

PIONEER MEMORIAL CHURCH



THE LOTTERY:

// THE GOD WHO GAVE IT ALL AWAY //

THE 3RD SABBATH OF ADVENT // 12.18.2010

WELCOME!

A warm Noel welcome to all who have come to share this festive morning at Pioneer. Whether you came alone or in the company of loved ones, may your heart experience in our midst the quiet embrace of Christ's friendship. And may you find in the Jesus we worship this morning the hope and peace and faith that are yours in Him.

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PASTOR'S BLOG

WWW.PMCHURCH.TV

PRINCE CHARLES AND CHRISTMAS

Did you see that hastily snapped picture of Prince Charles and Camilla? On their way last Thursday evening to a London gala, the royal couple's vintage Rolls Royce limousine inadvertently drove into an unrelated street riot and was suddenly engulfed by a sea of demonstrating youth. When the young rioters (who were protesting Parliament's decision to hike tuition fees in UK universities) spotted the future king of England and his wife inside the automobile, they turned on the limousine, pelting it with eggs, smashing open a window and threatening to who-knows-what! The prince pushed his wife to the floor of the car to shield her. And their driver fortunately was able to flee the scene. The royals, though badly shaken, arrived at the gala in gracious spirits.

They don't treat future kings like they used to, do they? Which, of

course, is the sad commentary on the story of Christmas as well. The King of the universe, come to earth as the promised Messiah, couldn't even rent a motel room for his own birth! **"For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder."** **"And she . . . laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn"** (Isaiah 9:6; Luke 2:7).

Deitrich Bonhoeffer once reflected, "All Christian theology has its origin in the wonder of all wonders that God became man."

Wonder of all wonders, indeed. That wonder is nearly palpable in the *The Desire of Ages* chapter on Christ's birth: "The



King of glory stooped low to take humanity. Rude and forbidding were His earthly surroundings. His glory was veiled, that the majesty of His outward form might not become an object of attraction. He shunned all outward display. . . . With amazement the heavenly messengers beheld the indifference of that people whom God had called to communicate to the world the light of sacred truth. . . . It would have been an almost infinite humiliation for the Son of God to take man's nature, even when Adam stood in his innocence in Eden. But Jesus accepted humanity

when the race had been weakened by four thousand years of sin. . . . Wonder, O heavens! and be astonished, O earth!" (pp 43-49, selected)

They don't treat future kings like they used to, do they? Do we? The wonder of wonders in this season of Noel is not so much that God became a man . . . but that he even wanted to. For look how we treated him when he came to us. And is it any better today? In the words of that old spiritual, "Sweet little Jesus boy, they made you be born in a manger; sweet little holy Child,

we didn't know who you was."

But we do, don't we? And so this Christmas will you join me in bowing low before the

King—not as a perfunctory expression of Christian devotion, but rather as the quiet pledge of a redeemed vassal to gladly serve the King whose infinite sacrifice has purchased our freedom? **"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength and honor and glory and blessing!"** (Revelation 5:12). Amen.

MASTER PLAN OF EVANGELISM

SOUP KITCHEN \ THIS IS WHAT WE DO

We don't think a lot about it. Of course, we do a lot of planning, which is a species of thinking. We have to plan on our people: who'll be there and who won't. If the regular crew is going to be short, we plan on getting an announcement in the church bulletin, and see what happens.

The menu is planned in advance when we head for the Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen. The Kitchen always supplies breads and desserts. What the desserts are going to be and how they're going to be served are the unknowns. It always works out.

We supply the salad as well as the entrée and sides, and the salad fixings are purchased fresh that morning. For the past few months, our grocery supplier hasn't carried radishes. Today they finally have radishes, but there's no green onion. We really can't plan for something like that, so we roll with it.

We never know how many people will show up hungry. We have a good idea of the average, which has been creeping upward because



of the hard times we are living in. So we go ahead while thinking of a Plan B, in case we run out. Some days we don't run out, other days we come whisker-close before the serving line ends.

The one thing we never think about is why we are there. We are doing what Jesus asked of His people: we are serving Him by serving those in need. That's a classic no-brainer. We're the church, and this is what we do.

PRAY

Pray that God will pour His grace over our ministry to those in need.

MORE INFO

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MASTER PLAN OF EVANGELISM

GIVE TO LINE 5

Annual Budget	\$114,000
Goal to-date	\$105,216
Received to-date	\$96,748
Received to-date (last year)	\$116,998

As of November 27, 2010

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

RUTH MURDOCH \ WARMING HEARTS

Ruth Murdoch Elementary School students in Mr. Davisson's class decided that they wanted to give back to those less fortunate. They decided to team up with Dragos Prahoveanus and Bertha Iancu, students at Andrews University and creators of "Stay Warm Project." They are collecting blankets for those in need.

