

# Newsnotes from Northwood

*The Newsletter of Northwood Presbyterian Church*

## This Month's Highlights

- Book Group with author as special guest—April 12
- Cleanup Day—April 16
- Maundy Thursday Service of Tenebrae—April 21
- Easter Sunday Services and activities—April 24

## Inside this issue:

The Northwood Family	2
Lent and Easter Farewell Rev. Heather	3
Membership Classes Mission News	4
Pathways Fun Run/Walk	5
From The Hope Ministry	6
See What's Happening	7
Daily Bible Readings	6

## FROM REV. HEATHER

Philippians 1:4-6 - I thank God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Now you have heard that your Interim Pastor is resigning. Why? Don't I want to see this process to completion? I tell you the truth, my leaving has everything in the world to do with just that. I love Northwood and care deeply that this ministry be a healthy, happy place for the new installed pastor to safely enter in and thrive. God called me to begin this process, supporting you to claim God's calling to you from a new perspective. The message of Jesus Christ has shown forth from the Bible and from our Presbyterian heritage helping you to trust God more now. In the same way, I ask you to trust me in this decision. An ordained Minister of Word and Sacrament in the PCUSA, I also hold the highest level of training as a professional Interim Pastor. Through prayer and discernment, I know God is calling me away. In obeying that call, I am at peace and trust God to know what is wholesome for the church.

I leave so that the next pastor can come in and complete this process of getting ready for the new

installed pastor. This is a gift to you. You get a fresh start with a new Interim! Such a blessing! Now you are ready to rehearse your kingdom manners afresh. Now you can establish that the pastor's office is to be respected and trusted. You know the importance of praying for that pastor and listening to how God is speaking through their wisdom to you. You are ready for this and God will be with you. Stay close to the scriptures and listen to God everyday, and enjoy this time as the feast that transforms, the very answer to all our prayers.

Now get ready for more opportunities to love and be loved than ever we could have imagined just 17 months ago. Pray for me as I attend to the daily work in this vineyard without neglecting anything needful. As you read this we are still concentrating on Lent and the hungry heart's yearning for deeper relationship with God. Come to church to get ready for the coming of Christ's passion so that this year we can celebrate Easter without inhibition in the presence of God. "When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun..." \*Jesus Christ is here. You be here, too. Make God's joy complete.

Rev. Heather H. Bobbitt  
(\* hymn # 513 *Let Us Break Bread Together*)

## NORTHWOOD WORSHIP SERVICES

Apr. 3—*4th Sunday in Lent*  
*Sacrament of Holy Communion*  
1 Sam. 16:1-13, Ps. 23; Eph. 5:8-14;  
John 9:1-41

Apr. 10—*5th Sunday in Lent*  
Ezek. 37:1-14; Ps. 130; Rom. 8:6-11;  
John 11:1-45

Apr. 17—*Passion/Palm Sunday*  
*Isa. 50:4-9a; Ps. 31:9-16; Phil. 2:5-11; Matt. 27:11-54*

April 24—*Easter Sunday*  
Acts 10:34-43; John 20:1-18; Isa. 25:6-9; Ps. 114; 1 Cor. 5:6b-8.

7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service  
8:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast  
9:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hung  
10:00 a.m. Easter Worship—The Chancel Choir will present "Behold This Mystery" by Daniel E. Gawthrop  
One Great Hour of Sharing Offering



## THE NORTHWOOD FAMILY

### PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

#### Those who are sick

Susan Johnson, Abbadean Robrtson, Vadne Henline, Emma Hart, Doris Cotts, George Brown's sister, Holly Heslen, McIntire's daughter, Grace Aaron's niece, Gary Gallo-way's cousin, Elvie Barbour's neighbor, Judi Poppos' brother, Gail McGuire's brother-in-law, Elizabeth Puwo's mother, Ben Atiemo's friend, Maggie Ndi's sister, Gladys Namwali's family, Rose Mokom's mother, Susan Johnson's friend, Vivian Mbangowah, and all friends and relatives who need our prayers.

