

PIONEER

CONNECT

JANUARY 6, 2018

Bring Your
HEART
to Life



WELCOME

to Pioneer

"Behold, I am making all things new" (from Revelation 21:5).




The enjoyable thing about holiday celebrations is the anticipation of spending time with family and good friends, eating food, and maybe receiving gifts.

While we may be left with great memories, we may also sometimes be let down by others or end up with a stomach ache. The things that God promises to make new are forever and will never disappoint. As we enter into a new year, let's invest in seeking God's Presence, Word and blessings.

Let's join together to worship Him and reflect on His mighty acts in preparation for God's "new things" in 2018.

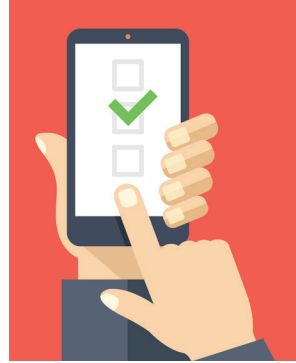
We're glad you're here. Welcome!

–Sabine Vatel

 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
 CONNECT CARD Scan this code to receive this week's Connect Card.	 FIND A SABBATH SCHOOL	

FIND IT HERE

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Does God Have an App
to Read Our Face?

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DOES GOD HAVE AN APP TO READ OUR FACE?

BY DWIGHT K. NELSON

Leave it to the Japanese! According to NHK, Japan's national public broadcasting organization, the electronic giant Hitachi is testing a smartphone app "to promote workers' health management." Given Japan's legendary penchant for work productivity, such "health management" likely means a new company tool to keep much closer tabs on employees' work output and efficiency as related to personal health and habits.

According to this report yesterday, all the app requires is a photograph of the employee. From it the app "can estimate blood circulation, pulse rate, and stress levels," key indicators of employee health. Furthermore "if users input their alcohol intake, and their experience of hangovers [Japan is the land of *sake* (rice whiskey)], the app will calculate a hangover threshold for each individual" (www.nhk.or.jp/nhk-world/en/news/20180102_18). All they need is a picture of your face.

"A Hitachi engineer says users can input data to smartphones easily and at any time. He says he hopes companies will use the app to better understand the health status of their employees" (ibid).

Ignoring for now the personal liberty/freedom implications of intrusive electronic monitoring (given Apple's new face recognition technology, I suppose this is but

a new normal for our "brave new world")—it makes you wonder, does God have an app to read our face? Or to put it another way, what if we had an app that through face recognition was able to read our hearts? What if this New Year we could snap a selfie, submit it to the app, and get a print out of our spiritual health, the conditions of our deep innermost soul?

"Then the LORD said to Cain, 'Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast?'"

BUT WHAT IF IT WEREN'T OUR FACES THAT MATTERED AS MUCH AS IT IS HIS FACE?

(Genesis 4:7). Looks like God has had a face-recognition app from the very beginning! "And seeing the crowds [Jesus] was moved inwardly with compassion for them, because they were in distress and cast down, like sheep having no shepherd" (Matthew 9:36, David Bentley Hart, *A Translation: The New Testament*).

But what if it weren't our faces that mattered as much as it is His face? It was that way for David: **"Let the light of Your face shine on us" (Psalm 4:6); "My**



heart says of You, 'Seek His face!'" (Psalm 27:8); "Let Your face shine on your servant" (Psalm 31:16); "Look to the LORD and His strength—seek His face always" (Psalm 105:4).

It was that way for Moses, too: "Moses did not merely think of God; he saw Him." Face to face? Keeping reading: "God was the constant vision before him; he never lost sight of His face." Is this face to face or faith to faith? Keep reading: "He saw Jesus as his Saviour, and . . . [this] faith was to Moses no guesswork; it was a reality." And what Moses experienced by faith we can, too, this New Year. Keep reading: "This is the kind of faith we need, faith . . . [to] keep our eye upon Jesus!" Just like Moses, just like David, we can "see" His face: "My [friend], make Christ your daily, hourly companion,

and you will not complain that you have no faith. Contemplate Christ. View His character. Talk of Him" (5T 562).

Gregory Boyd's testimony still rings true: "My life is Christ—nothing else really matters" (Present Perfect 57).

Does Christ have an app to read our faces and our hearts, too? Of course He does. But the good news this New Year is that He's inviting us to "seek *His* face," to "view *His* character," to know *His* love. Contemplate that picture in your heart every new morning, and chances are great people will begin to recognize His face in yours.