James 2:14-17 says "What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone? Suppose you see

a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, and you say, 'Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well'—but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do?"

"So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless."

The very day after the program was announced, the donations came rolling in. Anyone can donate and know that their efforts will be greatly appreciated by someone in need.

If you want to help those less fortunate, or if you want to show God's power in a unique way, dazzle these students with the amount of donations they receive! Don't have time to shop for a new blanket? Don't worry – they'll accept gently used blankets too. Donated blankets can be dropped off at the RMES office and there is also a drop off box at the PMC office.



PRAY

Pray that through these blankets people will feel God's warm embrace.

MORE INFO

David Waller \ 471.3225
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CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

GIVE TO LINE 3

Challenge Goal	\$250,000
Annual Budget	\$217,572
Goal to-date	\$200,832
Received to-date	\$183,239
Received to-date (last year)	\$172,373

As of November 27, 2010

OPERATING EXPENSES

PMC STAFF \ NEW ASSISTANT TREASURER

Our new assistant treasurer, JoAnn Siagian, has both the Advent message and accounting in her blood. "My grandfather, D.P. Siagian, was a Muslim in Sumatra when he first heard the Advent message," JoAnn said. "After he was baptized an Adventist Christian, he found it difficult to live in his community. He moved to Malaysia and worked for the Sabah Seventh-day Adventist mission as their treasurer. It was in the days when missionaries walked from village to village to do their work." JoAnn fondly remembers the exciting stories her grandfather told her of Pastor Arthur Mountain and other Adventist missionaries.

JoAnn grew up in Malaysia where her father, Edwin Siagian, was a missionary teacher. Later in life, her father became an accountant for the Malaysian government. JoAnn eventually went to school in Singapore, and then to the United States. She graduated from Andrews Univer-

sity with a Masters in Accounting in 1992. Her first workplace was with Ray Roberts in his accounting office. JoAnn married Kong Yoong in 1995 and they were blessed with two children, Jessica and William. During this time, JoAnn took a 10 year break from



her accounting career. "When William began first grade, I returned to the work force as treasurer for Village Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School." She worked at Village until October of this year when she joined our office team. Welcome, JoAnn!

PRAY

Pray that God will bless our PMC Team as we work for Him.

MORE INFO

Sharon Terrell \ 471.6151
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OPERATING EXPENSES

GIVE TO LINE 2

Annual Budget	\$575,000
Goal to-date	\$530,736
Received to-date	\$475,587
Received to-date (last year)	\$487,218

As of November 27, 2010

SABBATH STUDY

SANCTUARY 10:00 AM

Song Service	Hugo Cáceres
Welcome & Prayer	Lois Nicholas
Scripture	Special Feature
Give Me The Bible, But Which One?	
New Year's Challenge	<i>Give Me the Bible / 272</i>
Offertory	<i>O Holy Night/The First Noel / Adolphe Adam/Traditional English Carol</i>
Bible Study	"Gehazi: Missing the Mark" / Classes
Theme Song	<i>Make Me a Blessing</i>
Benediction	Hugo Cáceres

Organist: Kenneth Logan;
Offertory: Lawrence Woodhams, bass; Esteban Barquero and Enrique Sandoval, guitar

LIVE STREAMING

NEW LIVE-STREAMING BEGINS ON JANUARY 1

Beginning on New Year's Day, Pioneer will go live to the world in cyberspace. For years individuals have asked if this campus congregation would consider live-streaming our Sabbath worship services on our website. ("Live-streaming" is just that—the transmission of a live stream of video and sound over the internet, in our case via either www.pmchurch.tv or www.pmchurch.org.) Thanks now to a donor's generosity, we are able to begin that live-

streaming in the New Year, meaning you can share our worship with family and friends near and far (anywhere in the world). Simply tell them to go to our website at 11:30 a.m. (ET, USA), where they can click on to the unedited live worship experience of Pioneer (i.e., what you see on the big screens each Sabbath)—enabling members, students, alumni and friends of Pioneer to remain in touch with their "home" congregation every Sabbath.