#### Ongoing Prayers

Dylan Bodkin in the Marine Corps, Elvie Barbour, Jim McGeogh, Fred May's brother, Michael Moore, Doris Cotts' son, Bob Wright, Dottie Slavcoff's sister Gene and Betty Weithoner, The Beinsu Family, Clara Kennedy's sister, Ernie Leach's brother, Connie Wilcher, Al and Fran Minnigh, Vadne Henline's sister-in-law, Emma Hart's daughter, Gail Oakes' friend Emily, Sahr Bockai's son, Audrey Norris' son-in-law, Paul Brumfield, the Puwo family.

**Suffering Loss** - Louise Beers on the loss of her husband, John. The family of the late David Thompson.

**Home Bound**—Vaughn Marker, Willena Allen, Larry Malloy, Piroja Mojgani, Evelyn Wall, Peg Magner, Carrie Hughley, Barbara Callis, Kwong Lim, Dorothy Bradley, Jim Buffington, and all nursing home residents.

**Prayers of Thanks** – For the Pastor Nominating Committee; the baptism of Erica Turay, daughter of Anne Kihui and Joseph Turay; Abbadean & Myron Robertson's 50th anniversary; visits to Vaughn Marker and Gene Weithoner by the Wednesday Work Crew.

**Missionaries**—Rev. Alice Winters in Colombia and Ginger Boyd in Cameroon. The International Children's Center in Ghana (Grace Aaron). For all who work in world mission.

#### Other Prayers

Our nation; peace, justice and mercy in the

world; the military personnel serving overseas for their safe return; wounded service members and their families, comfort for those with mental disease; improvement in the national economy; those in need of life's necessities; those suffering from natural disasters. All who are looking for jobs; those who are losing faith in Jesus; the victims of the earthquake and Tsunami in Japan and for a resolution of the fighting in Libya.

*We welcome all prayer requests. Someone from out of state found our web site and saw we have a prayer group, so he called and left a prayer request on the voice mail.*

Recordings of the services are available in the church office on CDs. Just ask Judy if you'd like to borrow one. You can also hear the sermons on the church website, [www.northwoodchurch.com](http://www.northwoodchurch.com) where you can find the church calendar, photo albums, etc.

#### April Birthdays

- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 3. Gail Oakes         | 15. Ta'Quan Crichton |
| 3. Sally Rishebarger  | 15. Darnell Norton   |
| 4. Gail McGuire       | 16. Georgina Banda   |
| 8. Sahr Bockai        | 18. Jim Buffington   |
| 8. Elena Taylor       | 29. Judy McPhie      |
| 8. Melissa Duru       | 30. Linda Beinsu     |
| 11. Barbara Catrett   | 30. Adam Maisto      |
| 13. Alexandria Monroe |                      |

**Graduates** - If someone in your family is graduating from high school or college, please contact Judy McPhie in the church office, so they can be recognized in the next issue of Newsnotes.

**PNC Progress Report** - The Pastor Nominating Committee has completed the Church Information Form and the Session approved it wholeheartedly with an addition and a few minor corrections on March 16th. It now has to be approved by the presbytery.

After approval by the presbytery, the PNC expects to start receiving information from prospective pastors within two to three weeks; and the actual search process will then begin.

Sharon Snodgrass, PNC



Getting ready for  
Graduation



PASTORAL  
SEARCH  
UPDATE

## LENT AND EASTER

*"I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope . . ." Psalm 130:5*

In this season of Lent, Christians around the world take care to remember Jesus' journey to the cross where he shed his blood and died for our sin. Again this year at Northwood, afternoon and evening worship services were held on Ash Wednesday with the Institution of Ashes. Wednesday services continue until Holy Week. We await the joyous Easter morning when our hope in Christ is realized.

