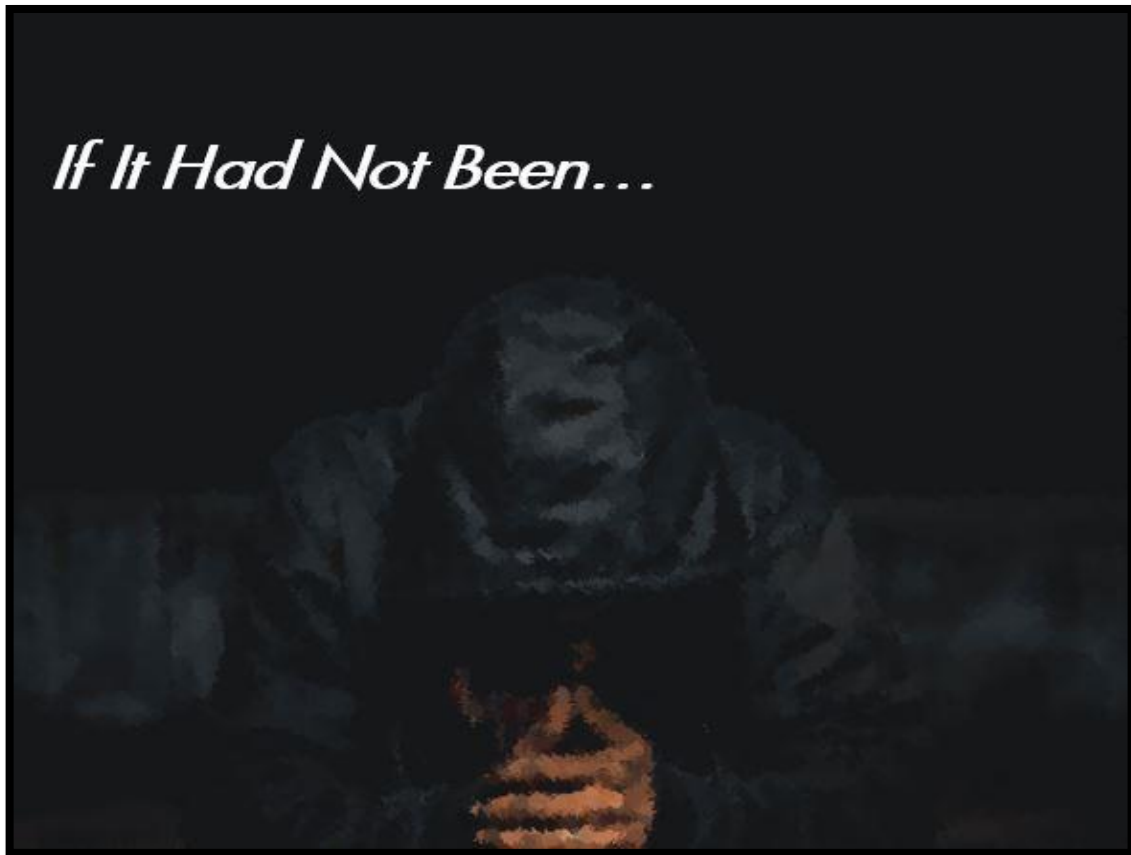


"The Church With The Warm Heart"

August 23, 2020



If It Had Not Been...

Wesley United Methodist Church

**201 East 95th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60619**

Tel: 773.821.6240

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Pastor: Rev. Charles A. Woolery, Sr.

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/wesleyumcchicago

Twitter: www.twitter.com/WUMCChicago

Bishop Sally Dyck

District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Jacques A. Conway

“2020 Vision”

According to George Barna, “Vision for ministry is a clear mental image of a preferable future imparted by God to his chosen servants and is based upon an accurate understanding of God, self, and circumstances.” God uses our history and “glory days” as a spring board to launch us into the next phase of ministry. The past will not become the hero when it comes to the ministry journey of Wesley UMC. Every year we should expect God to do something new and exciting with and through our church. Therefore, we should anticipate the upcoming New Year with extreme optimism, i.e., the belief that God is going to bless our church in a major way. And if we are going to be in a position to receive God’s blessings, then we need “eyes” to see where God is taking us.

The gospel writers had a lot to say about the importance of vision in their stories about Jesus healing blind people. My favorite story is the healing of Blind Bartimaeus found in the gospel of Mark, chapter 10. And really his story is one of true discipleship, because authentic discipleship involves having the “vision” to continue the work of Jesus the Christ. In Mark chapter 10, there are three pictures of ‘possible’ discipleship. First, there is the rich young ruler in verse 17. He wants to be a disciple and follow Jesus in the way but he does not want to relinquish his riches nor his unscrupulous practices that allowed him to gain his wealth. He just couldn’t envision himself doing that. As a result of ‘affluenza,’ he refuses to follow Jesus.

