

PIONEER

CONNECT

the story of
MARTIN LUTHER
and the new reformation

“Here I Stand!”






WELCOME

to Pioneer

We encourage you to praise the Lord for His faithfulness and for fulfilling His numerous promises to take care of you. We invite you to belong to this community of followers of Jesus and to appreciate your proximity to the God of the Universe who knows the number of hairs on your head. We are grateful for your cheerful giving to share the gospel and we hope that your life reflects the good news.

Whether you are staying for a while or just passing through, we welcome you with this wise saying, "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching." Hebrews 10:24-25.

—José Bourget

 PIONEER MEMORIAL CHURCH 8655 UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD, BERRIEN SPRINGS, MI 49103		
OFFICE HOURS Monday – Thursday (8 to 5) • Friday (8 to 12)		PHONE – 269.471.3133 FAX – 269.471.6152
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WHY WAS LUTHER SO SICK?

BY DWIGHT K. NELSON

It's amazing how much one can learn of Martin Luther's state of mind—simply because of the prodigious output from his prolific pen, because in every sense of the word his writings went "viral." Johannes Gutenberg's invention of movable type and the printing press (seventy years before Luther) forever changed the human playing field. "In terms of its cultural impact the printing press was the most significant innovation in world history before the internet" (Derek Wilson *Luther: Out of the Storm* p. 41). Could it be Someone set the Reformer up for mass communication success years before he was born? "By 1500 every major town and city in Europe had at least one print works and there were already in existence more books than the world had ever seen—some thirty thousand titles, running to over six million copies." Thus it was possible for "'a little mouse like Wittenberg to roar like a lion across the length and breadth of Europe'" (ibid.).

So it isn't hard to gauge Luther's state of mind—but what about his state of health? Reading multiple biographies this summer I was stunned to learn how sick Luther was much of the time. Timothy Lull and Derek Nelson detail a painful life of ill health plaguing Martin throughout his adulthood. "He suffered for many years from tinnitus (ringing in the ears) and frequently had dizzy spells and fainting. Once he fainted in a pulpit and fell from it" (*Resilient Reformer: The Life and Thought of Martin Luther* p. 323). But there was more to

come. Luther also suffered from: uremia (a kind of kidney failure), gout (painful joints caused by uremic acid build-up), and kidney stones. Given he lived at the end of the Dark Ages, we shouldn't be surprised to learn Luther "praised his medicines coming from the *Dreckapotheke* (excrement pharmacy), including slurries of swine feces for reducing blood flow and horse dung for better breathing. Perhaps not surprisingly they seem not to have helped much" (p. 324). Surprise!

In 1537 Luther's health tanked even further from a large kidney stone and its attendant bleeding. When he couldn't urinate, the court's physician prescribed massive amounts of water. And when this obviously only made matters worse, the doctor tried a mixture of garlic and raw manure. "In excruciating pain, Luther expected—and hoped for—death. Finally relief struck . . . [when] the sharp jostling of his carriage broke the [kidney] stone loose. Over a gallon of urine poured forth uncontrolled. Shocked by his survival, he exclaimed that night, 'Luther lives!'" (ibid.). Surprise!

But the more he aged the more afflicted Martin's body. "His physical and emotional pain in these last years was so intense he frequently prayed that he be allowed to die" (p. 345). Now added to his list of ailments came a perforated eardrum (which festered with pus for weeks causing an acute inner-ear infection), severe diarrhea and vomiting, an abscess on his throat, his right eye going blind from



a cataract, dysentery, rheumatism, and "crippling angina pectoris [chest pain due to coronary disease] episodically from 1540 until his death [1546]" (ibid.).

And yet in the midst of such painful suffering, Luther's prodigious output of pastoral and theological writings poured forth unabated, as did his unrelenting challenge to Rome and his opponents, all the while shepherding his parish flock (now numbered by the thousands across Germany and even Europe). But therein lies the mystery of suffering, does it not? Do our lives produce fruit "in spite of" our personal suffering, or do they bear fruit "because of" that suffering? Sit down sometime and read 2 Corinthians 11:16-12:10. Brood over this lengthy list of personal trials and intense suffering the apostle Paul cheerfully (seemingly) endured in his peripatetic ministry for Christ. Like Luther he too pleaded to be released

from the clutches of suffering. And to him (as no doubt to Luther) came the response of Christ, **"My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness"** (2 Corinthians 12:9).

Paul, Luther, you and I—would that we all might exclaim with the apostle—**"Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong"** (2 Corinthians 12:9-10).

Soli Deo gloria. That He alone might be glorified. ■

You can follow Pastor Dwight's blog at www.pmchurch.org/blog.

