

PIONEER

CONNECT

NOVEMBER 18, 2017



YOU TURNED MY

Mourning
into
Dancing

THE HABITUDE
OF GRATITUDE




WELCOME

to Pioneers

You've picked an amazing day to worship together with us. Maybe you came this morning chasing down a blessing? But what if today you experience something that you could do every day to receive a blessing? Researcher Brene Brown states, "I don't have to chase extraordinary moments to find happiness—it's right in front of me if I'm paying attention and practicing gratitude."

This morning we welcome you to practice gratitude. Draw your attention to what's happening right now and let's join together to: give voice to thanks, give song to joy, and give rhythm to hope. I'm confident if you give into the gratitude you give up on the chase. And wouldn't it be nice for even a few hours to take a break from all the running you've been doing? Come in, practice gratitude, and relish the joy.

—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
LIVE STREAMING www.newperceptions.tv Sabbath 11:45 AM	ONLINE www.pmchurch.org www.newperceptions.tv	RADIO WAUS – 90.7 FM Sabbath 11:30 AM
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A ONE ITEM THANKSGIVING LIST

BY DWIGHT K. NELSON

May I be a bit more personal with you in this blog and may I share with you a line that has come to mean very much to me? It was the early "morning after" I married off our little girl Kristin. A Labor Day morning—she and Andrew had gotten married here at the church the day before. I'm usually not one to be bothered by "Rainy Days and Mondays." But this Monday I awakened with an ache in my heart—the gnawing of a nameless, numinous sense of loss. Of a line crossed, an innocence gone, a chapter ended. And you can never go back. I got out of bed, tiptoed past her empty bedroom, and down to where I have worship. Opened my Bible to my psalm for the day. And wouldn't you know it—God in his gentle mercy had timed that cycle through the Psalms, so that I would come to these words on the morning after my little girl left home for good.

Whom have I in heaven but You?
And there is none upon earth that I
desire besides You.
My flesh and my heart fail;
But God is the strength of my heart
and my portion forever.
Psalm 73:25-26

Our childhood comes, our childhood goes. Our friends come, our friends go. Our spouses come, our spouses go. Our children come, our children go. Jobs

come, jobs go. Health comes, health goes. Life comes, life goes. And death comes. "The LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD" (Job 1:21).

Until one morning we wake up to the words of Peggy Lee's throaty whisper, "Is that all there is?"

John Piper in his book *God Is the Gospel* captures well this prayer of Asaph—that when you have God, you truly do have everything you've ever wanted or will ever need—that all things else, the litany of blessings outpoured 24/7 into our recipient lives, are simply divine incentives intended to lead us to deeper gratitude, not for the gifts so much as for the Giver: "All the enticements to God that are not God are precious and precarious. They can lead us to God or lure us to themselves. They may be food or marriage or church or miracles. All these blessings bring love letters from God. But unless we stress continually that God himself is the gospel, people will fall in love with the mailman—whether his name is forgiveness of sins or eternal life or heaven or ministry or miracles or family or food" (143).

Falling in love with the mailman—if we become so enamored with the blessings God sends us that we fall love with the gifts instead of the Giver—what a sad mistaken twist!

Eugene Peterson in *The Message* expresses Asaph's prayer to God this way:



"You're all I want in heaven! You're all I want on earth!" There it is—a one item Thanksgiving list.

John Piper concludes: "That must mean, first, that if every other good thing were lost, Asaph would still rejoice in God. And it must mean, second, that in and through all the other good things on earth and in heaven, Asaph sees God and loves him. Everything is desired for what it shows of God. Augustine put it like this: 'He loves Thee too little who loves anything together with Thee which he loves not for Thy sake'" (144). Reread that line.

On his deathbed, Charles Wesley dictated to his wife his final hymn:

Jesus, my only hope Thou art
Strength of my failing flesh and heart
O, could I catch a smile from Thee
And drop into eternity.

