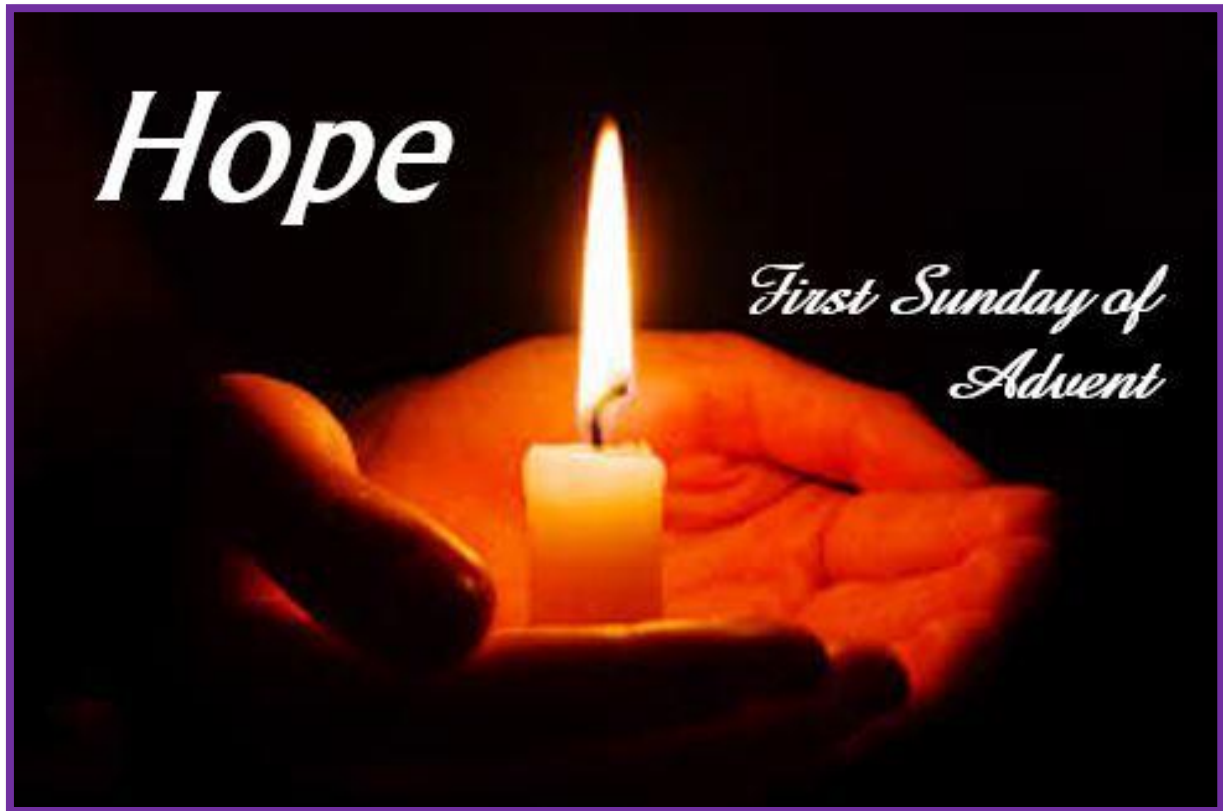


"The Church With The Warm Heart"

November 29, 2020



Wesley United Methodist Church

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

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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

“Advent is for Spiritual Advancement”

¹ I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. (Romans 12:1-2)

Greetings, Wesley family, in the name of Jesus the Christ. This Christmas season reminds us that the church is an “alternative” community required to usher in the Kingdom of God. The birth of Christ into the world causes a reprioritizing in our lives. We should focus on what our purpose is. Our purpose is to be “transformers” and not “conformers.” We are to change the world and not allow the world to change us. It was Gandhi who coined the phrase “*You must be the change you want to see in the world.*” When Jesus called those twelve men to follow him and become his disciples over 2,000 years ago, he called them to a “new” order and also to a “new” community. According to Jim Wallis, author of The Great Awakening: Seven Ways to Change the World, the church is called to be “*an alternative community living a new way of life, visibly demonstrating the values of Jesus and the kingdom of God.*” We live by different values than the surrounding society and we provide a visible model of how to live more human in a world that has lost its way.