The next discipleship story is about the disciples in verse 35. James and John, the sons of Zebedee, had ambition to sit in positions of so-called power in Jesus’ kingdom. However, they were blind to what true discipleship looked like under Jesus. Jesus has to remind all of his disciples that greatness would be defined by service and not by position or title. They did not have vision either.

Finally, the third story is of Blind Bartimaeus in verse 46. He is the hero of the passage and the only one that makes the right request. And because he asks for “vision,” he receives it and models true discipleship by following Jesus in the way.

For the remainder of the year, we ask God for “vision” like Bartimaeus. We want “vision” so that we may see where God is leading us. We want both individual and collective “vision” to see how our great God is going to use every member of Wesley to make and/or be the difference in at least one person’s life. We want eyes to see how our church can grow in every area. We want “vision” to see how our church can thrive with children and youth. We want “vision” to see how our outreach ministry can make a greater impact in the community this year. We want “vision” to see how our entire membership can grow more committed to God and each other. If we can “see” it, then we can be it. The God who sees all, and goes by the name “El Roi” (“the God who sees me”), is a God who specializes in “re-vision” for his people. Have a great week!

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Please check the church website, now our 'virtual church,' and your email regularly for ongoing updates.
www.wesleyumcchicago.org

SPIRITUAL THEME FOR AUGUST: "Passionate Worship"

ORDER OF WORSHIP

COLOR: GREEN

Scripture for the month:

¹ Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. ² Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. ³ Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Psalm 100:1-3

Call to Worship

Invocation

Scripture

Psalm 124

see video, or page 4

Psalm of Praise

Psalm 126

see video, or page 5

Announcements

Offering

Pastoral Prayer

Sermon

"If It Had Not Been"

Rev. Charles A. Woolery, Sr.

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Affirmation of Faith

Benediction

Stay curled up and cozy at home while helping your community, by supporting...

United Methodist Women's

Stay-at-Home Tea

A FUNDRAISER



Ladies,

Look for your invitation in the mail soon!

United Methodist Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

Date: Saturday, August 29, 2020

Place: Your house!

Cost: Your gracious donation

Benefit: Knowing you've helped others in need



Morning Scripture

Psalm 124 (NKJV)

¹ “If it had not been the LORD who was on our side,”
let Israel now say—

² *“If it had not been the LORD who was on our side,
when men rose up against us,*

³ Then they would have swallowed us alive,
when their wrath was kindled against us;

⁴ *Then the waters would have overwhelmed us,
The stream would have gone over our soul;*

⁵ Then the swollen waters
would have gone over our soul.”

⁶ *Blessed be the LORD,
who has not given us as prey to their teeth.*

⁷ Our soul has escaped as a bird from the snare of the fowlers;
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

⁸ *Our help is in the name of the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.*

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	
Morning Worship (8/16/20)	71 (views)
Worship Call “	36 (callers)
Sunday School “	12 (callers)
Prayer Group	6 (callers)
Bible Study	12 (views/calls)
UMW Planning Meeting	8 (callers)
TOTAL	145

Psalm of Praise

Psalm 126

(R) The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.

¹When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

²***Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;***
then they said among the nations,
"The LORD has done great things for them."

³***The LORD has done great things for us;
we are glad.***

(R) The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.

⁴Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses in the Negeb!

⁵***May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy!***

⁶Those who go forth weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
***shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.***

(R) The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.

PASTORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please check your email weekly for a full list of announcements, scripture readings and updates.

