



2025 Annual Report

*Delighting in God's Glory
Demonstrating His Grace
Declaring His Gospel*

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Fourth Presbyterian Church is a member congregation
of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.





**Dear
Fourth
Church
Family,**

I pray this year's report gives you glimpses of God's great mercies to us and the myriad of ways he has been at work in 2025. May it be a reminder of his faithfulness and an encouragement to celebrate his steadfast love.

The year kicked off with greater outreach into the community at large as our Mission DMV ministry began to lead monthly chapel services at Fairfax Correctional Facility and Central Union Mission. These initiatives were in addition to ongoing partnerships, including the monthly Drive-Through Collection and Food Drive, Serve Days, and English classes. What a blessing to celebrate a November "Friendsgiving" with our English class friends and hear them read Psalm 117. Praise God that he is using our congregation to care for others in his name.

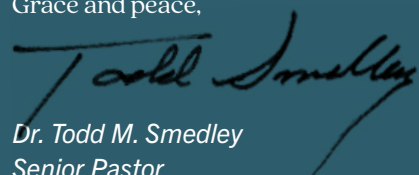
The Lord continues to bring new members to Fourth, enriching us with their gifts and hearts for serving Christ. Thank you for being a church that welcomes those who come to a Sunday service or class, Fourth Night, or a youth ministry event. We also rejoice in the growth and fruitfulness of our Young Adults ministry and the Fellows program. This year brought many infant and youth baptisms, along with adult baptisms. What a joy to shepherd families and individuals who are entrusting their way to the Lord.

We celebrate God's goodness in the past as we look forward to the future with a committee formed in 2025 to plan our bicentennial celebration in 2028. This committee, led by Ralph Miller, is planning ways to celebrate all God has done since our founding in November 1828. Stay tuned for further details.

I am deeply grateful for the spirit of generosity at Fourth Church. This local body of Christ is generous with money, gifts, hospitality, time, encouragement, prayer, and kindness. I serve alongside four talented and committed pastors, and we work with deacons who have a heart to serve those in need in Christ's name and a session that strives to lead prayerfully, lovingly, and biblically. We are blessed by all the other volunteers serving in ways seen and unseen — preparing communion, hosting Community Groups, working with youth and children, cutting up vegetables for Fourth Night, hanging wreaths, conversing with those seeking to learn English, and the list goes on.

Praise God from whom all the blessings in these pages flow.

Grace and peace,


Dr. Todd M. Smedley
Senior Pastor



ADULT DISCIPLESHIP 3



7 CHILDREN



COLLEGE 9



19 ENGLISH CLASSES



27 MISSIONS



WORSHIP 35



GALLERY 41

- 03 ADULT DISCIPLESHIP**
Fourth Night
Membership Class
Community Groups
- 07 CHILDREN**
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Adult Discipleship

Fourth Night
Membership Class
Community Groups



JULES GRISHAM
Pastor of
Teaching
and Adult
Discipleship

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind...”
— Romans 12:2a

The goal of Adult Discipleship is to equip the saints with the resources needed for Christian maturity, that as disciples of Jesus Christ they *“may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God”* (Colossians 4:12). We offer an array of Sunday morning and Wednesday evening classes designed to deepen our love for God’s word and for the system of doctrine it contains. Special thanks to the 19 teachers and 70 Scripture Study table leaders and volunteers whose service blesses the family of Fourth each week!

Classes | January–June

Revelation 8-22
1 John
The Faith We Confess
Principles for Living Godly Lives in a Worldly World

GEN2REV — The New Testament
Inner Strength for a Lasting Marriage
Couples in Christ

June–August

Missions Focus June!
The Song of Songs
Your Session Speaks (elder testimonies)

Mission Reports
Evangelism & the Sovereignty of God

September–December

1 Samuel
The Unfolding Revelation of Christ and His Church
Confessing Christ: The Irish Articles of Religion

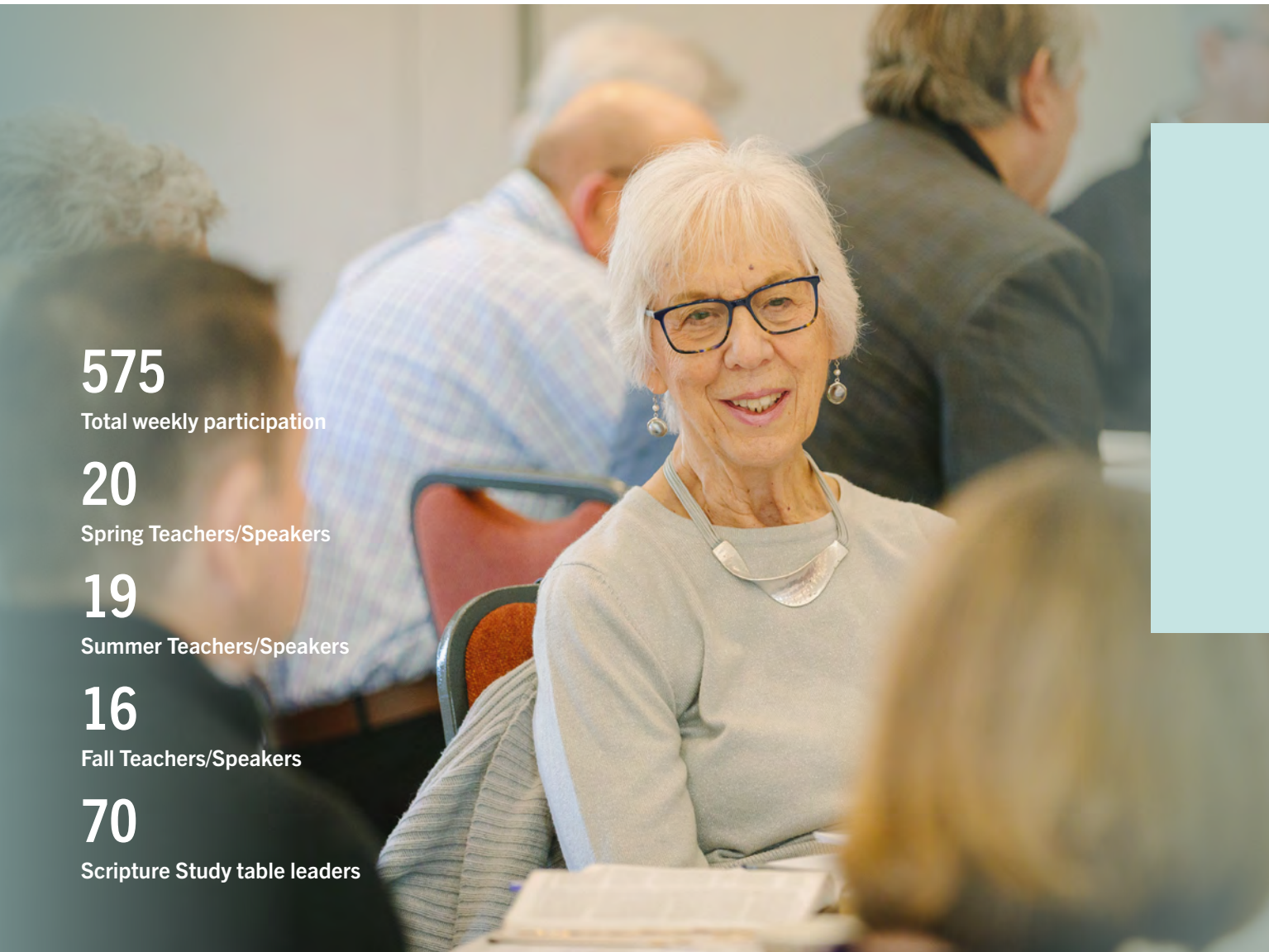
Soul Care
New Testament Greek (Sunday afternoons)

