

FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN

Annual
Report
Issue

The monthly newsletter of the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago • February 2006

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago 2005 Annual Report

Dear Friends,

This annual report contains the story of an extraordinary institution: The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago.



It is so much more than a statistical report to our members, although the important facts and figures reveal a congregation that continues to grow strongly in every way. More importantly, the report describes a church that lives its life in the spirit of its Lord Jesus Christ, serving its members, its neighbors, and the world in his name.

I do hope you will take a few moments to read through these pages. I know you will find yourselves deeply grateful, proud, and inspired, as I am.

In September, I completed twenty years as pastor of this amazing church. "Time flies when you're having fun," the saying goes, and it is true. Sue and I and our family are grateful for each one of those years, and my personal

programs. Professor Walter Brueggemann, a distinguished biblical scholar and theologian will visit Fourth Church as Theologian in Residence at the end of May 2006. Walter will preach twice and present several public lectures. And poet Wendell Berry, one of my very favorites, will visit Fourth Church for a public lecture and poetry reading on October 4, 2006.

I could not be more pleased or grateful. In addition, the scrapbook of messages from members and friends will be treasured always. Finally, the children of the Sunday School made greeting cards and presented them to me. They are all beautiful. One of my favorites has a baseball on the front, a big flower inside, and on the facing page the inscription: "Twenty years! WOW! Keep on going." My sentiments, precisely.

Important changes occurred internally during the year. Associate Pastors John Cairns and Carol Allen retired and were festively celebrated. John headed our adult education programs and was the inspiration for the Academy for Faith and Life. In the past few years he also served as Executive Associate. Carol was responsible for pastoral care and managed Fourth Church Care Teams and our oversight of members who are attending seminary and preparing for ministry.

A significant event for me was the call of Dana Ferguson to serve as Executive Associate Pastor with major responsibilities for day-to-day administration and staff

(continued on page 2)

Every year since its founding on February 12, 1871, the congregation of the Fourth Church has gathered in February to elect new officers to the board of Session, Trustees, and Deacons. Drawing on recommendations submitted by the congregation during the previous summer, the Nominating Committee prepares a slate of candidates it presents at the meeting. Afterwards, all gather for a time of faith and fellowship as the Congregational Life Committee hosts a dinner in Anderson Hall

experience continues to be challenging, energizing, and joyful. On Sunday, September 11, 2005, a surprise celebration was planned with festive worship, brass and bagpipes, great hymns, and the announcement of two new

The 136th Annual Meeting of the Congregation
Sunday, February 12, 2006 • In the sanctuary after 11:00 worship
Congregational dinner to follow in Anderson Hall
(February worship schedule and other monthly information is on pages 18-20)

Milestones

During 2005, the following changes took place in the church records.

Total membership at the conclusion of 2005: 5,394
 (Total membership at the conclusion of 2004: 5,383)
 Persons received into membership: 275
 Members transferred to other churches: 60
 Persons ordained: 1
 Members requesting removal, apart from transfers: 43
 Members who died: 22

We regret to record the deaths of the following persons and wish to extend our sympathy to their families and friends.

Joseph P. Allgood
 Caryl F. Austin
 Patricia Kelly Bowes
 Claire Conly
 Suzanne Duffy
 William Flory

Emma Jane Frankel
 Frances H. Goshert
 Pearle Louise Houghton
 Newton Khoobyarian
 Mildred Kincannon
 Robert Kordick

Ruth KortKamp
 Linda M. Krakowski
 Mary C. Moore
 Kenneth Pelletier
 Gloria Piazzi
 Donald Tarun

Edmund Taylor
 Fred Veenbaas
 Suzanne Vossough
 Barbara E. Weeks

(BUCHANAN continued from page 1)

supervision. Dana is a superb administrator and strong leader and is making a huge difference for the entire staff and congregation. And the Reverend Elizabeth Andrews joined the staff for pastoral care and is already serving with great effectiveness.

A major effort during the year involved responding to an action of our General Assembly recommending divestment of General Assembly funds from corporations whose business in Israel is deemed harmful to Palestinian and Israeli people. The reaction from our Jewish neighbors and the national Jewish community was strong and negative. Worshipers arriving at church on a June Sunday morning were greeted by picketers distributing materials sharply critical of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). I spent many hours in conversation with respected Jewish leaders, the Session appointed a task force to respond to the crisis, and we immediately reached out to our friends at Chicago Sinai to begin a process of dialogue that has resulted in joint meetings and a Jewish-Christian Bible study, which Rabbi Michael Sternfield and I led.

The task force recommended and the Session approved an overture to the Presbytery of Chicago and General Assembly (see page 7) that should the decision be made at the General Assembly meeting this June to proceed with divestment, that divested funds be reinvested in corporations whose business in Israel and Palestine is not harmful but helpful and peaceful. In addition, Fourth Church itself is

investing in those corporations as a symbol of our commitment to a two-state solution to the ongoing conflict in the Middle East and safe and secure Israel and Palestinian states within internationally recognized borders.

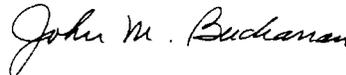
Fourth Church members responded generously to the tsunami disaster and Hurricane Katrina in 2005, contributing a total of \$132,730 to relief efforts. One Fourth Church mission team traveled to Gaultier, Mississippi, at year's end to work on clean-up and building. Another team will follow in the spring.

There is so much more to tell, so much that happens every day of the year to reflect the good news of God's love in Jesus Christ, so much that makes this church a "Light in the City."

The future beckons with hope. During the last week of the year, the Capital Funds Campaign received the largest gift from a living donor in the history of the church, a strong vote of confidence in our mission, our life together, and our aspirations for the future.

Time does fly when you're having fun. I cannot imagine anything better than being your pastor. Thank you for the privilege, joy, and blessing of it.

Faithfully,



John M. Buchanan

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In the spirit of good stewardship of God's resources, this newsletter is printed with biodegradable and soy inks on recycled paper

Milestones

We rejoice in the Sacrament of Baptism of the following children.

Sylvia Kate Anderson
 Julian Robert Aske
 Vincent William Auricchio
 Luke Armen Avedisian
 Joan Choi Bahnfleth
 Audrey Marlene Baker
 Marin Kay Balaz
 Reagan Forrester Barr
 Charlotte Ann Bartlett
 Gretchen MacKeen Bayert
 Carlson Lynch Becker
 Samuel George Bennett
 Brooke Isabel Benson
 Natasha Leah Berman
 Walter Arthur Bledsoe
 Elizabeth Hutchins Blodgett
 Griffin Walker Bogwill
 Elinor Grace Brickman
 Lily Katherine Britt
 Lili Elizabeth Brown
 Brooke Mackenzie Brumfield
 Fiona Jane Buchanan
 Elizabeth Wynn Bundrant
 Benjamin Andrew Burlingame
 Cate Ryan Busby
 Eric Matthew Butz
 Elly Marie Campbell
 Molly Claire Caragher
 Audrey Clare Carrillo
 Grace Elizabeth Chihoski
 Chase Henry Coghill
 Katherine Ann Courtney
 Lauren Elizabeth Courtney
 Brandon Christopher Cowhey
 Grace Abigail Cruise
 Gavin Ranjan Daniels
 Jacqueline Marie DeMille
 Henry Moises Deverman
 Gunder Vitaal D'hondt
 Ryan Franklin Dong
 Isabella Christine Duzan
 Charlotte Jane Ericson
 Emily Sophia Feddersen
 Isabella Kate Ferak
 Kate Elizabeth Feurer
 Lola Marie Feurer
 Miles Julius Few
 James Anderson Georgelos
 Graydon James Gibson
 Naomi Elle Gibson
 Samuel Andrew Ginster
 Alyssa Lynne Graffia

