

# Fourth Notes

November 2009

Fourth Presbyterian Church \* 340 Dorchester Street, South Boston, MA 02127 \* 617-268-1281

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## THANKSGIVING POTLUCK- November 22 Celebrate A New Hall, Precinct Work, Pledges!

We have a great tradition of celebrating Thanksgiving as a church community in some form every year. We continue that tradition with a special gathering on **Sunday, November 22**. We will have an early Thanksgiving with a special worship service AND a Thanksgiving dinner after worship. Think of it as *Potluck-Plus*.

If you are especially eager to roast a turkey, tell a deacon or email Burns. The rest of us should plan on bringing our favorite Thanksgiving side dishes, desserts, etc. It can be a chance to practice a dish before Thursday's real deal, if you want. We can also imagine as something similar to the popular description of that original Thanksgiving, when different

folks brought different specialties.

If you want to volunteer to bring a turkey, let a deacon know. Otherwise, plan to come, bring some friends, and bring your favorite Thanksgiving food.

**On this day we will celebrate a NEW FELLOWSHIP HALL.** Friends, it looks stunning. Come, behold, and say thank you!

**On this day we will also celebrate INCREASED VOTING in Precinct Six** (and yes, we are confident that this will happen on November 3!). The Youth Organizing Team has done incredible work, as has Young Ra Rhee and her adult volunteers. We

are inviting elected officials to come join us so they can duly recognize how our leaders (young and old) can turn out the vote!!

**AND on this day we will celebrate our pledges**

In the next few days, you should receive a pledge card for the 2010 budget. Please fill it out prayerfully and be prepared to present it Sunday, November 22 (or mail it in, or email it to Susan [suzzand@verizon.net](mailto:suzzand@verizon.net) or Burns at the address above). Our goal is \$125,000. Nov. 22 will be a day to dedicate our pledges, and celebrate in gratitude for God's presence, and God's call to Fourth Church.

### adult sunday school: Art and the Bible

Kristin Raley continues her adult Sunday School class on art that presents stories from the Bible. The class will also create some of their own work. Sundays, 9:30am.

### Wed. Soup & Study: around the world with 4<sup>th</sup> church

The fall Soup N Study continues to introduce us to the countries where are members come from. So far we've explored Singapore, Malawi, Cape Verde and Iran. Coming next:

Nov 4 - Jamaica & Haiti (Matt, Ivenz and others)

Nov 11 - Cameroon (Franco & others)

Nov 18 - South Korea (Mia & Young Ra)

As always, dinner is at 5:30, with the tutoring group. Our session then goes 6-7pm.

### Wednesday Night Taize Services start December 2

This is, in the mind of some, the best part of December! We observe Advent - and make our way through all the preparations for Christmas -- with weekly services of sung prayer.

Gather at 5:30 for soup and bread. Then at 6pm, we go into the sanctuary for Taize chants, scripture, and silence.

It is a time of peace-making.

Give it a try.

Every Wednesday of Advent, from Dec. 2 to Dec. 23

### Thursday Prayers & Choir rehearsal

Thursdays are happening nights around here: Tutoring, Recovery groups, lessons and a WONDERFUL communion service every week at 7pm. Choir rehearsal follows at 7:30.

### Bart Campolo to Preach at 4<sup>th</sup> - Nov 8

Bart Campolo is an urban minister, activist and writer, who is currently on a speaking tour. He also happens to be an important friend and mentor for Tim Hughes, and it will be our great pleasure to host Bart in our pulpit on November 8.

He leads the Walnut Hills Fellowship in Cincinnati and founded Mission Year. Many are also familiar with the ministry of his father, Tony Campolo.

This is a great opportunity for us. Don't miss it!

### LET'S TALK- strength in conversations

We are a better church when we know each other. Let's Talk conversations continue Nov. 1, 8., 15. Please join us!!! One hour after church, with food.

