

# News and Opportunities

## MISSION AND OUTREACH

There's still time to "Light Up a Life"! Gifts to this Christmas giving campaign will make a difference in the lives of those touched by Fourth Church and Chicago Lights while also serving as a meaningful gift and way to honor the special people in your life. Details are available in the brochures in the literature racks or at www.fourthchurch.org.

**Cuba and Cameroon mission trip** 

applications are due Thursday, January 15 (for the May 1–9 trip to Cuba) and Monday, January 19 (for the May 29– June 12 trip to Cameroon). Details about these trips as well as the application form are available in the literature racks, online at www.fourthchurch.org/ missiontrips.html, or by contacting Vicki Reynolds at the church at 312.981.3384.

The 2009 Mission Benefit, Carnaval, will be Friday, February 20 at the Ritz-Carlton, Chicago. Invitations will be mailed in mid-January. To learn more about this annual event supporting the programs of Chicago Lights, the Lorene Replogle Counseling Center, and other mission partners of Fourth Church or for details about how to be a Mission Benefit sponsor, contact Allison Graham in the Chicago Lights office at 312.981.3596 (agraham@fourthchurch.org).

Chicago Lights Holiday Cards, designed by Tutoring students, are available at a discount at the reception desk and online at www.chicagolights.org until Friday, January 9.

#### MUSIC AND THE ARTS

The internationally recognized Westminster Choir of the Westminster Choir College will be in concert next Sunday, January 11 at 3:00 p.m. at Fourth Church. Tickets are available at www.ticketweb.com or by calling 866.468.3401.

**Organist David Pickering** will perform this Friday's free Noonday Concert at 12:10 p.m. in the sanctuary.

# CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY

There is no Sunday school today. Sunday School classes resume next Sunday, January 11 at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Fourth Church youth do not meet today. Youth gatherings will resume next Sunday, January 11.

The Souper Bowl of Caring to alleviate hunger will be Sunday, February 1. That morning youth will collect cans of soup and monetary contributions to benefit the Elam Davies Social Service Center.

#### **FELLOWSHIP**

The Gathering, a fellowship opportunity for individuals age twenty-two to thirty-five, meets today at 12:15 p.m. in the Randolph Room to discuss resolutions and the power to be transformed, as expressed in the Christian tradition.

**Books by Women** will meet this Tuesday, January 6 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss *Talk Before Sleep* by Elizabeth Berg.

The Fourth Church Men's Group will meet for its montly breakfast program this Saturday, January 10 at 8:00 a.m. in the Dining Room. Robert McGlory will discuss "Thinking and Writing about Religion in the Twenty-First Century." All are invited. RSVP by 12:00 noon on Friday, January 9 by calling the church office at 312.787.4570.

Loyola University Museum of Art will be the site of this year's Chicago Lights Center for Life and Learning Winter Open House. All who are sixty or over are invited to the museum (820 N. Michigan) on Monday, January 26 from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. to learn more about the CLL and enjoy a time of fellowship.

"Chicago Metropolis 2020" will be the topic of a presentation by George Ranney on Friday evening, February 6 at 6:00 p.m. in the Manse. All are invited to this event hosted by Cornerstones; reservations are required and can be made by calling the Cornerstones Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 454.

#### WORSHIP

Special prayer requests are included in intercessory prayer in Stone Chapel on Sundays. Individuals can pray there with a Deacon at 12:00 noon or place their prayer requests, written on paper, in one of the prayer boxes, which are located outside Stone Chapel, in the Narthex, and in Anderson Hall.

A Vespers Communion service is held each Sunday evening at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Morning Prayer is held each weekday at 9:30 a.m., except Tuesdays, when it is at 9:00 a.m. All are invited to join staff for Morning Prayer, which takes place in Stone Chapel and offers an opportunity to pray for members of the congregation and for those in need.

A service in the style of Taizé is held each fourth Friday of the month in Blair Chapel. This monthly service offers an opportunity for prayer, meditative singing, and reflection. The next service will be Friday, January 23.

#### **NEWS AND RESOURCES**

The January 10 labyrinth walk has been postponed and will be rescheduled at a later date.

The "Refreshing the Vision" long-range planning process for Fourth Church is underway. For more information, visit www.fourthchurch.org/vision.html.

*News and Opportunities,* which is distributed during Sunday worship, is also available in the church literature racks and at www.fourthchurch.org.

#### **ENRICHMENT**

Live webcasts of noontime lectures from Calvin College's award-winning January Series will be shown on weekdays, beginning this Wednesday, at 11:30 a.m. in the Page Smith Room. The Series is being hosted by the Academy for Faith and Life. Lecture titles are printed in the January issue of *Fourth Press*, available in the literature racks.

### Weekly Bible Study opportunities:

John Knox, Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Noonday, Wednesdays at 12:10 p.m. Life and Learning, Fridays at 10:00 a.m.

The book study of *God with Us:*Rediscovering the Meaning of Christmas
meets today at 12:30 p.m. in the Manse.

Men's Bible Study meets this Tuesday at 7:30 a.m. in the Loop. For details and to RSVP, contact Anita Bright at 312.573.3364.