Vivianne Rae Gramza
 Elizabeth Josephine Gretz
 Jacob Copelin Grissom
 Roland Jackson Guerriere
 Chiara Celestia Gustafson
 Jack Andrew Hales
 Jack Thomas Haravon
 Sinclair James Harris
 Justin Lee Heather II
 Elena Grace Henneman
 Andrew Raitt Hepner
 Ryan Salvatore Hew
 Kenna Grace Hewitt
 Dylan Jiwon Hicks
 Chloe Ellen Hill
 Keller Christopher Hill
 Erika Barbara Mei-en Ho
 Evan Isabelle Lind Hoffman
 Alexander Stewart Istock
 James Steven Istock
 Ryan Kennedy Jafri
 Kate Elizabeth Jewell
 Andrew Barclay Keller
 Alexandra Elizabeth Kerr
 Gunnar Hamelin Kirk
 Nathaniel Alden Kizer
 Chase H. Kleebauer
 Eleanor Reeder Knouse
 Kaitlyn Elizabeth Kotz
 John Vernon Krol
 Claudia Rose Landon
 Emma Kathleen Lane
 Elizabeth Morgan Legg
 Alexander Christian Lindemann
 Aidan Bardina Liu
 Colson Murray Liu
 Sydney Capri Ludwick
 Samantha Grace Lullo
 Kaitlyn Grace Marier
 Adeline Baldwin Marshall
 Peter Berkley Marshall
 Maggie Elizabeth McAuliff
 Caroline Wilson McClellan
 Gavin James McCrea
 Michael John McGinn
 Lucia Jane McConnell
 Andrew Gregory Meints
 Rachel Mary Menna
 Matthew David Millard
 Kathryn Lake Mitchell
 Delia Connelly Mobarak
 Martha Connelly Mobarak

Myles Connelly Mobarak
 Alexander Walker Moncrieff
 Isabella Monroy
 Regina Monroy
 Addison Christopher Morley
 Sarah Jane Nicholson
 John Gentry Nickerson
 Jani Kouatchou Ntowe-Fankam
 Hollister Ingrid Olson
 Sebastian Wylie Olsen
 Elaine Ann O'Neil
 Maxwell Paul Ondik
 Benjamin Cooper Oosterbaan
 Kyle Edward Osenberg
 Everett Charles Owen
 Madelyn Elizabeth Panveno
 Elena Jungeun Park
 Bennett Fraser Patterson
 Luke Anthoni Peebler
 Laura Ye Wen Pilchen
 William David Pilgrim
 Eva McKinnon Pinto
 Maximilian Graham Pohl
 Nicholas Alexander Pranger
 Nathaniel William Raub
 Adeline Laura Rees
 Brooks Havlyn Risher
 Emily Alicja Rowe
 Caroline Adele Ruby
 William Arnold Salerno
 Bella Francesca Salvi
 Christopher Jack Schoenherr
 Trip James Shonkwiler
 Patrick James Simonian
 Abigail Margaret Smith
 Amelia Claire Smith
 Margaret Ann O'Connor Smith
 William Frederick Smith
 Anthony Joseph Stefani
 John Fredric Sturman
 Olivia Sydney Suckow
 Clayton Walter Surber
 Katherine Ann Thornton
 Evangeline Rawlins Uzarowicz
 Joshua James Van Overmeiren
 Oliver Herman Vigerust
 Madeline Grace Weir
 Peyton Barbara Welch
 Gabriel Bradford Wolter
 Luke Ben Yachnin



The Boards

The belief that the people of God are called to be leaders is at the heart of the Presbyterian way. This commitment manifests itself in a style of “representative democracy” that is unique in the worldwide church. This representative democracy is embodied in the boards of the church: the Session, the Board of Trustees, and the Board of Deacons. The officers who serve on these boards have been identified for their gifts of leadership and commitment to the life and ministry of this congregation and are elected to three-year terms by the congregation. These elections are held each February. Officers are then ordained and installed in May, when they begin their term of service.

This report gratefully acknowledges all those who served as officers during 2005: those whose term ended in May, those whose term began then, and those whose term continued throughout the year.

September 2005 marks twenty years of ministry at Fourth Church for John Buchanan. On September 11, special music fills the anniversary service and includes the hymn “Startle Us, God,” commissioned for the occasion and written by Shirley Elena Murray. During a reception afterwards, members and friends sign pages for an anniversary scrapbook later presented to John Buchanan.



For the third year, a television crew from the local CBS affiliate, WBBM-TV, films the 8:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service, which is broadcast later that evening and again on Christmas morning.

The Board of Deacons

The Board of Deacons is often called “the heart of the church.” Deacons are responsible for the care of the congregation and outreach ministries. Each Sunday they staff the volunteer table during Coffee Hour, provide intercessory prayer in Stone Chapel after 11:00 worship, conduct a tour of the church, and welcome visitors to the narthex on Sunday afternoons. The board also regularly provides volunteers to assist in a variety of ways at the Sunday Night Supper and continues to support the Monday Night Community Supper, which they established in 2004. They sponsor the annual Summer Tennis Camp for youth participating in the Partners in Education Summer Day program and participate in the Care Team project.

Ended their three-year term in 2005: Martin Aavik, Monica Brown, Frederick Chisolm, Catherine Clewlow, Donald Coe, Lindsay Cook, Juli Crabtree, Karen Johnson, Beth Laurin, Carol Lobbes, David E. Miller, Dean Nelson, Wanda Newell, Tate Nudo, Eric Olson, Polly Toner, Jason Tuscher

Continued their term of service: Vern Avedisian, Lisa Armstrong, Richard Barrett, Gayle Birdsong, Allison Burke, J. Milton Clark, Ranjan Daniels, Louis DiCerbo, Don DuPree, Carol Gates, Lisa Garay, Emily Hartnell, Barbara Joabson, Beverly Kowatch, Gregory Lewis, Donna Jean Marxhausen, Claire Monroe, Dean Nelson, Doug Pond, Kari Sanderson,

Jason Schubert, Marge Shelton, Robert Sinclair, Jeff Spang, Mary Kay Wysham, Doris Yancy, Kim Yaung

Began their three-year term in 2005: Ann Bell, Irene Bumpus, Esther Cesario, Delia Coleman, Jessica Corlett, Todd DeStigter, Debbie Frisch, Ryan Gregory, Martin Hansen, Arnie Lenters, Diane Meister, Cris Ohr, Don Outlaw, Jane Purdy, Byron Reed, Gail Riggs, Ben Schemper, Andrew Shih, Mark Staublin, Alison Thomas, Christie Valentine, Stephanette Walker

Staff liaison: Alice M. Trowbridge, Associate Pastor

The Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees oversees the financial life of the church, including the endowment. Through their Investment Committee and with the assistance of investment consultants, the Trustees manage asset allocation and exercise the authority to receive, hold, manage, and transfer property.