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



SHARING CHRIST THROUGH MUSIC



BY STEVEN ATKINS

"Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 5:13-16).

Andrews Academy recognizes the power of music in sharing Christ's light to the world. Each of the four music groups have shared music in worship services throughout Berrien County and northern Indiana. The band, Silhouettes, bells, and strings have presented either special music or the entire church service with music, Scripture, and testimonies. The Lord worked through these musical selections to bless not only the lives of the church members, but also the students.

Andrews Academy presented the 45th annual Feast of Lights at PMC a few weekends ago. Feast of Lights is the school's annual gift to the Berrien Springs community. It was a night of music, Scriptures, and drama honoring the King of Kings. An evening filled with lights, bells, choirs, violins, shepherds, and the retelling of the glorious Christmas story. It spoke to our hearts of His wondrous love.

Andrews Academy's gift to our community has gradually been expanding to a gift to the "Global Community." The Feast of Lights video on Facebook has reached over 53,000 people with many commenting from various places throughout North America and the world and stirring many memories from AA alumni: "Beautiful. So many wonderful memories of my

years at AA." Another says, "I'm enjoying this program on my way to church in Japan. God bless you all." Yet another shared, "Amazing musicians in Christ. Watching from Avon Park, Florida. Thanks and happy Sabbath." Even a former student commented, "Former Wise Man from the East 1978-79 is enjoying this Feast of Lights." Another student shared, "Happy Sabbath everyone!!! Boy do I remember participating in this."

Another Facebook listener wrote, "would love to know more about this - nowhere near me - but I'm intrigued! :) What's the storyline?!" Someone replied, "These are high school age young people that attend Andrews Academy in Berrien Springs, Michigan. It is a Christian high school." As people listen to Feast of Lights and continue to listen to it via the internet please be praying that people's hearts and minds will be turned to Jesus, to the reason for the Christmas season.

Thank you for joining the Andrews Academy family for this annual blessing of music and lights as we celebrated this Christmas season. ■

Steven Atkins is the Biology & Earth Science teacher at Andrews Academy.

SUPPORT THIS MINISTRY

Please write
"Christian Education"
on your tithe envelope.

WE WORSHIP

CONNECT • GROW • SERVE • GO

Opening Voluntary

Cavatina • Antonin Dvorák / R. Sieving

Introit

Lead On, O King Eternal • 619

Call to Worship

Sabine Vatel

God's love has been poured into hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.

Where the spirit of the Lord is there is freedom.

As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the children of God.

Let us walk by the Spirit that we may be the children of God.

Doxology

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow • 2

Invocation

Dwight K. Nelson

Hymn of Praise

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above • 29

Congregational Prayer

Sabine Vatel
Lord, Speak to Me • st. 1 of 541

Worship in Music

Alleluia • Ralph Manuel / K. O'Hara

Children's Story

Prelude • Edvard Grieg / B. McBrien

Scripture

Romans 5:1-5 NIV • Brynja Davis and Bryndis Davis

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand.

And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.

Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.

And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Hymn of Preparation	<i>'Tis Love That Makes Us Happy</i> • 579
Sermon	"Bring Your Heart to Life" • Dwight K. Nelson
Connect Card, Tithes & Offerings	PMC Operating Expense
Hymn of Commitment	<i>Holy Spirit, Gracious Guest</i> • 589 (tune 305)
Benediction	Dwight K. Nelson
Closing Voluntary	<i>Heart to Life</i> • Kenneth Logan

PRESIDING PASTOR: Sabine Vatel; ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan
 WORSHIP IN MUSIC: Andrews Academy Orion Strings; Héctor Flores, director

MUSIC ALIVE

"HEART, LIFE"

As today's organist scribes these words on January 2, a fresh new year has just begun. And ideas for a fresh musical composition exploring heart and life have been newly developing, especially accompanying a crisp morning walk in voluminous, sun-lit snow. Explore: What does it mean to "Bring Your Heart to Life"? Probe: How might that journey be reflected in music? Wonder: Would it

start with ardent, "warm" tones expressing "heart," or would the chilled heart warm to being brought to life as the music progresses? Would you like to reflect with me? With its title derived from the announced sermon title, "Heart to Life" is an unfolding journey along unclear paths. May such journeys in your life be ones of trust in God in this new year. ■

