

"The Church With The Warm Heart"

January 24, 2021



Wesley United Methodist Church

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

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Bishop John Hopkins (interim)

District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Jacques A. Conway

“We Have Work to Do!”

“For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.” James 2:26

Greetings, family, in the name of our risen Lord! We are privileged to be in the “virtual” house of the Lord on the Lord’s Day. The purpose of being in the Lord’s house is to be equipped for ministry. We gather every week virtually to be inspired, motivated, and challenged to identify and then use our spiritual gifts to edify, or build up, the body of Christ called church. We are to be engaged in ministry when we are outside the physical church building. Sunday morning is the time when we gather together virtually to listen to the voice of God in order to figure out where God may be leading us in the new week. I challenge everyone to be challenged and then changed by the Word of God when it comes to doing the work of ministry. In Ephesians 4:11-12, Paul writes, “The gifts He (Jesus) gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.” This should provide us ammunition to come up with a new paradigm for clergy-laity relationships. The description for any church leader is that of a “gift”. Pastors are gifts to the congregation. Church leaders are gifts to the congregation. The purpose of church leadership is to equip the saints, i.e., the rest of the church folk, for the work of ministry so that the church might be built up. Church leaders, pastors and parishioners, are gifted so that they might lift it, i.e., the church!

Since God has appointed church leaders to equip the saints for the work of ministry, guess who is supposed to do the work of ministry? You are! The burden of ministry does not rest solely on the strong but narrow shoulders of the pastor. No, the burden of ministry rests with the saints. If you are a child of God, then you are a saint. The text says that the responsibility of ministry rests on the collective shoulders of parishioners. Now, it is the responsibility of the pastor and church leadership to equip the saints for the awesome task of ministry. Well, how are the saints to be equipped? Saints have to be present for every “equipping” opportunity, like worship, Sunday school, bible study, prayer meeting, revivals, and district and local church training events. These events are designed to provide the saints with the necessary tools needed to make disciples of Jesus the Christ.

God has given the church an enormous responsibility---to make disciples. This involves preaching, teaching, healing, nurturing, giving, administering, building, and many other tasks. We couldn’t do all these if we had to do them as individuals but God calls us to do these things as His collective agents of transformation. Together we can accomplish all these things. That is why we need EVERYONE to get involved in the “ministry work” of the congregation. That is why we emphasize making disciples because the responsibility of the church is so great, we need as many people as possible to help us do what we are called to do. Teamwork makes the dream work. Anything worth having is worth working for. We cannot accomplish anything without the power of WORK. I think we should want all of Chicagoland to know that Wesley United Methodist Church is a great church because the people have a mind to work! Have a productive week.

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

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

SPIRITUAL THEME FOR JANUARY: "A New You for the New Year"

ORDER OF WORSHIP

COLOR: GREEN

Scripture for the month: *"For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it? I will make a pathway through the wilderness. I will create rivers in the dry wasteland."* Isaiah 43:19 (New Living Translation)

Call to Worship

Invocation

Scripture 2 Chronicles 29:1-5 see video, or page 4

Psalm of Praise Psalm 62:5-12 see video, or page 5

Announcements

Offering

Pastoral Prayer

Today's Message *"Are You at War with Waste Management?"*
Rev. Stephen Thurston, II
Executive Pastor, Salem Baptist Church of Chicago
(bio on page 4)

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Affirmation of Faith

Benediction

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	
Morning Worship (01/17/21)	86 (views)
Worship Call "	30 (callers)
Sunday School "	17 (callers)
Prayer Group	9 (callers)
Bible Study (AM only)	8 (views/calls)
TOTAL	150

Morning Scripture

2 Chronicles 29:1-5 (NKJV)

¹ Hezekiah became king *when he was* twenty-five years old, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Abijah the daughter of Zechariah.

² ***And he did what was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father David had done.***

³ In the first year of his reign, in the first month, he opened the doors of the house of the LORD and repaired them.

⁴ ***Then he brought in the priests and the Levites, and gathered them in the East Square,***

⁵ ***and said to them: "Hear me, Levites! Now sanctify yourselves, sanctify the house of the LORD God of your fathers, and carry out the rubbish from the holy place."***

Stephen J. Thurston II is a native of Chicago, Illinois. After receiving his elementary and high school education through both the public and private school systems, Stephen went on to pursue higher education at some of the most respected academic institutions in the world including Oxford University, Northwestern University, Mercer University, and Morehouse College. With a desire to empower and equip both individuals and organizations to reach their full potential Stephen has also attained the coveted Project Management Professional (PMP) certification.