Christmas reminds us that we are to be revolutionary in thought, word, and practice. When the early Christians proclaimed that “Jesus is Lord” they were saying that they march to the beat of His drum and not to any beat of an earthly king, Madison Avenue advertisers, or their own ideology. The early Christians were considered “atheists” because they rejected the gods of the Roman Empire. Just as they rejected manufactured gods so must we reject the modern gods of materialism, consumerism, militarism, and classism. This Christmas season is a call for all Christians to take a stand against the commercialization of the holy-day we use to honor the birth of our Savior. We have to be non-conformists in this conformist-friendly world. Let us not be thermometers that simply record the temperature of a money and media-driven world but let us be the thermostat that sets the temperature and changes the social climate of this world. Remember that “Faithfulness comes before Effectiveness.” Have a great week!

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

SPIRITUAL THEME FOR NOVEMBER: "Give Thanks in Everything"

ORDER OF WORSHIP

COLOR: PURPLE OR BLUE

Scripture for the month:

"Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus."

1 Thessalonians 5:18 NLT

Call to Worship

Invocation

Scripture

1 Thessalonians 5:12-18

see video, or page 4

Psalm of Praise

Psalm 80

see video, or page 5

Announcements

Offering

United Methodist Student Day

Pastoral Prayer

Today's Message

"A Prescription for Your Perplexity"

Elder Tavell Grant

Greater First Baptist Church, East Chicago, IN

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Affirmation of Faith

Benediction

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	
Morning Worship (11/22/20)	103 (views)
Worship Call "	30 (callers)
Sunday School "	11 (callers)
Prayer Group	3 (callers)
Church Council Meeting	9 (views/calls)
TOTAL	156

Morning Scripture

1 Thessalonians 5:12-18 (NKJV)

¹² And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you,

¹³ ***and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. Be at peace among yourselves.***

¹⁴ Now we exhort you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all.

¹⁵ ***See that no one renders evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good both for yourselves and for all.***

¹⁶ Rejoice always,

¹⁷ ***pray without ceasing,***

¹⁸ ***in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.***



BLACK
METHODISTS
FOR CHURCH
RENEWAL

BMCR

Our Time Under God Is Now!

Join the Black Methodists for Church Renewal
for their **Annual Meeting and Founder's Day Celebration**
Saturday, December 12, 2020

9:30 am

Wesley's own **Troy Hodge** will be honored for his
outstanding service to Wesley, especially during the current
COVID crisis!



Black History Month



Book Discussion

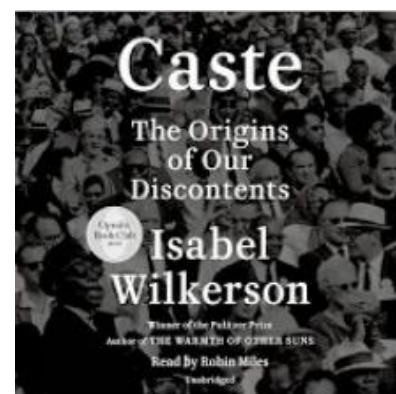
Join us in February for a Black History Month book discussion reviewing
the new Isabel Wilkerson book,

Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents

Pick up the book now and be ready to join the discussion!

More details will be shared soon. Facilitator: Stephanie Jackson-Williams.

Click here for the New York Times [book review](#).



Psalm of Praise

Psalm 80

(R) I am the vine; you are the branches, rooted in faith and love.

¹ Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,

you who lead Joseph like a flock!

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth!

² In the presence of Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh,
stir up your might, and come to save us!

***³ Restore us, O God; let your face shine,
that we may be saved!***

⁴ O LORD God of hosts,
how long will you be angry
with your people's prayers?

***⁵ You have fed them with the bread of tears,
and given them tears to drink in full measure.***

⁶ You make us the scorn of our neighbors;
and our enemies laugh among themselves.

***⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face to shine,
that we may be saved!***

(R) I am the vine; you are the branches, rooted in faith and love.

⁸ You brought a vine out of Egypt;
you drove out the nations and planted it.