***Teachers**

Claudia Barnes, Mike Domenica, Manuwa Eligwe, Rev. Dave Frerichs, Mike and Elaine Garver, Rev. Corey Gray, Rev. Jules Grisham, Michael Heiser, Brad Jefferies, Alex Kiess, Paul Kiingi, Robin King, Alex Lowther, Dr. Isaiah Nengean, Dr. Robert Norris, Tim Perrin, Dirk Rankin, Dr. Scott Redd, Kevin & Jessica Schick, Daniel Seibert, Dave Shoultz, Dr. Todd Smedley, Ted Smith, Dr. Gray Sutanto, Kent Talbert, Rob Thar, Doug Trimble, Jeremy Williams

**Listed alphabetically*

- For Scripture Study class audio, visit 4thpres.org/classes
- For Adult Sunday School slides and handouts, visit 4thpres.org/adultdiscipleship



575
Total weekly participation

20
Spring Teachers/Speakers

19
Summer Teachers/Speakers

16
Fall Teachers/Speakers

70
Scripture Study table leaders

“I continue to be amazed and thankful that we have hundreds so hungry for the word of God that they spend time preparing for this class and discussing Scripture. It’s truly a blessing to be part of such a righteous enterprise and to sit under sound teaching from those who love the Word. Soli Deo gloria.”
— Bruce Weiss

Fourth Night

On Wednesday evenings through the fall and winter, we gather to enjoy delicious dinners and fantastic fellowship. The food is prepared in-house by our resident chef and a team of faithful volunteers with a different cuisine each week. Fourth Night is not only an occasion to spend time with church friends, but an opportunity to get to know students from around the world who attend our English Classes each week and enjoy dinner with us. After the meal, we offer classes on theology, church history, and other topics. Thanks to Heather Willieme, our chef, and to the many volunteers who make the dinners so successful.

January–March

Delighting in the Trinity: An Introduction to the Christian Faith
Dr. Todd Smedley, Rev. David Frerichs, Rev. Jules Grisham, Dr. Isaiah Nengean

An Evening of Prayer and Praise (March 5)
Dr. Todd Smedley and Rev. Jules Grisham

September–November

The Feasts of the Lord
Rev. Jules Grisham, Dr. Todd Smedley, Rev. David Frerichs, Dr. Isaiah Nengean

An Evening of Prayer and Praise (November 5)

New Members Dinner and Reception (November 12)

Friendsgiving Feast for English Class students and Fourth friends (November 19)

“We look forward every week to gathering with our church family and with English class visitors to share a delicious family meal and enjoy a class or worship afterward. What a wonderful chance to experience some unhurried fellowship outside of a few moments going to or from worship on Sunday!”

— Arpad and Valerie Korossy

“And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”

— Acts 2:42

250+

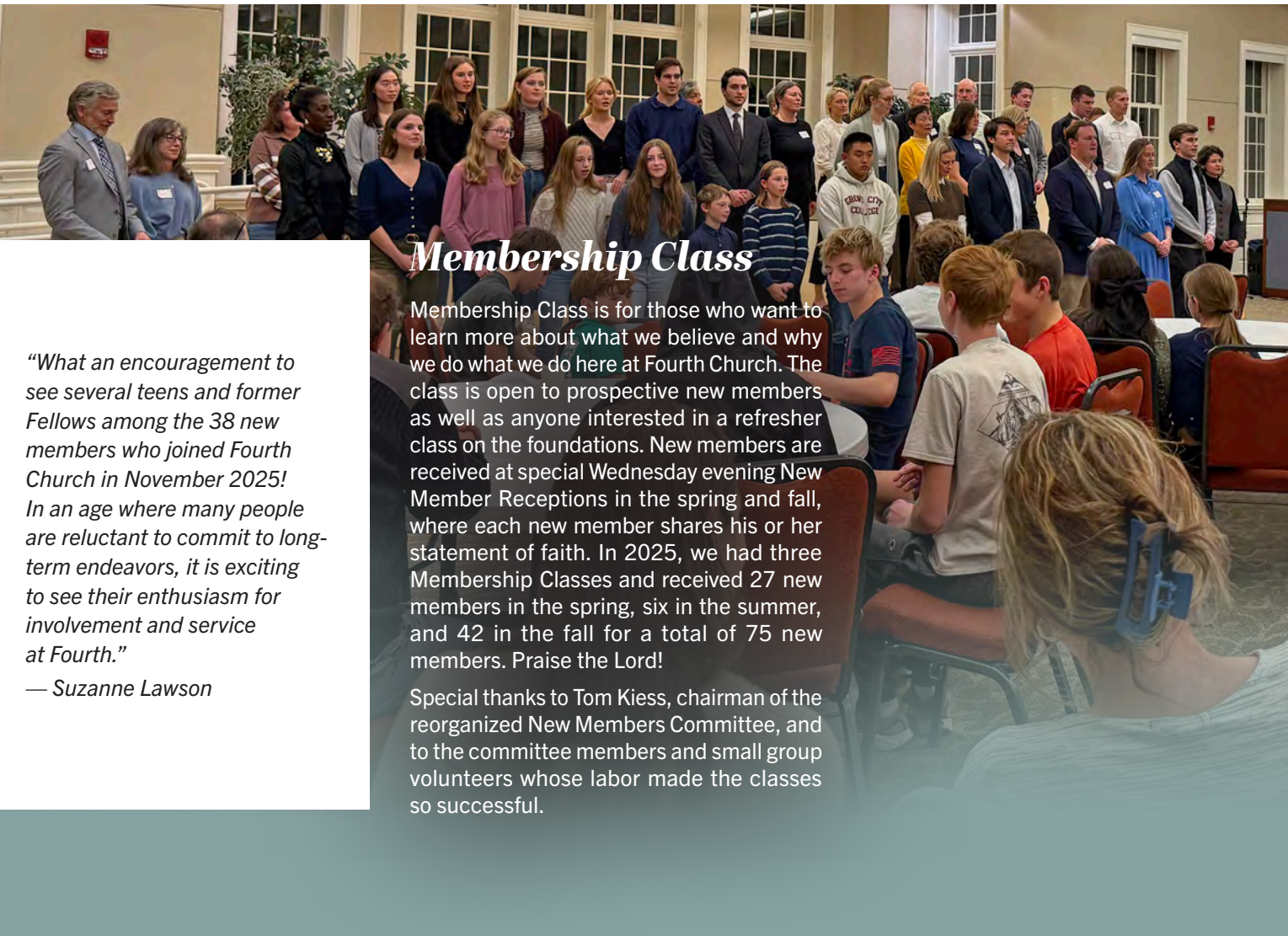
Weekly attendance at dinners

350+

Attendance for New Members Reception & Friendsgiving Feast

25

Summer Teachers/Speakers



Membership Class

Membership Class is for those who want to learn more about what we believe and why we do what we do here at Fourth Church. The class is open to prospective new members as well as anyone interested in a refresher class on the foundations. New members are received at special Wednesday evening New Member Receptions in the spring and fall, where each new member shares his or her statement of faith. In 2025, we had three Membership Classes and received 27 new members in the spring, six in the summer, and 42 in the fall for a total of 75 new members. Praise the Lord!

