candidate once Presbytery approval of the position was received. The committee plans to recommend to the congregation in 2007 a candidate for Associate Pastor for Congregational Life.

Adult Education and Worship Associate Pastor Nominating Committee: Martha Brown, Ranjan Daniels, Arlene Faulk, Jan Feldman, Don Horvath, Andy McGaan

Youth Ministry Associate Pastor Nominating Committee: Steve Bumpus, Ben Carlisle, Jessica Corlett, Jeremy Lewis, Sue Schemper, Donna Reece Stein, Gretchen Wahl

Congregational Life Associate Pastor Nominating Committee: Kathryn Dutenhaver, Elinor Hite, Jerry Latherow, Sylvia Robertson, Rick Sabol

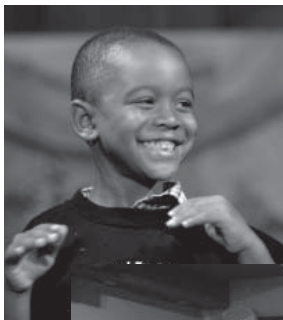
Chicago Lights

The Board of Chicago Lights has oversight for the financial and programmatic effectiveness of the Center for Older Adults (now Center for Life and Learning), Center for Whole Health, the Elam Davies Social Service Center, Tutoring and Scholarship, Summer Day, and Near North Magnet Cluster. Operating as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization supporting Fourth Church, Chicago Lights continues the legacy of the church's service to its urban neighbors.

During 2006, the board oversaw the implementation of the Center for Whole Health's Near North Healthy Heart project for women in Cabrini-Green; the completion of a long-range planning process for the Center for Older Adults (COA); and the growth of youth development projects for Tutoring and Scholarship students. They also helped the Elam Davies Social Service Center and Fourth Church take a leadership role in Interfaith Homes, a collaboration with the City of Chicago and Interfaith Council for the Homeless to move families from homelessness to being housed and independent. Throughout the year, the board increased the visibility of Chicago Lights among Fourth Church members and attracted new foundation and corporate funders, while early in the year they oversaw a Mission Benefit that exceeded results of all previous years. They helped to close the digital divide through expanded teaching hours for children and adults in Chicago Lights' four computer labs, and they participated in the Fine Arts Festival of the Heart in the Cabrini-Green schools and celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Summer Day program. In the spring, they sponsored the Festival of the Artful Spirit, with a spring art exhibition showcasing both the work of COA members as well as the nationally acclaimed NARSAD work for and by persons affected by mental illness.

Board members: Mark Bereyso, Betty Bergstrom, Jeanette Bitter, Vern Broders, Marilynn Cason, Frederick Chisolm, Bob Doak, Jay Frey, Lisa Guynn, Rob Holben, Gunnbjorg Lavoll, Ed Miller, Mark Nelson, Sandra Nelson, Cris Ohr, Ken Ohr, Jennifer Tretheway, Linda Valentine

Staff liaisons: John M. Buchanan, Pastor; Beth Truett, Executive Director, Chicago Lights



The performance "Steppin' in Time" caps the four-week Summer Day program, part of Chicago Lights at Fourth Presbyterian Church, and celebrates the twenty-fifth anniversary of the program, in which more than 100 students from underserved neighborhoods participate in academic and arts activities at Fourth Church.



"Careers around the World" is the theme for the annual banquet for Tutoring students. Held on May 8 and 9 (so both nights of youth Tutoring would be able to participate), the banquet is planned by the Student Leadership Council (SLC). Council members develop the menu, plan the entertainment, and present a Tutor of the Year award, along the way providing an evening of fun for all.



On May 4, 450 people visit with artisans and enjoy refreshments at the gala reception opening the Festival of the Artful Spirit exhibition. This exhibit sponsored by Chicago Lights brings together two collections that celebrate the themes of May: National Older Adults Month and National Mental Health Awareness Month. Additional 2006 exhibitions on display in the Loggia and Gallery include Sally Christiansen's images of those affected by AIDS in Africa, works by Marc Chagall and Ben Zion, Granite Amit, and artists with vision loss.



“Ed and Annette’s Monkeys and More” return to Fourth Church Family Night on March 17. The St. Patrick’s Day dinner is followed by an opportunity to learn about and pet a variety of animals—a monkey, chinchilla, fox, lizard, and large snakes.



“Welcome to the Fiesta!”—a celebration of Jesus’ love—is the theme of this year’s Vacation Bible School, held for a week during August. Junior and senior high youth contribute to the week’s festivities by volunteering as station and crew leaders.



The Children and Family Committee recognizes two longtime Sunday School teachers, Marena Swenson and Nancy Wilson, during worship on Sunday, September 17. For nearly thirty years each, these two teachers have been giving of themselves to the children of this congregation and profoundly influencing their spiritual formation.

Children and Family

The Children and Family Committee is responsible for Christian education of children and youth through fifth grade. The Committee holds a baptismal seminar once a month for parents having their child baptized and oversees the Sunday morning nursery for infants through two years of age. The nursery is staffed by paid and volunteer workers. Sunday school begins at three years of age, and there are two sessions on Sunday mornings, with thirty-nine teachers who volunteer their time and talent. In 2006 Katy Sinclair, superintendent of the Church School, developed a comprehensive teacher manual for those volunteers. A four-week Academy for Faith and Life class provided additional resources for teachers and parents, supporting them in the role they play in the spiritual formation of the children they teach and parent.