***⁹ You cleared the ground for it;
it took deep root and filled the land.***

¹⁰ The mountains were covered with its shade,
the mighty cedars with its branches;

***¹¹ it sent out its branches to the sea,
and its shoots to the river.***

¹² Why then have you broken down its walls,
so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?

***¹³ The boar from the forest ravages it,
and all that move in the field feed on it.***

(R) I am the vine; you are the branches, rooted in faith and love.

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.
- **Gillespie Elementary School Mentorship Program** Wesley has established a partnership with Gillespie Elementary School to mentor and tutor students. Program details are still being defined. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Pastor Woolery.
- **Chicago BMCR Celebrate 52nd Annual Meeting and Founder's Day - Saturday, December 12, 2020, 9:30 am–11:30 am**, the Chicago BMCR will meet via Zoom to recognize LIFE members, and will celebrate local church laity who have offered outstanding service during the COVID crisis, including Wesley's own **Troy Hodge**! Additional details, including Zoom connection information, will be available to share shortly.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Nia Woolery	December 4 th	Evalena Davis	December 16 th
Kenya Barker-Gainey	December 9 th	Carnice Carey	December 17 th
Craig Hudson	December 12 th	Ena Davis	December 19 th
Connie Fogg	December 12 th	Taylor Helm	December 23 rd
Philicia Parker	December 12 th	Tony Howard, Sr.	December 29 th
Thomas Marks	December 13 th	Sterling Plaxico	December 31 st

Happy Birthday to all Wesley members with birthdays in **December**!

PRAYER LIST

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

(* = Church member, followed by Class Number)

<u>SHUT-IN</u>		
*Minnie Thompson (20)	*Bessie Alford-Moore (18)	
*Lucile Sanders (16)	*Doris Anderson (1)	
*Clarence Sanders (16)	*Spencer Plaxico (17)	
*Barbara Shepherd (18)	*Jessie Stokes (19)	
*Eric Geraldts (3)	*Helen Tuck (7)	
*Fred Williams (20)		

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

SUNDAY MORNING HEALTH CORNER

Slow the spread of **Coronavirus** with **Cloth Face Coverings**

The CDC advises the use of simple cloth face coverings to slow the spread of the virus and help people who may have the virus and do not know it from transmitting it to others. Cloth face coverings fashioned from household items or made at home from common materials at low cost can be used as an additional, voluntary public health measure.

Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the cloth face covering without assistance.

The cloth face coverings recommended are not surgical masks or N-95 respirators. Those are critical supplies that must continue to be reserved for healthcare workers and other medical first responders, as recommended by current CDC guidance.

How to Wear Cloth Face Coverings

Cloth face coverings should -

- Fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
- Be secured with ties or ear loops
- Include multiple layers of fabric
- Allow for breathing without restriction
- Be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape



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804.644.2256

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

DECEMBER 2020

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

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
29 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#	30	1 Today is #GIVINGTUESDAY	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
6 9 am Sunday School Call 1.605.475.4000 Access code: 260259# ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	7	8	9 Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	10 Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	11	12 UMW Meeting (via Zoom) 10 am
13 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#	14	15	16 Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	17 Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	18	19
20 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#	21	22	23 Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	24 Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	25 Merry Christmas!	26 Board of Trustees Mtg 9 am (via Zoom)
27 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#	28	29	30 Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	31 Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	1 Happy New Year!	2 UMM Meeting (via Zoom) 9 am

Today is United Methodist Student Day... Please give generously!

Social Commentary

Get Ready for Donald Trump's Shadow Government — via Twitter and Fox News

by Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.



Leave it to Donald Trump to run brazen subversion — refusal to accept the decision of the voters in the presidential election — as a clown show, marked by dingbat lawyers, delusional tweets, and hailstorms of lies. The noise, however, should not delude us: Trump is leading an American counter-reformation right to the edge of secession, if not beyond. And at the core of this is America's continued struggle with race. Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, the president's lapdog, who just survived a challenge by an African-American Democrat, gave the game away when he declared — on Fox TV, naturally — "If we don't challenge and change the U.S. election system, there'll never be another Republican president elected again. President Trump should not concede."