Special thanks to Tom Kiess, chairman of the reorganized New Members Committee, and to the committee members and small group volunteers whose labor made the classes so successful.

“What an encouragement to see several teens and former Fellows among the 38 new members who joined Fourth Church in November 2025! In an age where many people are reluctant to commit to long-term endeavors, it is exciting to see their enthusiasm for involvement and service at Fourth.”

— Suzanne Lawson

Community Groups

Our 14 community groups gathered February through April and September through November for fellowship and conversation about how to apply the Scripture preached each preceding Sunday morning. These groups continue to be a place where church members can grow in grace and love and serve one another, both giving and receiving mutual encouragement and accountability in Christ. Heartfelt thanks to the group leaders and hosts who gladly open their homes and carry this vital ministry forward.

“Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another — and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

— Hebrews 10:25

“My Community Group provides fellowship for those who live relatively close to me. I get to know new attendees from church as well as some people who go to a different service than I do. Our group enjoys dinner and prayer in addition to fellowship. We meet on a monthly basis, so it’s fun to catch up with each other.”

— Kim Gutschick

Children



"During our summer vacations, each time [our child] realized we would be out of town over a Sunday, she asked us to make sure that her Sunday School teachers would save that week's project for her Proverbs book."

— a parent



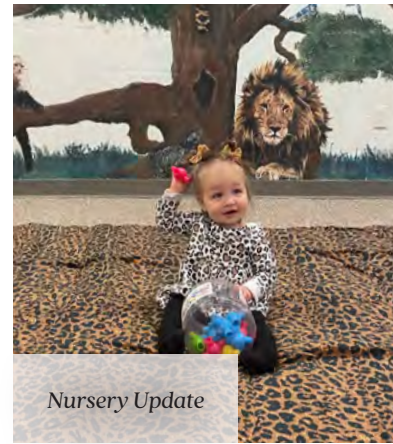
Children recite Scripture at Jean's sendoff celebration



Science experiment at VBS



Jean and family at the celebration



Nursery Update



Hug-a-Bible

Nursery Update

Due to the increase of babies in the nursery, this fall we shifted the 3-year-olds' and toddlers' rooms and renamed the nurseries: Explorers (those moving about) and Dreamers (the sleepy ones). We also called on Dorothy Hartley, who painted verses and murals in the upstairs Children's Ministry area, to add art to the walls.



JEAN BRONSON

Director of Children's Ministry

Moses Baskets

When a new baby is born in our congregation, we give the family a basket full of items that will bless both baby and family and to let them know we are celebrating this new life with them! Along with a Hug-a-Bible, chocolate, and other treats, this year we added a new item to the baskets: a handmade hat knit with love by Fourth's Yarns for Hope group.

Sunday School Lessons

Every week, we do our best to prepare a lesson for our Cherub and Children's Church programming that aligns with the Sunday sermon. To help children understand sermons that are more topical in nature, we introduce the topic and what the Scripture says and then go to a concrete Bible story that helps illustrate this truth. This is the approach we took for our summer series on Proverbs. For our Cherubs (age 3 to Pre-K), we also decided it would be fun to tie all these lessons and their accompanying crafts together into a book. Every Sunday, the children worked on one or two pages, and by summer's end each had a colorful book about Proverbs to take home.

Vacation Bible School (VBS)

We were blessed with 113 campers (ages 3 through 5th grade) at this year's VBS; over a third were not regular attenders of Fourth. Approximately 60 youth and 25 adult volunteers led campers on the "ultimate Alaskan adventure," pointing kids to Jesus, a faithful friend we can always trust. We also continued our 6th grade

Counselors in Training program and added a new level of security with hall monitors circulating throughout the building to answer questions, give directions, and keep a watchful eye. Many thanks to VBS Director Nan Nalle for leading this five-day program with grace, patience, and energy beyond belief.

TeamSOS

On an average Sunday, over the course of the morning, we need 45-50 volunteers, four paid childcare workers, and two Fourth staff to care for and teach all the children. We have many men and women who serve regularly and very faithfully, but we can always count on volunteer vacations, sicknesses, etc. Some weeks we are very concerned about running short. So this year we launched TeamSOS, an opportunity for those who want to serve on occasion to see our needs and sign up to help. Each week we send out an email with the signup link and watch the names appear!



Cherubs' Proverbs books

College

ROB HENNEBERG

Director of Youth and College

We kicked off the new year with an amazing dinner where over 30 college-age young adults squeezed in to enjoy laughter, food, and catching up. That dinner wasn't just a fun night out, but also a snapshot of what God has been doing: gathering, growing, and sending college students out into the world as part of the life of our church.

Many in our college ministry return to the area in late spring to live and work. This year we were blessed to have 13 Summer Staff, six from Fourth and seven from other churches. They spent their time with us planning camp and mission trips, setting up and tearing down, leading games and worship, and learning about calling, holiness, and servant leadership. We also had two college ministry interns who carried significant responsibility and modeled what it looks like to love the church not just in theory, but in everyday, sometimes unseen work. Our Bible studies gave our college-age young adults a place to belong and go deep

in God's word together. Week after week, a faithful group gathered to study the Westminster Shorter Catechism and connect it to doubts, decisions, sin, and grace. Many of these students went on to help guide small groups and serve consistently at Tuesday night Bible studies (TNT), camp, and retreats throughout the school year.

A special highlight was the mission trip to Romania where our group of 11 stepped into another culture alongside Romanian Christian Enterprises and saw firsthand that the same gospel we believe here is bearing fruit on the other side of the world. All of us came home tired, stretched, and more awake to God's global work.

Looking back, I'm deeply thankful for the many ways in which God continues to faithfully shape, mold, and form our college-age young adults into people who are sent out into the world to love the church and follow Christ with their whole lives.

15
Students attending weekly summer Bible study

11
Attended Romania College Mission Trip

2
Summer College Interns



"This summer I was so impressed with how our college-aged young adults poured into the lives of the kids in the youth group and how that community was built up through the College Ministry. It showed not only in their lives, but in their mentoring of the youth group students, as well as on the college mission trip to Romania, for which they fundraised and then ran a weeklong camp for kids who otherwise would not have been able to be part of such a fun, gospel-filled week."

— a parent



Congregational Care

- DivorceCare
- GriefShare
- Young At Heart

REV. COREY GRAY

Pastor of Congregational Care & Ministries

Congregational Care is a role we all share. As a part of this family of faith, we ideally both serve and are supported by each other. Throughout 2025, the Lord used his people in unique ways, several highlighted below. If you have a need or are looking for a way to care, please reach out to me.



Jules and Corey with Margaret Cudney

DivorceCare

DivorceCare provides a safe and caring place for those hurting from the pain of divorce and separation to find healing and recovery. The structured approach features a 13-week video-based program that offers encouragement, practical tools, and healthy coping strategies to help people overcome the challenges of grief, fear, loneliness, anger, depression, guilt, conflict, and forgiveness.

