



## You belong here!

This may be your first time in worship at Fourth Presbyterian Church, or perhaps you worship here so often you call Fourth Church “home”; in either case, **we are grateful for your presence** today. Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, we welcome everyone—without exception—into the life of this congregation. No matter where you may be in your faith journey, no matter what questions or burdens you may bring to this place, we take seriously that God loves everyone, so you belong here.

Every Sunday we read the old biblical stories and sing hymns (some of which our grandparents sang), while also engaging the world we live in this minute through liturgy, prayers, and sermons. **By connecting the story of our lives to the story of Christ’s life, we discover hope and even joy**, and are inspired to reflect the light of Christ to the city **as we live out our calling to love God and love one another.**

Guided by our Antiracism Covenant, we seek to embrace values and practices that enable us to experience Beloved Community, where **differences are seen as assets that are celebrated and experienced as strengths.**

**If you are new to us**, stick around after worship. Join us for Coffee Hour, or speak to one of our pastors. We have many programs to expand your spirit and enrich your life. We would love to tell you more. **Give us a try; soon you too might be calling Fourth Church “home.”**

### Worshiping in Person at Fourth Church

Each Sunday our worshiping body is a wonderful mix of those online, on the phone, and in the pews.

If you like to worship with us in person, we gather weekly at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. (except today, when we are worshiping at 10:00 a.m. only).

#### Entering the building

A half hour prior to each service the doors open for worship. On Michigan Avenue, through the glass Loggia doors there is an entrance without steps that leads to the Sanctuary

There are also two fully accessible entrances via the Gratz Center: at 126 E. Chestnut and 115 E. Delaware.

#### Parking

Information on discounted parking is on the back cover. If you have not set up an online payment account for discounted parking at the 900 garage, ushers have information cards to help. Volunteers at the Coffee Hour Connection Corner are available to assist as well.

#### Sound

- Worship can be heard through “T” or “T-coil” settings of hearing aids.
- Please silence electronic devices during worship.

## Worshiping Online

### Livestream

Today we are livestreaming our 10:00 a.m. service on our YouTube channel, at [bit.ly/fpconline](https://bit.ly/fpconline), which is also accessible from the home page of our website: [fourthchurch.org](https://fourthchurch.org). Next Sunday, January 11 we will resume livestreaming the 9:30 a.m. service.

Worship can be viewed anytime after the service has begun. For tips on how to watch—from the beginning—a service that is already in progress, see [fourthchurch.org/watch-from-the-beginning](https://fourthchurch.org/watch-from-the-beginning)

### Online extras

Links to make an online offering gift, view or print the worship bulletin, and more can be found in the descriptive text below the worship video (*after exiting full screen*) as well as on our website.

### For those without Internet

Those without Internet access are invited to listen via phone by calling 888.916.9166 at 9:30 a.m.

## Prayer

### Personal Prayer with a Deacon following Worship

If you would like to meet with a Deacon to pray, you are invited to do so in Stone Chapel (through the door to the right of the pulpit) following worship.

### Praying Each Week for Our Members

Fourth Church maintains a practice of praying for each member's household throughout the year.

We will resume Morning Prayer via Zoom on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. beginning January 7. You are invited to join us then in praying for members by name, all those who are in need, and mission partners around the world. For details, email Pastor Nancy Benson-Nicol ([nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org](mailto:nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org)).

### Requests for Prayer

If you would like to submit a prayer request for our prayer ministries, please email Gloria Fleming ([gffleming@fourthchurch.org](mailto:gffleming@fourthchurch.org)).

## News, Updates, and Snapshots

Look for information, updates, and snapshots of life at Fourth Church in our weekly email newsletter:

Subscribe at [bit.ly/newsfromfpc](https://bit.ly/newsfromfpc) and visit our news archive at [fourthchurch.org/news](https://fourthchurch.org/news)

## Let Us Know You're Here!

We are grateful to be worshiping with you today and would welcome knowing you are here. Please take a moment to fill out an information form.

### In person

Those worshiping with us in person are asked to add their names to the pads in the pews, passing the pads to the center of the row and then back again so worshipers have opportunity to greet one another by name following worship.

