

December 17–23, 2017

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago



News and Opportunities

Advent and Christmas

Today the Christmas musical *Where's the Newborn King?* will be presented by the Children's and Youth Choirs at 10:30 a.m. in Buchanan Chapel.

Rehearsal for the Christmas Pageant—which takes place next Sunday, Christmas Eve, at 4:00 p.m.—will be held today at 12:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

The “**Longest Night**” service will be held this Wednesday, December 20 at 6:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel. Hosted by our Stephen Ministers, this “blue Christmas” service recognizes the feelings of loneliness, grief, and alienation that are often present during the holiday season.

The **Christmas with Tower Brass** concert takes place on this Saturday, December 23 at 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary; a freewill donation will be received at the door.

Some Christmas Eve candlelight times will be different this year with Christmas Eve falling on a Sunday. This next Sunday morning, December 24, we will worship at 11:00 a.m. only. (*There will be no 8:00 or 9:30 a.m. services next Sunday.*) We will also gather for four candlelight Christmas Eve services next Sunday evening:

- 4:00 p.m. Children's Pageant
- 6:00 p.m. Family Service with Jazz
- 8:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols
- 10:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols

Nursery care on December 24 will be available from 3:00 to 7:15 p.m. It will not be available during the 11:00 a.m. service or during the last two evening services.

We will be **live streaming** the 8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service for those who are unable to be with us or who want to share the service with those who are out of town. The live stream at www.bit.ly/FPCworship will also be available after Christmas Eve.



Did you make a pledge to Fourth Church for 2017?

We are counting on gifts pledged for 2017 to be fully fulfilled by year end—and welcome additional generosity where it is possible!—so we can ensure all that we have budgeted for in 2017 can be done. If you anticipate being unable to fulfill your pledge, please contact Andrea Miller (312.640.2576) so we can plan accordingly. Thank you for all your gifts make happen!

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

A traditional Christmas dinner will be held on Christmas Day at 12:15 p.m. in Anderson Hall as a time to share Christmas with friends new and old. Reservations (*required*) can be made online at www.bit.ly/cdin1217

Parking rates for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Eve worshippers using the 900 N. Michigan garage will be the \$8 Sunday rate, provided that parkers pick up special holiday parking vouchers at the church available—and valid—only on each of those three days.

A New Year's Eve Taizé service will be held at 7:30 p.m. in Buchanan Chapel on Sunday, December 31. That day we will also worship in the morning at 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m. (*There will be no 4:00 p.m. jazz service on December 31.*)

Through "Light Up a Life" gifts, you can honor or remember someone special while 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

Expectations for the holidays can be different from the realities and feelings of grief over losses heightened. Fourth Church's Replogle Center for Counseling and Well-Being offers a supportive environment for reflecting on and coping with such experiences. For information, call the Center at 312.787.8425.

Daily Advent and Christmas devotions are available in printed booklets in the literature racks; at fourthchurch.org, facebook.com/fourthchurch, Twitter (@FourthChicago), and via email (sign up at www.bit.ly/fpcdevotions).

Worship

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

Fellowship

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

Young Adults gathers for fellowship and discussion today at 12:30 p.m. in Room 5A and again on Sunday, January 7.

Take part in our chili cook-off on Sunday noon, January 7! Enter your chili by signing up at www.bit.ly/chili1718

Children, Youth, and Family

Sunday School meets today at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. It will then take a break until Sunday, January 7. Parents are encouraged to have their children join them in worship on Sunday morning, December 24 and December 31. Family worship bulletins are always available from the ushers.

Youth meet for fellowship at 10:30 a.m. in the Bumpus Room. At 11:00 a.m. Junior Highs meet in Room 4G; Confirmation in Room 5A; and Senior Highs in Bumpus.

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

Youth can sign up for 2018 summer mission trips at www.bit.ly/youthtrips2018

Enrichment

“Reformed and Always Reforming: Doing Church Differently,” an adult education class led by Abbi Heimach-Snipes, concludes at 11:00 a.m. in 5D.

Men’s Bible Study meets this Tuesday, December 19 in the Loop at 7:30 a.m. To RSVP (*required*), contact Anne Ellis (312.573.3369; aellis@fourthchurch.org).

Men’s Book Club meets on Monday, December 18 at 7:30 a.m. in Parish House Dining Room to discuss *A Christmas Memory* by Truman Capote.