A one item Thanksgiving list.

Whom have I in heaven but You?
And there is none upon earth that I
desire besides You.
My flesh and my heart fail;
But God is the strength of my heart
and my portion forever.
Psalm 73:25-26 ■

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



YOUTH EVANGELISM THEY NEVER LEFT

BY BEN MARTIN

Luke 15 is a chapter of parables. The chapter is made up of three parables all about the lost: The Lost Sheep, The Lost Coin, and The Lost Son (The Prodigal Son). We spend a lot of time talking about two of the three of these stories.

The Lost Sheep is told to children beginning at the earliest ages. This parable is depicted in artwork and is a story with which we are all familiar. The parable of the Prodigal Son is another very familiar story that is often depicted and retold. These two parables have a lot in common. In both stories the lost has left. In both stories the lost is far away, either in the 'wilderness' or 'a far off land'.

The symmetry of these parables creates a chiasmic structure with the parable of The Lost Coin in the middle. With a chiasm the main point of the writer is not at the beginning or the end but is placed in the center. The Lost Coin appears to be the point that Jesus was trying to make, yet, of the three, it's the parable that gets the least attention.

The Lost Coin is a story that does not grab the attention of the hearer in the way that the other two stories do. The coin did not leave or wander, but was merely misplaced. It did not travel; it did not even leave the home. The coin did not know that it was lost.

To me, this parable paints a picture of Youth Ministry and the mission for this community. In a safe environment like we have here in our corner of Michigan, it is easy to be comfortable. We have no shortage of wonderful programs and events. Ministry is happening on every front and we seem to be surrounded by people who believe the same way we do. Growing up in a place like this with wonderful Adventist educational and employment opportunities means we never need to leave the house.

Yet there are many in this community who sit in chapels day after day and, without ever even making a decision, find themselves no longer in the hand of the Master. Looking at the statistics of the young leaving the church we can see this is a problem throughout North America, and Berrien Springs is not immune to this difficulty.

Conversations with parents often turn to tears and prayers as we talk about the journey of their child. How could this happen? What is the solution? We have provided every possible opportunity for our children and then some. But like the coin in the parable, we find them missing. In this church alone, there are over one thousand children from birth to eighteen; it's not easy to keep track of them all.

This short parable gives the reader insight into how we can work on seeking the lost within our own community. First of all, we must count. We do not need to count to have the largest events; we need to count to keep track of each other. As a community, we must pay attention when someone does not show up. We need to call. We need to stop by. We need to keep track of each other. We need to keep track of our children.

Secondly, we must turn the lights on and clean the house. We cannot, as a church, continue to act as though everything is all right and that we have no problems. We need to be honest and open with each other and with our children. We are not perfect, and when the lights are on this becomes clear.

Youth Ministry is evangelism! We are seeking the lost and keeping track of the children that we have been given. Sometimes the lost have not left, but they are the ones that will never return on their own because they are still in the house.

Often the purpose of these articles is to share a ministry and give the reader information on how he or she could help contribute financially. I am writing to you as an invitation. I invite you to find

a place where you can join us in Youth Evangelism. Perhaps you could help in a Sabbath School, Pathfinders, Adventurers, or one of the other incredible ministries that work on the discipleship journey of our children. However, if you do not feel called to ministry with children, I ask that you seek out the children that are in your life. Check in with them. Keep track of these children. Be open with these children. Let us not lose another coin! ■

THE COIN
DID NOT
LEAVE OR
WANDER,
BUT WAS
MERELY
MISPLACED.
IT DID NOT
TRAVEL; IT
DID NOT
EVEN LEAVE
THE HOME.

Ben Martin is the pastor of Youth Ministries here at PMC.

SUPPORT THIS MINISTRY

Please indicate
"PMC Operating Expense"
on your tithe envelope.

Bring Joy! Give Thanks!