### LENTEN SCHEDULE

- March 30 - 2:00 & 7:00 p.m. Scripture and Prayer  
6:30 p.m. Soup Supper
- April 3 - 4th Sunday in Lent  
Sacrament of Holy Communion
- April 6 - 2:00 & 7:00 p.m. Scripture and Prayer  
6:30 p.m. Soup Supper
- April 10—5th Sunday in Lent - 10 a.m. worship
- April 13 - 2:00 & 7:00 p.m. Scripture and Prayer  
6:30 p.m. Soup Supper
- April 17 - Palm/Passion Sunday - 10 a.m. worship
- April 21 - 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday  
Tenebrae and Holy Communion
- April 24 - Easter Sunday  
7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service  
8:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast  
9:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt  
10:00 a.m. Easter Worship - the Chancel Choir will present "Behold This Mystery" by Daniel E. Gawthrop  
One Great Hour of Sharing offering

### One Great Hour of Sharing

Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour

of Sharing (OGHS) to share God's love with people experiencing need. Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development that help people find safe refuge, start new lives and work together to strengthen their families and communities.

There aren't many things you can do in a given week that will create lasting change around the world, so think prayerfully about your contribution. This year, some of the offering will be sent to help the people of Japan affected by the disaster of the recent huge earthquake and tsunami. PC (USA) has 10 mission co-workers in Japan.

Through Self-Development of People, OGHS provides necessary food for people in need and opportunities for thousands of farmers to work and be part of the recovery from disasters.

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be received at Northwood Church on Easter Sunday, or donations may be mailed to the Church Office.

**Chancel Choir** - On Easter Sunday, the Chancel Choir, directed by Gregory Catrett, will sing "Behold This Mystery" by Daniel E. Gawthrop. This beautiful piece was commissioned by two churches, one a Presbyterian Church, in two adjacent states to be used in a memorial service held annually on All Saints Day.

Daniel Gawthrop was born in 1949 in Fort Wayne, Indiana and has been the recipient of over one hundred commissions to write original music. Gawthrop has been active as a broadcaster, and was a music critic for the Washington Post.



## Farewell to Rev. Heather

At the March Session meeting our Interim Minister, Rev. Heather Bobbitt, submitted her resignation. Her last Sunday at Northwood will be May 1, 2011. On that Sunday we will hold a reception to celebrate Rev. Heather's ministry at Northwood and I hope you all will be able to be there to wish Rev. Heather well as she enters the next phase of her ministry.

Her decision to leave Northwood was not made lightly but with much prayer and counseling and the belief that Northwood's future is

bright. The Session is meeting with representatives of Presbytery to discern the next steps in selecting another Pastor to serve Northwood until a new called Pastor is selected.

I know we all wish Rev. Heather well in her future ministry positions and that God will be with her in whatever endeavor she chooses. We wish the same for Northwood as we follow God's leading toward the future.

Nancy May, Clerk of Session



**Rev. Heather's  
last weeks  
at Northwood**

# April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Prayer Group	2
3 Communion Hope Min.	4	5 Faith Ministry Meeting	6 Bible Study Lenten Services	7 PNC Choir Practice	8 Prayer Group	9
10 5th Sunday in Lent	11 Crosswood Board Meeting	12 Child Care Board Meeting	13	14 PNC Choir Practice	15 Prayer Group	16 Church Clean-up Day
17 Palm Sunday Prayer Shawl Ministry	18	19	20 Bible Study Session Meeting	21 Maundy Thursday Service	22 Prayer Group	23
24 Easter Sunday	25 Church Office Closed	26 Scrabble	27	28 PNC No Choir Practice	29 Prayer Group	30

## Schedule of Events

- **Apr. 3**—Hope Ministry after church
- **Apr. 6 & 20**—Bible Study—11 a.m.
- **Apr. 6**—Lenten services—2 & 7, soup supper at 6:30 p.m.
- **Apr. 11**—Crosswood Board—7:30 p.m.
- **Apr. 12**—Child Care Board—7:30 p.m.
- **Apr. 16**—Cleanup Day—9 a.m.
- **Apr. 17**—Prayer Shawl Min. after church
- **Apr. 20**—Session Meeting—7:30 p.m.
- **Apr. 21**—Maundy Thursday Worship, Service of Tenebrae—7:30 p.m.
- **Apr. 24**—Easter Sunday Services.
- **Apr. 26**—Scrabble—1:00 p.m.