PIONEER @ WORSHIP

8:15 & **11:20 AM

Pioneer Family Life	Arne Swanson
Voluntary	<i>O Come, O Come, Immanuel / Marilyn Biery</i>
Introit	<i>O Come to My Heart, Lord Jesus / Timothy Matthews</i>
Call to Worship	
Doxology	<i>Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow / 695</i>
Invocation	Dwight K. Nelson
Hymn of Praise	<i>O Come, O Come, Immanuel / 115</i>
Congregational Prayer	Arne Swanson
Call to Prayer	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful / st. 1 of 132</i>
Response	
Worship in Music	<i>Immanuel / Michael Card</i>
**Baptism	Kayleen Marie Burt with Skip MacCarty
Offering	Michigan Advance Partners
Dedication Prayer	Herald Habenicht / **Ron Johnson
Offertory	<i>What Child Is This? / Raymond Haan</i>
Children's Story	
The Word	II Corinthians 8:7-12 NIV / Donna Habenicht **Beryl Johnson
Hymn of Preparation	<i>Of the Father's Love Begotten / 116</i>
Sermon	Dwight K. Nelson "The Lottery: When God Gave Everything He Had"
Hymn of Commitment	<i>God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending / 636 to the tune of 12</i>
Benediction	
Postlude	<i>Improvisation on VENI EMMANUEL</i>

PRESIDING PASTOR: Arne Swanson ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan
WORSHIP IN MUSIC: Ryan Clough, tenor; Jennifer Clough, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP

How beautiful is the voice of the one who proclaims peace.

How glorious the voice that announces the good news.

Let us sing together, O people, the song of comfort and joy

Let us sing peace and good news!

For God, our God, has come among us, bringing hope.

THE WORD

II CORINTHIANS 8:7-12 NIV

But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you—see that you also excel in this grace of giving.

I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others.

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

And here is my judgment about what is best for you in this matter.

Last year you were the first not only to give but also to have the desire to do so.

Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means.

For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have.

MUSIC ALIVE

O...

What would “Come” be without “O”? “O Come, O Come, Immanuel”, has a most interesting background among hymns of Advent, the season of anticipation of Christ’s birth. In the ninth century or earlier, Christian worshippers sang, from December 17 to 23, seven pieces of music (one daily) at vespers. The music used seven names for the Lord including “Emmanuel,” “King desired,” “Dayspring,” “Key of David,” “Root of

Jesse,” “Lord,” and “Wisdom.” Each song contained a long segment on the single syllable “O.” John Mason Neale’s English metrical version of 1851 started, “Draw near, draw near, Emmanuel,” thus not including the “O”. One commentator states, of the ancient versions, that “the ‘O’ was an indication of an earnest longing for the advent of our Savior.” For us, today, does our “Come, Immanuel” include an “O”?

PIONEER PEOPLE

SUNSET TODAY: 5:16

SUNSET NEXT FRIDAY: 5:19

For more announcements or to put in a request for a new announcement, please visit our website: www.pmchurch.org.

HAPPENING THIS WEEKEND

YOUTH CHURCH

Today – 11:30 a.m. PMC Youth Chapel.

LIVE NATIVITY

All are welcome to attend the Annual Live Nativity **today** from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Eau Claire SDA Church, 6562 Naomi Road. Refreshments will be served. Bring your family and friends as we celebrate the birth of Christ this Christmas season! For more information, please visit www.eauclairesda.com.

ADOPT-A-FAMILY

If you would like to adopt a family for Christmas, call Katherine Smith for more information at 471-1502.

PMC OFFICE CLOSED

The church office will be closed on Friday, December 24 and Monday, December 27 so we can enjoy time with our families.

COMING SOON

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Sabbath, December 25 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. Breakfast in Church; 10 a.m. Sabbath School; 11:20 a.m. Christmas Church with Dwight K. Nelson
Sabbath, January 1 10 a.m. Sabbath School; 11:20 – New Year's Celebration of the Cross – Dwight K. Nelson

MITTEN TREES

The Adventurers have placed Christmas trees throughout the church. Bring some mittens, scarves or hats, place them on the trees and take a thank you ornament.

ANNUAL PMC COUPLES AGAPE FEAST

Mark your calendar: The annual PMC Couples Agape Celebration will be on Friday evening, **February 11**. Details will follow after the first of the year.

WE MOURN

We mourn with Judy Chittick on the death of her mother, Verda Demmings. The funeral was held on Monday in New Brunswick, Canada. With Judy and Tom we especially look forward to the soon return of the One whose birth we celebrate. "Even so come, Lord Jesus."

PIONEER FAMILY LIFE

YEAR-END CONTRIBUTIONS

The last Sabbath to return your tithe and offerings for 2010 will be on Sabbath, **December 25**. The office will be closed on December 27, 30 and 31. If you will not be at PMC, please make sure your check is postmarked no later than December 31 for your tithe and offerings to be included in your 2010 tax-deductible receipt.

CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST

Bring your favorite baked goods to our annual breakfast on **December 25**, from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. in the PMC Commons. Share breakfast and fellowship with your church family. A few more servers are needed. Please contact the church office at 471-3134 to volunteer.

BAPTISM CLASSES

Classes continue on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. Contact Sue Rappette at 471.6565 or Micheal Goetz at 471.6176.

CROSS THE THRESHOLD OF THE NEW YEAR ON YOUR KNEES

Only God knows what 2011 will bring. But for those who want to enter the New Year, not with firecrackers but with the fire of God burning in their hearts why not join John and Millie Youngberg on our knees as we ring out the old and ring in the new. Friday night, **December 31**, the TEN DAYS OF PRAYER will begin at 6:30 with a Jewish type Sabbath celebration complete with Jewish songs, challah bread, and grape juice. After this the first sessions of the BY MY SPIRIT theme with testimonies and prayer will continue until midnight. Stay for the whole evening or come and go for the hours you choose. Address: The Youngbergs; 4731 Greenfield Drive. Start the New Year right at the 20th annual Ten Days of Prayer!

MEMBERSHIP TRANSFERS

2ND READING

TRANSFERS IN

BISHOP, Marcia L.
DAVIS, Brynja K.
ROTHERMEL, Noemi B.
ROTHERMEL, Roberto J.
SIAGIAN, JoAnn
SZALAY, Connie

TRANSFERS OUT

FRASER, Florence
FRASER-HINDS, Anne
KURTZ, Sarah
PARASCHUK, Violeta

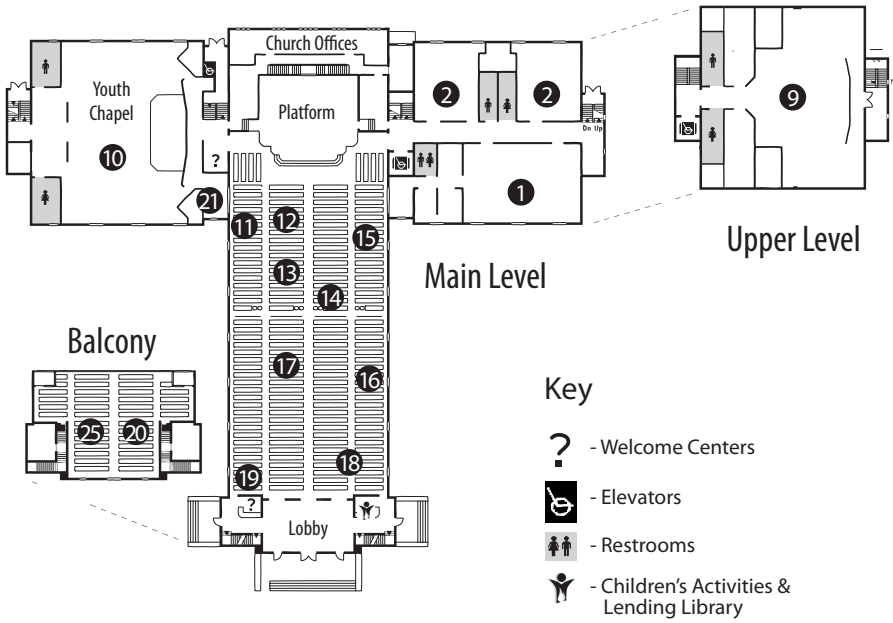
FROM

Hinsdale, IL
Reykjavik, Iceland
Fairplain/Benton Harbor, MI
Fairplain/Benton Harbor, MI
Village/Berrien Springs, MI
Redlands, CA

TO

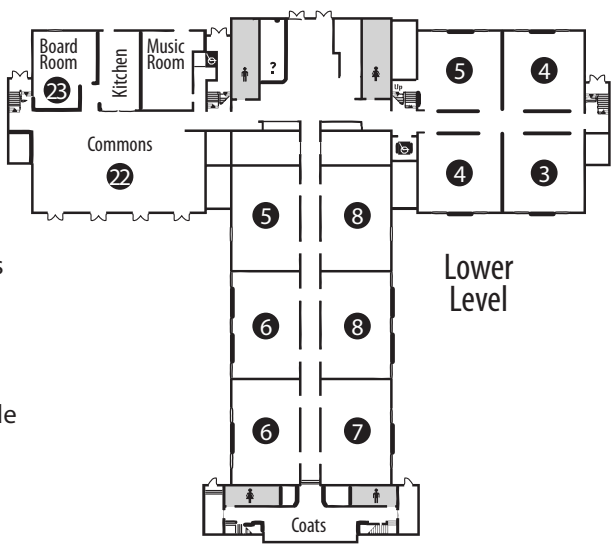
Mountainside/Decatur, GA
Moutainside/Decatur, GA
Village/Berrien Springs, MI
Russian Co/Portland, OR