Each Sunday, before Sunday School classes begin, Children’s Chapel is held in Blair Chapel. The offering received during Chapel supports mission, and in 2006 it was given to programs in Cuba, Honduras, and Mexico.

The fourth and fifth grade Sunday School class continues to participate in the KISSE program (Kids in Sunday School Exchange), visiting other faith groups, who then also visit Fourth Church. In 2006, visits were made to a Baptist church and Quaker meeting. A yearly highlight for the class is teaching their parents the Sunday morning lesson.

The committee also continues to oversee two Fourth Church Family Camps a year at Presbyterian Camps in Saugatuck, Michigan. In the fall of 2006, participants made wreaths, which were made available during Coffee Hour the next Sunday, with donations collected supporting the CROP Walk.

The Day School, a preschool program under the direction of Ruthie Hornaday, served sixty-three children from two to five years of age, and the Children’s Center, a full-time day care under the direction of Dana Micheli, provided care for fifty-three children from infants to five years of age. Both programs have NAECY accreditation.

Committee members: Dala Aavik, Steve Bumpus, Anne Marie Canfield, Lisa Doak, Cary Donham, Jim Garner, Peyton Hutchison, David Love, Maggie McGuire, Jenna Olson, Jane Ottens, Sue Schemper, Catherine Sigmar, Evadney Stephens, Debbie Whitmore

Staff liaison: Donna Gray, Minister for Children and Families

Congregational Care

The Congregational Care Committee works within the framework of the ministry of Jesus Christ to provide confidential care to those facing life's spiritual, emotional, vocational, and physical challenges and opportunities. Using church and community resources, the committee responds to spiritual and real-life needs with dedicated volunteers supported by pastoral and professional staff.

In 2006, the functions of the committee were reviewed. Its Officer Care Team moved to the Leadership Ministry Committee of Congregational Life. The Care Team Manual was updated, and more Care Teams were formed, engaging additional volunteers. The Seminarian Care Team saw several seminarians make the transition to Inquirer and Candidate status.

Committee members: Barbara Cleveland, Andy Ekern, Jay Frey, Karen Johnson, Janet Reed, Sylvia Robertson, Cecy Szuba

Staff liaisons: Alice M. Trowbridge, Associate Pastor; Elizabeth B. Andrews, Parish Associate

Congregational Life

In support of the mission of Fourth Presbyterian Church, the Congregational Life Session Committee reflects God's love by nurturing connections and full engagement among the people of the congregation. It endeavors to support opportunities for people to be known and to deepen their relationships with God and with one another. In order for the people of this congregation to grow together as a community rooted in the gospel of Jesus Christ, this committee seeks to help them discover God's love, affirm the worth of others, and to nurture each person's spiritual pilgrimage.

The Congregational Life Session Committee works to invite, inform, and enable members and others so that they can become fully engaged in the spiritual, educational, fellowship, and service opportunities of the church. Toward that end, the committee has developed the following ministries: Leaders Ministry; Involvement Initiatives Ministry; Faith Builder Group Ministry; Common Connection Group Ministry; and Volunteer Ministry, which offers congregational services, an outreach ministry, and a Care of Creation ministry.

In addition to supporting these programs, the committee also developed a committee to work on the oral history of Fourth Church. This project will preserve the memories of



*Writer Dan Wakefield shares stories of his own spiritual journey during his May 11–13 visit to Fourth Church. In addition to reflecting on spiritual autobiography with the Fourth Church Men's Group and leading a writing workshop, Wakefield also discusses and signs his recent book, *The Hijacking of Jesus: How the Religious Right Distorts Christianity and Promotes Prejudice and Hate*.*



The annual Volunteer Fair on September 17 helps members identify ways to match their gifts with others' needs as the Volunteer Ministry Committee highlights more than 100 different options for serving, whether through congregational service, community outreach, or activities related to care of creation.



*In addition to delighting children with Emerald City Theatre's lively performance of *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*, the annual Fourth Church Day School Benefit on March 11 receives donations for the school's Operating and Scholarship Funds.*

Both new and experienced skaters enjoy rink time at the annual Fourth Church Family Skating Party on February 19. Held at the Daley Bicentennial Plaza, which the church reserves for one Sunday evening each February, the event combines fun and fellowship—and tasty food in the park house.



Through a lively information fair on Sunday, September 10, members and visitors learn about the great variety of enrichment opportunities available at Fourth Church—education for adults and youth, fellowship groups built on common connections, children and family ministry programs, music opportunities, and more, including the new Community Book Group.



On May 13, women of Fourth Church gather for an afternoon of tea and treats. Libby Harrison, a member of the Morning Choir, provides the wonderful musical entertainment. This year the annual tea raises funds for the Women@Fourth Connect Mission Fund, which supports programs serving women and children locally, nationally, and globally.

those who have participated in or witnessed the evolution of Fourth Church over the past century, with a particular focus on the most recent years of Fourth Church history. It is the intent that this oral history serve not only as a tool to foster communication and strengthen connectedness among members of the diverse, urban congregation that is Fourth Church, but also provide an inspirational, historical record to be passed on to the next generation of church leaders. It will bring to life the words of today's creative, bold, and dedicated leaders.