- **Multiple ways to worship!** Our worship services are now available online! Go to: www.wesleyumcchicago.org and click/tap **SUNDAY SERMON**. The videos are also available on other platforms, such as our church app (see SERMONS), our YouTube channel (Wesley UMC Chicago), and will be posted on our **Facebook** page each Sunday afternoon (@WesleyUMCChicago). For those who prefer a more personal experience, join the **Weekly Worship Conference Call** at 10:30 am each Sunday! Call-in info: 1-425-436-6348: code 672500#
- **Do you have the GivePlus+ app? Electronic giving just got easier!!** Vanco's **GivePlus+** app makes it as easy as 1-2-3! Just download the **GivePlus+** app, (click for **Apple**, or **Google**) complete your login and profile using your email address and password, provide your bank information and that's it! You can setup a recurring payment or enter the amount each time.
- **NEW FEATURE! GivePlus+ also allows you to make contributions with a quick text message!** Simply **send a text to our DEDICATED text number, 1-833-595-0705**, with the amount you would like to contribute. Make sure to include the dollar sign before the amount. Example: \$25. Within a few minutes, you'll be sent a text with a link to register. Click on the link and enter your cardholder name and credit or debit card information. Once your registration is complete, you will receive a text verification and a receipt via email.
- **UMW Stay-at-Home Tea Fundraiser** What a challenging summer! Never more than for the children and youth displaced from valuable summer camps and other support programs. **Saturday, August 29, 2020** Wesley's UMW unit invites you to curl up in your favorite chair and relax with a soothing cup of tea! We will be sending invitations to tea with a complementary tea bag and a return envelope for a donation. Your gift will help the UMW continue on-going support of programs such as *Kids Above All* (previously known as *ChildServ*) and other programs serving women, children and youth that struggle to maintain services during the COVID crisis.
- **66th Church Anniversary Pledge Drive** Wesley has kicked off our **66th Church Anniversary Pledge Drive!** We are asking each member of the church to prayerfully sign a pledge, committing to one of two sacrificial giving program tiers for the first 6 months of the year: **Contractor @ \$750; Bricklayer @ \$500**, either of which may be submitted in installments or a single payment. Our faith-raising goal is **\$60,000**.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Kaylin Horvath	August 4 th	Eboni Hudson-Layne	August 23 rd
Charles Woolery, Sr.	August 5 th	Clarence Sanders	August 23 rd
Johnee Hooks	August 9 th	Leslie Stokes	August 23 rd
Rodney Westerfield	August 10 th	Theresa Bradshaw	August 25 th
Lucille Sanders	August 11 th	Tommy Hart	August 26 th
April Crockett	August 12 th	Thomas Hubbard	August 26 th
Mildred Echols	August 13 th	Odis Franklin	August 29 th
Chris Wormsby	August 16 th	B.J. Curtis	August 29 th
Monee Spearmon	August 20 th	Faye Smith	August 30 th
Richard Kokuma	August 21 st	James Moss	August 31 st

PRAYER LIST

Below is this week's prayer list. Please keep these persons in your prayers!

(* = Church member, followed by Class Number)

SHUT-IN	
*Minnie Thompson (20)	*Bessie Alford-Moore (18)
*Lucille Sanders (16)	*Doris Anderson (1)
*Clarence Sanders (16)	*Spencer Plaxico (17)
*Barbara Shepherd (18)	*Jessie Stokes (19)
*Eric Gerald (3)	*Helen Tuck (7)
*Fred Williams (20)	*Lucious Smith (12)

GENERAL		
*Callie Dulaney & Family (12)	Leslie Carey Kirk	Belinda Starks
*LaRue Grizzard (4)	Byron Agnew, Jr.	Katherine Thompson
*Y. Shorter-Darden & Family (4)	Sam Agnew	Shatarah Ridley
*Gloria Banks (20)	Nannie Agnew	David Williams
*Doris Echols (16)	Juanita Weatherspoon	Owen McPherson
*Mary Alice Lovely & Family (19)	Annie Lois Robinson	James Williams
*Diamond Jones (12)	Jessica Smith Crenshaw	James Taylor
*Trinity Jones (12)	Joyce Chisem-Davis	James Curtis
*Lawrence Moore (13)	Carolyn Ransom	The Baker Family
*Wilena Campbell-Watkins (5)	Sylvia Nichols	Anna Young
*Mark Garrett (5)	Milton Kellum	Dorothy Williams
*The Plaxico Family (17)	Rosie Howard	Lois Tucker
*Denise Richardson (20)	Natesha Smith	Katherine Evans
*Clarence Rogers, II & Family (4)	James Sanders	Carl Frazier
*Jessie Gilmore (16)	Joanna Lennhardt	Robert A. Watkins
*Maurice & Faye Smith (17)	Martha Muhs	Aaron Thomas, Jr.
*Theresa Bradshaw (12)	Muriel Bolden	Michael Miller
*The Hudson/Bradshaw Families (7 1 12)	Gregory Simms	Angel Acosta
*The Moss Family (13)	Norbert Sanders	Tammy Pompeo
*Darlene Clark and Family (1)	Brittany Porter	Sharon Cruikshank
*Lorraine Forbes and Family (3)	Rhonda Monique Miller	Vinelle Myrie
*Charles & B.J. Curtis and Family (3)	Ashley Parks	Alexandria Ward
*Betty Jenkins and Family (5)	Kathy Jenkins	Davion McNeal
*Dorothy Williamson and Family (10)	Rebecca Merkson	
*Donna/Deborah Lomax and Family (13)	John Anderson	
*Odis & Lucinda Franklin Family (20)	Jerry Simmons	
*Ena Davis (1)	Rochelle Johnson	
*Gwendolyn Watkins (7)	The Ford & Robinson Families	
*Doris Thompson (19)	Mila Kuntu	
Rashaud Thompson	Ron Birton	
Mae Gilliams Fizer & Family	Aiden Combs	