Ended their three-year term in 2005: Mark Cochrane, Robert Darnall, Marilee Hopkins, Thomas McDowell, Deborah Mitchell, Jeffry Shearer, Ella Strubel

Continued their term of service: Mark Bereyso, Marilyn Cason, Katheryn Dutenhaver, David Eldersveld, Bryan Erler, Betsy Finkelmeier, Paul Gignilliat, Armon Haagen, Patricia Habicht, Billye Jennings, Clarence Johnson, Richard Mayer, Steve Philip, Anne Voshel

Began their three-year term in 2005: Nancy Brown, Juli Crabtree, Lloyd Culbertson, Andy McGaan, Mary Moore, Marty Sherrod, S. L. Van Der Zanden

Staff liaisons: John M. Buchanan, Pastor; Dana Ferguson, Executive Associate Pastor; Alison Chisolm, Director of Project Light and Resource Development; Jo Ann McFarlin, Director of Business Administration; Lisa Radetski, Director of Giving Ministries

Joint Finance

The Joint Finance Committee is responsible for ensuring that the financial operations of Fourth Presbyterian Church are managed effectively to support internal programs and mission outreach. The annual budget of the church is approved by the committee, which includes members of the Board of Trustees and the Session.

Committee members: Mark Bereyso, Vern Broders, Lloyd Culbertson, Armon Haagen, Marilee Hopkins, Tom Howell Jr., Larry McCracken, Andy McGaan, Marc Miller, Steve Phillip, Tony Ruger, Marty Sherrod, Bob Unglaub, Doris Yancey

Staff liaisons: John M. Buchanan, Pastor; Dana Ferguson, Executive Associate Pastor; Alison Chisolm, Director of Project Light and Resource Development; Jo Ann McFarlin, Director of Business Administration; Lisa Radetski, Director of Giving Ministries



People across the globe—from Cameroon, Honduras, Guatemala, Cuba, and Northern Ireland—touch the lives of Fourth Church members who participate in the 2005 mission trips.



On October 21, the sanctuary is transformed into Babylon as Fourth Church children and youth tell, in song and drama, the biblical story of Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and their encounters with Babylon's ruler, Nebuchadnezzar



After forty-one years in ministry, six of them at Fourth Church, John Cairns retires on October 2. At a farewell reception held after 11:00 worship, John and Betsy are recognized for their contributions to the Fourth Church community, key among them being John's role as founder of the Academy for Faith and Life and coordinator of the pilot Pastoral Residency program.



Carol Allen offers the benediction on Sunday morning, October 23, her final Sunday preaching as a member of the Fourth Church staff. In a retirement reception that follows, celebrating the many gifts Carol has shared with the congregation, a kazoo band plays a musical tribute to her

The Session

The Session, which is the governing body of the church, is made up of thirty-seven Elders (the translation of the Greek word presbyter). The Session is responsible for the whole life and ministry of Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Particular Session responsibilities include receiving new members; leading the congregation in mission; providing for worship and the administration of the sacraments—baptism and communion—offering educational programs, pastoral care, and fellowship opportunities; and challenging the congregation in its stewardship of time, talent, and financial resources.

Several committees oversee these responsibilities and report to the Session. Those individual committee reports make up the remainder of this 2005 Annual Report and include a listing of those who so graciously gave of their time and talent in serving on these committees during 2005.

Ended their three-year term in 2005: Elizabeth Andrew, Dianne Bowman, John Dallas Jr., Hope Daniels, Robert Day, Mark Delfs, Robert Doak, Jan Feldman, Val Henry, Maggie McGuire, Joe Sifferlen, Morgan Simmons, Joyce Sigmon

Continued their term of service: Anne Bishop, Gerald Bloomer, John R. Buchanan, Philip Calian, Richard Carlson, Missy Campion, David Crawford, Lillian Davidson, Anderson Ekern, Elizabeth Foster, Kerry Grady, Tom Howell Jr., Jane Hunt, Betty Hutchison, Jerry Latherow, Gunnbjorg Lavoll, Marc Miller, Mark Nelson, Karen Otto, Amy Pagliarella-Foley, Polly Peters-Bottrell, Sylvia Robertson, Rick Sabol, Gretchen Wahl

Began their three-year term in 2005: Becker, Betty Bergstrom, Barbara Cleveland, Beth Davis, Mason Essif, Michelle Holmes, Carl Lingenfelter, Carol Lobbes, Larry McCracken, Ann Mellott, Ed Miller, Sue Schemper, Bob Unglaub

Clyde O. Bowles Jr., Clerk of Session

John M. Buchanan, Moderator

Adult Education

The Adult Education Committee is primarily responsible for the Academy for Faith and Life. The Academy provides short-term and ongoing adult education for the members and friends of Fourth Presbyterian Church and for the larger community. Its mission is to draw participants into the many realms of God's activity, emphasizing the intersection of faith and life. All persons are welcome to participate in Academy courses and can learn about offerings through the catalogues that are available in the church literature racks and on the church website.

The course catalogue was reshaped for the 2005–2006 edition and reflects a standardized and simplified course schedule. After six years of Academy growth and experience and thorough evaluation on the part of the committee, the Academy's academic year is now divided into three sessions of

Overture from the Session

In the summer of 2004, the 216th General Assembly voted to explore a process of divestment in companies whose activities were causing damage to communities in Israel/ Palestine. In response to that decision, the Session of Fourth Presbyterian Church commissioned a task force to explore how the congregation might respond in a way that affirms the actions of General Assembly while also affirming our commitment to the existence of the state of Israel and the importance of our strengthening relationships with the Jewish community in Chicago. The work of the task force, which consisted of members Jeanne Bishop, Rick Mayer, Morgan Simmons, and Gretchen Wahl, culminated in a report to Session. Out of that report and Session action came the following overture to the Chicago Presbytery (the process by which a congregation's voice may be heard by General Assembly). This overture was presented and overwhelmingly approved at the December 2005 Presbytery meeting.

The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago Overture to the 217th General Assembly from the Session

PREFACE

"How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity."
(Psalm 133:1)

WHEREAS, the Session of the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago has adopted a resolution, expressing its intention to propose through the Presbytery of Chicago that should the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), as a result of the General Assembly's action, sell any of its holdings in any corporation doing business in Israel, whatever proceeds are realized from the sale of those holdings be reinvested in corporations doing business in the region whose activities benefit the human condition; and

WHEREAS, the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago advocates the positive approach of investing for peace in entities doing business in Israel and Palestine, using an investment criterion which can be embraced by all people, being guided by the prophetic injunction for justice (Amos 5:24 "Let justice roll down like waters") and the Talmudic concept of "tikun olam," to repair the world; and

WHEREAS, the human mission to repair the world articulated in Jewish scriptures is also of a piece with the theological views of other faiths, including our own Christian faith, regarding humankind's responsibilities for justice and peace; and

WHEREAS, numerous opportunities to help carry out and encourage this mission abound in Israel and Palestine;

THEREFORE, the Session of the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago submits the following Overture to the Presbytery of Chicago, seeking adoption and submission to the 217th General Assembly.

OVERTURE:

That if, as a result of the action of the 216th General Assembly taken July 1, 2004 (paragraph 7 of Overture 04-32) referring to Mission Responsibility through Investment Committee (MRTI) with instructions to initiate a process of phased, selective divestment in multinational corporations doing business in Israel, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) should sell any of its holdings in any corporation doing business in Israel, whatever proceeds are realized from the sale of those holdings be reinvested in corporations or other entities in Israel and Palestine whose work reflects the Hebrew injunction of "tikun olam," to repair the world.



In the spring of 2005, Fourth Presbyterian Church and Chicago Sinai Congregation partner for a series of four interfaith discussions, "Strengthening Our Ties," led by John Buchanan, Rabbi Michael Stenfield, and guest lecturers and held in Anderson Hall and in Chicago Sinai's sanctuary (shown above). Members of the two congregations also come together in the fall for a joint Bible study of Ruth and Jonah.