### Online

Those worshiping via livestream will find a link to the online form in the text below the video (*after exiting full-screen view*); a QR code is also displayed during the "Welcome" that can be scanned with a phone camera to take you to the form.

## Caring for One Another

### Pastoral care

If you would like to talk to a pastor or notify pastoral staff of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths, please email Gloria Fleming ([gffleming@fourthchurch.org](mailto:gffleming@fourthchurch.org)). If the situation requires immediate attention, please call the church at 312.787.4570 to be connected to the Minister on Call.

### Stephen Ministry

For a one-to-one listening presence through life challenges, consider being paired with a Stephen Minister. For information, leave a confidential message at 312.573.3365 or contact Pastor Nancy Benson-Nicol ([nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org](mailto:nbenson-nicol@fourthchurch.org)).

## Podcasts from Fourth Church

Podcasts from Fourth Church—available on multiple platforms and at [fourthchurch.org/podcasts](https://fourthchurch.org/podcasts)—include

- the Sunday worship service
- the Sunday sermon
- weekly "Rhythm and Word" reflections
- "Bible Top Ten," a lively, informative, and often lighthearted exploration of the Bible through a series of top ten lists—including recent episodes on "Prophets," "Sibling Rivalries in the Bible," and "Passages on Heaven and Hell"—which is hosted by Pastors Matt Helms and Rocky Supinger.



## Connections and Belonging

Come connect with others as we foster a welcoming and inclusive community where everyone feels supported in building meaningful relationships

### In-Person Coffee Hour

All who are worshiping with us in person are invited to stop by Anderson Hall and the Commons after the service for our weekly Coffee Hour opportunity to greet each other and learn about ways to get connected with one another and Fourth Church!

### Online Coffee Hour

If you are worshiping with us via livestream, we would be delighted if you would also join us for opportunity to connect with one another in our online Coffee Hour. We gather via Zoom immediately following the livestream of worship for a time of fellowship.

Zoom link: [bit.ly/coffeehourfpc](https://bit.ly/coffeehourfpc)

### Opportunities to Connect

#### Knitting and Crocheting

Knitting and Crocheting's January gathering will take place this Tuesday, January 6 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 5B. Those who cannot be with us that day but have completed projects to drop off can leave them—marked to the attention of Katie Patterson—at the reception desk.

For more information about this ministry supporting partner organizations throughout the city by creating handcrafted items providing warmth and comfort, contact Katie ([kpatterson@fourthchurch.org](mailto:kpatterson@fourthchurch.org)).

#### Books by Women

Books by Women, which invites readers into a monthly conversation about a selected work, will discuss *The Island of Missing Trees* by Elif Shafak next Tuesday, January 13 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bumpus Room.

#### TwentiesThirties

Young adults will gather for lunch next Sunday, January 11 at Aster Hall (900 N. Michigan) following the 11:00 a.m. service. Come enjoy time with one another and opportunity to discuss topics for the next Bible study, a possible book study, and social events.

For more information about TwentiesThirties, contact Nance Bartell ([nbartell@fourthchurch.org](mailto:nbartell@fourthchurch.org)).

### Joining the Fourth Church Family

If you are interested in becoming a member of Fourth Church, please join us for a one-session Inquirers' Class via Zoom on Wednesday, January 21 at 6:30 p.m. (register at [bit.ly/inquirers012026](https://bit.ly/inquirers012026)).

For more information about membership at Fourth Church, see [fourthchurch.org/joining](https://fourthchurch.org/joining) or contact Pastor Rocky Supinger ([rsupinger@fourthchurch.org](mailto:rsupinger@fourthchurch.org)), who would welcome hearing from you!

### Register for the CLL Winter Session

The Center for Life and Learning program for adults sixty and over will kick off its Winter Session of fitness classes as well as lectures and arts courses tomorrow, Monday, January 5.

Registration for the upcoming session—with its online and in-person opportunities—is now open and can be completed at [fourthchurch.org/cll](https://fourthchurch.org/cll)

### Free Friday Concerts

The January 9 free Friday Noonday Concert will feature a performance by pianist Sylvia Wang at 12:10 p.m. in the Sanctuary and via livestream.

