

December 18–24, 2016

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago



News and Opportunities

Advent and Christmas

Rehearsal for the Christmas Pageant will be held today at 12:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

The Jazz at Four Christmas celebration will be held today at 4:00 p.m.; music will begin at 3:50 p.m. The worship service this afternoon will feature selections from *Singing Christmas*, the latest CD by the Lucy Smith Quartet. A post-service gathering will be held in Borwell Dining Room. (*The 4:00 jazz service will not be held on December 25 or January 1 but will resume on January 8.*)

Through “Light Up a Life” gifts, you can honor or remember someone special while also providing important year-end support of programs that help neighbors whose needs are great this holiday season. Gifts can be made using the brochures in the literature racks or at www.fourthchurch.org

A Lakeside Singers holiday concert will be held today at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Tickets are available at www.lakesidesingers.com or at the door.

The “Longest Night” service, which will be held this Wednesday, December 21 at 6:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel, recognizes the feelings of loneliness, grief, and alienation that are often present during the holiday season.

Advent devotions, written by Fourth Church members and staff, are available in the literature racks, by email (send email addresses to devotions@fourthchurch.org), at www.facebook.com/fourthchurch.org, and via Twitter (@FourthChicago).

Four candlelight services will be held on Christmas Eve: 4:00 p.m. (Children’s Pageant); 6:00 p.m. (Family Service); and 8:30 and 11:00 p.m. (Service of Lessons and Carols).



Did you make a pledge to Fourth Church for 2016?

We are counting on gifts pledged for 2016 to be fully fulfilled by year end—and welcome any additional generosity where it is possible—so that we can ensure that all that we have budgeted for in 2016 can be done. If you anticipate being unable to fulfill your pledge, please let Andrea Miller know (312.640.2576) so we can plan accordingly. Thank you for all that your gifts make happen!

Join the Advent Photo-a-Day Challenge. Details are posted at www.fourthchurch.org/advent-photo. Search social media for #adventfpc to see what others have posted!

Expectations for the holidays can be different from the realities. Feelings of grief over losses can be heightened. Fourth Church's Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being offers various resources and a supportive environment for reflecting on, exploring, and coping with such experiences. To learn how the Center can help, call 312.787.8425.

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

Parking rates for Christmas Eve: For those entering the 900 garage before 5:00 p.m. on December 24, discounted parking will cost \$17, which is the holiday rate. The \$17 parking voucher for that discount will need to be purchased at Fourth Church on Christmas Eve—cash or check only—and will be available before and after the Children's Pageant that day. Those entering the garage after 5:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve will be able to park for the usual \$8 evening rate with an evening voucher available at the church. There will be no discounted parking at the Hancock garage on Christmas Eve.

We will be live streaming the 8:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service for those who are unable to be with us or who want to share the service with those who are out of town. The live stream will be available at www.bit.ly/FPCworship where it will also be available after Christmas Eve.

Christmas Day worship will be held at 11:00 a.m. It will be followed by a Christmas Dinner at 12:15 p.m. in Anderson Hall. Reservations (*required*) can be made at www.bit.ly/cdin1216

Children, Youth, and Family

Sunday School classes will be held today at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in the Gratz Center.

Youth in grades 6–12 will gather today at 10:00 and 11:00 a.m. in the Gratz Center.

No Nursery, Sunday School, or youth gatherings will be held on December 25 or January 1. Families are encouraged to worship together, using the family version of the worship bulletin, which is available from the ushers each week

News and Resources

Take part in our chili cook-off on Sunday, January 8! Enter your chili into the contest by signing up at www.bit.ly/chili2017. Or come enjoy chili for lunch that day for \$10 per person. Proceeds support the summer youth mission trips.

“Like” Fourth Church on Facebook to see photos of church life, keep up-to-date on Fourth Church news, and access resources.

Stephen Ministry provides one-to-one caring relationships to support those who are experiencing challenging times. Information for those who might benefit from conversation with a Stephen Minister is available in the literature racks, online, and by leaving a confidential message at 312.573.3365.

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

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago
Church office: 126 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, IL 60611.2014; 312.787.4570
Fax: 312.787.4584; www.facebook.com/fourthchurch

Enrichment

Weekly Seeds at Fourth, a weekly women's Bible study, will meet today at 9:30 a.m. in Room 5H. The group will not meet on December 25 or January 1.

"Fifteen Days of Free Liberal Arts Education" describes the January Series of one-hour lectures offered by Calvin College and shown via live Internet video feed at Fourth Church on weekdays January 4–24 at 11:30 a.m. in the Page Smith Room. For details, visit www.calvin.edu/january

New adult education classes begin Sunday, January 8 in Room 5G: "Suffering and Hope in Second Isaiah" at 9:30 a.m. and "Bonhoeffer's *The Cost of Discipleship*" at 11:00 a.m.