Committee members: Judy Barter, Betty Bergstrom, Dianne Bowman, Ali Burke, Linda Crane, Hope Daniels, Glenn Doering, Rebecca Nilsson, Zoa Norman, Sylvia Robertson, Rick Sabol, Cezy Szuba

Staff liaisons: Alice M. Trowbridge, Associate Pastor; Joyce Shin, Minister for Congregational Activities

Evangelism

The Evangelism Committee is charged with the responsibility of attracting and then shepherding potential members from the time that they first enter some part of the Fourth Church faith community until they make the decision to choose Fourth Presbyterian Church as their church home by becoming a member. New members begin their journey with this congregation in many different ways—through worship, Tutoring, the Chicago Avenue Community Garden, and the many other Fourth Church programs.

In 2006, 309 new members were welcomed into the fellowship of the congregation as a result of the commitment and hard work of more than 300 volunteers who provide points of contact, from greeters at Coffee Hour and open houses to Inquirers' Class teachers to Invitation Committee callers. The Welcoming Committee is often the first—and very positive—impression visitors have. Stanley Smith and his team are present during Coffee Hour on Sundays looking for and greeting visitors (many of whom are easily identified by the visitors' lapel pins available in the pew racks) and are crucial to the occasional sanctuary open houses, which attract more than 1,200 visitors a year. Through the gracious efforts of Welcoming Committee and so many members and friends of the congregation, Fourth Presbyterian Church is indeed a place of hospitality, welcome, and connection for visitors.

Committee members: Don Allerton, Bill Becker, Delia Coleman, Bob Day, Val Henry, Beverly

Kowatch, Arnold Lenters, Martha Payne, Marge Shelton, Stanley Smith, Jason Tuscher

Staff liaison: *Calum I. MacLeod*, Associate Pastor

Mission

In 2006, the Mission Committee again facilitated the ongoing outreach of Fourth Church to its local and global neighbors. Travelers from Fourth Church continued to build relationships through mission trips to Cuba, Guatemala, Honduras, and the Pine Ridge and Rosebud Reservations in South Dakota. Mission Trip Sunday was held on World Communion Sunday in October to draw awareness to past and future trips. In an effort to build relationships with neighbors in Cabrini-Green, the Community Relations Committee planned monthly picnics in the garden and a dinner inviting Holy Family Lutheran Church. Among the various programs undertaken to build interfaith relations was an interfaith AIDS service coordinated by Fourth Church and held at Chicago Sinai Congregation. Also held was a Muslim-Christian Fellowship Luncheon.

The Multicultural Enrichment Subcommittee discussed and implemented initiatives to facilitate more inclusivity at Fourth Church. Community Ministry also partnered with a variety of neighborhood groups in efforts to, among other things, increase access to health care and social services and create a sense of community within the neighborhood.

In 2006, the Advocacy Subcommittee forwarded more than 1,500 letters signed at the Advocacy Table pertaining to issues of hunger, health, education, HIV/AIDS, gun control, immigration, domestic violence, and the environment. The committee also sponsored a well-received documentary film series the third Sunday of each month. A public forum was held in October in which gubernatorial candidates were invited to speak about their platforms on education finance reform.

Sixty-four nonprofit agencies received grants from Fourth Church Mission totaling \$150,000. For the second year, the committee also sponsored a Fair Trade Bazaar in Anderson Hall on the first weekend in December. This year more than \$30,000 was raised, which will provide jobs—and thus food and housing, education and health care—for twenty-five artisans from developing country and their families for one year.

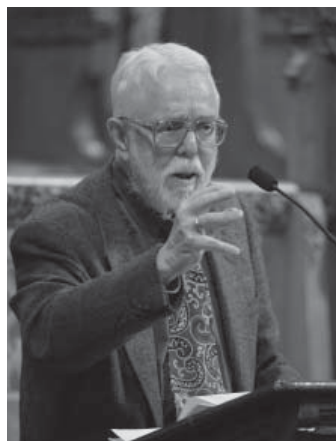
Committee members: Lisa Armstrong, Cynthia Borski, Dianne Bowman, Regan Burke,



Celebrating its relationships with fellow Near North Ministry Alliance congregations, Fourth Church welcomes the Holy Family Lutheran Church Choir and its Pastor, Charles Infelt, to Vespers on February 19. The guests from this Cabrini-Green congregation provide worship leadership through word and song. In turn, Keith Harris and representatives from Fourth Church help lead worship at Holy Family.



During the Illinois gubernatorial campaign, Fourth Church hosts a public forum on the issue of school funding reform. Green Party candidate Rich Whitney and representatives of Governor Blagojevich and Judy Baar Topinka address the question of how to improve the quality of education students receive in a state that ranks 48th in state funding for education.



Harvey Cox, prolific author and Professor at the Harvard Divinity School, speaks at Fourth Church on Tuesday, October 24, addressing the topic "Jesus and the Moral Life" as part of McCormick Theological Seminary's annual McCormick Days.



In April, ten people from Fourth Church travel to Cuba with Donna Gray, where they are hosted by Pastor Hector Mendez and First Presbyterian Church of Havana. They have opportunity to immerse themselves in Cuban culture and strengthen relationships with First Havana, a sister congregation of Fourth Church.



William Willimon, former Dean of the Chapel at Duke University, a Methodist bishop and a well-known preacher, leads a Christian Century-sponsored workshop at Fourth Church on September 29.