For a complete schedule of concerts at Fourth Church, see [fourthchurch.org/concerts](https://fourthchurch.org/concerts)

### Travel with the Choir in 2027

Next Sunday, January 11 learn how you can join our choir in traveling to Croatia, Slovenia, and Hungary in February 2027. The information session will take place at 12:00 p.m. in Room 4G and via Zoom at [bit.ly/choirtour27zoom](https://bit.ly/choirtour27zoom)

### New Zoom Book Group Begins Thursday

A new Zoom book group, sponsored by the Belonging Committee and hosted by Robin Erickson, will begin this Thursday evening, January 8 at 6:00 p.m. and run for six weeks through February 12.

The featured book will be *A Circle of Quiet* by Madeleine L'Engle, a reflective memoir blending personal history, spiritual exploration, and meditations on writing, science, and faith.

Through intimate essays, L'Engle considers how creativity, doubt, and belief intertwine, emphasizing the value of stillness and attentiveness in a fragmented world.

Although the book is out of print, it is available on Amazon for Audible, Kindle, and used copies, and there are copies of the book in public libraries.

For Zoom details, please email Nanette Sawyer (nsawyer@fourthchurch.org).

### Connecting with Fourth Church in Florida

Many in our Fourth Church community spend part of the year in Florida, and we're looking forward to reconnecting this winter. On Sunday, February 22, Camille Cook Howe will preach at First Presbyterian Church of Naples, followed by a gathering for Fourth Church members and friends.

If you expect to be in Florida around that time—or if you'd like to stay informed about future Florida gatherings—please share your information using the interest form ([bit.ly/florida0226](https://bit.ly/florida0226)). We look forward to staying connected!

### Connecting Online

Whether you live out of state, are traveling, are unable to be with us in person, or find online opportunities to be a meaningful complement to your in-person experiences, we invite you to explore our online opportunities for deepening your connections with your faith and with others: [fourthchurch.org/online/connections.html](https://fourthchurch.org/online/connections.html)

### Light Up a Life This Holiday Season

Share Christmas joy this holiday season with those in need by making a gift to our annual "Light Up a Life" offering, which is being received throughout the Christmas season.

Gifts designated to this offering provide funds for Fourth Church programs that support our neighbors and congregation and for Chicago Lights, as it extends kindness and love to those who are most vulnerable.

You can make a gift to "Light Up a Life" by selecting that designation from the drop-down menu when giving via [fourthchurch.org/give](https://fourthchurch.org/give) (also accessible by using the QR code on the back page of this bulletin).

If giving by check, please make the check payable to Fourth Presbyterian Church and write "Light Up a Life" on the memo line. Those worshiping in the Sanctuary can also use the offering envelopes from the pew racks.



## Faith Formation

Join us on our journey to grow spiritually through worship, educational opportunities, and programs that nurture faith across all ages

### Children, Youth, and Family

#### Children in worship

Children are always welcome in worship! If you need to step out to comfort your child, the Hospitality Suite, on the second floor of the Gratz Center, is a quiet space for families where worship is livestreamed.

Also during morning worship, nursery care is available on the fourth floor of the Gratz Center for infants through two-year-olds.

#### Sunday School

There is no Sunday School today; we encourage families to have their children worship with them.

Sunday School will resume next Sunday, January 11, with children three years old to fifth grade joining their parents in the Sanctuary for the beginning of 9:30 a.m. worship before departing for their classrooms on the fourth floor.

#### Youth

Youth groups are not meeting today. They will resume their weekly gatherings on next Sunday, January 11, with Junior High Youth (grades 6–8) meeting in the Bumpus Room at 9:20 a.m. and Senior High Youth (grades 9–12) gathering in the Commons at 10:50 a.m.

#### Confirmation

The Confirmation cohort of eighth graders will next meet on Sunday, January 25 at 11:00 a.m. in the Bumpus Room. The Confirmation parent group will meet that day at noon in Room 5D.