## ARTS, OUTDOORS AND FUN FOR PATHWAYS

In March and April, Pathways Northwood at Hyattsville set the scene for a group of young storytellers to experience the power of language. The students, were guided by artist-in-residence Arianna Ross, who taught them storytelling techniques while encouraging them to use their imaginations to craft their own “true story.” This process of self-discovery was also a means to strengthen communication skills.

We hope to provide this kind of experience for our students in every Pathways program. Over the years, our staff has seen how the arts, physical activities and nature all are means of opening our students to learning about themselves and their world. Arts residencies, HoopEd, therapeutic horseback riding and wilderness camping make up our Alternative Therapies programs. Unfortunately they are not in the budget that MSDE authorizes. Pathways must find the money through grants each year, but they do not cover the total cost. For that we rely on funds raised by our

### Annual 5K Fun Run/Walk.

Please come on out and support the **Fun Run**, which is healthy family fun in warm spring weather for a great cause! It's happening **Saturday, May 7** and begins with check in right here at **Northwood Church**.

For more information, visit our website [www.pathwayschools.org](http://www.pathwayschools.org) and click on **Annual Fun Run**.

You can find out about our Alternative Therapies and other news from The Pathways Schools by subscribing to our e-newsletter, *The Pathfinder*, conveniently emailed to you once a month. Just enter your email address on our homepage.

### Save the Date: Journey to Better Pathways 5k Fun Run- May 7, 2011

Registration from 8-9 Race at 9:30 a.m.

1200 University Blvd. West

Silver Spring, MD 20902

Contact Joy Spain—301-649-0778



5K Fun Run/Walk

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION CLASSES

### New Members' Classes

For all those who have been visiting Northwood Church recently and are looking for a church home, Rev. Heather will be holding a series of three membership classes, April 3, 10th and 17th.

Come and hear about the opportunities and activities Northwood has to offer you. In the course of the classes Rev. Heather will talk about what membership is. If you decide you would like to become a member of the

Church, you will be welcomed into the Northwood family.

New members are scheduled to meet the Session on April 17th and will be received into membership on Sunday, May 1st.

If you are interested in attending the membership classes, please sign the form on the stand by the Outreach Table in Makemie Hall, or contact the Church Office.



## NORTHWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHILD CARE CENTER

The Annual Meeting of the Corporation of Northwood Presbyterian Child Care Center (NPCCC) was held on Sunday February 27, 2011, at which time Sheena Hihn and Pamela Monroe were elected to the Board of Directors in the class of 2014.

Nancy May, Chairman of the Board noted that enrollment has been down due to the economic situation but the Center has recently received several new students and hopes that trend will continue.

Nancy introduced Ms. Mwenza Jeng, a teacher in the grades class, to speak about her

experiences at the Center. Mwenza told of her time at the Center as a child and how pleased she was to return as a staff member. She is currently enrolled in Early Childhood Education classes at Montgomery College and hopes to one day open her own Child Care Center.

Mwenza talked about the growth she has made at the center, the wonderful friendship shared among the staff and how much she enjoys working with the children. She considers NPCCC her second home.

Nancy May,  
Chairman, Board of Directors

*“the wonderful friendship shared among the staff and how much she enjoys working with the children.”*

## MISSION INFORMATION

Hello Spring—Good Bye Winter.

*To laugh often and much; To appreciate beauty: To find the best in others: To leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch or a redeemed social condition: To know even one life has breathed easier because of you... This is to have succeeded.* Attributed to Ralph Waldo Emerson.

**Food** - Please continue to bring canned and dry food to the food basket for MUM. Dates on the products must be current.

**Clothing** - During your spring closet clean up,

bring clean clothing in good repair to the clothing baskets for The Shepherd's Table.

**Interfaith Works program of Community Vision** is an outreach and day program for the street homeless population of Montgomery County. They have wonderful volunteer opportunities in their busy kitchen and help is needed to serve, food preparation and beverage services. Volunteers are needed Mon. to Fri. 6-9 a.m. and 10-2 p.m. For information please contact Sandra Miller 301-585-4471.

Elmer Lantz, Love Ministry



## FROM THE HOPE MINISTRY

### Annual Spring Cleanup Day

Saturday, April 16,

beginning at 9:00 a.m.