On December 2, clergy and lay leaders from faith communities throughout Chicago gather at Fourth Church for "AIDS and the Interfaith Community: A Faithful and Effective Response," a conference cohosted by Fourth Church and other neighborhood congregations.



Back row: Erica Schemper, Richard Williams, Victoria Decker Millar, Steve Runholt

Middle row: Wendy Mathewson, Alifowbridge, Laurie Armstrong, Catherine Knott

Front row: Tamara Leonard Lara, John Cairns, Julie Kim
Not pictured: David Aja-Sigmon, Patrick Daymond, Paulo Franca

Since 2000, Fourth Church has been privileged to have ten seminary graduates begin their ministry as Pastoral Residents in the midst of this congregation. This participation in the Lilly Endowment's "Transitions into Ministry" program began under John Cairns' leadership, and thus it is fitting that on the last Sunday John Cairns preaches before his retirement, the Pastoral Residents whom he mentored return to participate in worship leadership. Here is what the returning residents are doing today:

Class of 2000–2002

Laurie Armstrong works with personnel relations at the Presbyterian Church International Volunteer Office in Louisville, Kentucky

Paulo Franca is currently seeking a call.

Steve Runholt is the Pastor at Wan Wilson Presbyterian Church in Swannanoa, North Carolina.

Class of 2001–2003

Victoria Decker Millar is the Interim Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Church of Wilmette.

Alice M. Fowbridge is the Associate Pastor for Congregational Life at Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Class of 2002–2004

Tamara Leonard Lara is the Associate Pastor for Youth and Mission at the Darnestown Presbyterian Church in Darnestown, Maryland.

Wendy Mathewson is serving as the Associate Pastor for Mission and Pastoral Care at Northminster Presbyterian Church in Evanston, Illinois.

Class of 2003–2005

David Aja-Sigmon is the Pastor of Fourth Avenue Presbyterian Church in Brooklyn, New York.

Julie Kim is pursuing a call in northern California.

eight weeks each: fall (September 25–November 13), winter (January 8–February 26), and spring (March 12–May 14). This allows the Academy to offer one or two basic courses (100-level introductory classes) in each session, along with four or five shorter and more focused classes on a variety of important topics.

Under the able direction of its founder, John Cairns, the Academy for Faith and Life has had 3,800 registrants and offers classes in the following categories: Bible, Contemporary Discipleship, Spiritual Life, Theology, and History of the Church and the Study of World Religions.

The Adult Education Committee is also responsible for leadership (church officer) training, the church library, Michigan Avenue forums, Bible study groups, and making available CDs of some of John Cairns's course lectures.

In reflecting on 2005, the Adult Education Committee would like to honor John Cairns for his outstanding leadership and guidance for the Academy, thank Sheila Cotter for her years of thoughtful assistance, and applaud Paula Davis, who is proving invaluable in providing staff support.

Committee members: Annette Bacon, Michael Ban, Martha Brown, Don Coe, Allison Crawford, Jan Feldman, Jane Hunt, Carol Lobbes, Missy MacLeod, Andy McGann, David Miller, Deborah Mitchell, Ken Ohr, Larry Thomas, Nora Wiltse

Associate Pastor Nominating Committees

On Sunday, March 13, the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee presented Dana Ferguson to the congregation as the recommended candidate for the position of Executive Associate Pastor. That recommendation was unanimously adopted by the congregation in attendance, and Dana has since taken on the role of providing general management and oversight for the operation of Fourth Church, translating mission, vision, and goals into reality through program oversight and staff management.

In response to and in anticipation of staff transitions, at a meeting of the congregation on Sunday, May 22, two Associate Pastor Nominating Committees were elected: the Associate Pastor for Adult Education Nominating Committee and the Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry Nominating Committee.

The first election was in response to the plans of John Cairns, Dean of the Academy for Faith and Life, to retire in the fall. The second election, to fill the Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry vacancy, was the result of Keith Harris, formerly the Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry, assuming many of the responsibilities formerly held by Dana Ferguson prior to her taking on the role of Executive Associate Pastor. Keith is now the Associate Pastor for Community Ministry. The nominating committees plan to recommend candidates to the congregation in 2006.

Executive Associate Pastor Nominating Committee
Lloyd Culbertson, Elinor Hite, Rob Holben, Karen Otto,
Chris Pfaff, Allison Youngblood

Adult Education and Worship Associate Pastor
Nominating Committee
Martha Brown, Ranjan Daniels, Arlene Faulk, Jan Feldman,
Andy McGaan.

Youth Ministry Associate Pastor Nominating Committee
Steve Bumpus, Ben Carlisle, Jessica Corlett, Jeremy Lewis,
Sue Schemper, Donna Stein, Gretchen Wahl.

Chicago Lights

The Board of Chicago Lights has oversight for the financial and programmatic effectiveness of the Center for Older Adults, Center for Whole Health, the Elam Davies Social Service Center, and the Partners in Education programs—Tutoring and Scholarship, Summer Day, and the Near North Magnet Cluster (NNMC) School Partnership. Operating as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization supporting Fourth Church, Chicago Lights continues the legacy of the church's service to its urban neighbors. During 2005, the board oversaw an annual fund campaign that exceeded expectations, the addition of five new foundation funders, and the support of a record sixteen Scholarship students in Chicago-area high schools. They supported Friend-Raising events on behalf of Summer Day, the COA 40th Anniversary and the Tutoring Program's Job Training initiative, as well as the Holiday Card sale and art exhibit. They helped to close the Digital Divide through new computer labs in the Social Service Center, Borden Library, and Ferguson Parent-Child Center in Cabrini-Green. They participated in the Festival of the Heart, the expansion of the NNMC Accelerated Reader program for improved literacy, the implementation of a new Life Skills curriculum in Kids Cafe, and an annual event honoring caregivers, as well as Vespers services celebrating wholeness of body, mind, and spirit.

Board members: Jeanette Bitter, John R. Buchanan, Vern Broders, Marilynn Cason, Hope Daniels, Ranjan Daniels, Bob Doak, Lisa Guynn, Val Henry, Rob Holben, Gunnbjorg Lavoll, Ed Miller, Mark Nelson, Sandra Nelson, Cris Ohr, Jennifer Tretheway, Linda Valentine

Staff liaisons: John M. Buchanan, Pastor; Beth Truett, Executive Director, Chicago Lights



In May, students from three Cabrini-Green elementary schools take the stage for five performances of *Alice in Wonderland*.

Begun five years ago by the Near North Magnet Cluster program of Chicago Lights, the annual Festival of the Heart creates bonds between students from different schools and provides an opportunity for them to express themselves through drama, music, and dance.



“This little light of mine” shines brightly in the Fourth Church Sunday School program as children gather for weekly Children’s Chapel, which takes place in Blair Chapel at the beginning of each Sunday School session.



More than 100 children go on a “Serengedi: Where Kids Are Wild about God” at Vacation Church School during the week of August 15–19.

Children and Family

The Children and Family Committee is responsible for Christian education for children and youth up through fifth grade, the Fourth Church Day School, and the Children’s Center. In 2005, there were 516 registered children and youth in the Church School program, 54 in the Children’s Center child care program, and 64 in the Day School preschool program. Summer Vacation Church School, which is held the third week of August, was also at capacity enrollment at about 100 children and had a waiting list.

Throughout the year, the committee worked on three initiatives: adding computer software that can be used in Sunday School, organizing the Children’s Library, and producing a DVD themed “Nurturing Your Child in the Christian Faith.” In June, Beverly Escuder, the new Children’s Choirmaster, introduced three octaves of chimes to the music program. In the fall, the committee attended a retreat during which goals for the next several years were identified and discussed.