THE BENTON HARBOR REPORT

"He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John. You shall be called Cephas" (which means Peter)."
—John 1:42

BY TAURUS MONTGOMERY

As of the time you are reading this, I am delighted to tell you that the Lord has blessed us with 11 baptisms in 2017. That is 11 new disciples, 11 new workers for Christ, 11 new soldiers on the Benton Harbor battlefield.

One of those soldiers is a 12-year-old boy named Jermell. He started attending Harbor of Hope with his mother, who was also baptized in March of this year at Harbor of Hope. Jermell is nice young man, God-fearing, and cool to be around. He enjoys reading the Bible and playing with his friends. He hopes to become a preacher one day. Thanks to our children's ministry leadership team, he has already been given an opportunity to preach!

Additionally, Jermell enjoys door-to-door canvassing. This summer he received the opportunity to travel throughout Berrien County to do literature evangelism. "At first, I was scared and kind of nervous, but eventually I started to like it," he expressed.

His sentiments about canvassing mirrors his feelings about changing schools. After much prayer and deliberation, the Harbor

of Hope board was led to act upon a dream we had a year ago. That dream was to create a scholarship fund so that young people from Benton Harbor could be afforded the opportunity to receive an Adventist education.

Jermell is now attending Ruth Murdoch Elementary School and experiencing the blessing of being educated in a school committed to honoring God.

"AT FIRST, I WAS SCARED AND KIND OF NERVOUS, BUT EVENTUALLY I STARTED TO LIKE IT"

My wife and I take Jermell to school when we drop off our daughter. On one of these trips, I asked him what is the biggest difference between his new school and his old school?

Jermell replied, "One of the differences between my old school and my new school is that the teachers are a lot nicer. But I do



get more homework at Ruth Murdoch than I did before. But it is challenging me to do better."

I believe the words of Jesus spoken to Peter are words that can challenge all of us to do better, yea, to be better. When Jesus looked at Peter he spoke to him according to what he shall be, not who he was. Aren't you glad that God doesn't just look at us for who we are but looks at us for who we shall become. Placed in the right environment, around the right people, and under the right circumstances, there is no limit to who Jermell, you, and I can become!

Please keep Harbor of Hope in your prayers as we seek to reach Benton Harbor for Christ and find more Jermells for God's kingdom! ■

Taurus Montgomery is the senior pastor of our church plant—Harbor of Hope.

SUPPORT THIS MINISTRY

Please indicate
"Master Plan-Evangelism"
 on your tithe envelope.

WE WORSHIP

CONNECT • GROW • SERVE • GO

Opening Voluntary *"Reformation" Symphony: Allegro con fuoco • Felix Mendelssohn*

Introit *Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word We Are Gathered • Johann Ahle*

Call to Worship José Bourget

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?
Whoever has a pure heart and does not lift up his soul to what is false, and does
not swear deceitfully.

**Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors!
That the King of Glory may come in. Who is the King of Glory?
The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord is the King of Glory.**

Let us worship God!

Doxology *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow • tune of hymn no. 2*

Invocation Dwight K. Nelson

Hymn of Praise *God of Our Fathers • 645*

Congregational Prayer José Bourget

Worship in Music *"Reformation" Symphony: Andante con moto; Allegro maestoso
Felix Mendelssohn*

Pioneer Life Sabine Vatel with Claudia Davisson, Judy and David Nowack

Tithes & Offerings Michigan Advance Partners
Now Thank We All Our God • Carl Piutti

Children's Story

Scripture Acts 2:17-21 NIV
Vida and Phil Giddings

"In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons
and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will
dream dreams.

(continued on next page)

Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke.

The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

Hymn of Preparation

Hover O'er Me, Holy Spirit • 260 Stanzas 1 & 2

Sermon

"'Here I Stand!': The Story of Martin Luther and the New Reformation"
Dwight K. Nelson

Connect Card

Hymn of Commitment

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God • 506

Benediction

Closing Voluntary

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God • Sharon Rogers

PRESIDING PASTOR: José Bourget; ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan

WORSHIP IN MUSIC: Andrews University Symphony Orchestra; Claudio González, director.