### Mind, Body, Spirit: Seeking Wholeness

To begin the new year, Pastor Nanette Sawyer will lead us in a two-week Adult Education class on “Mind, Body, and Spirit: Seeking Wholeness.” Our first session, which is today at 11:15 a.m. in Borwell Dining Room and online, will look at the practice of Christian meditation as a form of prayer. Register at [bit.ly/wholeness2026](https://bit.ly/wholeness2026)

To watch previous Adult Education classes, see our video archive at [bit.ly/adultedvideos](https://bit.ly/adultedvideos)

### Resources for Your Personal Reflection

#### Daily devotions

We invite you to use our daily devotions for your personal reflection. To receive them by email, subscribe online at [bit.ly/fpcdevotions](https://bit.ly/fpcdevotions); you can also find them on our website at [fourthchurch.org/devotions](https://fourthchurch.org/devotions) and on Facebook.

#### Weekly video and podcast reflections

Each Wednesday a Fourth Church pastor shares a brief reflection via video and podcast. Sign up online at [bit.ly/fpcrandw](https://bit.ly/fpcrandw) to have new videos sent to your inbox, or subscribe to our YouTube channel ([bit.ly/fpcvideos](https://bit.ly/fpcvideos)). You can also listen to the reflections in podcast format at [fourthchurch.org/podcasts](https://fourthchurch.org/podcasts) and via multiple podcast platforms.

### Zoom Bible Studies

For details about the following Zoom Bible studies, email Pastor Nanette Sawyer ([nsawyer@fourthchurch.org](mailto:nsawyer@fourthchurch.org)).

#### Men's Bible Study

Men's Bible Study—which focuses on scripture readings from the pulpit, with passages drawn from either the immediate past week's worship service or the upcoming Sunday—gathers via Zoom weekly on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m.

#### Women's Bible Studies

*Horizons* Women's Bible Studies—“Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ”—meet on Wednesday, January 14 via Zoom, with both a midday and evening study at 12:00 and 6:30 p.m.





## Community Engagements and Partnerships

Come alongside us as together, through programs and collaboration with partners, we advocate for social and community needs

### Help Feed Hungry Neighbors in 2026

You can help Fourth Church Meals Ministry provide nutritious meals and welcoming hospitality for neighbors who are hungry by volunteering with Sunday Night Supper, Bag Lunch, or meal preparation or by shopping from our online lists. For details, shopping links, and volunteer sign-ups, see [fourthchurch.org/meals](https://fourthchurch.org/meals)

### Make a Difference in the Life of a Child

More tutors are needed to pair with the youth who would like to participate in our Chicago Lights Tutoring program, which meets virtually on Mondays and in person at Fourth Church on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. To learn more or volunteer to be a tutor, see [chicagolights.org/volunteer/tutoring](https://chicagolights.org/volunteer/tutoring).

### Send Supplies to our Cuban Partners

In February a delegation of Fourth Church members and friends will be visiting our partner church, First Presbyterian Church of Havana in Cuba.

Each traveler will be taking a piece of luggage filled with supplies needed by the local community that First Havana serves.

If you would like to donate supplies for the travelers to take to our Cuban siblings, you can order items from the online wish list ([amzn.to/3LbaZr5](https://amzn.to/3LbaZr5)) and have them sent to Fourth Church.

For more information about supporting our Cuban partners or to learn more about First Havana, contact Associate Pastor Joe Morrow ([jmorrow@fourthchurch.org](mailto:jmorrow@fourthchurch.org)).

## Calendar for January 4–11, 2026

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<b>Epiphany Sunday</b>	10:00 a.m. Worship • Camille Cook Howe preaching . . . . .	Sanctuary / Online
January 4	10:00 a.m. Nursery . . . . .	Room 4A
	10:00 a.m. Infants/Parents Comfort Room . . . . .	Hospitality Suite
	11:00 a.m. A Time of Prayer . . . . .	Stone Chapel
	11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour . . . . .	Anderson Hall
	11:00 a.m. Online Coffee Hour . . . . .	Zoom
	11:00 a.m. Organist/Music Director Search Committee . . .	Room 4F
	11:15 a.m. Christian Meditation as Prayer . . . . .	Borwell / Online
	11:15 a.m. Long-Range Plan Progress Task Force . . . . .	Room 4E
	4:00 p.m. Sunday Night Supper (until 5:30) . . . . .	Anderson Hall