Also in the fall, printed materials for parents and children that describe the full range of children’s projects, as well as Sunday School pamphlets and Nursery guidelines, were made available.

The Day School, under the direction of Ruth Hornaday, received National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) accreditation in 2004. For the first time, in 2005, the Children’s Center also received NAEYC accreditation. Dana Cruz, formerly Interim Director, was named Director of the Children’s Center.

Committee members: Dana Aavik, Steve Bumpus, Anne Marie Canfield, Lisa Doak, Cary Donham, Elizabeth Foster, Jim Garner, Peyton Hutchison, David Love, Maggie McGuire, Jenna Olson, Jane Ottens, Sue Schemper, Jennifer Schubert, Catherine Sigmar, Katy Sinclair, Evadney Stephens, Debbie Whitmore

Staff liaison: Donna Gray, Minister for Children and Families

Congregational Care

The Congregational Care Committee works within the framework of the ministry of Jesus Christ to provide confidential care to those facing life’s spiritual, emotional, and physical challenges. Using church and community resources, the committee responds to real-life needs through lay-led Care Teams supported by pastoral and professional staff. The committee also provides oversight for the Pilgrimage in Faithfulness Leader Team, the Seminarian Care Team, and the Officer Care Team, which hosts gatherings of past officers and an officer appreciation dinner for those officers rotating off boards.

In 2005, the committee inaugurated a Pilgrimage in Faithfulness 2 course for those who had completed

Pilgrimage in Faithfulness. This second course focused on "Christian Practices: Putting Faith into Practice." Throughout the year, new Care Teams were also formed and additional volunteers added to that ministry.

Committee members: Anderson Ekern, Karen Johnson, Dorothy Rice, Sylvia Robertson, Cecy Szuba

Staff liaison: Elizabeth Andrews, Minister for Congregational Care

Congregational Life

The Congregational Life Committee focuses its deliberation and effort on defining and supporting Christ-centered lay leadership for church groups. Through its work, the committee seeks to educate, equip, encourage, empower, and support leaders who volunteer to serve in various ministries within the church, namely Women@Fourth Connect, Hospitality Ministry, Common Connection Groups, and Faith Builder Groups. Its main goal is to help leaders keep Christ at the center of each group's mission and message.

In addition to its support of existing church groups, the Congregational Life Committee provides facilitation for members wishing to form new groups. Before a group is formally approved and organized, the committee provides prospective founders of a group a valuable portfolio of qualification questions, start-up information, and tips based on best practices of other groups. The committee also works in conjunction with the Congregational Life staff to provide start-up coaching and other guidance as needed.

This fall it once again sponsored the annual Get Connected . . . Stay Connected Sunday, when members and friends have opportunity to learn about and sign up for Fourth Church programs, and the Volunteer Fair. The committee also hosted special Sunday morning receptions on the occasion of John Buchanan's 20th anniversary as Pastor of Fourth Church and on the retirements of John Cairns and Carol Allen.

Committee members: Betty Bergstrom, Dianne Bowman, Ali Burke, Linda Crane, Glenn Doering, Larry Nicholson, Rebecca Nilsson, Zoa Norman, Sylvia Robertson, Rick Sabol, Marge Shelton

Staff liaison: Alice M. Trowbridge, Associate Pastor

Evangelism

The Evangelism Committee provides a ministry of hospitality and information to people who are seeking a church home in the city. From the time a person makes a decision to cross the threshold of the sanctuary to his or her decision to become a member and get involved in the life of the church, the



Members of the Center for Older Adults gather for a summer picnic in the Fourth Church Garth.



Mike Ditka discusses faith, football, and a host of other topics at the September 10 gathering of the Fourth Church Men's Group.



Children at Fourth Church's Children's Center receive a special summertime visit from a desert fox and several other animal friends.



Near North Ministry Alliance partners, including Fourth Church, host a Healthy Community Fun Fair on April 30. Children are measured for and receive free bike helmets, blood pressure screenings are taken, and participants have opportunity to learn about safety and healthy eating. The Jesse White Tumblers are part of the afternoon's entertainment.



"Carnival Americana" is the theme of a lively evening of dinner, carnival games, live and silent auctions, and dancing to the crowd-favorite orchestra Indigo. Held on February 4, this 2005 Mission Benefit raises funds to support the programs of Chicago Lights, the Lorene Replogle Counseling Center, and other mission activities of Fourth Church.

Evangelism Committee has a cohort of more than 300 volunteers ready to walk with that person and provide an encouraging word or a nudge of direction.

In 2005, 275 new members were welcomed into the fellowship of Fourth Presbyterian Church. It is through the commitment of Open House greeters, Coffee Hour welcomers, Invitation Committee callers, Inquirers' Class teachers, New Member Brunch hosts, and all who have welcomed and encouraged a visitor to Fourth Church that we follow the call of the one who said, "Go and make disciples."

Committee members: Don Allerton, Bill Becker, Delia Coleman, Bob Day, Lillian Davidson, Sue Duffy, Val Henry, Arnold Lenters, Martha Payne, Polly Peters-Bottrell, Margie Shelton, Stanley Smith, Dennis Thorn

Staff liaison: Calum I. MacLeod, Associate Pastor

Giving Ministries

Each October, the Stewardship Committee of Giving Ministries launches Stewardship season at Fourth Church. At that time, members are asked to make commitments of financial support so that the church can plan programs and mission outreach for the coming year. Initiatives that highlighted stewardship in 2005 included Academy classes, devotions written by pastors and members, printed materials, and special stewardship events.

The 2005 Stewardship campaign was completed with pledges exceeding the goal of \$2.7 million and more than 1,300 households making pledges. The theme for the 2006 campaign, launched in October 2005, is "You are a letter of Christ" based on 2 Corinthians 3:3: "You are a letter of Christ, . . . written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts." The committee chose the text for its message that living a Christian life means that everything we do in our lives is intended to represent Christ in the world, much like a letter. The goal for the 2006 campaign is \$3 million.

Committee members: Jeanne Bishop, Gerry Bloomer, John Cochrane, Lloyd Culbertson, Frederick Henry, Ann Kingstrom, Marc Miller, Llani O'Connor, Amy Pagliarella, Sara Pfaff

Staff liaison: Lisa Radetski, Director of Giving Ministries

Mission

In 2005, the Mission Committee planned mission-in reverse trips to Cameroon, Cuba, Guatemala, and the Pine Ridge and Rosebud Reservations in South Dakota, a Habitat for Humanity trip to Honduras, and an interfaith peace and reconciliation pilgrimage to Northern Ireland with members of Old St. Pat's Catholic Church, which ended with a Celtic

spirituality retreat in Dingle, Ireland. Fourth Church also received reciprocal visits from people in Cuba, Cameroon, and the Rosebud Reservations, thereby deepening and strengthening relationships.

Fifty-one nonprofit agencies received a total of \$156,500 in grants from Fourth Church Mission. Disaster offerings were received to provide relief for those affected by major disasters: the tsunami and Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The Session and Trustees also approved a gift of \$10,000 to aid the victims of the earthquake in southern Asia.

The Advocacy Subcommittee addressed many issues of poverty and made available during Coffee Hour letters regarding housing, hunger, health care, domestic violence, education, HIV/AIDS, gun control, and fair trade. More than 1,500 signatures were received for those letters to government representatives.