MUSIC ALIVE

"REFORMATION" SYMPHONY

What entitles a symphony to the title "'Reformation' Symphony"? Felix Mendelssohn apparently started composing his Symphony No. 5 in hope of having it performed at festivities in 1830 celebrating the 300th anniversary of the 1530 *Augsburg Confession*, a faith document of special importance in historic Lutheran faith. Mendelssohn was college-age when he completed the symphony, young in age and mature in

compositional skills. The symphony uses a version of Luther's "A Mighty Fortress" melody in its fourth movement (today in excerpt for Worship in Music). We hear other music excerpted from the symphony that does not quote Luther's melody directly, being alternately meditatively lyric and assertively virile. All in all, it perhaps sketches a picture in context for the range of emotion and action that characterized Luther's Reformation. ■

WE STUDY

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Song Service

Jimmer Mun

Welcome

Jennica Santomin

Prayer

Daniel Randall

Scripture

Deuteronomy 6:4-7 NIV • Elena Weiss Segui

Special Feature

Ruth Murdoch Elementary School Discipleship
Daniel Randall, Elena Weiss Segui, Mugabe Menani, Bryndis Davis

Offertory

Spirit of the Living God • arr. Audrey Assad

Bible Study

Classes • *Justification by Faith*

Theme Song

Make Me a Blessing

Make me a blessing; make me a blessing.

Out of my life may Jesus shine.

Make me a blessing; O Savior, I pray.

Make me a blessing; to someone today.

"Make Me a Blessing," Ira Bishop Wilson

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Benediction

Jimmer Mun

ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan
OFFERTORY: Annelise Burghardt, soprano

WE WORSHIP 2

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As We Begin

"Reformation" Symphony: Andante • Felix Mendelssohn

Praise

God of Our Fathers • Healer • God of Wonders • Revelation Song

Baptisms

Daniel Henry-Saturne, Jeremy Henry-Saturne, Joel Henry-Saturne
with Bordes Henry-Saturne

Pioneer Life

Sabine Vatel with Claudia Davisson, Judy and David Nowack

Prayer

José Bourget

Tithes & Offerings

Now Thank We All Our God • Carl Piutti

Children's Story

Worship in Music

"Reformation" Symphony: Andante con moto; Allegro maestoso • Felix Mendelssohn

Sermon

"Here I Stand!": The Story of Martin Luther and the New Reformation"
Dwight K. Nelson

Connect Card

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God • 506

As We Depart

"Reformation" Symphony: Allegro con fuoco • Felix Mendelssohn

WORSHIP COORDINATOR: José Bourget; ORGAN: Kenneth Logan

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Joshua Goines

ACOUSTIC GUITAR: Alden Valenzuela; BASS GUITAR: Jerry Wasmer

PIANO: Joshua Goines; VOCALS: Alden Valenzuela, Alex Wilson, Jewel Howard, Sinegugu Katenga

WORSHIP IN MUSIC: Andrews University Symphony Orchestra; Claudio González, director

SUBMIT bulletin announcements by visiting our form online at www.pmcchurch.org/announcements/submit. Requests must be received Monday by 5:00 PM for consideration.

NEXT WEEK'S OFFERING
PMC Operating Expense

SUNSET TODAY • 6:47
SUNSET NEXT FRIDAY • 6:38

PIONEER PULPIT

| 11 • 04 |

ARTUR STELE

Chairman, A.U. Board of Trustees
"Reformation: The Search for Bread"

| 11 • 11 |

DWIGHT K. NELSON

"You Turned My Mourning into Dancing:
How to Live in the Secret Place" –1

FINANCIAL FEATURE

MICHIGAN ADVANCE PARTNERS

As we support the Lord's work in both our local church and world church, let us focus this week on the work here in Michigan. That opportunity is provided today through Michigan Advance Partners (MAP) offering. This offering supports various aspects of the mission of the church on the conference level including evangelism, building programs, education camp meeting and the youth camp at Camp Au Sable. "Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously." 2 Corinthians 9:6.

Visitors' Fellowship Dinner

Join us today after second service in the PMC Commons (downstairs) for a home-cooked vegetarian meal.

Family Vespers

TODAY • 5 TO 6:15 PM
YOUTH CHAPEL

The church family is invited to the Master Guide seminar, *Child and Youth Evangelism* by Pastor Ben Martin.

We Mourn

We are saddened to learn of the death of Kathy Ekkens who passed away on Sabbath, October 21. Funeral services were held Friday at PMC. With the Ekkens & Moon families we pray, "Come soon, Lord Jesus."

Thank You

We would like to thank the Pioneer family for the outpouring of love and support, calls, cards, food and flowers that we have received following the loss of our dear husband/father/grandfather. Your support has meant so much to us. Thank you also to the funeral dinner team who provided such a delicious meal for our family following the service. We are looking forward to our reunion in Heaven. –The Family of Chester H. Damron

AA Penny Arcade

TONIGHT • 8-9 PM
ANDREWS ACADEMY

All 7th- and 8th-graders are welcome to join us for a fun evening of games, activities & food—all for just pennies. This event is open to 7th- & 8th-graders and Andrews Academy students only. Parents may drop their child off at 7:45 PM and can pick them up at 10 PM. Contact the school at 269.471.3138.

