

# News and Opportunities

#### ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

"Light Up a Life" this holiday season with a gift to this year-end giving campaign that combines the "Life-Changing Gifts" and "Christmas Joy" appeals of previous years. Gifts to "Light Up a Life" will make a difference in the lives of those touched by Fourth Church and its many programs 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 church literature racks and on the church website. Envelopes for making "Light Up a Life" gifts can be found in the pew racks.

A midweek Advent service is held at 7:30 p.m. in Blair Chapel each Wednesday of Advent.

The Christmas cantata *Gloria* by John Rutter will be sung by the Morning Choir during 9:30 and 11:00 worship next Sunday, December 18.

This year's 8:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service will be broadcast locally on WBBM Channel 2 TV at 10:35 p.m. Christmas Eve and 6:00 a.m. Christmas Day. The Christmas worship schedule is printed on page 7 of the bulletin.

**Christmas Day dinner tickets** are available during Coffee Hour and at the reception desk during the week.

Holiday Cards designed by Tutoring students are available during Coffee Hour at the Chicago Lights table and, during the week, at the reception desk. They can also be ordered on the church website, www.fourthchurch.org. All proceeds benefit the Tutoring program. Fifteen years of Holiday Card designs are on display in the Gallery.

#### Memorialize or honor loved ones

by contributing to the purchase of Christmas flowers and garlands for the sanctuary. A list of those remembered will be printed in the Christmas bulletin. Contributions can be made by completing the cards available in the literature racks and at www.fourthchurch.org. Completed cards must be returned by this Friday, December 16 in order for names to appear in the bulletin. For more information, contact Ruth Pellowski at the church at 312.981.3381.

**Christmas ornaments,** depicting Fourth Church, and Tower Brass CDs are available at the Volunteers table during Coffee Hour.

Daily Advent devotions written by Fourth Church members and staff are available in printed booklets found in the church literature racks, by e-mail (send e-mail addresses to devotions@ fourthchurch.org), and at www.fourthchurch.org.

#### MUSIC AND THE ARIS

**Chicago Chorale** will perform a concert today at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Tickets will be available at the door.

**The "Christmas with Tower Brass" concert,** an annual favorite, will be held this Saturday, December 17 at 5:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

"A Whisper of Hope: Confronting the Plague That Thunders," an exhibition of artwork by Mary Fisher, is on display in the Loggia through December 18 as part of the World AIDS Day Remembrance event.

#### WORSHIP

On Sundays, December 25 and January 1, only one worship service will be held in the morning, at 11:00 a.m. The evening Vespers service will be held at its usual time on those Sundays, at 6:30 p.m.

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

**Special prayer requests** are included in intercessory prayer in Stone Chapel on Sunday mornings. Individuals can leave prayer requests written on paper in the box outside the chapel or they can pray together with the Deacon who is in Stone Chapel after 11:00 worship.

**Morning prayer** is held each weekday morning at 9:00 a.m. in Stone Chapel.

For a preview of next Sunday's worship, subscribe to the weekly e-mail newsletter News@FourthChurch by sending e-mail addresses to news@fourthchurch.org.

#### MISSION AND OUTREACH

A Fourth Church mission trip to Gautier, Mississippi, to help clean up after Hurricane Katrina will take place December 27 to January 2. For more information, call Erica Schemper at the church at 312.981.4034.

Applications for the 2006 mission trips to Cuba and Honduras are due Tuesday, January 3, and applications for the trip to China are due Sunday, January 15. Information and application forms are available in the "Mission Trips 2006" booklet in the literature racks and on the church website.

A Blood Donor Drive sponsored by the Center for Whole Health will be held at Fourth Church on Sunday, January 22 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Appointments are required and can be made by calling 800.448.3543 or visiting www.givelife.org; the Fourth Church sponsor code is 3352.

#### CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY

**Sunday School** meets today at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. in Westminster House.

**Children's Corner**, a time of storytelling, takes place today after 9:30 worship.

**Confirmation Class** (grade 8) meets today at 9:30 a.m. in the Crow's Nest.

**Junior Highs** (grades 6–8) meets for Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. in the Large Conference Room. The group then meets at 10:45 a.m. in the Crow's Nest.

**Senior Highs** (grades 9–12) meets today at 12:15 p.m. at the Chestnut St. entrance to go ice skating.

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

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#### **FELLOWSHIP**

**The Gathering,** the Young Adults weekly fellowship opportunity, meets today at 12:30 p.m. in the Randolph Room.

**Fourth Forum,** a gathering of Fourth Church gays, lesbians, and friends, meets today at 12:30 p.m. for brunch at McCormick and Schmick's.

The 30s and 40s, a gathering of individuals in that age range interested in faith, service, fellowship, and educational opportunities, will be wrapping gifts for the "Christmas Wishes" gift project at 12:15 p.m. in the Manse.

**Fourth Couples**, a gathering of couples in their twenties to forties, meets today at 4:30 p.m. in the Manse for a potluck dinner.

#### ENRICHMENT

**Bible Study** opportunities this week: *John Knox*, Sundays at 9:30 a.m. *Noonday*, Wednesdays at 12:10 p.m. *Older Adults*, Fridays at 10:00 a.m.