A twelve-week Nia fitness class will begin Wednesday, January 7. Classes are held on Wednesday and Friday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the Activity Center. Registration is required. To register or for information about class fees, visit www.niachicago.com or call the Nia Class Infoline at Fourth Church at 312.787.2729, ext. 371.

An eight-session beginners T'ai Chi course starts Thursday, January 8 at 5:00 p.m. Registration is required. To register or for more details, call the T'ai Chi Infoline at 312.787.2729, ext. 388.

A five-week foreign film series, hosted by the Center for Life and Learning, will take place on Wednesdays, beginning on January 14 at 10:30 a.m. For details, call Patricia in the CLL office at 312.981.3387. "Ode to Joy" is the theme of this year's Fourth Church women's weekend retreat, which will be held January 23–24. For details, contact Anne Ellis at 312.573.3369 (aellis@fourthchurch.org).

The Community Book Group meets Tuesday, January 27 at 7:00 p.m. in the Page Smith Room to discuss Speaking of Faith: Why Religion Matters—and How to Talk about It by Krista Tippett. Donna Gray will lead the conversation.

"Living Mindfully" will be the topic of this year's Midwinter Conference hosted by the Lorene Replogle Counseling Center on Saturday, February 28 at Fourth Church. For details or to register, pick up a brochure from the literature racks or call the Center at 312.787.8425.

## **VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS**

Current Volunteer Needs
Sunday School teachers for grades 1–3,
to teach during 11:00 a.m. session
Audio operator to record occasional
services during the week; training
provided

**Tutors** for the Tutoring program; 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hours weekly, especially needed on Wednesday and Thursday evenings

#### **Current Donation Needs**

Computers in good condition (2007 or newer) to be donated to a Cabrini-Green school; a list of specifications is available at the Volunteer table

Infants' and children's gently-used winter clothes, strollers, cribs, car seats, and books to benefit the patients of a nonprofit clinic

For a list of additional needs, stop by the Volunteer table or contact Larry Nicholson at 312.981.3382 (Inicholson@ fourthchurch.org).

## CALENDAR FOR JANUARY 4-10, 2009

Sunday, January 4			
7:50 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.	Nursery		Westminster 14
8:00 a.m.		Calum I. MacLeod prea	
9:00 a.m.	Coffee Hour		Anderson Hall
9:30 a.m.		Alice M. Trowbridge pro	•
9:30 a.m.	John Knox Bible Study	<b>y</b>	Page Smith Room
10:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour	41: 34 m 1 : 1	Anderson Hall
11:00 a.m.		Alice M. Trowbridge pr	· ·
12:00 p.m.	Coffee Hour		Anderson Hall
12:15 p.m.	Intercessory Prayer Church Tour		Stone Chapel
12:15 p.m.			Sanctuary
12:15 p.m.	The Gathering	II.	Randolph Room Manse
12:30 p.m.	Book Study: <i>God with</i> Social Service Center 8		Dining Room
4:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	Vespers Choir Rehears		Sanctuary
6:30 p.m.	_	aı Jocelyn C. Cadwallader	_
6:30 p.m.	vespers	Jocetyn C. Cauwanauer	preaching Sanctuary
Monday, January 5			
9:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer		Stone Chapel
6:30 p.m.	Inquirers' Class		Page Smith Room
Tuesday, January 6			
7:30 a.m.	Men's Bible Study		(see announcement)
9:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer		Stone Chapel
6:00 p.m.	Books by Women		Large Conference Room
Wednesday, January 7			
9:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer		Stone Chapel
10:00 a.m.	Nia Fitness begins		Activity Center
11:30 a.m.	January Series: "Separation of Church and State" Page Smith Room		
12:10 p.m.	Noonday Bible Study Large Conference Room		
Thursday, January 8			
9:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer		Stone Chapel
11:30 a.m.	January Series: "Faith and Doubt"		Page Smith Room
5:00 p.m.			Anderson Hall S. Balcony
5.00 р.ш.	r ar chir for beginners	bogins	Amadison Hun b. Bulcony
Friday, January 9			
9:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer		Stone Chapel
9:30 a.m.	CLL Bible Study		Page Smith Room
10:00 a.m.	Nia Fitness begins		Activity Center
11:30 a.m.	January Series: "Health and the Environment"		Page Smith Room
12:10 p.m.	Noonday Concert: Dav	rid Pickering, organ	Sanctuary
Saturday, January 10			
8:00 a.m.	Fourth Church Men's	Group	Dining Room

#### Preaching on Sunday, January 11

Sarah Johnson 8:00 a.m. John M. Buchanan 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Adam Fronczek 6:30 p.m.

Parking is available Sunday mornings at the John Hancock Center, 875 North Michigan Avenue, at the rate of \$7.00 for three hours and at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$7.75 to 4:00 p.m. and \$6.00 after 5:00 p.m. Validation tickets for the 900 garage must be picked up during Coffee Hour or from the Chestnut Street reception desk. Hancock tickets must be validated in the Narthex.