In May and December, Fourth Church sends work crews to New Orleans to help with the rebuilding efforts there. Dana Ferguson, who leads the May trip, will take another group of volunteers to New Orleans in 2007 to help build the new future there.

Crystal Bush, Anne Stelle Cole, Sylvia Decker, Barbara Dillard, Sue Felty, Courtney Hartford, Emily Hartnell, Michelle Holmes, Andrew Hull, Betty Hutchison, Courtney Hye, Rafi Jafri, Joseph Jeffrey, Patricia Kendall, Carl Leigh, Susana Lopatka, Missy MacLeod, Barbara Maloof, Anthony Mastroianni, Linda McCarty, Maggie McGuire, Ann Mellott, Ed Miller, Mark Nelson, Francis Ntowe-Fankam, Melanie Oh, Joe Pixler, Doug Pond, Edna Schade, Mark Schimmelpfennig, Joe Sifferlen, Jeanne Sullivan, Stephanette Walker, Roy Youngblood

Staff liaisons: Keith Harris, Associate Pastor; Vicki Reynolds, Director of Mission

Nominating

The Nominating Committee is made up of representatives from the Session, Board of Deacons, and Board of Trustees, plus members-at-large elected by the congregation at the February congregational meeting. The committee is responsible for nominating thirteen Elders (including one youth), eighteen Deacons (including two youth), seven Trustees, seven Nominating Committee members, and six Chicago Lights board members. Soon after the newest class of officers was ordained and installed in May, the committee began its work gathering recommendations for candidates for the next class. After collecting names from Fourth Church members and staff of those felt to have gifts for leadership and a commitment to the life and ministry of the church, the committee prepared to present its slate of candidates to the congregation for election at the February meeting. As always, the committee found its challenge to be distilling the slates from so many potential and proven leaders with which this congregation is blessed.

Committee nominating 2006 candidates: Kathy Anderson, Dean Banick, Barbara Cleveland, Juli Crabtree, Beth Davis, Maggie McGuire, Don Nelson, Allison Scott, Marge Shelton, Joe Sifferlen, Joyce Sigmon

Committee nominating 2007 candidates: Phil Calian, Beth Davis, Bob Day, Jan Feldman, Lisa Garay, Arthur Martin, Ken Nicholson, Polly Peters-Bottrell, Mary Schaafsma, Dennis Thorn, Mary Kay Wysham

Staff liaison: Thomas C. Rook, Parish Associate

Personnel

The Personnel Committee is committed to providing both leadership and support to the staff of Fourth Church. The committee works to ensure that an environment is created that enables all Fourth Church staff to identify goals and objectives to lead the church into the future and to provide a support structure of performance reviews, learning resources, and compensation that foster that vision. The committee identifies resources where desired or needed to provide training or coaching to meet individual needs.

Committee members: Marilyn Cason, Kathryn Dutenhaver, Arlene Faulk, Hugh Halverstadt, Jerry Latherow, Carl Lingenfelter, Marc Miller, Karen Otto, Chris Pfaff

Staff liaisons: John M. Buchanan, Pastor;
Dana Ferguson, Executive Associate Pastor

Project Light

The year 2006 was one of continued progress and evolution for Project Light, the bold and strategic vision to ensure the future of Fourth Presbyterian Church and affirm its role as a "Light in the City." Project Light is a carefully developed and faithful plan encompassing four key initiatives: renovating and expanding the church's Michigan Avenue space for worship, programs, and fellowship; securing the future of mission and ministry programs by adding to the endowment; supporting pastoral theological education with a gift to McCormick Theological Seminary; and developing a community center on Chicago Avenue to better serve neighbors and to help bring about hope and understanding in that engaging and diverse neighborhood.

In January, work was begun on sanctuary improvements, with the ninety-year-old pews being removed from the sanctuary. After the flooring was replaced and cabling laid for the new sound system, new ergonomically correct pews were put in place, with new cushions and with pew ends that are exact replicas of the 1914 pews. Wood from the original pews was fashioned into small wooden crosses, which were made available to those interested in ordering them. Proceeds benefited Project Light.

The configuration of the pews and flexibility provided by wooden chairs on the side aisles provides greater access for those in wheelchairs and ensures compliance with the Americans with Disability Act, and the induction loop system, which is part of the newly installed sound system, is of great benefit to those with hearing difficulty.

At a special reception following worship on March 19, John Boyle blows out the candles on a cake celebrating his eightieth birthday. The occasion also marks the thirtieth anniversary of his ministry at Fourth Church, where he continues to serve on the staff of the Lorene Replogle Counseling Center, for which he was the founding director, and as a member of the pastoral staff.



Sanctuary improvements, undertaken as part of Project Light, bring new pews, new flooring, and a new sound system to the sanctuary. Work begins January 16, with the removal of the ninety-two-year-old pews, first installed when the Michigan Avenue sanctuary was dedicated in 1914. Temporary chairs are brought in each weekend for use during worship, and an electric organ is used to provide accompaniment for the services, as the pipe organ remains wrapped and sealed to protect it during the construction phase. All of the pews are in place by Sunday, February 26, and new pew cushions top off the project at the end of summer.



Woodworker David Trippel crafts keepsake crosses from the 1914 pews. More than 900 are made available to the congregation in two styles, a Celtic cross with carving detail and a simple cross without detail, each approximately 7" tall.