Stephen has served as pastor of the New Covenant Baptist Church in Chicago, IL, National Youth Director of the Rainbow PUSH Coalition, as a consultant for the Chicago Urban League and Chicago Public Schools, and social justice advocate within the city of Chicago. Stephen currently serves as Teaching Pastor at the Salem Baptist Church of Chicago. In addition to Stephen's career in ministry he has also engaged the path of entrepreneurship, inclusive of real estate holdings and retail stores and is the author of the book *Mirror Moments*. Stephen's overarching focus is to lead individuals and organizations to change what's within in order to change what's around.



Black History Month



Book Discussion

Join us at **11 am, February 20th** for a Black History Month book discussion reviewing the new Isabel Wilkerson book,

Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents

Purchase the book now and be ready to join the discussion!

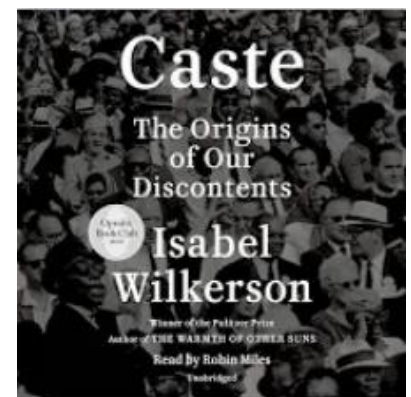
Click [here](#) to purchase (Amazon.com).

Facilitator: Stephanie Jackson-Williams

Please contact Stephanie for details.

sjackwill@gmail.com | 312-961-8909

Click [HERE](#) to RSVP for February's Book Discussion!



Click image above for NY Times book review.

As you read, [here](#) to listen to a podcast of the author, moderated by Oprah Winfrey.

Psalm of Praise

Psalm 62:5-12

(R) I sing your praise for steadfast love; fulfill your purpose for me.

⁵ For God alone my soul waits in silence,
for my hope is from God,

⁶ *who alone is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress; I shall not be shaken.*

⁷ On God rests my deliverance and my honor;
my mighty rock, my refuge is God.

⁸ *Trust in God at all times, O people;
pour out your heart before God who is a refuge for us.*

(R) I sing your praise for steadfast love; fulfill your purpose for me.

⁹ Those of low estate are but a breath,
those of high estate are a delusion;
in the balances they go up;
they are together lighter than a breath.

¹⁰ *Put no confidence in extortion,
set no vain hopes on robbery;
if riches increase, set not your heart on them.*

¹¹ Once God has spoken,
twice have I heard this:
power belongs to God;

¹² *and to you, O Lord, belongs steadfast love,
for you repay all according to their work.*

(R) I sing your praise for steadfast love; fulfill your purpose for me.

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.
- **Black History Month Book Discussion** Join us on **February 20, 2021, 11 am**, 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! Facilitator: Stephanie Jackson-Williams. A limited supply of books will be available for those who wish to participate but are unable to purchase them. Contact Stephanie for details: skjackwill@gmail.com | 312. 961.8909.
- **End-of-Year Contribution Statements** Despite the impact of the Coronavirus, the Committee on Finance is committed to delivering your contribution statements in a timely manner. Because we are still not able to gather together, your 2020 annual contribution statements will be delivered via email. Please **verify** with the church office, **by January 25, 2021**, that your correct email address is on file. For those members who do not use email or prefer to receive a paper copy, your statements will be mailed to you.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Lillye Hart	January 1 st	Helen York	January 11 th	Charles Woolery, Jr.	January 20 th
Callie Dulaney	January 3 rd	Tiffany Walton	January 13 th	Khayri Moss	January 21 st
Verner Geddes	January 4 th	Minnie Grady	January 17 th	Teddy Mott	January 21 st
Clarence Jones	January 4 th	Summer Rainey	January 17 th	Darlene Clark	January 23 rd
Sydney Jackson	January 5 th	Lucinda Franklin	January 18 th	Eddie Lee Hawkins	January 24 th
Frank Readus	January 6 th	Essie Judon	January 19 th	Daphne Sam	January 24 th
Darlene Ruffin	January 6 th	Donna Lomax	January 19 th	Dylan Julun	January 29 th
Tristen Newman	January 8 th	Edith Belisle	January 20 th	Rhonda Smith-Leach	January 29 th
Lisa Jones	January 11 th	Dixie Taylor	January 20 th	Megan Myrie	January 30 th
		Henry Stephen	January 20 th		

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

Continue to pray for those in the valley of bereavement: Doris Thompson lost her mother, and Laniya Bradley lost an aunt. Pray for the Thompsons, the Bradleys, and others struggling with grief this holiday season.