Don't miss Saturday,  
April 16th

It will be a time of weeding and planting, and making the grounds look nice, and also a time to "spring clean" inside - washing windows, polishing pews and tidying up the kitchen and storage areas. Mark your calendar and be sure to be here to help out. "Many hands make light work!"

### From the Financial Secretary.

It's been a long winter and I, for one, am glad to see flowers blooming. As we all look forward to warmer weather and start getting busy planning gardens and vacations, let's all take a moment to make sure our pledges are up to date.

It's still not too late to make a pledge and that way you will get a financial statement at the end of the year. If you are not sure of the status of your pledge, give me a call and I will check it for you. Our latest pledge total is 64 for the amount of \$212,412.

Gail McGuire,  
Financial Secretary

It was very chilly downstairs for the Child Care, and in the back of our building for ten days recently, when the furnace broke down and it took several days for the parts to become available. This was an expensive repair of \$6,800.00!

We have received the long-awaited pole which had been broken (for the second time) during a storm, so we can now hang up the outdoor signs.

### Thanks go to

- Kelly Sharpless for disposing of the old filing cabinets.
- Elmer Lantz and Kelly Sharpless for fixing the folding door in the sanctuary.
- Elmer and Mac for removing 2<sup>nd</sup> fallen tree; they will also remove 2 dead trees.
- WWC for spreading wood chips.
- Mac for moving and setting up filing cabinet into Choir Room.
- Betty Barnes for reminding counters due to count, and ensuring there is a substitute if necessary.

There is a constant problem with the front door being left unlocked on Sundays. Please make sure that the doors are properly locked when you are last out of the building.

Peter McPhie, Hope Ministry



## THE MOMENT BY ELDER BRENDA STIDHAM

### The moment

A severely injured soldier  
Lay in his hospital bed.  
He looked at me with unseeing eyes  
His arms were limp and cold.

I held his hand.  
Waiting.

He stared straight ahead.  
Then  
Slowly a lonely tear flowed gently down

his young yet battered face.  
Saying what  
he could not say  
showing his hurt and pain.

I saw the healing begin.  
Thanks be to God  
I saw the healing begin.

Brenda Stidham,  
Ruling Elder



## SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING AT NORTHWOOD

**Annual Chinese Dinner** - Many thanks go to Louise Lawson who arranged and coordinated this year's great Chinese Dinner at the Far East Restaurant on March 13th. She chose the dishes (all delicious) and made all the arrangements with the restaurant. Louise spent many hours at the sign-up table, encouraging everyone to make a reservation, and collecting in all the money. It was a big job and Louise was fabulous! Everyone who attended enjoyed a wonderful time of fellowship together. Over forty people got together for this special occasion.

**Lunch Bunch** - On Wednesday, March 16th, Lunch Bunch was held in Makemie Hall with a variety of sandwiches, brought by the people who attended, and chips, carrots and delicious cookies provided by the Parish Care ladies. The tables were decorated for St. Patrick's Day (just one day early!) and after lunch there were some St. Patrick's Day quizzes. Everyone enjoyed the challenge! Thank you Parish Care.

### Parish Care Angel Tree Thank You

*The residents here at Kensington Nursing Home are so blessed to have members of our community like you. Every year during the holidays, we know that we can count on you to provide wonderful gifts for our most needy residents. thank you so much.*

**The Bible Study Group** will meet on Wednesday, April 6th and 20th, at 11:00 a.m. in the Media room. We are using the Bible and Horizons Bible Study on Journeys Through Revelation Apocalyptic Hope for Today. Please contact Gloria Pendleton with any questions. Please come and join us.

**Book Discussion Group** - Tuesday, April 12th, 10 a.m. in Makemie Hall. Jeremi Duru, has agreed to lead a discussion of his book "Advancing the Ball: Race, Reformation, and the Quest for Equal Coaching Opportunity in the NFL," which tells the story of the Fritz Pollard Alliance, the group that was formed to push for greater opportunities for minority leadership in the National Football League.