AU Wind Symphony Fall Concert

TONIGHT 8 PM • HOWARD CENTER

Join director Byron Graves and the Wind Symphony as they perform a variety of summer-themed music.

Church Position Available

The church is currently accepting applications for the position: "Administrative Assistant/Church Clerk/Receptionist." To review the job description and apply online, visit pmchurch.org/employment.

Fuego Quartet

TOMORROW • 7:00 PM

HOWARD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Fuego Quartet is an award-winning chamber group devoted to the performance of both standard and contemporary works written for the saxophone. Fuego has been featured in a variety of settings from standard concert hall venues to community outreach concerts. Call the Howard Center box office for tickets or visit howard.andrews.edu.

Health Tent Website

For current health events in southwestern Michigan, visit www.healthtent.org.

Tenors and Bass Needed

The PMC Sanctuary Choir is in need of tenors and bass who have a passion for singing, and are committed to blessing through music. Contact Marguerite Samuel at margueritemsamuel@gmail.com.

We Care Disaster Response

Journey Ministries is continuing to raise money for the recent disasters and Operation Campus Care. If you would like to donate to the victims of the hurricanes, please write your checks to Pioneer Memorial Church, and write "We Care Disaster Response" in the memo line and label your tithe envelope with the same. We greatly appreciate any amount you give. Contact margueritemsamuel@gmail.com.

Luther on Display

OCTOBER 31 • 9 AM TO 5 PM
CENTER FOR ADVENTIST RESEARCH

In honor of the 500th anniversary of the date Luther nailed his 95 theses to the door of the church, the Center for Adventist Research will be exhibiting some of the original tracts and other items from the early years of the 1500s. Beginning at 1:30 PM there will be some reflections on the Reformation. Come and see these nearly 500-year-old items!

Pathfinder Apple Pie Fundraiser

Members of the PMC Evergreen Pathfinder club are currently collecting pre-orders for home-made apple pies that we are selling as a fundraiser. You may order by emailing evergreen.pathfinders@gmail.com. All pies must be picked up and paid for on November 12 from noon to 8:00 PM at PMC.

Paper Crafting Together "Two" Day Event

NOVEMBER 18 & 19
LAKE UNION CONFERENCE

Do you have Christmas presents to complete? Come Saturday, November 18, 6 to 11 PM, and leave your projects on your table and return on Sunday, November 19, at 9 AM and work until 5 PM. Pizza will be served Saturday evening. We will meet in the Lake Union Conference Board Room (8450 M-139, Berrien Springs, MI). Park in the first parking lot. Bring your favorite snack and we will provide chocolate and prizes. Contact sherrie.davis@lakeunion.org.

Orphan Sunday

NOVEMBER 11 • 5 PM
PMC YOUTH CHAPEL

God's Hands 4 Kids invites you to come celebrate Orphan Sunday as special guests Ingrid Slickers and friends of Bethany Christian Services Refugee Services present on unaccompanied refugee minors. Dalton Stange, pastor of South Shore Fellowship, will also be with us.

Thanksgiving Food Collection

The PMC Evergreen Pathfinder club is starting its annual food drive this Sunday. We will be passing out bags to portions of the community tomorrow and collecting filled bags on Sunday, November 5. Also plan to bring food to Pioneer on Sabbath, November 18, as part of the offering during Hymn Fest. If you know of a family in the area who needs food this upcoming holiday season call Pioneer at 269.471.6565. Thank you for your generosity.

Volunteers Needed

Do you have 30 minutes each week on Tuesday at 10:30 AM? Read with a 3rd-grader at Ruth Murdoch Elementary School. Make a difference in a child's life. Contact Mrs. Hickerson or RMES at 269.471.3220.

Get Our E-Letter!

Receive PMC's e-Letter, Pioneer Mid-week, for weekly updates about church life, events, and more! Subscribe today at www.pmchurch.org/newsletter.

Pioneer Church Directory



Photography sessions begin **tomorrow** in the PMC Commons. Please be on time for your scheduled session. Enter through the awning-covered entrance and follow the signs. Appointments are still available by visiting pmchurch.org/directory or stopping by this morning at the lower level Welcome Center from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

If assistance is needed call David or Judy Nowack 269.471.1932.

WWW.PMCHURCH.ORG/DIRECTORY

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Celebrating the 500TH Anniversary of the Reformation



GLAA Adventist Herald Symphony & Singers

Commemorating the 95 Theses with
a re-enactment of Martin Luther
and Reformation music by GLAA
Symphony and Choir.



Village SDA Church
635 St. Joseph Ave.
Berrien Springs, MI

OCT. 31
6:30 PM