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

JANUARY 2021

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

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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 Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	30	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 ----- Communion Element Pick-up 11 am – 1 pm (parking lot)
3 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#	4	5	6 Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	7 Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	8	9 UMW Meeting (via Zoom) 10 am
10 9 am Sunday School Call 1.605.475.4000 Access code: 260259# ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	11	12 Church Council Mtg 6 pm	13 Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	14 Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	15	16 Tomorrow is Human Relations Sunday (Please give generously)
17 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#	18	19	20 Remote Bible Study 10 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	21 Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	22	23 Board of Trustees Mtg 9 am (via Zoom)
24 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#	25	26	27 Remote Bible Study 11 am ----- 1-312-626-6799; Mtg ID: 2951017709# (Call/email the church for ZOOM video link)	28 Remote Prayer Group 11 am ----- Call-in number: 1.425.436.6348 Access code: 672500#	29	30 UMW Leader Training Session 10 am Tomorrow is Youth Sunday!
31 Youth Sunday!	1	2	3	4	5	6

SUNDAY MORNING HEALTH CORNER

Glaucoma Awareness

Glaucoma is the leading cause of irreversible blindness. More than 3 million people in the United States have glaucoma. The National Eye Institute projects that this number will reach 4.2 million people by 2030. Moreover, African Americans are more susceptible to glaucoma than any other race. It is 6 to 8 times more common in African Americans than in Caucasians.

Know the Facts

- 👁️ Glaucoma is a group of eye diseases that gradually steal sight without warning.
- 👁️ Although the most common forms primarily affect the middle-aged and the elderly, glaucoma can affect people of all ages.
- 👁️ There is no cure for glaucoma—yet. However, medication or surgery can slow or prevent further vision loss.

Risk Factors For Glaucoma

- 👁️ **Being a Minority.** Those of African, Asian and Hispanic descent are more likely to contract glaucoma.
- 👁️ **Age.** Adults over the age of 60 years are at a higher risk of glaucoma than those who are younger.
- 👁️ **Family History.** Those who have family members of those already diagnosed with glaucoma, diabetics, or people who are severely nearsighted should get regular checkups because they are at a higher risk.



THE
BALM
IN
GILEAD
INC.

www.balmingilead.org
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Richmond, VA 23236

Social Commentary

Biden's Inauguration Gives Us New Hope and New Energy

by Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.



On Monday, we celebrated Dr. Martin Luther King's 91st birthday; on Wednesday, Joe Biden will be inaugurated as president, promising change after a dark period of division. Dr. King's relationship with John F. Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson offers instructive lessons for today's movement for justice. Kennedy, inaugurated after eight years of Republican Dwight Eisenhower, brought new energy to Washington. Kennedy favored action on civil rights but was terribly worried that trying to move a civil rights bill would get in the way of the rest of his legislative agenda.

Today the situation is different. Black voters were critical to Biden's election victory. He chose Kamala Harris as his vice president. He has reaffirmed his commitment to criminal justice reform, to addressing the continued disparities in education, housing, health care and opportunity. What African Americans still seek is an even playing field. On economic justice issues, our agenda speaks to all: the right to a job, the right to health care, the right to a high-quality education, retirement security. To drive reform, the lessons of the 1960s still apply.

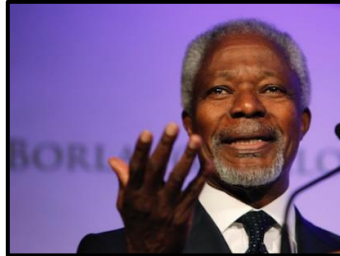
The movement for justice must continue to organize nonviolent protest, challenging the entrenched systemic racism that still pervades our institutions. It must continue to build, as Dr. King did, a poor people's campaign across lines of race and region. The movement can't follow Biden's timetable; it must continue to build on its own agenda. There should be no reluctance to work with Biden to help pass critical reforms, but at the same time, the pressure for outside must continue to build for there to be any hope of change.