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<b>Monday</b>	9:00 a.m. Day School Twos . . . . .	Classroom A
January 5	9:30 a.m. CLL: Advanced French . . . . .	Zoom
	10:30 a.m. CLL: Stronger Seniors . . . . .	Zoom
	10:45 a.m. CLL: Intermediate French . . . . .	Zoom
	11:30 a.m. CLL: Silver Taps . . . . .	Zoom
	12:00 p.m. CLL: Beginner French . . . . .	Zoom
	1:00 p.m. CLL: Art History . . . . .	Zoom / Room 4K
	2:30 p.m. CLL: Yoga . . . . .	Room 5G / Zoom

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<b>Epiphany of the Lord</b>	7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study . . . . .	Zoom
Tuesday, January 6	9:00 a.m. Day School Preschool . . . . .	Classroom B
	9:30 a.m. CLL: Stronger Seniors . . . . .	Zoom
	9:30 a.m. SSC: Drop-In Services . . . . .	Anderson Hall
	10:00 a.m. Knitting and Crocheting . . . . .	Room 5B
	10:30 a.m. CLL: Stage and Screen . . . . .	Room 5G / Zoom
	11:30 a.m. Meals Ministry Bag Lunch. . . . .	Anderson Hall
	12:00 p.m. SSC: Living Room . . . . .	Borwell Dining Room
	1:00 p.m. CLL: Improv . . . . .	Room 4D
	1:00 p.m. CLL: Let's Play Mahjong . . . . .	Room 5C
	1:00 p.m. CLL: Watercolor . . . . .	Room 4F / Zoom
	1:00 p.m. Labyrinth Available to Walk (until 3:00). . . . .	Buchanan Chapel
	1:00 p.m. Shower Ministry . . . . .	Showers
	2:30 p.m. CLL: Intermediate Tai Chi . . . . .	Anderson Hall / Zoom
	5:00 p.m. Chicago Lights Tutoring . . . . .	Fifth Floor
	6:30 p.m. Deacon Executive Committee . . . . .	Zoom

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CLL = Center for Life and Learning ([fourthchurch.org/cll](http://fourthchurch.org/cll))  
 SSC = Chicago Lights Social Service Center ([chicagolights.org](http://chicagolights.org))

## Calendar for January 4–11, 2026

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<b>Wednesday</b>	7:30 a.m.	Men's Faith Study . . . . .	Offsite
January 7	9:00 a.m.	Day School Parent Meeting . . . . .	Fourth Floor Lounge
	9:00 a.m.	Day School Preschool . . . . .	Classroom B
	9:30 a.m.	Day School Twos . . . . .	Classroom A
	9:30 a.m.	Benevolent Guild . . . . .	Room 5B
	9:30 a.m.	Morning Prayer . . . . .	Zoom
	9:30 a.m.	SSC: Drop-In Services . . . . .	Anderson Hall
	9:30 a.m.	CLL: Yoga for Strong Bones . . . . .	Zoom
	10:30 a.m.	CLL: The Great Ideas Men's Group (WI26) . . . .	Room 5A / Zoom
	10:30 a.m.	CLL: Zing . . . . .	Zoom
	11:00 a.m.	CLL: Midweek Meditation . . . . .	Room 4D
	11:30 a.m.	Meals Ministry Bag Lunch . . . . .	Anderson Hall
	12:00 p.m.	CLL: Current Events . . . . .	Room 4G
	12:00 p.m.	SSC: Living Room . . . . .	Borwell Dining Room
	1:00 p.m.	Labyrinth Available to Walk (until 3:00). . . . .	Buchanan Chapel
	3:00 p.m.	CLL: Drawing . . . . .	Zoom
	5:00 p.m.	Belonging Committee . . . . .	Zoom
	5:00 p.m.	Chicago Lights Tutoring . . . . .	Fifth Floor