A FEAST OF HYMNS

* The congregation is invited to stand

Preparation for Joy

Put on Gladness, O My Soul • Johannes Brahms

Invitation to Joy

O Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord • Anonymous

*Call to Joy

Psalm 100 NKJV • Sinegugu Katenga

LEADER: Make a joyful shout to the LORD, all you lands!

PEOPLE: Serve the LORD with gladness;

Come before His presence with singing.

LEADER: Know that the LORD, He is God; It is He who has made us,
and not we ourselves;

PEOPLE: We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.

LEADER: Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts
with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.

**PEOPLE: For the LORD is good; His mercy is everlasting,
and His truth endures to all generations.**

*Response of Rejoicing

Praise to the Lord
setting: Michael Burkhardt / Johann Gottfried Walther
stanzas 1-3 congregation & choir
after stanza 3 organ interlude
stanza 4 congregation & choir

*Words of Joy

Psalm 98 NKJV • David Ortiz

Response of Rejoicing

Sing Praise to God • 29
setting: Kenneth Logan
stanzas 1-2 congregation & choir
stanza 3 choir only
stanza 4 congregation & choir

Prayer of Rejoicing

José Bourget

Choral Response of Rejoicing

From Hymns of Luther
Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice
Grant Peace, We Pray, in Mercy, Lord
O Lord, We Praise Thee

Homily "'You Turned My Mourning into Dancing': The Habitude of Gratitude"
Dwight K. Nelson

Choral Response in Thanksgiving *Christ lag in Todesbanden*
(*Christ Lay in Death's Bonds*) • Johann Sebastian Bach

German

Christ lag in Todesbanden,
für unsre Sünd' gegeben,
der ist wieder erstanden
und hat uns bracht das Leben.
Des wir sollen fröhlich sein,
Gott loben und dankbar sein
und singen: Halleluja!
Halleluja!

English

Christ lay in death's bonds
given for our sins
He is arisen again
And has brought us life.
For this we should be joyful,
Praise God and be thankful
and sing: Alleluia!
Alleluia!

Letters of Thanksgiving From Chorales of Luther's Movement
What God Does Is Done Well
O God, Thou Faithful God
Rejoice Thyself, O My Soul
Now Thank We All Our God

Procession of Thanksgiving Gifts of Food, Song, Tithes & Offerings
Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart • st. 1-2 of 27
We Have Heard a Joyful Sound • st. 1, 4 of 340
This Is My Father's World • st. 1, 3 of 92
My Faith Looks Up to Thee • st. 1, 3 of 517
To God Be the Glory • st. 1, 3 of 341
Now Thank We All Our God • 559

***Benediction in Thanksgiving** Dwight K. Nelson
*Choral Response *Now Thank We All Our God* • Kenneth Logan

***Final Thanksgiving** *Now Thank We All Our God* • Wilhelm Teschner

PRESIDING PASTOR: José Bourget; ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan
Andrews University Choral Union; Stephen Zork, director
BRASS QUARTET: Eric Lofgren, Michael Orvek, Jonathan Penrod, Tyler Ronto
VIOLINS: Donn LaTour, Nicole Hwang
PMC Evergreen Pathfinders, Maureen Raj, director
Scripture taken from the New King James Version.
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A REFORMATION EMPHASIS

BY KENNETH LOGAN

A *Feast of Hymns* today emphasizes music and words from the Reformation of Martin Luther and closely-related trends.

"Praise to the Lord": Its text dates to the late seventeenth century, with English versions later. Its melody is in German chorale-style AAB form, repeating its first section. Before the final stanza will be an organ-alone setting by a cousin of J. S. Bach, Johann Gottfried Walther.

"Sing Praise to God": This also is in AAB form. The melody appeared in a hymnal in Berlin as early as 1566. Today's setting is freshly-created for this *Feast*, and includes stanza three as a choir moment (congregation silent) that uses the hymns' text in a new musical version. Singers in the congregation then sing stanza 4 from hymnal number 29.