Elaine and David Sledgister are in their fifth year serving as facilitators. The group varies in size each week (from 3 to 12) during the in-person fall and spring sessions. The program includes a special ‘Surviving the Holidays’ gathering each November, which is open to all. Newcomers are also encouraged to join the group at any time.

“The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit”.
— Psalm 34:18

“It was a tremendous blessing this year to welcome a new facilitator to our group, a former attendee with a particularly difficult and long-lasting divorce, who found the tools, hope, and healing to move forward with a new life and is now able to help many in our group.”
— Elaine Sledgister, co-leader

“No grief journey is the same. There’s no right or wrong way to grieve, but realizing the complexity of your grief and sharing it in a safe and compassionate environment can lead to healing and to acceptance of the loss, which will enable you to live the full life God intended for you to live.”

— Joan Snowden, co-leader

GriefShare

This year marked the 14th year of GriefShare at Fourth. Our support group offers a Christ-centered, video-based curriculum with insightful interviews and testimonials accompanied by a workbook lesson and group discussion. Each of our two 13-week sessions (spring and fall) provides emotional care for anyone suffering the pain and complicated emotions of losing a loved one.

In September, church members Doug Nyhus and Joan Snowden stepped forward to serve as the new facilitators, taking over for long-time facilitators Martin Burks and Christina Long, who stepped down in June. We also made a successful transition back to an in-person format at church on Sundays after five years of meeting online. There are now 14 attendees, five of whom are Fourth members.

“He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.”
— Psalm 147:3



*“Taste and see
that the Lord
is good.”
— Psalm 34:8*

Young at Heart

Young at Heart (YAH) is unique in many ways. Dedicated to providing a special place of community for those in the 60+ age range, YAH represents a significant portion of Fourth’s membership, but it’s still generationally diverse, with an age span of over 30 years!

YAH hosted four seasonal luncheons this year, and we’re excited to report attendance regularly exceeded 100 guests, which shows the desire and enthusiasm for these gatherings.

At the heart of the ministry is the leadership and hard work of many volunteers whose energy and passion for the fellowship are instrumental in the success of each event.

We’re grateful for our 2024-25 leadership team (Nancy Greenwold, Kim Gutschick, Jennifer Shoultz, David and Elaine Sledgister, Joan Snowden, and Nancy White), who brought YAH back to life with creative themes, delicious menus, and engaging activities. These included a “Spring Into Reading” book swap, fun trivia games, Christmas nativity scenes, and a “That’s Amore” sing-along at the Valentine’s pizza buffet. Guests also enjoyed wonderful musical offerings from NSO violinist Joel Fuller, a Music Ministry barbershop quartet, recommended reading lists from pastors, and an encouraging message from Ron Meyer about God’s purpose for us as we age.

For the 2025-2026 church year, Ed Lawless came on board to lead the ministry, along with Gina Hardiman, Elaine Smoot, and Heather Willieme. Together, they planned a festive Fall Kickoff Lunch where many musical tastes were represented. It was another memorable gathering thanks to their hospitality and a dozen more event-day volunteers who decorated, cooked, served, and cleaned up. We look forward to upcoming lunches in February and May and welcome volunteers of any age!

“Being a fairly recent empty nester, I found inspiration from those a few steps ahead of my season of life in the Young at Heart community. Their sharing of God’s good provisions physically and spiritually and of their trust and faith in Jesus as the author and perfecter of their faith was a great encouragement to me.”

— Ed Lawless,
YAH Team Leader
2025-2026



Connections

EMBEBA BENSON

Connections Coordinator

Fourth welcomed more than 700 visitors in 2025, with over 80 individuals taking steps toward deeper engagement in our church community. Each Sunday morning, I have the privilege of connecting with many of these newcomers at the Information Center, working alongside our dedicated Connections Team volunteers. When I meet first-time guests or newcomers who share their contact information through Friendship Registers or Connect Cards, I personally follow up to offer a warm welcome and share ways to get involved in the life of the church.

It’s always meaningful to hear the stories of those who are new to Fourth and to learn what brought them here and how God is at work in their lives. I especially enjoy inviting newcomers to upcoming events and programs, but even more meaningful is helping them take the next step of connecting directly with ministry leaders and members of the congregation.

Since starting my position at the end of July, it’s been inspiring to witness the way our church embraces newcomers. Whether it’s a simple, “Hello, welcome to Fourth!” from a fellow worshiper who noticed a new name in the Friendship Register or a more intentional act of hospitality, our community continues to reflect the love of Christ in tangible ways. We are blessed with a vibrant, welcoming, and deeply caring congregation.

Counseling

KEVIN AND JESSICA SCHICK

Directors of Counseling

This year marked the 40th anniversary of the Counseling Ministry at Fourth, and thousands of people have been cared for over those four decades. In 2025 approximately 200 people received care, a number that reflects direct care. It is difficult to estimate how many others have been blessed because someone has done their own healing work and grown in their faith and the ripple effect that has on their loved ones, communities, and God's kingdom. Through counseling, marriages have experienced repair and deeper connectedness, individuals have had redemptive experiences, and people affected by addiction, trauma, and abuse have discovered healing and recovery. To God be the glory!

We continue to seek innovative ways to enhance and provide counseling while also solidifying and cultivating the ongoing good and godly work that has been occurring for 40 years (and counting). Praise God!



Deacons



DEBBIE ROBERTS

Moderator of Fourth Presbyterian Deacons

Imagine being older and aware that your fixed income no longer covers your new rent increase. Perhaps you are a single mom and your work permit renewal has not been approved or you are a dad with limited income because of an injury.

In keeping with Acts 6, the 31 deacons of Fourth Presbyterian Church are charged with consistent care of those within the body of faith. The mission includes being friends to our senior saints or those unable to attend church regularly, praying and caring for those who request assistance, and assembling Thanksgiving bags for the needy in our family of faith and in the community. At Fourth alone, the deacons were involved with over 100 families last year. For members, regular attenders, and referrals, assistance totaled over \$100,000 as of early November 2025. We deeply appreciate the generous giving of Fourth's people, enabling service to so many.

In November, Fourth's deacons assembled 162 Thanksgiving bags serving 356 adults and 137 children. Recipients included Fourth congregants and regular attenders, participants in partner ministries, recipients of the Drive-Through Collection and Food Drive outreach, and many in our communities, all nominated by congregants. Bags included personal letters from our pastor and the deacon moderator, several small holiday gifts, and food cards.

We talk with those in our church who find themselves in hard circumstances, always keeping the conversations in confidence. Prayer undergirds all that we do. We have strong fellowship among us and a deep appreciation for one another's gifts from the Lord. We long to bring glory to God and to be a blessing to our brothers and sisters. Please pray that we will be faithful servants!