SABBATH SCHOOL DIRECTORY



[children]

- ① Birth - 18 months
- ② 18-36 months
- ③ 3 yr olds
- ④ 4 - 5 yr olds
- ⑤ 6 yr old - 1st grade
- ⑥ 2nd/3rd grade
- ⑦ 4th grade
- ⑧ 5th/6th grade
- ⑨ Earliteen: 7th/8th grade
- ⑩ Youth: 9th-12th grade



PIONEER CLASSES

[adult sanctuary]

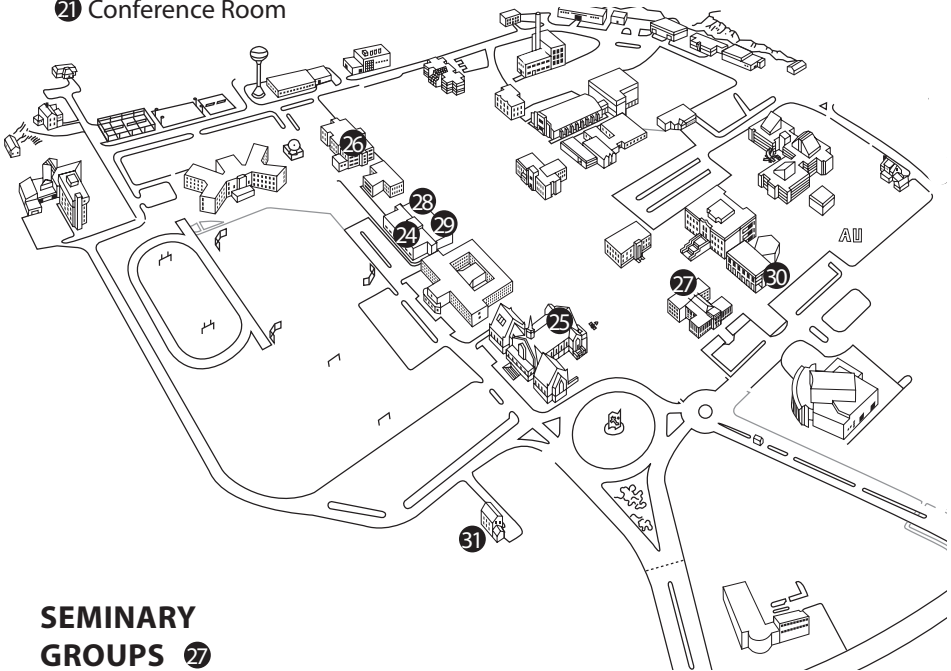
- 11 Group 1
- 12 Group 2 (Portuguese/Brazilian)
- 13 Group 3
- 14 Group 4 (Yugoslavian)
- 15 Group 5
- 16 Group 6
- 17 Group 7
- 18 Group 8
- 19 Group 9
- 20 Group 10 (Balcony)
- 21 Conference Room

[miscellaneous adult]

- 22 Something In Common
- 23 Seventh-day Adventist Beliefs

COLLEGIATE

- 24 Encounter (Campus Ministries Office)
Refresh (Upstairs / Cafeteria)
H&M (Hispanic - Religion Amphitheater)
- 25 People on the Move (PMC)
- 26 Elements (Marsh Hall)



SEMINARY GROUPS 27

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| N108 (Collegiate) | N235 |
| N110 | N310 (Russian) |
| N120 (New Life Church Choir) | N335 (Spanish) |
| N135 (Living Word Fellowship) | S215 (French) |
| N150 | S340 (Upper Room) |
| N211 (Small group) | |

ADULT @ AU

- 28 Main Lounge
- 29 Faculty Lounge
- 30 Perspectives
- 31 Back to Basics

CONTACTS

PASTORS

- | | |
|---|---|
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COMING SOON

12.25 \ DWIGHT K. NELSON
"The Trough: The God
Who Gave It All Away"

1.1 \ DWIGHT K. NELSON
"The Rood: The God
Who Gave It All Away"

PMCHURCH MEDIA

ONLINE

www.pmchurch.org

www.pmchurch.tv

RADIO

WAUS - 90.7 FM
Sabbath 11:30 a.m.

CMRadio
www.andrews.edu/cm/cmradio
Live Stream - 11:30 a.m. service

TELEVISION

WHME TV 46
Sunday noon & midnight

SAFE TV, HOPE CHANNEL & 3ABN
See websites for local listings
www.safetv.org
www.hopetv.org
www.3abntv.org