"From Hymns of Luther" is a compilation. Luther is credited with the text of "Dear Christians." It is said to be his first congregational hymn, in print in 1524. We hear two of its ten stanzas. "Grant Peace" was, in German, Luther's translation of a Latin text from approximately a millennium earlier. It probably appeared

twice in hymnals as early as 1529. From "O Lord" we hear two stanzas, the first based on Luther's adaptation of a text, along with an English rendering (paraphrase) of a stanza of his own.

"Christ Lay in Death's Bonds": This draws the melody and text of a chorale stanza into an elaborate choral and instrumental context, coming from one of Bach's many church cantatas for voices and instruments. Chorale phrases appear in long notes in the soprano. Stating that Christ lay dead, this stanza quickly turns from Christ's death to His resurrection, enjoining both joyfulness and thankfulness. (It is sung in German, with German and English texts printed in the service order).

"From Chorales of Luther's Movement" is a compilation, rendered for brass and organ, of four chorale melodies. Most of the harmonizations are by Johann Sebastian Bach.

"Now Thank We All Our God," a mighty chorale, concludes worship today in three versions: for congregational singing, for musical benediction response, and for organ. ■

WE STUDY

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Song Service Christina Carroll

Opening Hymn *Amazing Grace* • 108

Welcome & Prayer Philip Giddings III

Scripture Luke 16:10

Special Feature "Good News From the East" • Askar Urakpayev

Offertory

Bible Study Classes • "Overcoming Sin"

To Internalize Romans 6:14

*Is sin really free?
Would you like to be free from sin?*

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 Lois Nicholas

ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan

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

NEXT WEEK'S OFFERING
Michigan Advance Partners

SUNSET TODAY • 5:23
SUNSET NEXT FRIDAY • 5:18

PIONEER PULPIT

| 11 • 25 |

BEN MARTIN

"What Do You Say? Thank You?"

| 12 • 02 |

DWIGHT K. NELSON

"Have Yourself a Windy Merry Christmas"

FINANCIAL FEATURE

PMC OPERATING EXPENSE

If you walk by one of the children's Sabbath school classes you might hear, "A great big lion in heaven, a great big lion they'll be, a great big lion in heaven, and it won't be afraid of me." Our faithful, hard-working teachers are sharing a vision with our children of how awesome heaven will be. These children are the future of our church. A part of today's offering will go towards helping our children form a bond with Jesus that will last forever.

Family Vespers

TODAY • 5:00 PM
YOUTH CHAPEL

We will watch and discuss Scott Ritsema's video "Undoctrinated," part 1.

Music of the Romantic Period

TODAY • 8:00 PM
HOWARD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

The AU Symphony Orchestra presents Music of the Romantic Period featuring Carla Trynchuk performing "The Scottish Fantasy," a charming solo piece for violin and orchestra. The orchestra will also perform Robert Schumann's enigmatic Symphony No. 3, "Rhenish." For more information call the Box office at 269.471.3560.

Paper Crafting Together "Two" Day Event

TODAY • 6:00-11:00 PM
TOMORROW • 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
LAKE UNION CONFERENCE
(8450 M-139, BERRIEN SPRINGS)

Finish all of your Christmas projects during this 2-day event. Come Saturday night and leave your projects set up overnight and return on Sunday. Pizza will be served Saturday evening. We will meet in the Board Room. Park in the first parking lot. Bring your favorite snack and we will provide chocolate and prizes. Contact sherrie.davis@lakeunion.org.

Thanksgiving Food Basket Delivery

Our Evergreen Pathfinders need your help delivering Thanksgiving Food Boxes. If you can help, please come this afternoon at 4:30 to the PMC main entrance (green awning) and pick up names and boxes to deliver throughout the community.