SUNDAY MORNING HEALTH CORNER

Talking About Serious Mental Health Conditions in the African American Community

A **mental health condition** refers to a wide range of disorders or illnesses that can affect mood, behavior, feeling, or thinking. **Serious mental health conditions** are a smaller and more severe subset and can have a substantial impact on 1 or more major life activities. **There are many different types of serious mental health conditions, including depression, bipolar disorder, and schizophrenia.**¹



How common are serious mental health conditions?



It is estimated that **1 in 25 adults** in the United States experience serious mental illness.²

What do I do if I believe that I or my loved one has a serious mental health condition?



Recognize and acknowledge that individuals diagnosed with these diseases can live full, rewarding lives, especially if they seek and follow treatment as needed.



Research using reputable sources to identify the symptoms of mental health conditions and find support and care services.



Reach out to family members, friends, advocacy organizations, or your healthcare professional (HCP) to help build your support network.



Regroup with your HCP to find the right treatment plan and learn about available resources. Talk about your concerns, feelings, and ways to improve your mental health.



Remember, mental health conditions are nothing to be ashamed of. They are medical conditions, like heart disease or diabetes. **It's important to speak up, speak out, and actively communicate with an HCP.** Finding the right treatment plan can make a difference for you or a loved one living with a mental health condition.

If you or a loved one is in crisis, call 911 as soon as possible. If you or a loved one needs someone to talk to, there is confidential support available 24/7 for everyone in the United States by calling **1-800-273-8255** for the National Suicide Prevention Hotline.

This resource has been developed as part of a paid sponsorship with Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

1. National Institute of Mental Health. Mental health information. Available at: <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/statistics/mental-illness.shtml>. Accessed April 22, 2022.

2. National Alliance on Mental Illness. Mental Health by the Numbers. Available at: <https://www.nami.org/About-NAMI/Mental-Health-by-the-Numbers>. Accessed April 22, 2022.

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choicesinrecovery.com

Social Commentary

We Sisters Know: Kamala Harris is Battle-Hardened for Combat

by Laura Washington



She is tough, aggressive, fearless. A Black woman must be. And that is why Sen. Kamala Harris, the presumed Democratic vice presidential nominee, is the quintessential VP pick for our times. These are incendiary times, make-or-break times. The fall presidential campaign will be brutal. We sisters know. African American women have been battle-hardened by the racism and sexism we have endured for centuries. Last week, Joe Biden, the presumed Democratic presidential nominee, tapped Harris, the former California attorney general and San Francisco district attorney. When Harris hit the hustings, President Donald J. Trump's sexist and racist insult arsenal was already loaded and ready.

The vile broadsides rolled out. "Nasty" seems to be Trump's favorite adjective for Harris, a recycled insult leveled at the Democratic presidential nominee in 2016. Trump's puny vocabulary does not have enough bandwidth for new material. On Wednesday, Eric Trump, one of the president's sons, "favorited a tweet, which was later deleted, that referred to Ms. Harris as a 'whorendous pick,' " the New York Times reported. Trumpsters posit that Harris is not eligible to serve as vice president or president because her parents were not American citizens.

For the record, Harris was born of immigrant parents, in Oakland, Calif. Her mother, a cancer researcher from India, her father, a Black economist from Jamaica. Harris is a natural born American citizen. Others whisper that her mixed-race heritage means that Harris is "not Black enough." Trump and his ilk tried those tropes years ago on a Black presidential candidate, Barack Obama. It did not work. No matter. Black women are born and bred for these moments.

We endure, strive and excel when the worst is hurled our way. From the times of slavery to now, African American women have been fighting their way up from the bottom of every American economic indicator. We rise, propelled by the fuel of oppression. Biden learned that at a debate last year, during Harris' breakout moment in the Democratic nominating campaign.

Harris, the only Black woman on the stage, exquisitely prosecuted Biden's record on race, attacking his political ties to Southern white segregationists and his opposition to school busing in the 1970s and 1980s. The moment did not win her the nomination, but it should send the message that she is ready for the racist and sexist onslaught to come. Harris "makes them nervous" and she should.

Little Known Black History Fact

Ira Aldridge

By D. L. Chandler



Ira Aldridge was an American-born actor who went on to international fame when he arrived in Europe to further his career. Aldridge is considered the first African-American actor to gain worldwide acclaim, and the first Black actor to find fame in a foreign nation.