In December, the Mission Committee cosponsored an interfaith World AIDS Day conference in partnership with Chicago Sinai Congregation, First United Methodist Church at the Chicago Temple, Holy Name Cathedral, and St. James Episcopal Cathedral. The conference began with an Interfaith World AIDS Day Remembrance Service in the Fourth Church sanctuary on December 1 with Mary Fisher preaching. "AIDS and the Interfaith Community: A Faithful and Effective Response" was the theme of the one-day conference, which was targeted for clergy and lay leaders from the Chicago area and sought to provide all in attendance with at least one thing they personally could do regarding the AIDS pandemic.

Committee members: Lisa Armstrong, Dean Banick, Bill Becker, Mary Ann Berry, Cindy Borski, Crystal Bush, Dianne Bowman, Regan Burke, David Crawford, Barbara Dillard, Alison Gerlach, Marty Hansen, Michelle Holmes, Betty Hutchison, Rafi Jafri, Joe Jeffery, Patricia Kendall, Susana Lopatka, Missy MacLeod, Barbara Maloof, Tony Mastroianni, Linda McCarty, Maggie McGuire, Ann Mellott, Mark Nelson, Francis Ntowe-Fankam, Melanie Oh, Joe Pixler, Doug Pond, Mary Schaafsma, Edna Schade, Joe Sifferlen, Jeanne Sullivan, Tod Tappert, Jennifer Tozer, Stephanette Walker

Staff liaisons: Keith Harris, Associate Pastor; Vicki Reynolds, Director of Mission

Nominating

The Nominating Committee is made up of representatives from the Session, Board of Deacons, and Board of Trustees, plus members-at-large elected by the congregation at the February congregational meeting. The committee is responsible for nominating thirteen Elders (including one youth), eighteen Deacons (including two youth), seven Trustees, seven Nominating Committee members, and four Chicago Lights board members. Soon after the newest class of officers was ordained and installed in May, the committee began its work gathering recommendations for candidates



In late June, an intergenerational group of thirty-one travelers from Fourth Church spends ten days in Honduras, where they help to build homes with Habitat for Humanity. This is the sixth Fourth Church mission trip to the mountain town of Siguatepeque.



Throughout the spring, staff and volunteers receive training on how to use automatic electronic defibrillators. Purchased by the Property Committee of the Board of Trustees in late 2004, the AEDs are installed throughout the church facilities.



On March 17, five years after their most recent visit, jazz legend Dave Brubeck and the Dave Brubeck Quartet return to Fourth Church for a joint concert with the Morning Choir

Author Drew Leder speaks about those things that give meaning to life at any age as he addresses the "Beyond Barriers" conference. This October 29 program is one of a series of events celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Center for Older Adults.



Alex Kotlowitz, author of *There Are No Children Here*, speaks about his most recent book *Under a City So Real*, on January 31. He is one of several authors, including Bebe Moore Campbell and Bart Ehrman, to speak at Michigan Avenue Forums throughout the year

for the next class. After collecting names from Fourth Church members and staff of those felt to have gifts for leadership and a commitment to the life and ministry of the church, the committee prepared to present its slate of candidates to the congregation for election at the February meeting. As always, the committee found its challenge to be distilling the slates from so many potential and proven leaders with which our congregation is blessed.

Committee members: Kathy Anderson, Dean Banick, Barbara Cleveland, Juli Crabtree, Beth Davis, Maggie McGuire, Don Nelson, Marge Shelton, Joe Sifferlen, Joyce Sigmon

Staff liaison: Thomas C. Rook, Parish Associate

Personnel

The Personnel Committee is committed to providing both leadership and support to the staff of Fourth Church. The committee works to ensure that an environment is created that enables all Fourth Church staff to identify goals and objectives to lead the church into the future and to provide a support structure of performance reviews, learning resources, and compensation that foster that vision. The committee identifies resources where desired or needed to provide training or coaching to meet individual needs.

Committee members: Marilyn Cason, Katheryn Dutenhaver, Arlene Faulk, Hugh Halverstadt, Jerry Latherow, Carl Lingenfelter, Marc Miller, Karen Otto, Chris Pfaff

Staff liaisons: John M. Buchanan, Pastor; Dana Ferguson, Executive Associate Pastor

Project Light

The year 2005 was one of continued progress and evolution for Project Light, the bold and strategic vision to ensure the future of Fourth Presbyterian Church and affirm its role as a "Light in the City." Project Light is a carefully developed and faithful plan encompassing four key initiatives: renovating and expanding the church's Michigan Avenue space for worship, programs, and fellowship; securing the future of mission and ministry programs by adding to the endowment; supporting pastoral theological education with a gift to McCormick Theological Seminary; and developing a 30,000-square-foot community center on Chicago Avenue to better serve neighbors and help bring about hope and understanding in that emerging neighborhood.

The Project Light Leadership Team is happy to report several successful initiatives underway, including sanctuary improvements; increased programming, community building, and visibility at the Chicago Avenue Community Garden; and Capital Campaign advancement.

Sanctuary enhancements in the works will add comfort with ergonomically correct pews, greater access for the disabled, and more flexibility for a variety of services and concerts without changing the existing feeling or architectural integrity of the worship space. The ninety-two-year-old pews will be replaced with exact replicas, and fabrication will be monitored by preservation architect Mary DeNadai, who worked with Fourth Church during the last renovation project.

The Sanctuary Committee and an acoustic subcommittee have worked tirelessly and engaged top professionals to carefully consider the vast details involved in sanctuary improvements. A new sound system, which has undergone several rounds of testing and modifications, will feature superior speaker technology, allowing for specific directional projection of sound, designed to result in enhanced and more natural sound quality.

The Chicago Avenue Community Garden grew, literally and figuratively, in the last year as vegetables and flowers flourished and, more importantly, neighborhood children and adults built relationships with each other and church volunteers. Structured children's programming brought a new dimension of activity and community to the garden in its second season as twenty to thirty children became regular participants in gardening and related activities. One neighborhood teen even earned an internship with garden partner Growing Power based on his involvement and commitment to the garden.

Monthly cookouts at the garden helped build community among adults from the neighborhood, many of whom already participated in Sunday and Monday Night Suppers and who have now begun to spend more time in fellowship with each other at the Saturday afternoon events.

The garden is the most visible base of Fourth Church's partnerships in the neighborhood and is helping to raise awareness of the congregation's role in the emerging area. Fourth Church's partnership with the Near North Ministry Alliance also has resulted in successful events in the community, including a well-attended health fair featuring blood pressure checks and other screening information.

"A Light in the City: Sharing God's Grace," the Capital Campaign supporting the Project Light vision, continues to advance toward its \$30 million goal. Campaign pledge totals at press time were \$20 million, and Project Light Leadership remains confident the goal will be reached, providing the critical funding necessary to bring Project Light to fruition.

Also at press time, the planned Joint Development, another important funding strategy for Project Light, had not yet come before the City Plan Commission. The planned development application, which complies fully with the city's zoning code, was filed more than a year ago, with the expectation of a twelve- to eighteen-month period before appearing before the Plan Commission. In the meantime, the proposal to sell the air rights above the western portion of the church's property and enter a joint development



In its second year, the Chicago Avenue Community Garden blossoms with flowers, vegetables, and relationships among neighbors and Fourth Church volunteers.



Under the direction of new Children's Choirmaster Beverly Escuder, the children and youth of Fourth Church lend their voices to worship on Sunday mornings.



Through the Employment Project, several guests of the Elam Davies Social Service Center complete a multiweek job training course.



Numerous groups provide free Friday Noon Concerts in the Garth during July and August.

relationship to construct a condominium tower has received significant support from civic and professional leaders as well as endorsements from both the Chicago Tribune and Chicago Sun-Times editorial boards.