Adopt a Family for Christmas

Experience the joy of bringing smiles and feelings of deep appreciation to families struggling to provide basic needs as well as gifts to their children during the holiday season. We are looking for people who would like to adopt a family, give a donation (money, gift cards, food, toys, etc.), or help in other ways. We hope you choose to get involved by bringing cheer and gladness to many families this Christmas. To choose a family, or for more information, call Deby Andvik 269.471.6648, or Carmelita Arthur 269.471.6651

More Announcements

For more PMC and community announcements, please visit our website at www.pmchurch.org/announcements.

PMC Office Closed

The PMC office will be closed Wednesday through Friday (November 22-24) for the Thanksgiving holiday. We will be open at 8:00 AM on Monday, November 27, and look forward to serving you.

Soup for Students

DECEMBER 12 • 6:00 PM
PMC COMMONS

Let's give some bowls of love to students during finals week. We need commitments for 25 pots of soup and some cookies or bread. We also need volunteers to help clean up after the event. Let us know by December 6 if you can help by calling Lailane Legoh at 269.471.3543.

A Foster Care Christmas

Share some joy with a foster kid this Christmas! Donate items for mini stockings (a small toy, chocolates, or small candy canes), buy a gift, or sponsor a wish list. There are collection bins in the PMC lower lobby and the receptionist area, Berrien Springs Ameriprise, and South Shore Women's Health Care in St. Joe. For more information go to gh4k.org.

THANKSGIVING CARDS

THANK YOU ALL OVER THE WORLD

Thanksgiving cards are placed inside this bulletin . . . giving you the perfect opportunity to write a special personal word of gratitude, or love, or friendship, or forgiveness this morning. Simply write your message, fold it only once, write the address on the designated side, and bring your letter forward. We'll do the rest, mailing your letter anywhere in the world you want to send it. (If it's a campus address, write "Campus" under the name on the outside). ■

| TRANSFERS IN |

BURGOS, Marcos, Laia, Francisco
 GLASS, John & Teresa
 HANDY, Elizabeth
 HENRY-SATURNE, Bordes & Lucette
 HUSET, Brittany
 IANGA, Jomante
 ISAAK, Geoffrey
 LOENSER, Benjamin, Christina, Joshua, Rick
 NYABETA, Ruth
 OJWANG, Samwel
 PERERA, Adriana
 RASMUSSEN, Tabita & Thomas
 TEIXEIRA, Carolina, Fernando, Silvia
 TOWETT, Stephen & Faith
 WILKENS, Deirdre
 WOODHAMS, Lawrence

| TRANSFERS OUT |

ASUMBRADO, Adrienne
 BAXTER, Carol
 BRAGANCA LIMA, Matheus & Adriana
 BREDY, Anderline
 BURRILL, Jennifer
 DABNEY, Damien, Deandre, Jasmin, Robert
 DE ALUEIRA LIMA, Anderson
 DE PAULA SANTOS, Filipe & Diana
 DIAZ, Jose, Leticia, Joseph
 DUBE, Jane
 HERR, Ron & Christine
 JARDINE, Kalissa
 KIM, Yejin & Yewon
 LEITE, Rafaella & Zeli
 LOPES, Arcelie, Ariana, Donald, Miles
 OKIOMA, Ezra
 OSUNTADE, Cornelius
 OSUNTADE, Martin & Oluwasayo
 SHOEMATE, Rachel
 SOKO, Hawkins
 STOIAN, Cornel & Marinela
 SUSENS, David & Helen
 WAMACK, Willyta

| PROFESSION OF FAITH |

FIO, Meaatoa & Fontaine
 MENANI, Enoch, Julia, Mugish, Mutungi, Mujuni

| FROM |

Grace Fellowship • Madison, AL
 Raymond • Fransville, WI
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 Dickinson, ND
 Jellico, TN
 English • Roswell, NM

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 Stevensville, MI
 Bolingbrook • Romeoville, IL
 S Orlando • Orlando, FL
 Spanish • Berrien Springs, MI
 Spanish • Berrien Springs, MI
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TRANSFORMING
THIS **GENERATION**



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