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<b>Thursday</b>	9:00 a.m.	Day School Preschool. . . . .	Classroom B
January 8	9:30 a.m.	Day School Together We Play . . . . .	Classroom A
	9:30 a.m.	CLL: Silver Barre . . . . .	Zoom
	9:30 a.m.	SSC: Drop-In Services . . . . .	Anderson Hall
	10:00 a.m.	Meals Ministry Sandwich-Making . . . . .	Borwell Dining Room
	10:30 a.m.	CLL: Golden Grooves . . . . .	Zoom
	11:00 a.m.	CLL: Art and Conversation . . . . .	Room 4K
	11:30 a.m.	CLL: Matters of Health . . . . .	Room 4E
	11:30 a.m.	Meals Ministry Bag Lunch . . . . .	Anderson Hall
	12:00 p.m.	SSC: Living Room . . . . .	Borwell Dining Room
	1:00 p.m.	CLL: Beyond the Headlines . . . . .	Room 4G / Zoom
	1:00 p.m.	CLL: Music History . . . . .	Zoom
	1:00 p.m.	Labyrinth Available to Walk (until 3:00). . . . .	Buchanan Chapel
	1:30 p.m.	CLL: Canasta . . . . .	Room 5B
	2:30 p.m.	CLL: Intermediate Tai Chi . . . . .	Anderson Hall / Zoom

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<b>Friday</b>	9:00 a.m.	Day School Preschool. . . . .	Classroom B
January 9	9:30 a.m.	SSC: Drop-In Services . . . . .	Anderson Hall
	10:30 a.m.	CLL: Nia . . . . .	Zoom
	11:30 a.m.	SSC: Living Room . . . . .	Borwell Dining Room
	12:10 p.m.	Noonday Concert . . . . .	Sanctuary / Online
	2:00 p.m.	CLL: Fiber Friends . . . . .	Room 4C
	3:30 p.m.	CLL: Get Together and Go Out!. . . . .	Room 4C

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## Calendar for January 4–11, 2026

**Saturday, January 10 • No public events are scheduled**

<b>Baptism of the Lord</b>	9:30 a.m.	Worship • Camille Cook Howe preaching. . . . .	Sanctuary / Online
Sunday, January 11	9:30 a.m.	Junior High Gathering . . . . .	Bumpus Room
	9:30 a.m.	Kindergarten/1st Grade Sunday School . . . . .	Room 4D
	9:30 a.m.	Nursery . . . . .	Room 4A
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School . . . . .	Fourth Floor
	10:15 a.m.	Meals Ministry Sandwich-Making . . . . .	Parish House Kitchen
	10:30 a.m.	A Time of Prayer . . . . .	Stone Chapel
	10:30 a.m.	Coffee Hour . . . . .	Anderson Hall
	10:30 a.m.	Online Coffee Hour . . . . .	Zoom
	10:30 a.m.	Family Donut Sunday Gathering . . . . .	Room 4C
	11:00 a.m.	Worship • Camille Cook Howe preaching. . . . .	Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Senior High Gathering . . . . .	Fifth Floor Lounge
	11:00 a.m.	Nurturing Health: Striving for Wholeness . . . . .	Borwell Dining Room
	12:00 p.m.	A Time of Prayer . . . . .	Stone Chapel
	12:00 p.m.	Choir Tour 2027 Presentation . . . . .	Room 4G / Zoom
	12:00 p.m.	Coffee Hour . . . . .	Anderson Hall
	12:00 p.m.	Handbell Choir Rehearsal . . . . .	Buchanan Chapel
	12:15 p.m.	Worship, Music and Arts Committee . . . . .	Room 5B
	12:30 p.m.	Racial Equity Committee . . . . .	Room 5A
	4:00 p.m.	Sunday Night Supper (until 5:30) . . . . .	Anderson Hall
	4:00 p.m.	Meals Ministry Medical Service . . . . .	Borwell Dining Room

The Fourth Church calendar is also available  
online at [fourthchurch.org/calendar](https://fourthchurch.org/calendar) or  
by scrolling to the bottom of [fourthchurch.org](https://fourthchurch.org)