The Project Light Leadership Team is committed to reaching resolution on the Joint Development in 2006 and moving forward accordingly with fund-raising and continued progress in Project Light fulfillment.

Project Light Leadership Team: Don Allerton, Pamela Boneham, Clyde O. Bowles Jr., David Crawford, Beth Davis, Jan Feldman, Betsy Finkelmeier, Elizabeth Foster, Paul Gignilliat, Ellen Gignilliat, Armon Haagen, Elinor Hite, Marilee Hopkins, Don Hunt, Carl Lingenfelter, Missy MacLeod, Donna Jean Marxhausen, Rick Mayer, Andy McGaan, Marc Miller, Chris Pfaff, Janet Reed, Beth Rizer, Jason Schubert, Marty Sherrod, Dick Strubel, Ella Strubel, Bob Unglaub, Anne Voshel

Staff liaisons: John M. Buchanan, Pastor; Dana Ferguson, Executive Associate Pastor; Alison Chisolm, Director of Project Life and Resource Development; Anne Crow, Project Manager for Congregational Life and Project Light; Keith Harris, Associate Pastor; Jo Ann McFarlin, Director of Business Administration; Ann Rehfeldt, Director of Communications

Worship, Music, and the Arts

Worship lies at the heart of the life of Fourth Presbyterian Church, and the Worship, Music, and the Arts Committee takes as its guiding principle a commitment to strong, faithful worship and preaching in the Reformed tradition. In logistical terms, the provision of services of worship involves hundreds of people: ushers and communion preparers, singers and musicians, lay participants and pastors who lead the people in worship of God.

In 2005, an average of 2,400 people worshiped each Sunday at Fourth Church. On Christmas Eve, the 8:30 p.m. service was again filmed and broadcast twice on the local CBS affiliate, WBBM-TV. Throughout the last two years each member of the church was prayed for by name at the daily Morning Prayer service held Monday through Friday at 9:00 a.m., and the monthly service of prayer in the tradition of Taizé, held on the fourth Friday of the month, had between forty and eighty worshipers each service, many of whom were from other denominations. Fourth Church also participated in ecumenical and interfaith services, including the Annual Gospelfest in Cabrini-Green as well as the Thanksgiving and New Year's Eve service with Chicago Sinai Congregation and Holy Name Cathedral. Congregation Sinai again celebrated the Jewish Holy Days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur in the Fourth Church sanctuary.

The Chancel, Morning, and Vespers Choirs continued to provide music leadership on Sunday mornings along with Tower Brass and more than fifty choristers singing in the Children's Choir. The free Friday Noonday Concert Series featured instrumentalists and singers, many from the Chicago area, and other concerts in the sanctuary included the Tower Brass Christmas Concert, which attracted 900 attendees, Chanticleer, Chicago a cappella, the Apollo Chorus, and the Chicago Chamber Orchestra.

The Fine Arts Council, which was formed in 2004 to act as an idea generator, clearinghouse, and decision maker for the visual and performing arts programs, welcomed thousands of people to the several diverse art exhibits hosted at Fourth Church. The drama group Fourth Acts performed regularly for Vespers, Advent, and Taizé services, and the Poetry Foundation presented *Murder in the Cathedral* an April evening. Two additional pieces of the "Unweavings" liturgical artwork by Laurie Wohl were hung in the sanctuary during the season of Ordinary Time.

Committee members: Dean Banick, Dianne Bowman, Philip Calian, Richard Carlson, Kerry Grady, Suzanne Morgan, Sally Park, Sue Pellowe, Robert Rasmussen, George Shorney

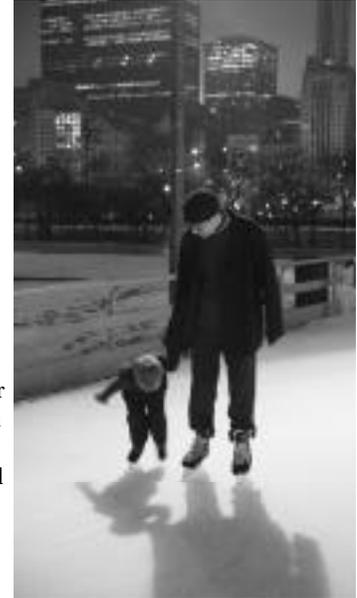
Staff liaisons: Dana Ferguson, Executive Associate Pastor; Calum I. MacLeod, Associate Pastor; John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Youth and Campus Ministry

The junior and senior high youth had an active year highlighted with successful work trips. Fifteen junior high children ventured to Bloomington, Illinois, in June to help with the Illinois Special Olympics. The group had a wonderful time being together and interacting with the athletes. Sixteen senior high youth traveled to Nogales, Mexico, where they participated in a week-long BorderLinks experience. They learned about immigration policies and issues surrounding the border. In the fall, both groups had fun-filled lock-ins, and the Senior Highs retreated to Lake Geneva for a weekend to become more familiar with the Holy Spirit.

Committee members: Dennis Canfield, Jessica Corlett, Mason Essif, Ryan Gregory, Michelle Holmes, Gwen Knorr, Clare Monroe, Mark Nelson, Liz Nickerson, Bob Parsons, Lauren Scheibe, Ben Schemper, Polly Toner

Staff liaison: Donna Gray, Minister for Children and Families



On February 20, children and their parents spend an evening skating at Daley Bicentennial Plaza as part of the fifth annual Fourth Church Family Skating Party



The Poetry Foundation selects Fourth Church to host a reading, on April 6, of T. S. Eliot's *Murder in the Cathedral*.



Several Tutoring students participate in a Super Bowl Shuffle contest sponsored by a local ad agency on behalf of its client, AirTran. Seventh grader Phillip Moore wins and not only has the experience of being interviewed by local television stations but also receives a trip for four to the New Year's Day Chicago Bears game in Minnesota.

Members

The congregation of Fourth Presbyterian Church marks the following occasions in the lives of those who make up the Fourth Church community

New Members

The following new members were received on Sunday, December 11, 2005

Marylou E. Barrett
Lori Borgen
Elizabeth K. Dosier
Mark L. Dosier
Gina R. Finnane
Sean P. Finnane
Charita M. Ford
Andrianna D. Kastanek
Nicki Koutsoukos
David C. Makowski
Diana M. Makowski
Anne M. Meagher
Suzanne M. Meagher
Adam G. Miller
Bryan J. Ogg
Sabrina J. Pippin
Mark W. Tawney
Erik B. Vorhes
Karen L. White

Baptisms

The following children were baptized on Sunday, December 4, 2005

Vincent William Auricchio, son of Vince and Tori Auricchio
Katherine Ann Courtney, daughter of Mark and Angi Courtney
Lauren Elizabeth Courtney, daughter of Mark and Angi Courtney
Gavin Ranjan Daniels, son of Ranjan and Kalen Daniels
Dillon James Gagliardi, son of Sam and Shalini Gagliardi
Vivianne Rae Gramza, daughter of Brian Gramza and Michelle Frankovich Gramza
John Vernon Krol, son of John Krol and Jennifer Vollbrecht
Adeline Laura Rees, daughter of Albert and Kristyn Rees
Christopher Jack Schoenherr, son of Aaron and Jennifer Schoenherr
Anthony Joseph Stefani, son of Steven and Deborah Stefani
Luke Ben Yachnin, son of Benson and Melinda Yachnin

The following children were baptized on Sunday, December 25, 2005

Alexander Stewart Istock, son of David Istock and Susan Stewart Istock
James Steven Istock, son of Steven Istock and Birgitta Koch Istock

The following adult was baptized on Sunday, December 11, 2005

Shena A. Omotola

Weddings

On December 3, 2005
Susan Michaelsen and Eric Krause

On December 10, 2005
Marie Gabiou and Samuel Borland
Jill Lewis and Garrett Merrill

Deaths

Joseph P. Allgood, December 9, 2005
Patricia Kelly Bowes, November 6, 2005
Suzanne Duffy, December 5, 2005
Robert Kordick, date unavailable

Information about the worship, education, fellowship, and mission life of Fourth Presbyterian Church is available at www.fourthchurch.org and in the church literature racks. To subscribe to the weekly e-mail newsletter News@FourthChurch, send addresses to news@fourthchurch.org. A one-session Inquirers' Class for those interested in learning more about Fourth Church is offered on **Monday, February 6** from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.; **Saturday, February 18** from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon; and **Sunday, February 26** from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. These classes are generally held three times per month; a schedule of future class dates can be found in the literature racks and at www.fourthchurch.org/inquirer.html.