Biden's inauguration offers new hope and new energy. He inherits severe crises — the pandemic, mass unemployment, extreme inequality, the climate crisis, racial upheaval. He'll need all the help he can get. And the best way the movement can help is to keep on keeping on.

Little Known Black History Fact

Kofi Annan

by D.L. Chandler



Kofi Annan gave a dignified air to the role of Secretary-General of the United Nations, leading the way for humanitarian efforts and global development during his tenure. He made history as the first African-born Black person to lead the U.N.

Annan was born April 8, 1938 in the Gold Coast, now Ghana, to a well-known aristocratic family and was the grandson of tribal chiefs. After boarding school, the future leader attended Macalester College in St. Paul, Minn., then earned a *diplôme d'études approfondies* (DEA) degree in International Relations at The Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, Switzerland, and master's in Management from the MIT Sloan School of Management.

His career began at the U.N. in 1962 as a budget officer for the World Health Organization, a division of the U.N. In the '80's, Annan began the first of many high-profile management roles within in the U.N. before his appointment in 1997.

His time as secretary-general faced some hurdles as **Boutros Boutros-Ghali**, the 6th U.N. chief, was initially attempting a second consecutive term which was vetoed by the United States. After some resistance and back deals, Annan was given the support of the United States after stepping in for Boutros-Ghali in 1995 during a potential war situation in Bosnia when the Egyptian leader was unreachable.

Annan's legacy was somewhat tarnished by his handling of the Rwandan Genocide and in his writings, Annan has addressed the failure of the U.N. to help prevent the massacre. Annan was also heavily criticized for his response to the slaughter of 8,000 Muslim civilians in Srebrenica, Bosnia and the fact U.N. peacekeeping forces did nothing and NATO did not intervene. Despite these failings, Annan gained praise as one of the few in the U.N. to openly criticize Israel and its many violations of human rights.

In his 2012 memoir, *Interventions: A Life in War and Peace*, Annan addressed his critics as best he could. But what cannot be overshadowed is his push for human rights and global development, which helped him and the U.N. win the Nobel Peace Prize jointly in 2001. After leaving the U.N. in 2006, Annan continued to focus on humanitarian and global development efforts, erecting a foundation in his name that has provided visibility to the environmental and business concerns of Africa.

Annan was married twice, first to Titi Alakija of Nigeria in 1965, divorcing in 1983. The couple have two children, daughter Ama and son Kojo. In 1984, Annan married Nane Annan of Switzerland, and was stepfather to her daughter from a previous marriage.

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

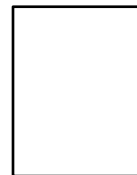
ID/code: 295 101 7709#

Passcode: 461427#

Sunday School 9 am – Conf Call:

1.605.475.4000

Code: 260259#



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

Thank You for Contributing!

This year we celebrated **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 kicked-off our **66th Church Anniversary Pledge Drive**, *"Building for the Future,"* early in the year and our members and friends have given, not just in the first six months, as was the original plan for this pledge, but throughout the year. These donations have benefitted the church in a multitude of ways.

Wesley is blessed to have such members and supporters among our church family.

May God's grace and blessings be yours now, and throughout the coming year!

2021 Daily Bible Readings (One Year Bible Reading Plan)

Week of January 24th – January 30th

January 24

Genesis 48:1-49:33

Matthew 15:29-16:12

Psalms 20:1-9

Proverbs 4:20-27

January 25

Genesis 50:1 - Exodus 2:10

Matthew 16:13-17:9

Psalms 21:1-13

Proverbs 5:1-6

January 26

Exodus 2:11-3:22

Matthew 17:10-27

Psalms 22:1-18

Proverbs 5:7-14

2021:

"The Year of

Restoration"

(1 Peter 5:10)

January 30

Exodus 10:1-12:13

Matthew 20:1-28

Psalms 25:1-15

Proverbs 6:6-11

January 27

Exodus 4:1-5:21

Matthew 18:1-20

Psalms 22:19-31

Proverbs 5:15-21

January 28

Exodus 5:22-7:25

Matthew 18:21-19:12

Psalms 23:1-6

Proverbs 5:22-23

January 29

Exodus 8:1-9:35

Matthew 19:13-30

Psalms 24:1-10

Proverbs 6:1-5