Thirty volunteers from Fourth Church join with others from the Near North Ministry Alliance in providing a day of food, learning, and entertainment at the Healthy Community Fun Fair in Cabrini-Green. More than thirty agencies are involved in this annual event, held at Seward Park, and together they offer information about health and safety. Children receive bike helmets, and the Chicago Lights Center for Whole Health does more than seventy blood pressure checks. Capping off the afternoon is a performance by the Jesse White Tumblers.



In 2006, the Chicago Avenue Community Garden garden boasts 34 plots, attracts 59 regular gardeners and more occasional green thumbs, and serves 24 children with organized daily programs, with another 15 to 40 children at the garden every week for other activities. Monthly cookouts draw 30 to 70 children and 50 to 150 adults for fellowship, games, healthy recipe tastings, and an afternoon meal.



As a result, Pathways Awareness Foundation honored Fourth Church with an Open Hearts Award in recognition of the church's efforts to provide access and inclusion in worship.

The Chicago Avenue Community Garden blossomed in its third year, with vegetables and flowers flourishing and, more importantly, neighborhood children and adults building relationships with each other and church volunteers. Structured children's programming at the garden included hosting Head Start classes from St. Matthew United Methodist Church and having six high-school interns from the Partners in Education summer job training program work with the garden staff. More than fifteen volunteer groups from across the country also spent time working at the garden during the spring, summer, and fall. Monthly cookouts at the garden helped build community among adults from the neighborhood and Fourth Church.

"A Light in the City: Sharing God's Grace," the Capital Campaign supporting the Project Light vision, continued to advance toward its \$30 million goal. Campaign pledge totals have reached more than \$24 million, and Project Light Leadership remains confident the goal will be reached, providing the critical funding necessary to bring Project Light to fruition.

The planned Joint Development, another important funding strategy for Project Light, has not yet come before the City Plan Commission. While it remains in the city process, the Project Light Leadership Team has been hard at work bringing their significant professional expertise and faithful vision to bear in exploring ways to press toward a date with the Plan Commission and a City Council vote; to look at ways in which the project might be redesigned to accommodate the material objectives of those in opposition to the plan; to examine ways to more effectively use the Chicago Avenue site—the site of the Community Garden and the future site of the Community Center—in the interim; and to look closely at what the most immediate space needs are and how they can be addressed most quickly and effectively. The leadership team fully anticipates resolution in the next year to building plans to provide desperately needed new program and mission space. The team also realizes that projects of this complexity do take time and patience, and all involved are committed to taking advantage of this opportunity to make some creative and bold decisions about the use of the resources passed on by preceding generations. As beneficiaries of these assets, this congregation and its leaders remain committed to passing on the blessings to those that follow, to being a faithful church, and to strengthening Fourth Presbyterian Church for generations to come, that it might continue to be a Light in the City.

Project Light Leadership Team: Jeanette Bitter, Pamela Boneham, Clyde O. Bowles Jr., David Crawford, Beth Davis, Sam Evans, Jan Feldman, Betsy Finkelmeier, Elizabeth Foster, Ellen Gignilliat, Paul Gignilliat, Armon Haagen, Marilee Hopkins, Don Hunt, Carl Lingenfelter, Missy MacLeod, Donna Jean Marxhausen, Rick Mayer, Andy McGaan, Marc Miller, Melanie Oh, Chris Pfaff, Janet Reed, Marty Sherrod, Dick Strubel, Ella Strubel, Dennis Thorn, Bob Unglaub, Linda Valentine, S. L. van der Zanden, Anne Voshel

Staff liaisons: John M. Buchanan, Pastor; Dana Ferguson, Executive Associate Pastor; Don Allerton, Interim Director of Project Light; Anne Ellis, Project Manager for Congregational Life and Project Light; Keith Harris, Associate Pastor; Lisa Radetski, Director of Giving Ministries; Ann Rehfeldt, Director of Communications

Stewardship and Giving

The Stewardship and Giving Committee is charged with creating, implementing, and managing the annual Stewardship campaign, and in 2006, its role was expanded to include other Fourth Presbyterian Church programmatic fund-raising activities

Stewardship is a main component of giving at Fourth Church. The theme of the 2006 campaign, which kicked off in October 2005, was "You are a letter of Christ," based on 2 Corinthians 3:3. This passage symbolizes that living a Christian life means that everything we do in our lives is intended to represent Christ in the world, much like a letter. Through the Stewardship campaign, members of Fourth Church are asked to make commitments of financial support for the year. Careful and faithful stewardship of financial resources allows Fourth Church to plan and deliver the programs and mission outreach of the church. The 2006 Stewardship campaign was completed with a pledge total exceeding \$2.8 million and representing more than 1,200 households.

The goal for the 2007 campaign, which began in October 2007, is \$3 million. The committee plans to achieve this goal through a campaign that clearly states the specific program needs and desires of the church and that will substantially increase the number of participating households.

The Stewardship and Giving Committee also works closely with the Development Cabinet, the Joint Finance Committee, and Chicago Lights to strategically plan and schedule fund-

Kraft Cares Day comes to the Elam Davies Social Service Center on Friday, January 13, as employees from Kraft Foods roll up their sleeves and get to work stocking the food shelves and decorating placemats for Sunday Night Supper. Through this annual event, Kraft Foods encourages its employees to participate in community service in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. In particular, the employees volunteer with



the organizations, such as Chicago Lights, that are recipients of the Kraft Employee Fund and the company's charitable contributions.