Disability Ministry

12

Welcome Team members who attended Disability Awareness training in November

20

Cards prepared for shut-ins during the joint Harmony-Young Adults event on April 27

13

Youth Summer Staff who participated in a disability awareness training on May 22

15

Participants in fellowship groups for individuals with disabilities or their caregivers

14

Students and volunteers who met weekly, September to June, for in-person and online Harmony Sunday School Class, with interactive Bible discussions, worship, and prayer for missionaries and one another

2

Young adults with disabilities who served regularly with the Children's Ministry



"Our daughter has enjoyed learning the tenets of our faith as well as practical lessons from parables and Bible stories in a comfortable setting. She appreciates how the teaching team uses videos to augment the class instruction and plans for frequent role plays with her classmates. She has loved learning how to play the chimes and then playing them for the congregation!"
— Family of a student in the Harmony Sunday School class

TRICIA HAN

Coordinator

Our vision for Fourth's Disability Ministry is that families affected by disabilities will be welcomed and offered opportunities for learning, fellowship, and service suited to their gifts and abilities. Our efforts in 2025 centered around equipping staff and volunteers and collaborating with other ministries inside and outside Fourth to foster inclusivity in the life of our congregation. Here are specific ways we worked on these objectives:

- Coordinated Fourth's participation in the Disability and the Church Conference with representatives from the Youth and Congregational Care Ministries
- Collaborated with the Children's Ministry to implement inclusive practices for VBS, including sensory tools, social stories, and signs for memory verses
- Provided disability awareness training for Youth Summer Staff and the Welcome Team
- Cohosted a fellowship and service event with the Young Adults' Ministry
- Networked with other faith leaders at Kennedy-Krieger Institute's conference on "Partnership with Purpose: Advancing Disability Inclusion"
- Applied and was accepted into the first cohort of churches for Engaging Disability with the Gospel's "Room on Our Pew" program. The goal of this initiative is to equip churches to welcome children with disabilities and their families into corporate worship through targeted training, cohort learning, and adapted resources.

It's my joy and privilege to coordinate Fourth's efforts so that families affected by disabilities can become disciples and ambassadors of Jesus Christ.



3

Adults with disabilities who served on the Welcome Team

3

Chime Choir performances (morning service, evening service, and RCE Banquet)

5

People with disabilities who served at Vacation Bible School

2

Young adults with disabilities who provided childcare (during English classes, YoungLives meetings, and other events)

3

Mission DMV Food Drives where families affected by disabilities served

English Classes



MARIA KOROSSY

Coordinator

The spring semester concluded with a graduation ceremony in May, celebrating the hard work of English language learners who began in September 2024. In the fall of 2025, the English Class Ministry welcomed a Fourth Fellow, Mary Frances Vincent, to support the growth of the ministry. This semester, over 180 English-language learners registered for classes at Fourth Church. Our students represent over 30 different countries, and the childcare rooms have been bursting with life each week.

A team of 16 volunteer teachers covered six proficiency levels, with multiple cohorts needed for the intermediate levels. In addition, 18 conversation partner volunteers met with highly motivated students for extra conversation practice throughout the week. Several of these meetings led to deep discussions of faith, spurred by Alpha presentations provided in students' native languages.

The highlight of our fall semester was Fourth's Friendsgiving Feast, during which regular Fourth Night attendees were encouraged to meet and mingle with English Class participants. It was a joy to see such a diverse representation of God's people sharing food, fellowship, and God's word, which was read in over 20 languages.

"I am so glad to be back. There is something really different about this community. It's more than family. I don't know what it is, but it's something special. I really love it!"
— returning student

Fourth Fellows



25

Host families from the church

17

Unique states or countries represented

5

Consecutive years of fellows serving with Cornerstone School

6

Consecutive years of fellows serving with Youth Ministry

46

Alumni total

30

Alumni actively involved in the life of Fourth Church (either members or planning to join in the future)

6

Former fellows on staff at Fourth

21

Currently leading a weekly youth Bible Study (12 alumni, 9 current)

40

Employer partners who provide work placement

30

Colleges represented

“Over the past few months, being a fellow has taught me a lot, including a few things I never considered needing to learn. I have had to learn what it looks like to slow down and deliberately spend time listening to the Lord ... to learn what it looks like to have deep, meaningful relationships in the rhythms of a work schedule ... how to navigate that schedule, as distinct from student life with classes and homework.”

— Selby Ireland, Fourth Fellow

REV. DAVID FRERICHS AND TANYA KLITSCH

Co-Directors

When the Fellows Program was first proposed at Session in 2018, one of our elders raised his hand and asked, “Why would we do this for just 12 people? If it’s so great, why not the entire church?” I (David) said I thought there

was at least one great historical precedent for focusing on 12 young adults at the beginning of a discipleship movement.

Midway through our sixth full year, I’m thankful to report that the elder’s wise request for whole-church engagement is happening! Fourth Fellows continues to bless the church, even as the church blesses those who come as fellows. We’re thankful for the growing vision of “*whole life discipleship, done by the whole church.*” There is hardly an area of church life — from deacons to children’s ministry to youth to Disability Ministry and beyond — where fellows or former fellows are not engaged. Scores of church members have stepped in to serve and bless fellows and young adults by demonstrating how a relationship with God in Christ touches every aspect of life.

We are always on the lookout for people who are willing to serve by connecting us with college campus ministers, (Christian) juniors and seniors who are considering next steps, hosts, mentors,

and people who are willing to employ or help us find fellows employers in all fields of work. Most of all, please continue to pray that God will use Fourth Fellows as part of the broader discipleship ministry of the church as we seek to carry out the Great Commission!

“With a household of teenagers heading in a thousand different directions, the Fellows Program gave us a unique opportunity to engage in daily acts of service together as a family, sharing our home, our meals, and the ups and downs of life. In return, witnessing a young adult thoughtfully pursuing their purpose, career, and relationships while earnestly seeking the Lord has had a profound and lasting impact on our daughters as they prepare to launch into adulthood.”

— Jason and Kristen Rabineau, host family

Men



*“Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.”
— Proverbs 27:17*

JULES GRISHAM

*Pastor of Teaching
and Adult Discipleship*

The Men’s Ministry exists to help men grow in the Lord Jesus Christ by studying the word of God in fellowship with others.

In March, 150 men gathered at Sandy Cove Retreat Center for the annual Men’s Retreat, a weekend of praise, prayer, worship, teaching, fellowship, and fun. Dr. Michael Horton spoke on the topic of *“Ordinary!”* and led us to consider the beauty, depth, and rich meaning of our ordinary, everyday obedience to the Lord. His teaching encouraged us to measure our lives less by the metric of worldly success and more by that of faithfulness to God.

Further Highlights

- In November, Dr. Todd Smedley shared insights on the topic of *“Biblical Manhood”* at the Men’s Conference and Brunch.
- Throughout the year, men gathered every other Tuesday to enjoy a time of fellowship with singing, praying, and teaching over a delicious and hearty breakfast prepared by Tim Horst and team. Rev. Jules Grisham taught through 1 Peter and 1 Corinthians.
- Every Monday night, a group of men gathered online for the online Proverbs study, an informal Bible study fellowship that meets via Zoom to discuss the wisdom of the Proverbs.

“Godly fellowship and godly fun — that’s been my experience of the Men’s Retreat at Sandy Cove, an unrivaled setting on the Chesapeake Bay. Between biblical explorations of a theme, choose your recreation from hiking and games to (youth only) crashing the local Waffle House in the wee hours.”

— Ron Johannes

Mission DMV



"Thank you again for sending us wonderful volunteers on Saturday to serve children and families connected to DC127! We got great feedback from parents and caregivers..."
— DC127

DR. ISAIAH NENGEAN

Pastor of Outreach

This year, the Lord has continued to show his faithfulness through the work of Mission DMV and our growing network of community partnerships. We have seen volunteers serve with humility and joy — meeting tangible needs, forming meaningful relationships, and demonstrating Christ's love across our city. We supported our partners through grants totaling \$90,000, along with special gifts.