For information about **becoming a member** of Fourth Presbyterian Church, contact Calum MacLeod, Associate Pastor, at 312.981.4025 (cmacleod@fourthchurch.org).

To notify the church of **illness, hospitalization, or death**; to pass along a **prayer request** to be remembered in Morning Prayer; or to arrange for **pastoral care**, including homebound Communion, contact Elizabeth Andrews, Minister for Congregational Care, at 312.640.5398 (eandrews@fourthchurch.org).

Music at Fourth Church in February

Free Friday Noonday Concerts 12:10 p.m. in Anderson Hall

February 3 Sharon R. Peterson, piano
February 10 Stephanie Hanusa, flute
February 17 Carine Gutlerner, piano
February 24 To be announced

Civic Orchestra of Chicago Sunday, February 26 at 3:00 p.m.

Mass of the Children by John Rutter

Performed by Fourth Church Children and Youth Choirs with Chamber Orchestra and the Fourth Church Morning Choir

Sunday, February 26 during 9:30 a.m. worship
(in place of the sermon)

Children and youth interested in singing Mass of the Children are asked to contact Beverly Escuder at 312.981.3595 (bescuder@fourthchurch.org) for rehearsal times.

Fast-Forward to These Dates on Your Calendar

- ▶ Again this year **Fourth Church youth** will invite the congregation's participation in the international **Souper Bowl of Caring**, this year on Sunday, February 5. That morning the youth will be collecting monetary contributions and donations of nonperishable food items, which will be used to help efforts to end hunger and poverty.
- ▶ On the first Tuesday of each month, a book group sponsored by Women@Fourth Connect gathers to discuss **Books by Women**. All are invited to these conversations. The next one, on February 7 at 6:00 p.m. in the Large Conference Room, will be about **Almost Fenchy** by Sarah Turnbull. Upcoming books for discussion will be **Light on Snow** by Anita Shreve (March 7) and **Gilead** by Marilynne Robinson (April 4).
- ▶ A new Academy for Faith and Life course begins Sunday, February 9 at 11:00 a.m.: "**Wisdom of the Desert**," taught by Diane Stephens, will meet for four weeks at 11:00 a.m. The course will explore the "wisdom of the desert," passed down in the writings of devout Christians in the Middle East who, in the third and fourth centuries, retreated to the desert wilderness in an attempt to be "drawn closer to God" and thus to deepen their own spirituality. Their practices have produced the roots of contemplative prayer, insights into Christian mysticism, the shaping of spiritual disciplines, and much more. Through their stories and profound writings, this course will explore what they learned and its truth for our lives today. Participants should expect to try various patterns of prayer and meditation as a way of employing the wisdom of the desert in their own lives.
- ▶ **Fourth Dimension**, a group of individual adults, 50 years and older, meets on Friday, February 10 at 6:00 p.m. in the Manse. All are invited to attend the evening's program on "**Black/White Chicago: Bridging the Gap**" presented by **Melissa Harris-Lacewell** of the University of Chicago. Next month's gathering, on Friday March 10, will feature **Mary Schmich of the Chicago Tribune** "**The Role of the Media in Covering Disasters.**"
- ▶ A one-day workshop, led by Carol LaChapelle, on **writing one's own personal stories of forgiveness** will be held Saturday, February 11 at the church. Space is limited and can be reserved by contacting the Lorene Replogle Counseling Center at 312.787.8425
- ▶ The Andy Tecson Jazz Ensemble will return for a special **Jazz Vespers** service, to be held at 6:30 p.m. on February 26, the last Sunday before Lent begins.

Looking Ahead to Lent

This year our Lenten journey begins on Wednesday, March 1. Along the way toward Palm Sunday (April 9), Holy Week, and Easter (April 16), Fourth Church offers a variety of opportunities for Lenten reflection.

Ash Wednesday Services Wednesday, March 1

12:10 and 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary

Communion and the opportunity for the imposition of ashes will be a part of both services.

Lenten Devotions

Written by Fourth Church members and staff, daily Lenten devotions will again be available by e-mail (send addresses to devotions@fourthchurch.org), on the website www.fourthchurch.org, and in a printed booklet available on Sunday, February 26 in the church literature racks.

Wednesday Midweek Lenten Services Beginning Wednesday, March 8

Each Wednesday in Lent, members and friends are invited to a time of worship held in Blair Chapel at 7:30 p.m.

Annual Lenten Retreat

Friday evening and Saturday, March 3-4 at the church Doug Ottati, Professor of Theology at Union Theological Seminary in Virginia, will lead this year's Lenten Retreat. Additional details will be available in the church literature racks and Sunday bulletins and on the church website, www.fourthchurch.org.



SUNDAY WORSHIP

FEBRUARY 5

8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.

Dana Ferguson preaching
Communion

6:30 p.m. Communion Vespers

Richard Williams preaching

FEBRUARY 12

8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.

John M. Buchanan preaching
9:30 and 11:00 a.m. — Baptisms

6:30 p.m. Communion Vespers

Calum I. MacLeod preaching

FEBRUARY 19

8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.

John M. Buchanan preaching
11:00 a.m. — Reception
of New Members

6:30 p.m. Communion Vespers

Catherine Knott preaching

FEBRUARY 26

8:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Calum I. MacLeod preaching

9:30 a.m.

Mass of the Children
by John Rutter

6:30 p.m.

Jazz Communion Vespers

Keith C. Harris preaching

MORNING PRAYER

Weekdays at 9:00 a.m.
in Blair Chapel

TAIZÉ SERVICE

Held at Fourth Church on the
fourth Friday of the month.
The next Taizé service will be
Friday, February 24, at
7:30 p.m. in Blair Chapel.

Carnaval de Nice

Mission Benefit 2006

**A Benefit in Support of Chicago Lights,
the Lorene Replogle Counseling Center, and
Other Mission Partners of Fourth Presbyterian Church**

**Friday, February 26
Ritz-Carlton Hotel
Chicago**

**Silent Auction and
Cocktail Reception
begin at 6:00 p.m.**

**Seated Dinner
at 7:30 p.m.**

**Live Auction
begins at 9:00 p.m.**

**Dinner followed by Dancing
to the Ken Arlen Orchestra**



Make reservations by Friday, February 17 by returning the RSVP card
mailed with the Benefit invitations, stopping by Coffee Hour, or online at
www.fourthchurch.org/missionbenefit.html.

For more information, contact Katy Frey at 312.274.3816
(kfrey@fourthchurch.org).