Since July 1999, more than 160 travelers from Fourth Church have built homes with Habitat for Humanity in Honduras. Moved by their experiences, those volunteers raised money to buy land so families who couldn't afford land could still have a house. In February of 2006, Dana Ferguson, Marc Miller, and Tom Schemper deliver a check for \$19,000 to Habitat Honduras, which is used to purchase land in Siguatepeque on which nine homes can be built for families in need. In July 2006, twenty-four people from Fourth Church help build five of those homes.



Fourth Church member and elder Linda Valentine begins the first year of a four-year term as executive director of the General Assembly Council (GAC), an election that is confirmed by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) on June 20. She now leads the GAC in advising the General Assembly on priorities, programs, and strategies for the ministry and mission of the PCUSA and implementing those at the national level.





The Boys and Men's Choir of Norwich Cathedral brings music of the English choral tradition to the Fourth Church sanctuary on Wednesday evening, October 18.



Actor James Krag brings the Gospel of Mark to life in his solo dramatic performance of According to Mark on April 4.



Sixty characters come to life through the performance of a dozen members of Fourth Acts, as they present a dramatic reading of the play Richard Cory on four evenings in May. Later in the month, this Fourth Church theater group takes the stage again to read excerpts from Unholy Ghost, a book by authors writing about their experiences with depression.

John Wilkinson, former Executive Associate Pastor at Fourth Church and current Pastor at Third Presbyterian Church in Rochester, leads a discussion of the report on "Peace, Unity, and Purity of the Church." As a member of the PCUSA's theological task force that developed the report and that presented it at the 2006 General Assembly, John shares insights into the topic and reflects on what it



means for the Presbyterian church.

raising activities that work in tandem with each other and help to make the most of individual efforts.

Committee members: Jeanne Bishop, Gerry Bloomer, Lloyd Culbertson, Rebecca Dixon, Frederick Henry, Susan Hill, Ann Kingstrom, Marc Miller, Llani O'Connor, Sara Pfaff, Linda Valentine

Staff liaison: Lisa Radetski, Director of Giving Ministries

Worship, Music, and the Arts

The coordination of the many worship opportunities at Fourth Church is at the heart of the work of the Worship, Music, and Arts Committee. The Committee and its members work with ushers and communion servers, musicians, lay participants, and pastors who lead and assist in worship services to provide faithful worship and preaching in the Reformed tradition and a warm welcome for the many who come through the sanctuary doors each week. Through the subcommittee of the Fine Arts Council, the Committee also provides for musical and artistic expressions beyond worship services to contribute to the life and work of the church.

In addition to four worship services on each Sunday, Fourth Church worships God in many alternative settings, including midweek services during Advent and Lent, daily Morning Prayer services to pray for members and friends, and a monthly Taizé service. Fourth Church also joins with other faith traditions in the annual Gospelfest in Cabrini-Green and the Interfaith Thanksgiving and New Year's Eve services.

Choral programs continue to develop for many ages and levels of experience, with the children's choir program growing in 2006. In addition to their leadership during worship, church musicians provided music performances, including the youth and children choirs' presentation of *The Rockslinger and His Greatest Hit*, the annual Tower Brass Christmas Concert, and a collaboration of the Morning Choir with the Dave Brubeck Quartet. During the month of July, Fourth Church was also pleased to host church musicians from throughout the United States and beyond for the biannual convention of the American Guild of Organists.

This year saw the completion of Laurie Wohl's "Unweavings" liturgical artwork, and regular art exhibits featured works by Marc Chagall, Ben Zion, the Guild for the Blind, and Granite Amit, among others. Fourth Acts continued to offer dramatic readings in and around worship services, and the

Fine Arts Council welcomed a special performance of the Gospel of Mark during Lent.

Committee members: Paula Addington, Kerry Grady, Jerry Johnson, Suzanne Morgan, Sally Park, Janet Reed, Mary Rhodes, Claudia Winkler

Staff liaisons: Adam Fronczek, Associate Pastor; John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Youth Ministry

The Youth Ministry Committee provides opportunities for spiritual growth, fellowship, and service for youth in grades six through twelve. This is accomplished through weekly meetings and classes, lock-ins and retreats, service projects and work camps, and various fellowship activities.

This past year was one of transitions for Youth Ministry at Fourth Church. For the first half of the year, the program was staffed by the interim team of Jessica Corlett Gregory (Junior and Senior High Fellowship), Liz Nickerson (Junior High Education), and Natasha Holbert (Coordinator for Youth Ministry), all under the supervision of Donna Gray, Minister for Children and Families. Along with an outstanding assembly of volunteer leaders, this team faithfully shepherded Fourth Church's youth during the search for a new Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry. In June, John Vest was called to fill this position and hit the ground running in July. Building on the past and planning for the future, the Youth Committee is working hard to create a vibrant program for youth at Fourth Church.

Although it was a year of transition, 2006 was also an eventful year for the youth. Twenty-two eighth graders joined the church through confirmation in May. Fourteen youth and three adult leaders traveled to Bloomington, Illinois, in June to help at the Illinois Special Olympics for the Junior High Work Camp. The Senior High Work Camp took twenty-one youth and five adults to Washington State in early August for various service projects in Seattle and the Yakima Valley. August also marked the installation of a new mural in the Crow's Nest and a redesigned web presence (www.fourthchurch.org/youth/index.htm). Fall programming kicked off in September with a full calendar and renewed energy.