One of the clearest examples of this was Serve Day, when hundreds of church members came together to serve local partners at various project sites. From painting classrooms to organizing food drives and cleaning shelters, it was a beautiful display of the body of Christ working together to bless the community. Serve Day included two non-partner ministries, DC127, a ministry to foster families and children, and Christ House, a respite care facility for the homeless.

Our monthly Drive-Through Collection and Food Drive provided essential items for families and ministries in need throughout the year, augmented at year's end by the Christmas Gift Outreach.

Behind every initiative are faithful volunteers, ambassadors, and staff who quietly give their time and talents to further God's mission. We celebrate what the Lord has done this year and continue to pray that he will make Fourth a church that lives out the gospel through faithful presence and loving service, both locally and globally.

Partnerships and Local Outreaches

Cornerstone Schools of Washington, D.C.

On August 27, 2025, Cornerstone launched the new school year, welcoming 139 students, including 31 new enrollees. Fourth played a meaningful role in this thriving community: Fourth Fellows mentored students weekly, and several members served as "Lunch Buddies," offering consistent Christian encouragement and example. To learn more or explore serving opportunities, visit cornerstone-schools.org.

Prison Ministry

Since January 2025, Fourth has led Christ-centered worship services at the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center on the fourth Sunday of each month. Under the faithful musical leadership of Mark Brow — who hasn't missed a Sunday — elders, deacons, and members share Scripture, pray with detainees, and bear witness to the hope of the gospel (Matthew 25:39-40). If you are interested in serving, contact Rev. Isaiah Nengean (inengean@4thpres.org).

Partnerships and Local Outreaches Continued

Central Union Mission

This year, Fourth members served Central Union Mission in a variety of ways: through the February and October Serve Days, preparing and delivering over 1,000 sandwiches (Women's and Youth Ministries), leading chapel once a month, volunteering for the Christmas Gift Outreach, and purchasing hundreds of gifts each accompanied by prayer and personal encouragement.

Drive-Through Collection and Food Drive

Our monthly Drive-Through Collection and Food Drive mobilized hundreds of volunteers who donated and sorted thousands of pounds of food, diapers, and hygiene products for local partners. Whether loading cars in the church parking lot or stocking shelves at neighborhood pantries, participants modeled practical compassion. These efforts directly supported organizations such as Central Union Mission and other Mission DMV partners, ensuring that families throughout the region experienced God's provision through his people.

Rockville Women's Center

Fourth continues to stand alongside Rockville Women's Center (RWC), a gospel-centered ministry providing care and counseling to women facing unplanned pregnancies. Our partnership includes volunteer mentors, baby supplies donations, and ongoing prayer support. This year, several members trained as advocates, offering Christ-centered hope, practical resources, and compassionate presence. Since the fall, RWC has also enjoyed support from a Fourth Fellow sponsored by Mission DMV. We rejoice in the lives saved, hearts healed, and families strengthened through this ministry.

As of the press deadline, RWC had conducted 236 pregnancy tests and 1,000 appointments including baby boutique, ultrasounds, pregnancy verifications, and childbirth classes. And, praise God, among RWC clients, there were 60 confirmed births!

"I am thankful for the partnership of YoungLives and Fourth Presbyterian Church. Together, we are making an eternal impact on the lives of teen mothers."

— Amanda Smith, YoungLives

"The generosity displayed through these initiatives reminds us that mission is not only something that happens abroad — it's the daily witness of believers serving their neighbors here in the D.C. area."

— Pastor Isaiah

"Please accept my heartfelt thanks for your gift-in-kind donation to Central Union Mission. Many of the people we serve here have suffered for years with the trauma of past childhood abuse or other emotional wounds. Others are caught in a cycle of self-hatred, failure, and defeat. [Your gift is] a reminder to hurting people that someone still cares, and many will even experience, through you, God's unconditional love for the first time in their lives."

— Central Union Mission staff member

Afghan Refugee Resettlement Program

Since 2021, Fourth has welcomed Afghan families resettling in the D.C. area, offering friendship, housing assistance, transportation, and cultural orientation. In 2025, volunteers continued weekly English tutoring, meal deliveries, and job-readiness coaching. Many friendships have blossomed, and several families are now thriving independently. The program stands as a testimony to the church's commitment to hospitality — loving the stranger as Christ loved us.

YoungLives

This year, new volunteers joined to serve regularly, offering encouragement and tangible help to young moms balancing faith, motherhood, and school. The ministry continues to grow, with several moms now actively involved in church life and mentoring others. Each interaction reflects the gospel in action — grace meeting real life.

Fourth also hosted the Capital Region RISE (Rooted in Christ, Impacting the Next Generation, Servant Leadership, Equipped for Life) kickoff meeting attended by 25 moms. Volunteers from Fourth Church, 24 in all, helped with childcare and meals at the RISE meeting, supported two area clubs (Montgomery County and Northwest Fairfax), helped mentor two RISE moms, and provided childcare.



"I find myself waking up each day feeling even more blessed than the last. The only reason I can explain never being miserable in this place and these conditions is the Holy Spirit taking up more and more space in my heart."

— Central Union Mission program participant



Missions

48

Missionaries supported

27

Countries represented across nine ministry partnerships

\$18,500

Contributed in our Annual Missions Offering, providing food relief for the people of South Sudan

\$7,000

Contributed to Sudan (landslide) from Thanksgiving Emergency Fund

\$7,000

Contributed to Afghanistan (earthquake) from Thanksgiving Emergency Fund

\$15,000

Contributed to Jamaica (hurricane) from Thanksgiving Emergency Fund

"As we reflect on God's faithfulness over this past year, we are especially grateful for your partnership in his service. Thank you for continuing to journey with us in serving Christ's church in China and beyond."

— Brent and Jasmine Fulton



Rob Henneberg and Ovi Martin in Romania

JANIE RANDELL

Director of Missions & Outreach

Navigating Change to Reach the Nations

The world is changing rapidly in ways that deeply affect gospel outreach. During our annual Missions Conference in March — Navigating Change to Reach the Nations — we explored how believers around the world are adapting to these shifts.

God is working powerfully through international churches and national missionaries who are reaching people in their own countries and across borders. As people move from everywhere to everywhere — through business travel, immigration, war, famine, and natural disasters — the gospel is finding its way to individuals who may never have encountered it in their country of origin. New churches are being planted, and people are responding to the Good News in unexpected places.

Global Mission Efforts

Our missionaries serve in a wide range of ministries, including:

- Church planting and leadership development through seminaries, discipleship programs, and specialized training in remote areas
- Mercy ministries serving women, children, refugees, and displaced communities
- Evangelism initiatives through friendship, sports, campus ministry, and Bible translation
- Prayer mobilization, with regular gatherings that lift up unreached people groups and our missionaries, supported by monthly missions e-newsletters with updated requests

Missionary Transitions & Updates

- Anne-Marie Husson's C-PROACTIF ministry, which helps French believers bring their faith into the workplace, transitioned into an independent organization.
- Chris and Melody transitioned their ministry to Central Asia, where Chris now serves as pastor of an international church.
- Duncan Goodman moved to Central Asia to provide short-term assistance to Eli and Hollie as they expanded their coffee-house ministry.