Adult education opportunities offered by the Academy for Faith and Life today are "The Madonna in Art" at 9:30 a.m. and "Fourth Church History" at 11:00 a.m., both in Anderson Hall N. Balcony. CDs of five previous courses are available during Coffee Hour. Gift wrapping will be provided.

#### Spiritual direction opportunities

are available at the Lorene Replogle Counseling Center through appointments with spiritual director Suzanne Dunbar. To learn more about these opportunities and the role of a spiritual director, visit www.fourthchurch.org/spiritualdirection .html. Appointments can be made by calling the Center at 312.787.8425.

"The Challenges of Forgiveness," a Midwinter Conference sponsored by the Counseling Center and led by John Boyle and Jeanne Bishop, will be held Saturday, January 28. Brochures with details are available in the literature racks and on the church website.

#### NEWS AND RESOURCES

Fourth Church's Lorene Replogle Counseling Center offers various resources and a supportive environment for reflecting on and coping with experiences of grief and sadness that can arise during the holidays. For information, call the Center at 312.787.8425.

#### **VOLUNTEERS AND DONATIONS**

Current Volunteer Needs
Tutors for children on Tuesdays and
Thursdays at Fourth Church
Assistants for Kids' Cafe on Monday,
Tuesday, and Thursday

Servers for a congregational Christmas
Dinner at Fourth Church

**Vespers bread cutter** for the fourth Sunday of the month

**Drivers (with cars)** to pick up donated food from a Lincoln Park grocery and deliver it to shelters on the weekend

## Current Donation Needs Gently used children's outerwear Canned vegetables

Men's clothing in extra-large sizes
Palm Pilots (with pens and adapters) in
working order for children in the
Fourth Church Job Training program

#### New and used dictionaries Paper bags with handles

For more information and a list of additional needs, stop by the Volunteer Table during Coffee Hour or call Larry Nicholson, Director of Volunteer Ministry, at 312.981.3382.

### CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 11-17, 2005

Sunday, December 11			
7:50 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.	Nursery		Westminister 14
8:00 a.m.	Morning Worship	John M. Buchanan preach	ning Sanctuary
9:00 a.m.	Coffee Hour		Anderson Hall
9:00 a.m.	Youth Choir Rehearsa	ıl	Dining Room
9:30 a.m.	Morning Worship	John M. Buchanan preach	ning Sanctuary
9:30 a.m.	Sunday School		Westminster House
9:30 a.m.	Confirmation Class		Crow's Nest
9:30 a.m.	John Knox Bible Study		Page Smith Room
9:30 a.m.			nderson N. Hall Balcony
9:30 a.m.	Junior Highs Sunday School		Large Conference Room
9:45 a.m.	Children's Choir Reh	earsal	Dining Room
10:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour		Anderson Hall
10:30 a.m.	Children's Corner		Anderson Hall
10:30 a.m.	Cherub Choir Rehears	sal	Dining Room
10:45 a.m.	Junior Highs		Crow's Nest
11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship	John M. Buchanan preach	ning Sanctuary
11:00 a.m.	Sunday School		Westminster House
11:00 a.m.	Academy for Faith an	d Life A	nderson Hall S. Balcony
12:00 p.m.	Coffee Hour		Anderson Hall
12:00 p.m.	New Member Brunch		Dining Room
12:15 p.m.	Intercessory Prayer		Stone Chapel
12:15 p.m.	Church Tour Sanctuary		
12:15 p.m.	The 30s and 40s Manse		
12:30 p.m.			Randolph Room
12:30 p.m.	Fourth Forum		(see announcement)
1:00 p.m.	Senior Highs		(see announcement)
3:00 p.m.	Concert: Chicago Cho	rale	Sanctuary
4:30 p.m.	Fourth Couples		Manse
6:30 p.m.	Vespers	Patrick Daymond preachi	
7:30 p.m.	Coffee Reception		Anderson Hall
Monday, December 12			
9:00 a.m.	Daily Prayer (Monday	/_Friday)	Stone Chapel
5.00 d.iii.	Daily Trayer (Monday	( Triday)	Storic Chaper
Wednesday, December 14			
9:30 a.m.	Benevolent Guild		Page Smith Room
12:10 p.m.	Noonday Bible Study		Large Conference Room
7:30 p.m.	Advent Worship		Blair Chapel
Thursday, December 15	al lal Di		G .
6:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehear	rsal	Sanctuary
Friday, December 16			
10:00 a.m.	Older Adults Bible Study		Page Smith Room
12:10 p.m.	Noonday Concert: Cathryn Wilkinson, organ		Sanctuary
12.10 P.III.	zazzany contecta ou	, ,	Surretuary
Saturday, December 17			
5:00 p.m.	Concert: "Christmas v	with Tower Brass"	Sanctuary
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#### Preaching on Sunday, December 18

John M. Buchanan 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m Catherine Knott 6:30 p.m.

Parking is available Sundays at the John Hancock Center, 875 North Michigan Avenue (access Chestnut Street), at the rate of \$7.00 until 2:00 p.m. 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. Weekday parking is available after 5:00 p.m. at 900 North Michigan at the rate of \$6.00. Validation tickets must be picked up during Coffee Hour or from the Chestnut Street reception desk.