Committee members: Florence Adibu, Steve Bumpus, Jessica Corlett Gregory, Gwenyth Knorr, Clare Monroe, Mark Nelson, Elizabeth Nickerson, Robert Parsons, Lauren Scheibe, Ben Schemper, Sue Schemper, Gretchen Wahl, Stuart Whitmore

Staff liaison: John Vest, Associate Pastor



As part of their annual summer work camp, fourteen Fourth Church Junior Highs venture to central Illinois in June to volunteer with the Illinois Special Olympics Summer Games.



Throughout the summer, the youth transform a blank wall in their gathering space, the Crow's Nest, into a wonderful work of art and a reflection of their love and understanding of the message of God. In April the Crow's Nest is also the site for a post-worship gathering of Senior Highs, who come together with John Buchanan to discuss that day's sermon and worship service.



In August, senior high youth and their leaders travel to Seattle and Yakima, Washington, where they help at a Multifaith Works home for people with AIDS and lend a hand on an Indian reservation at Campbell Farm.

Membership

The congregation of Fourth Presbyterian Church marks the following occasions in the lives of those who make up the Fourth Church community.

New Members

The following new members were received on Sunday, December 10, 2006

Natalie Brooks
Robert T. Brooks
Christopher D. Clark
Erin E. Clark
Suzanne Diment
Dana S. Douglas
Bruce W. Duncan
Paul Winthrop Earle
Cami Freeman
Elizabeth Gable
John Gable
Constance M. Hetzler
Mark Warren Hetzler
Robert Keck
James K. Kirk
Keely S. Kirk
Derek Lopez
Kim M. Lopez
Kimberly Ann Mullin
Margaret C. Myers
Merlin F. Peacy
Brad Pierce
Carol Riekse
Tom Riekse
Benjamin Frederick Rikkers
Meg Gillen Robinson
Walter J. Robinson
Linda Song
Matthew Wayne Sorenson
Amy Springer Zinck

Baptisms

The following children were baptized on Sunday, December 3, 2006

Jacob Walter Bennett, son of David and Nancy Bennett
Katherine Elle Clausen, daughter of Eric and Nicole Clausen
Anya Wen Donicht, daughter of John Donicht and Kay Allison
David Stephen Ho, son of David and Laura Ho
Stuart Sinclair Lippincott, son of David and Katharine Lippincott
Penelope Constance Marquez, daughter of Albert and Megan Marquez
Lydia Douglass Muldoon, daughter of Paul and Samantha Muldoon
Sophia Morgan Nuciforo, daughter of Chris and Jacquelynn Nuciforo
Henry Thomas Zwingli Ramsey, son of Thomas and Lara Ramsey
Lucy Tate Warner, daughter of Andrew and Kelly Warner

Weddings

On December 2, 2006
Julie Orban and Thomas Rotz

On December 18, 2006
Marie McKissack and Martin Kaiser

Information about the worship, education, fellowship, and mission life of Fourth Presbyterian Church is available at www.fourthchurch.org and in the church literature racks. To subscribe to the weekly e-mail newsletter News@FourthChurch, send addresses to news@fourthchurch.org.

A one-session Inquirers' Class for those interested in learning more about Fourth Church is offered on **Saturday, February 17** from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; **Sunday, February 25** from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.; and **Monday, March 5** from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. These classes are generally held three times per month; a schedule of future class dates can be found in the literature racks and at www.fourthchurch.org/inquirer.html.

For information about becoming a member of Fourth Presbyterian Church, contact Calum MacLeod, Associate Pastor, at 312.981.4025 (cmacleod@fourthchurch.org).



As choirs sing, the Christmas story, complete with camels, comes to life at the Christmas Eve Children's Pageant. An offering of socks is collected during the service and later given to those in need.