Music and the Arts

Encore Choral, a Chicago-area choir for older adults, will perform a free concert this Thursday, December 22 at 2:00 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music, will perform this Friday's free Noonday concert at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Worship

There will be just one worship service—at 11:00 a.m.—next Sunday, December 25. That will also be the schedule on Sunday, January 1: 11:00 a.m. worship only. Then the regular Sunday worship schedule will resume on Sunday, January 8.

"Sacred Pause," a meditative time of twenty minutes of silence, will not be held next Tuesday. It will resume on Tuesday, January 3 at 7:45 a.m. in Stone Chapel.

A New Year's Eve service in the style of Taizé will be held on December 31 at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. It will be preceded by opportunity to walk the labyrinth in Anderson Hall from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Mission and Outreach

Reservations for the Chicago Lights Urban Farm 2017 CSA (Community-supported Agriculture) program are now available. For details, contact Deja Stout at dstout@chicagolights.org

The Chicago Lights Gala of Hope will be held on Friday, February 24 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago.

Fellowship

Coffee Hour is sponsored by the Cook, Giers, and Davis families with wishes for happy and bright holidays for all.

Young Adults gather today at 12:30 p.m. in Room 5A. They will not gather on December 25 or January 1.

Volunteers and Donations

Current Volunteer Needs

Candle sleeves to put drip sleeves on candles for the Christmas Eve services; December 22 and 23

Sunday School teacher for 9:30 a.m. classes
Servers for the Fourth Church Christmas Dinner, 9:30 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Communion-bread cutters; starting 2017
Tutors for Chicago Lights Tutoring

Current Donation Needs

Sturdy winter clothing, especially men's coats, gloves, hats, pants, and boots

For more opportunities or to volunteer, visit www.fourthchurch.org/volunteer

Calendar for December 18–24, 2016

Sunday, December 18

	8:00 a.m.	Worship	Judith L. Watt preaching	Sanctuary
	9:00 a.m.	Coffee Hour		Anderson Hall
9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.		Nursery		Gratz Center, First Floor
9:30 and 11:00 a.m.		Sunday School		Gratz Center, Fourth Floor
	9:30 a.m.	<i>Weekly Seeds</i> Bible Study		Room 5H
	9:30 a.m.	Worship	Shannon J. Kershner preaching	Sanctuary
	10:00 a.m.	Confirmation Youth		Room 5A
	10:00 a.m.	All-Youth Gathering		Bumpus Room
10:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.		Time of Prayer		Stone Chapel
	10:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour		Anderson Hall
	11:00 a.m.	Junior/Senior High Youth		Bumpus Room
	11:00 a.m.	Worship	Shannon J. Kershner preaching	Sanctuary
	12:00 p.m.	Coffee Hour		Anderson Hall
	12:00 p.m.	New Member Brunch		Anderson Hall
	12:15 p.m.	Christmas Pageant Rehearsal		Sanctuary
	12:30 p.m.	Young Adults		Room 5A
	4:00 p.m.	Jazz Worship	Shannon J. Kershner preaching	Sanctuary
	5:00 p.m.	Jazz at Four Fellowship		Borwell Dining Room
	7:30 p.m.	Lakeside Singers Concert		Sanctuary

Monday, December 19

	7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.	Labyrinth Walk (<i>also Tuesday</i>)	Buchanan Chapel
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Tuesday, December 20

	7:30 a.m.	“Sacred Pause”	Stone Chapel
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Wednesday, December 21

	10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Labyrinth Walk	Buchanan Chapel
	9:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer	Buchanan Chapel
	9:30 a.m.	Benevolent Guild	Room 5B
	6:30 p.m.	“Longest Night” Service	Buchanan Chapel

Thursday, December 22

	2:00 p.m.	Encore Chorale Concert	Buchanan Chapel
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Friday, December 23

	12:10 p.m.	Noonday Concert: John W. W. Sherer	Sanctuary
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Saturday, December 24 *Christmas Eve*

	3:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.	Nursery	Gratz Center, First Floor
	4:00 p.m.	Children’s Pageant	Sanctuary
	6:00 p.m.	Family Service	Shannon J. Kershner preaching Sanctuary
	8:30 p.m.	Service of Lessons and Carols	Shannon J. Kershner preaching Sanctuary
	11:00 p.m.	Service of Lessons and Carols	Shannon J. Kershner preaching Sanctuary

Worship on Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25

	11:00 a.m.	Shannon J. Kershner preaching
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Parking is available on Sundays at 900 North Michigan (access from Rush or Walton Street) at the rate of \$8. Validation tickets for the 900 garage must be picked up during morning Coffee Hour or from the Chestnut Street reception desk.