“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 3–23 at 11:30 a.m. in the Page Smith Room: www.calvin.edu/january

A spiritual pilgrimage to Ghost Ranch, New Mexico, will be held April 6–13. Applications are due Monday, January 15. Details are available in the literature racks. Information and an application form are also online at www.bit.ly/ghostranch18

Mission and Outreach

Applications for the Cuba mission trip (April 23–30) are due Friday, December 22. Details and an application form are posted at www.fourthchurch.org/mission/trips

Applications for the Mexico mission trip (March 6–13) are due Sunday, December 31. Details and an application form are posted at www.fourthchurch.org/mission/trips

Fourth Church Prison Ministry will be launching in the new year. A one-session information time will be offered Sunday, January 7 at 12:20 p.m. and repeated on Sunday, January 14 at 12:20 p.m.

Our 25th-anniversary Gala of Hope will be held March 2 at the Radisson Blu Aqua.

Volunteers/Donations Needed

Servers for the congregational Christmas dinner (*volunteers needed 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Monday, December 25*)

Hosts on weekdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for the January Series

Greeters for 4:00 p.m. Sunday worship

Leaders for 2018 youth mission trips; details and a sign-up form are online at www.bit.ly/youthtrips2018

Individually packaged snack items (5,000 are needed each month) for Meals Ministry and Social Service Center guests

To sign up or for information about other volunteer opportunities, stop by Coffee Hour today or contact Robert Crouch (312.981.3382; rcrouch@fourthchurch.org).

News and Resources

We are delighted that Nanette Sawyer was elected by the congregation to be our new Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Small Group Ministry. Congratulations!

Individuals experiencing life challenges can benefit from being paired with a Stephen Minister. The next fifty-hour training course for new Stephen Ministers begins February 3. Information is available in the literature racks.

Calendar for December 17–23, 2017

Sunday, December 17				Third Sunday of Advent	
	8:00 a.m.	Worship	Judith L. Watt preaching	Sanctuary	
9:00, 10:30 a.m.;	12:00 p.m.	Coffee Hour		Anderson Hall / Commons	
9:00 a.m. to	12:15 p.m.	Nursery		Nursery / Day School	
9:30 and 11:00 a.m.		Worship	Christmas Cantata	Sanctuary	
9:30 and	11:00 a.m.	Sunday School		Fourth Floor, Gratz Center	
	10:30 a.m.	Christmas Musical		Buchanan Chapel	
	10:30 a.m.	Sanctuary Tour		Sanctuary	
	10:30 a.m.	Youth Fellowship		Bumpus Room	
10:30 a.m. and	12:15 p.m.	Time of Prayer with Deacons		Stone Chapel	
	11:00 a.m.	“Doing Church Differently”		Room 5D	
	11:00 a.m.	Youth Groups		<i>(see announcement)</i>	
	12:00 p.m.	New Member Brunch		Page Smith Room	
	12:15 p.m.	Christmas Pageant Rehearsal		Sanctuary	
	12:15 p.m.	Organ and Sanctuary Tours		Sanctuary	
	12:30 p.m.	Young Adults		Room 5A	
	4:00 p.m.	Jazz Worship	Abbi Heimach-Snipes preaching	Sanctuary	
	5:00 p.m.	Meals Ministry Sunday Night Supper		Anderson Hall	
Monday, December 18					
7:30 a.m. to	9:00 p.m.	Labyrinth Walk <i>(also Tues.)</i>		Buchanan Chapel	
	7:30 a.m.	Men’s Book Club		Parish House Dining Room	
	4:00 p.m.	Meals Ministry Monday Night Supper		<i>Catholic Charities</i>	
	7:00 p.m.	Grief Group		Boyle Conference Room	
Tuesday, December 19					
	7:30 a.m.	Men’s Bible Study		<i>(see announcement)</i>	
	7:45 a.m.	Sacred Pause		Stone Chapel	
12:00 to	1:00 p.m.	Meals Ministry Bag Lunches <i>(also Wed.–Thurs.)</i>		Anderson Hall	
4:00 to	6:00 p.m.	Knitting and Crocheting		Room 4F	
	7:00 p.m.	Meditation with Replogle Center		Boyle Conference Room	
Wednesday, December 20					
	9:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer		Buchanan Chapel	
10:00 a.m. to	5:00 p.m.	Labyrinth Walk		Buchanan Chapel	
	6:30 p.m.	“Longest Night” Service		Buchanan Chapel	
Thursday, December 21					
	6:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal		Sanctuary	
Friday, December 22					
	12:10 p.m.	Noonday Concert: Organist John Sherer		Sanctuary	
Saturday, December 23					
8:00 to	10:00 a.m.	Labyrinth Walk		Buchanan Chapel	
	5:00 p.m.	Christmas with Tower Brass		Sanctuary	

Worship on the Fourth Sunday of Advent / Christmas Eve, December 24

11:00 a.m.	Shannon J. Kershner preaching
4:00 p.m.	Christmas Pageant with Candlelight
6:00 p.m.	Family Service with Jazz and Candlelight
8:00 p.m.	Lessons and Music with Candlelight
10:00 p.m.	Lessons and Music with Candlelight