New Supported Ministry

R10 (Romans 10:14–15): A network of local churches across Turkey helping seekers — who first heard the gospel through social media — connect face-to-face with a local believer. R10 disciples new believers and integrates them into local churches.

Family Milestones

- Birth: Lucy McCleary, born to Paul and Jackie McCleary
- Birth: Ezekiel James Thar, born to John and Simone Thar
- Wedding: Meredith Omland concluded many years of ministry in Mexico as she married Tim Holt and relocated to Texas, where she continues serving with SAMS.

Mission Trips

- Rising eighth graders spent a week serving underprivileged children in Baltimore.
- Rising Seniors helped lead Vacation Bible School with an EPC church in Puerto Rico.
- Young adults and college students partnered with Romanian Christian Enterprises to run a camp in Romania.



“We are beyond grateful . . . for your continued and generous financial support. We quite literally could not do this without you. Thank you for your priceless prayer and support.”

*— With love,
Tabo and Kelly Valencia*



Alpha

Alpha provides Fourth congregants an opportunity to invite friends to explore basic Christianity in a welcoming and relaxed environment. Held in private homes, each session begins with fellowship around the dinner table followed by a short film. Guests are encouraged to ask any questions they have, without judgment or pressure to make a faith commitment.

Members from our 20-person Alpha Team hosted four Alpha courses, one in the spring and three in the fall. We praise the Lord for our English Class guests and others who came by invitation of Fourth members and friends. Our Alpha guests heard the gospel and expressed great appreciation for the warm, friendly environment they experienced.

We are happy to announce that Kourosh Amin-Tehrani is taking on leadership of Fourth's Alpha Program; he has already spent countless hours setting up new protocols for our Alpha program going forward!

Music

32

Children's and Youth Choirs (including three directors)

43

Sanctuary Choir (including director and organist)

15

Fourth Strings (including two directors)

4

Jubilate Quartet (currently inactive)

10

Adult volunteers at Summer Music Camp

14

Handbell groups

25

Fourth Orchestra Members

9

Sunday Evening Worship Team

2

Youth volunteers at Summer Music Camp

28

Students at Summer Music Camp

106

Lessons and Carols musicians

6

Fourth's Flutes

4

Church staff at Summer Music Camp

TED BICKISH

Director of Music

We give thanks to the Lord for the ways he has blessed and sustained the Music Ministry in 2025. What follows is a glimpse of how God has been at work among us through music, worship, and fellowship:

- Our annual Lessons and Carols program was a success with over 106 volunteers, church staff members, and hired musicians participating in the two services.
- Fourth Orchestra, Wyeth Duncan, and Mary Clark worked hard to present the Advent Carol Sing service on the first Sunday in Advent.
- The new chamber music concert series, Fridays at Fourth, continued to grow in attendance, with many members inviting their neighbors. One of our hopes is not only to provide congregants with beautiful music, but to see those who might not normally set foot inside the doors of Fourth to come and grow curious about us and about the truth of the gospel.
- Our Fourth Night musical activities for children and youth continue to flourish. All three of our children's and youth choirs have grown so that we now have 32 participants. The choir rehearsals have continued alongside Fourth Strings, which itself has grown to include a group of older, more advanced players who occasionally offer music in Sunday morning worship.
- The Sanctuary Choir added the largest number of new members in several years.
- Ring Forth! and Bells of the Trinity continued meeting on Sunday evenings.
- Fourth Orchestra continued to meet and thrive under Mary Clark's leadership on Wednesday evenings.
- In July, Fourth hosted our fourth annual Summer Music Camp with 28 children participating.
- Easter services were festive and joyful as we celebrated accompanied by nine brass players, timpani, and percussion, the Sanctuary Choir, and Fourth Orchestra.
- The Sunday Evening worship team continued lending its support to the evening service.

It is our joy and calling to proclaim Christ crucified through music, lifting our hearts and voices so that his word might dwell richly among us. As we look ahead, we pray that the Lord will continue to use the Music Ministry to strengthen his church, draw hearts to the beauty of the gospel, and glorify the name of Jesus in every note we sing and play.



Women

“The talks were so deeply thought provoking, challenging, and led to many sweet and insightful conversations. Thankful for the time to reflect this morning.”

— Women of the Word conference attendee



“How amazing to feel deeply loved and strengthened in the knowledge of Jesus’ faithfulness.”

— retreat attendee

SUKI DICKER

Director of Women's Ministry

This has been a wonderful year for the Women's Ministry, as we have continued to

“stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together... but encouraging one another, and all the more as we see the Day drawing near.”

— Hebrews 10:25

Annual Retreat

In April, 160 women gathered at Fourth for our retreat, “Persevering in Hope: Hebrews 11-12” with speaker Lindsay Carlson. It was a gift to host the retreat onsite, so that women unable to attend an offsite retreat could join us.

Women of the Word

In February, Salome Nengean blessed us richly with “Proclaiming the Lord's Faithfulness: Reflections on Psalm 145”. In October, we heard from Mary Ann Bell, who challenged us, helping us see what it means to live out our calling to love and care for the marginalized in “To Serve or Not to Serve? Living out Kingdom Ethics.”

“I loved the timeliness of the teaching as we face trials and challenges in our lives, but now with a richer understanding of how to run with endurance the race set before us, with eyes fixed on Jesus.”

— retreat attendee



Summer Book Clubs

Over 60 women enjoyed our Summer Book Clubs. We were blessed with evenings of play readings, experimenting with different art forms, soaking in Psalm 23, and exploring themes of faith in literature through the ages.

G2G – Daniel and Hebrews

After finishing up our Daniel study, we enjoyed unpacking Hebrews, supported with excellent teaching and fellowship. Over 80 women registered for our in-person study, and 22 met on Zoom.

Mission DMV Partnership

We have loved supporting our focus partner, YoungLives, blessing them for Mother's Day and supporting their RISE graduates. We also supported Central Union Mission with sandwich making and a hot Thanksgiving lunch.

Advent Devotional

In partnership with our own Allison Harrison, we produced an Advent Devotional so that through Advent we could unpack Scripture together, reveling in the wonder of a God born among us as a lowly man.

The year included many ways for women of Fourth to be grounded in the gospel, connected in community, and transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit: gathering in Circles, Young Women's Potluck Group, and Summer Sixes, enjoying nature with hikes, being supported in our Infertility and Cancer Support Groups, and going deeper with the Reformed Theology Reading Group and our Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study.

Worship

6
Youth believer baptisms

2
Children baptized

18
Infants baptized

2
Adult believer baptisms (past and scheduled)

3
Weddings held at Fourth Church

6
Total church member weddings

Baptisms & Weddings

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	
	290 at 8 a.m.	349 at 8 a.m.	<i>Average Attendance</i>
	533 at 11 a.m.	544 at 11 a.m.	
	85 at 6 p.m.	95 at 6 p.m.	
	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
	293 at 8 a.m.	318 at 8 a.m.	
	517 at 11 a.m.	542 at 11 a.m.	
	122 at 6 p.m.	163 at 6 p.m.	