## **Advent 2009- “Stand Up and See”**

Advent begins Sunday, November 29, and with it a brand new liturgical year. This is a season of preparation and we will make ready our sanctuary on November 29 with a Hangin of the Greens Service and Craft Party.

These are still anxious times for our nation, and the Advent planning group has been especially moved by the call in Luke 21 to “Stand up and Raise Your Heads, for your redemption is drawing near.” That sacred charge shapes our Advent journey in 2009.

Our advent services will include weekly communion. On Wednesdays, people will have a chance to chant Taize prayers. There will also be parties, studies, and challenges to give. It’s all a part of yearning, seeking, and ultimately standing up to see and be a part of God’s Incarnate Work.

## **Nov 29, 7pm – Hanging of the Greens & Craft Party**

The first Sunday of Advent is November 29, and will get our sanctuary in the spirit that Sunday evening at 7pm. That night, we prepare our space for the Christ Child with our annual hanging of the greens worship service. We will prepare our sanctuary and our hearts for the Coming Light in a 7pm service. Leading us will be the Confirmation Class!

**CRAFT PARTY:** It is our tradition to have simple holiday craft tables following the service, along with simple refreshments. Do you have favorite Advent crafts? We welcome leaders! We also welcome your favorite refreshment items! Tell somebody on the Advent Worship Team: Kristin, Tim, Lauren, Burns

Food items - We’ll have some food for the party, but we welcome all potluck-style contributions.

## **church b-day: dec 13**

Fourth Church will be 139 years young on December 12, so we will be having a church birthday party on Sunday the 13<sup>th</sup>. Birthday cake, for sure, as well as a chance to give birthday presents to the church.

## **Nov. 15 Meeting with Senate candidates**

As part of the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization, we are holding an accountability action meeting with the candidates for US Senator, Sunday night, November 15 at Bethel AME Church- 86 Wachusett St. in JP. Fourth Church needs at least 20 for our delegation. Sign up with Burns or Tim!

## **Remember our Mortgage Payment “shares”**

Even as we move into the crucial time of making our regular pledge for 2010, we ask everybody to stay on top of whatever “shareholding” pledge they made in the summer toward this third year of mortgage payments. Many have already paid in full: THANK YOU.

## **New interns**

We’ve got some fantastic interns from this year, all students at Harvard Divinity School:

- Lauren Gallant, back this time to help with tutoring and develop a midweek prayer service
- Young Ra Rhee, who has begun with a bang and led the civic engagement project! She is also helping the International group
- Mike Motia (also back again!) helping with a growing teen Sunday class, Friday youth group and worship

- Kristin Raley, our newest friend!, who has led Let’s Talk, and is working with an Art Class, Adult Sunday School, & Emmaus young adults.

## **december parties & performances**

There are some great offerings of beauty on the way...

- Dec 11,12 “The Music Man” and “Into the Woods” performed by youth theater, Friday & Sat, 7pm
- Dec 13 Fourth Church’s 138<sup>th</sup> Birthday Recital of music classes
- Dec 29 Gingerbread House Party (proposed - 10am) 1pm Angel Tree Party for children of inmates
- Dec 20 Fourth Church Christmas Party for Children
- Dec 24 Christmas Eve Pageant and Candlelight

**prayers...** Micah and Foy White-Chu have a new boy: Stewart!

Delina Mack and Alex Butler are expecting a new girl. There are health issues with their extended families and they appreciate prayers.

Pray for and Visit Margaret Brennan in Marian Manor.

Brian Dapsis recently visited Margaret with Burn. Brian sends his best to friends at Fourth.

Stephanie Hokolotubbe will be moving to Boston in January!

Lori Wallace and Debbie Nicolellis send their best. Debbie will be at church on November 8! So will Paul Stanfield.

Continued prayers for Sugar Long’s eyesight, for Erin Riddle’s family situation, for Tim Ellis.

And a gigantic prayer of thanks for the work of Ken Shallow, Peter Brook, David McKenzie, Philip Wilkinson and Karen Flaherty, as they continue to finish up the new hall.

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