Trump's defeat revives the horrors Republicans felt with the election of Barack Obama: the stark realization that a party built on racial division as the party of white sanctuary could not survive in a multiracial democracy. Beginning with Barry Goldwater, Republicans grounded their party in the South, building a majority with race-bait politics to divide working people. Trump was the extreme expression of the strategy, rising to notoriety by questioning Obama's citizenship, winning with a campaign raising racial fears of lawless immigrants, and governing in the interests of the wealthy, the country club and the special interests.

Trump has sought to undermine this election from the start. For years, he and his party engaged in systematic voter suppression — using gerrymandering, voter intimidation, purges of the voting rolls, restricting the time and places for balloting, imposing new ID requirements and more. Then, even before a vote was cast, Trump charged there would be massive electoral fraud. If Trump had won, he would have said it was against the odds. Having lost, he claimed it was rigged. Then he unleashed his clown lawyers to paper the courts with lawsuits challenging votes without evidence.

After he leaves office, Trump is likely to set up a sort of shadow government, using his tweets and media appearances to denounce the Biden administration. Republicans, in fear of the wrath of his supporters, will obstruct Biden at every turn. What Trump has made clear is that this subversion won't end when Biden is inaugurated. It is likely to get more turbulent rather than less. The stakes are very high. Will the multiracial majority be able to build a governing coalition that can begin to address the fundamental reforms that Americans so desperately need? Or will the embattled minority sabotage that possibility,

divide the country or even move toward secession once more? In rejecting the verdict of the voters, Trump is charting a road to division. Americans must find a way to reach out, come together and go a different way.

Little Known Black History Fact

by D.L. Chandler

Dr. Olivia J. Hooker



Dr. Olivia J. Hooker turned 103 years of age two years ago in February and in that same month in 1945, she made military history. Dr. Hooker became the first African-American woman to join the United States Coast Guard after being rejected by the United States Navy.

Dr. Hooker was born February 12, 1915, in Muskogee, Oklahoma. At the age of six, she witnessed the Ku Klux Klan ransack her home during the violent Tulsa Massacre of Black Wall Street and was one of the few, if not the only, survivors of that moment in history.

The family relocated to Columbus, Ohio, and Dr. Hooker graduated from The Ohio State University in 1937. The Delta woman attempted to enter the Navy and was denied due to her race.

She was eventually allowed to join the Navy after contesting the denial, but Hooker elected to join the Coast Guard instead in February of 1945. Hooker was part of the SPAR (Semper Paratus Always Ready) division, a section of the U.S. Coast Guard Women's Reserve.

This unit was eventually disbanded in 1946. The following year, Dr. Hooker obtained her master's degree in psychology from Columbia University and worked with women in an upstate New York prison.

In 1961, Dr. Hooker earned her Ph.D. from the University of Rochester and in 1963, she joined the faculty of Fordham University, teaching until 1985. She retired two years later, and at the age of 95, she joined the Coast Guard Auxiliary, the civilian reserve of the branch.

Dr. Hooker passed of natural causes on November 21, 2018, at her White Plains, New York home.

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#

Passcode: 461427#

Sunday School 9 am – Conf Call:

1.605.475.4000

Code: 260259#



Scan the QR code
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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 November 29th – December 5th

November 29

Daniel 6:1-28

2 Peter 3:1-18

Psalms 119:129-152

Proverbs 28:21-22

November 30

Daniel 7:1-28

1 John 1:1-10

Psalms 119:153-176

Proverbs 28:23-24

December 1

Daniel 8:1-27

1 John 2:1-17

Psalms 120:1-7

Proverbs 28:25-26

2020 Vision:

"The Year of the Child"

(Matthew 19:14)

December 5

Hosea 1:1-3:5

1 John 5:1-21

Psalms 124:1-8

Proverbs 29:5-8

December 2

Daniel 9:1-11:1

1 John 2:18-3:6

Psalms 121:1-8

Proverbs 28:27-28

December 3

Daniel 11:2-35

1 John 3:7-24

Psalms 122:1-9

Proverbs 29:1

December 4

Daniel 11:36-12:13

1 John 4:1-21

Psalms 123:1-4

Proverbs 29:2-4