11,720 Quarter 1	<i>Total Attendance</i>
12,837 Quarter 2	
12,119 Quarter 3	
13,297 Quarter 4	

Sermon Series

Morning

- Began 2025 continuing in the Book of Exodus
- Paused Exodus for a summer series on Proverbs, "Wisdom for a Weary World"
- In the fall, returned to Exodus
- Ended with the Advent series, "Four Facets of the First Advent"

Evening

- Completed the series in the Book of Acts
- In September, began a 12-week series, "Meet Jesus"
- Enjoyed Summer Sunday Nights during June, July, and early August with sweet treats and fellowship following the evening service

Young Adults



180
Young adults actively involved in church life (e.g., worship, Bible studies, Sunday School, service)

20
Families who regularly hosted meals for the young adult community

50
Young adults who visited for the first time and went on to join the life of the church over the last year

“Finding community can be and definitely has been tough, but the Lord has shown me that there are so many others at Fourth who also really desire connection, encouragement, and vulnerability with other believers! God has been so faithful and has repeatedly called me back to himself.”
— Laura De Ravin

“From weekly Scripture study with the Gilberts to encouraging friendships and fun local trips, being part of such a wonderful, Christ-centered group of young adults at Fourth has been a blessing and an answered prayer for me! I love the service projects that Fourth supports and getting involved with the community.”
— Eileen Zhao

REV. DAVID FRERICHS
Pastor of Young Adults & Director, Fourth Fellows Program

When I picture the Young Adult Ministry right now, the image of a flywheel comes to mind. After years of heavy pushing and barely visible motion, the flywheel has begun spinning with (Spirit-empowered!) speed and force. Friendships are forming. Whole-life discipleship is deepening. Young adults are a vibrant, integral part of the church’s life. My heart overflows with thanks to God for what he is doing and for each of the young adults at Fourth as I see the ways they are engaging, serving, reaching out to friends, making faithful commitments, and developing intergenerational community. I’m also thankful for the more seasoned volunteers who host, mentor, disciple, love, and welcome the flood of young adults coming into the church. And I’m deeply grateful for Lydia Rothbard and Robin Dixon, who serve the young adults community alongside me on staff.

LYDIA ROTHBARD
Assistant Director of Young Adult Ministry

As I look back on this year, I am grateful that the young adults at Fourth are thriving as a community and as part of the whole church. Each week, more than 180 participated in Sunday worship, with many returning for the evening service. It was a joy to look out during each service and see so many friends worshipping together!

In 2025, young adults deepened their faith and community in worship and small groups, cultivated friendships through both formal and informal gatherings, and discovered new ways to serve in Fourth ministries like Mission DMV. Mature members modeled Christ’s love and hospitality by leading Bible studies, providing mentorship, and hosting monthly lunches and dinners. I praise God for the ways the young adults are blessed by the whole church and pray that every young adult will quickly find a home at Fourth and experience true discipleship.

“Being surrounded by other young adults who are genuinely passionate about their faith has given me so much hope for our generation. I’ve been consistently impressed by the biblical literacy among everyone I’ve met — people are eager to dig deeper into Scripture and learn. The Bible studies and events have truly shaped my walk with Christ, and I’m grateful for everything I’ve learned from this community.”
— Yonathan Kebede

Youth

General Engagement

- 46 High school girls
- 61 High school guys
- 43 Middle school girls
- 40 Middle school guys
- 13 Summer staff (6 from Fourth)

Retreats & Trips

- 102 Students at winter retreat
- 28 Volunteers at winter retreat
- 32 Students at Youth Serve Day (plus 5 adults)
- 146 Students at summer camp
- 27 Volunteers at summer camp
- 13 Summer staff (plus 5 full time)
- 87 Students at fall retreat
- 27 Volunteers at fall retreat

"Thank you for all your hard work, love, and care for our Fourth youth and their friends. Thank you for always being willing to face the hard issues together with our youth."
— a parent

"Thank you so much for all the ways you pour into the girls and their families."
— a parent

ROB HENNEBERG Director of Youth and College

One of the clearest examples of the Lord's faithfulness to Fourth's Youth Ministry this past year has been the community he is building. Week in and week out, our students have been going deeper in discipleship. We've seen this at Sunday School, Bible study, Friday Night Club (FNC), The MIX, and TNT, as students have been discipled by their teachers, leaders, other volunteers, and youth staff. They have connected with one another, getting past the surface-level talk and encouraging each other. This is evidenced by the number of new friends our students are bringing to events and the warm welcome they receive.

Because our staff team has stayed together, we've been able to know and pursue students over time. That consistency has given our ministry a sense of safety and continuity that teenagers deeply need. At the same

time, God has brought new students into our community. Some arrive nervous and unsure, whereas others show up because a friend took the risk to invite them. All come looking for a place to belong. It's been awesome watching our core students make this a place where everyone enjoys a sense of belonging, as Jesus continues to draw people to himself through this ministry.

Supporting all of this has been the deep work of discipleship. Our Sunday School teachers and Bible study leaders have opened Scripture, asked questions, and pointed students to Jesus in a way that's

"The kids are excited to see each other and seem comfortable sharing their thoughts during the discussions."
— Bible study leader

both honest and hopeful. In these smaller settings, students get to wrestle with God's word and realize how the gospel speaks into their real-life struggles.

As I look back on this year, I am deeply thankful that the Lord has given us a steady staff, an influx of new students, and faithful volunteers who keep planting and watering the seed of God's word.

"I've been coming to Fourth for about eight months, and the youth group has been so welcoming and easy to get involved with. The leaders really care about us students, and they connect with each student on a personal level. God has truly blessed me by putting me here at Fourth, and the Youth Ministry is a big part of that blessing."
— a student



140	Regular Events
High school students at The MIX (15 volunteers)	
95	
Middle school students at FNC (15 volunteers)	
35-65	
Students at TNT each week throughout summer	
105	Bible Study Attendance
high school students	
77	
middle school students	
30	
Leaders	
147	
Total	
186	Sunday School
High school students	
147	
Middle school students	
333	
Total	
30	
Teachers	



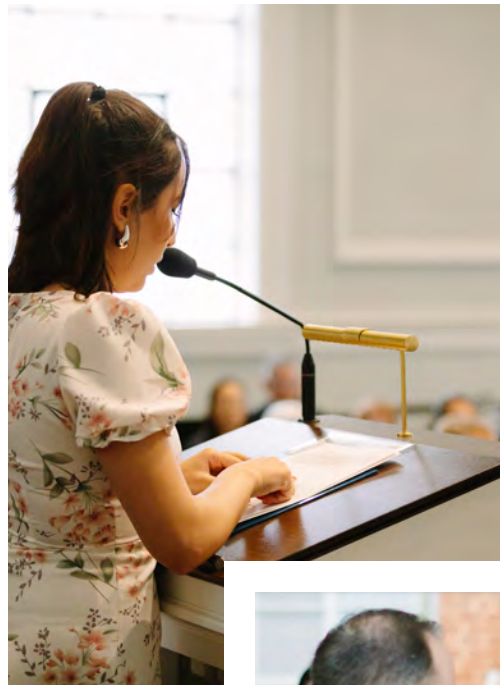
Volunteers praying at Central Union Mission



Annabelle and Evelyn Song at Fridays at Fourth concert



Free time activity during a youth retreat



Goodbye, Annex!



Fourth Strings rehearsing for worship



Scripture Study class



Men's Retreat



A morning baptism



Fourth Night dinner