Coffee and refreshments will be served. If you do not have time to read the book, come anyway and enjoy the discussion. Books can be purchased from Betty Barnes or on line and if you have your book with you, Jeremi will sign it. How exciting to have an author in our midst! Northwood is pleased to have Jeremi and his family attending Northwood Church.

In 2008, Jeremi Duru received the George P. Williams Memorial Award for Outstanding Professor of the Year from the graduating class at Temple University where he is a law professor. His classes in sports law, employment discrimination, and civil procedure enjoy tremendous popularity. Check his website at [www.law.temple.edu/pages/profiles/duru.aspx](http://www.law.temple.edu/pages/profiles/duru.aspx) for more information.

**Scrabble Players** will get together on April 26 at 1:00 p.m. at the church. Come and join in a friendly game and enjoy fellowship together.

**Prayer Meeting** – On Fridays at 10 a.m. members of Northwood join together at the church to pray for those who are on our prayer list and other requested prayers. You are welcome to come and join the group.

**The Prayer Shawl Ministry** will gather in Knox Hall after worship on Sunday, April 17th. We received the following letter of thanks:

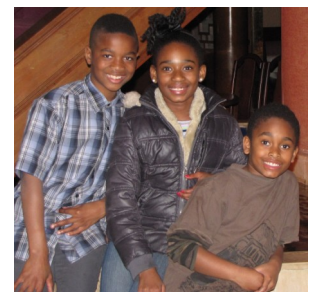
*On behalf of your fellows members of American Legion Wheaton Auxiliary Unit 268, I want to thank those in your Northwood Church group for knitting the wonderful helmet liners for our soldiers. It was very kind of you to donate these much-needed items for us to include in our boxes which were sent in time to arrive for Christmas and I know they were very much appreciated, as it gets very cold in the areas they are stationed. Again, thank you so much for helping us support our troops and reminding them that folks back home have not forgotten them.*

Sincerely, Geneva P. Foster,  
Chairman, Veterans Affairs and



Jeremi Duru author of the book

The Chinese Dinner



Growing in faith, hope and love ...



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WE'RE ON THE WEB!  
WWW.NORTHWOODCHURCH.COM

#### Northwood's Staff:

Interim Pastor—Rev. Heather H. Bobbitt  
Clerk of Session— Mrs. Nancy May  
Music Director— Gregory Catrett  
Office Manager—Judy McPhie  
Newsnotes Staff—  
Judy McPhie  
Don Newton  
Carl Johnson

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## DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR APRIL

### **April 3- Fourth Sunday in Lent**

*1 Samuel 16:1-13, Psalm 23*  
*Ephesians 5:8-14, John 9:1-41*  
Mon. Isaiah 59:9-19  
Tue. Isaiah 42:14-21  
Wed. Matthew 9:27-34  
Thu. Isaiah 60:17-22  
Fri. Acts 9:1-20  
Sat. Psalm 146:3-9

### **April 10 - Fifth Sunday in Lent**

*Ezekiel 37:1-14, Psalm 130*  
*Romans 8:6-11, John 11:1-45*  
Mon. 1 Kings 17:17-24  
Tue. 2 Kings 4:18-37  
Wed. Matthew 22:23-33  
Thu. Jeremiah 32:1-9, 36-41  
Sat. Psalm 143

### **April 17 - Palm/Passion Sunday**

*Matthew 21:1-11, Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29*

*Isaiah 50:4-9a, Psalm 31:9-16,*  
*Philippians 2:5-11, Matthew 26:14-27:66*  
Mon. John 12:1-11  
Tue. John 12:20-36  
Wed. John 13:21-32

### **Maundy Thursday**

*Exodus 12:1-14, Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19*  
*1 Corinthians 11:23-26, John 13:1-17,*  
*31b-35*

### **Good Friday**

*Isaiah 52:13-53:12, Psalm 22*  
*Hebrews 10:16-25, John 18:1-9:42*

### **Holy Saturday - Job 14:1-14**

### **Easter Day**

*Acts 10:34-43, Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24*  
*Colossians 3:1-4, John 20:1-18*  
Mon. Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21  
Tue. Joshua 3:1-17