Ira Frederick Aldridge was born on July 24, 1807 in New York City to free Black parents. As a young student at the African School, Aldridge was exposed early on to the works of Shakespeare and developed a zeal for acting. While in his teens, Aldridge joined a Black acting troupe and then got his first professional break in the 1820s. Together with William Henry Brown and James Hewlett, he helped form the African Grove Theatre, the first African-American owned and managed theatre in America.

With acting jobs scarce in America due to racism and the like, Aldridge traveled to Liverpool, England in 1824, struggling there as well early on before he found success interpreting Shakespeare. By the 1830s, Aldridge had found solid footing as an actor and earned the name “The African Rocius” after Roman actor Quinton Rocius Gallus. There have been accounts that Aldridge concocted a story that he was of royal African lineage to gain a foothold in European society, although it was never confirmed.

Beyond roles such as Othello, Aldridge was also known for playing white characters.

Please **NOTIFY** the church office of ALL meetings or events scheduled in the church buildings.

AUGUST 2020

+ Event occurs after worship service

* Event occurs at alternate site

Please check bulletin and emails **regularly** for schedule changes.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
2 9 am Sunday School Call 1.605.475.4000 Access code: 260259# Remote Worship & 10:30 am Call Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	3	4	5 Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	6 Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	7	1 ----- 8 UMW Meeting via Tele-Video Conference 10 am -----
9 9 am Sunday School Call 1.605.475.4000 Access code: 260259# Remote Worship & 10:30 am Call Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	10	11	12 LifeLine Screenings ----- Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	13 Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	14	15
16 9 am Sunday School Call 1.605.475.4000 Access code: 260259# Remote Worship & 10:30 am Call Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	17	18	19 Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	20 Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	21	22 Trustee Meeting (via Zoom) 9 am -----
23 9 am Sunday School Call 1.605.475.4000 Access code: 260259# Remote Worship & 10:30 am Call Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	24	25	26 Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	27 Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	28	29 Wesley UMW "Stay-at-Home Tea" (Call the church office or email us for more information!) umw.wesley.chicago1@gmail.com
30 9 am Sunday School Call 1.605.475.4000 Access code: 260259# Remote Worship & 10:30 am Call Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	31	1	2 Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	3 Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	4	5 UMM Meeting (via Zoom) 9 am

Wesley United Methodist Church

201 East 95th Street

Chicago, IL 60619

Rev. Charles A. Woolery, Sr., Pastor

SAVE these Conference Call Numbers

Sunday 10:30 am - LIVE Service

1.425.436.6348

Thursday 11 am - Prayer Call

Code: 672500#

Wednesday 11 am - Bible Study:

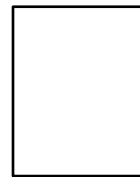
1.312.626.6799

ID/code: 295 101 7709#

Sunday School 9 am – Conf Call:

1.605.475.4000

Code: 260259#



Scan the QR code on the left to donate to Wesley via smartphone or other mobile device!



Wesley's 66th Church Anniversary!

This year we will celebrate **Wesley's 66th Church Anniversary!** We are so very grateful for the years of service to this community, yet we know there is still much left to be done.

We've kicked-off our **66th Church Anniversary Pledge Drive**, "*Building for the Future.*" Program details will be shared periodically via email. Please prayerfully consider participating in this sacrificial giving program. These special gifts can be given in a single payment or in installments over several months. We need your sober commitment to support our church and serve the Lord through this ministry!

2020 Daily Bible Readings (One Year Bible Reading Plan)

Week of August 23rd – August 29th

August 23

Job 8:1-11:20

1 Corinthians 15:1-28

Psalms 38:1-22

Proverbs 21:28-29

August 24

Job 12:1-15:35

1 Corinthians 15:29-58

Psalms 39:1-13

Proverbs 21:30-31

August 25

Job 16:1-19:29

1 Corinthians 16:1-24

Psalms 40:1-10

Proverbs 22:1

2020 Vision:

"The Year of the Child"

(Matthew 19:14)

August 29

Job 31:1-33:33

2 Corinthians 3:1-18

Psalms 43:1-5

Proverbs 22:8-9

August 26

Job 20:1-22:30

2 Corinthians 1:1-11

Psalms 40:11-17

Proverbs 22:2-4

August 27

Job 23:1-27:23

2 Corinthians 1:12-2:11

Psalms 41:1-13

Proverbs 22:5-6

August 28

Job 28:1-30:31

2 Corinthians 2:12-17

Psalms 42:1-11

Proverbs 22:7