Fast-Forward to These Events on Your Calendar

- ▶▶ In observance of Black History Month, the exhibition “**Seek Ye the Lord While He May Be Found**” is on display in the Loggia and Gallery. This show, which will be on exhibit through Wednesday, February 28, features the work of Melvin King and twenty-four other African American artists from Chicago.
- ▶▶ **Fourth Dimension**, a gathering of individuals fifty and over, will meet on Friday, February 9 at 6:00 p.m. in the Manse for a presentation by Keith Harris on “The Five Languages of Love.”
- ▶▶ On Saturday morning, February 10, the **Fourth Church Men’s Group** will meet for breakfast at 8:00 a.m. in the Dining Room. Fourth Church member Francis Ntowe-Fankam will speak on the topic “In Pursuit of a Dream.”
- ▶▶ Sunday, February 11 will be the **last day to pick up preordered crosses** made from the wood of the 1914 pews. After that date, any remaining crosses will be made available to those individuals who are on the waitlist. To arrange to pick up or have shipped crosses that were preordered, contact Christina Wollerman at 312.573.3364 (cwollerman@fourthchurch.org) prior to February 11.
- ▶▶ Several **2007 mission trips** have application deadlines in the next month. Due Thursday, February 15 are applications for the trips to **New Orleans** (March 18–24), **Cuba** (rescheduled for June 7–14), and the **Holy Land** (June 14–26). Due Tuesday, February 20 are applications for the trip to **Indonesia** (April 16–30). Due Thursday, March 1 are applications for the trip to the **Pine Ridge and Rosebud Reservations in South Dakota** (May 27–June 1). For application forms and information about these trips and trips to **China, Guatemala, and Northern Ireland** planned for later in the year, visit www.fourthchurch.org/missiontrips.html, pick up a brochure from the literature racks, or contact Vicki Reynolds at 312.981.3384 (vreynolds@fourthchurch.org).
- ▶▶ The Andy Tecson Jazz Ensemble will return for a special **Jazz Vespers** service, to be held at 6:30 p.m. on February 18, the last Sunday before Lent begins.
- ▶▶ On February 20–21, the **Career Transitions Center**, of which Fourth Church is a sponsor, will host “**Finding Work without Losing Heart: A Retreat for Women and Men in Job Transition.**” The event will be held in Warrenville. For details, call the Center at 312.906.9908
- ▶▶ Looking ahead to their summer activities, the **Senior Highs** will hold their **Work Camp Rally** Sunday February 25 at 12:30 p.m. All interested senior high youth are encouraged to attend.
- ▶▶ A new one-session class, taught by Joyce Shin and members of Fourth Church, will provide an opportunity for participants to learn more about the many different ways to be connected and involved with the Fourth Church community. The first “**Get Connected, Stay Connected**” class, which will be offered quarterly, will be on Sunday, February 25. Watch the worship bulletin and website for details or contact Joyce Shin at 312.274.3835 (jshin@fourthchurch.org).
- ▶▶ On Sunday, March 18, Fourth Church will welcome **Barbara Brown Taylor as guest preacher** during the morning services. Looking ahead to her visit, all are invited to read and join in discussion of her most recent book, *Leaving Church: A Memoir of Faith*. Ali Trowbridge will lead that conversation during the February **Community Book Group** gathering, which will take place on Tuesday, February 27 at 7:00 p.m.
- ▶▶ In observance of the annual **World Day of Prayer**, a worldwide ecumenical movement of women who come together to observe a common day of prayer each March, the Vespers service on Sunday, March 4 will include a special focus on “Celebrating the Gifts of Women.”
- ▶▶ **March by Geraldine Brooks** will be the topic of discussion at the March 6 gathering of **Books by Women**. This book group meets at 6:00 p.m. in the Large Conference Room on the first Tuesday of the month.

Music at Fourth Church

Free Friday Noonday Concerts

12:10 p.m. in the sanctuary

- February 9 Alison Lowell, oboe
- February 16 Paul Ghica, cello
- February 23 Emanuel Schmelzer-Ziringer, organ

Civic Orchestra of Chicago Chamber Concert

Sunday, February 25 at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary
Free admission



On Sunday afternoon, January 28, the St. Olaf College Choir from Northfield, Minnesota, fills the sanctuary for a performance of sacred music.

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago
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A LIGHT IN THE CITY
**FOURTH
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**
www.fourthchurch.org

Periodicals

SUNDAY WORSHIP

FEBRUARY 11

8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.

John M. Buchanan preaching
9:30 and 11:00 a.m.—Baptisms

6:30 p.m. Communion Vespers

FEBRUARY 18

8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.

John M. Buchanan preaching
11:00 a.m.—Reception of
New Members

6:30 p.m. Jazz Vespers
with Communion

Andy Tecson Jazz Ensemble

FEBRUARY 25

8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.

John M. Buchanan preaching

6:30 p.m. Communion Vespers

MARCH 4

8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.

John M. Buchanan preaching

6:30 p.m. Communion Vespers

MORNING PRAYER

Weekdays at 9:00 a.m. in
Blair Chapel

TAIZÉ SERVICE

Held at Fourth Church on the
fourth Friday of the month.

The next service will be
Friday, February 23 at

7:30 p.m. in Blair Chapel.

Lent

at Fourth Presbyterian Church

*This year our Lenten journey begins on Wednesday, February 21.
Along the way toward Palm Sunday (April 1), Holy Week, and Easter (April 8),
Fourth Church offers a variety of opportunities for Lenten reflection.*

Ash Wednesday Services

Wednesday, February 21

12:10 and 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary

Communion and the opportunity for the imposition of ashes
will be a part of both services.

Lenten Devotions

Written by Fourth Church members and staff, daily Lenten devotions will again
be available by e-mail (send addresses to devotions@fourthchurch.org), on
the website www.fourthchurch.org, and in a printed booklet available on Ash
Wednesday, February 21 in the church literature racks.

Wednesday Midweek Lenten Services

Beginning Wednesday, February 28

Each Wednesday in Lent, members and friends are invited to
a time of worship held in Blair Chapel at 7:30 p.m.

Annual Lenten Retreat

Discovering the Sacred in Daily Life

Saturday morning, February 24

8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon in Anderson Hall

In addressing the question “Where do we find the sacred in everyday life?” retreat
participants will look to poets for help to discern the sacred. They will be led
in this search by poets Judith Valente and Charles Reynard, editors of the book
Twenty Poems to Nourish Your Soul. Throughout the morning there will be time for
people to write, to reflect on photographs that capture the sacred in the moment,
and to pray. For more information or to register for the retreat,
pick up a brochure from the church literature racks or contact
Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369 (aellis@fourthchurch.org).