WE STUDY

CONNECT • GROW • SERVE • GO

Song Service

Opening Hymn

O, How I Love Jesus • 248

Welcome & Prayer

Philip Giddings III

Scripture

Romans 12:2, NKJV

Special Feature

"Let's Make a Deal" / "Every Saint"

To Internalize

"Consider the Antelope"

Offertory

Bible Study

Classes • "The Influence Of"

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

ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan
OFFERTORY: Music Department

WE WORSHIP 2

CONNECT • GROW • SERVE • GO

As We Begin

Cavatina • Antonin Dvorák / R. Sieving

Praise

Days of Elijah • Open the Eyes of My Heart • Power of Your Love

Prayer

Sabine Vatel

Pioneer Life

Adopt a Student / GROW Groups • Sabine Vatel

Children's Story

Prelude • Edvard Grieg / B. McBrien

Worship in Music

Alleluia • Ralph Manuel / K. O'Hara

Sermon

"Bring Your Heart to Life" • Dwight K. Nelson

Connect Card, Tithes & Offerings

Holy Spirit, Gracious Guest • 589

As We Depart

Heart to Life • Kenneth Logan

WORSHIP COORDINATOR: José Bourget; ORGAN: Kenneth Logan

ACOUSTIC GUITAR: Michael Gibson, David Hernandez

BASS GUITAR: Larry Woodhams; PIANO: Thomas Rasmussen; CAJON: Thomas Rasmussen

VOCALS: David Hernandez, Jonny Wilczynski, Melissa Gibson

WORSHIP IN MUSIC: Andrews Academy Orion Strings; Héctor Flores, director

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
Religious Liberty

SUNSET TODAY • 5:28
SUNSET NEXT FRIDAY • 5:35

PIONEER PULPIT

| 01 • 13 |

BRANDON VON DORPOWSKI
"Letter from Dad"

| 01 • 20 |

ELIZABATH TALBOT
"His Assurance"

FINANCIAL FEATURE

PMC OPERATING EXPENSE

Pastor Robert Lister of Texas gave this testimony: "Early in our ministry, my wife and I faced a test: to return our tithe and church expense or pay the mortgage. There was enough to pay only one. We decided to pay our tithe and to trust God to supply the mortgage. The next Sabbath, we placed the tithe in the offering. Later that day, we received a refund check from the IRS; a result of an audit done on a return four years earlier. It was more than the mortgage payment."

Family Vespers CANCELED TODAY

There is no vespers this evening, due to the Ten Days of Prayer at the Youngberg's.

Ten Days of Prayer
JANUARY 1-10 • 6:45-8:00 PM
4731 GREENFIELD DR.

Come and join the Youngbergs at their home for the 28th annual Ten Days of Prayer. Start the new year right—on your knees! Each night there will be inspiring short presentations on the Father God, our loving Savior, the Holy Spirit, and angelic ministries with personal sharing on what these have meant in incidents in your lives. Bring your prayer lists to share. What happened after the waiting disciples prayed ten days in the Upper Room? Is this the gift that you want above all others?

ASAP 10 Days of Prayer
JANUARY 8-12
105 S. CASS ST, BERRIEN SPRINGS

Join ASAP Ministries for 10 days of prayer to start the new year. Seek a deeper walk with God, pray the Word for the needs of the persecuted, poor, unreached, and refugees from the 10/40 window, and intercede on behalf of friends, family members, and our local communities. Call 269.471.3026 or e-mail office@asapministries.org for more information.

Knitting Hearts Together

JANUARY 9 • 7:00 PM
4541 TIMBERLAND DR.

As the new year begins, consider joining this ministry to the bereaved and seriously ill. We are especially in need of people to deliver items. Enjoy fellowship, creativity, and ministry.

Grief Share Support Group

JANUARY 14 • 4:00 PM
VILLAGE SDA CHURCH, FIRESIDE RM.

A new support group for anyone who has lost a loved one is available at the Village SDA Church. To seek additional information or to register call Shirley Gammon at 989.427.5669 or Linda Pellandini at 517.243.2767

Honduras Mission Team

The PMC Youth Mission team to Honduras has returned with much thanks for God's blessings and your support. Scott Schalk directed the day camp team as they conducted a Friendship Camp with 90-120 kids attending each day. Additionally they ministered at the Hogar de Niños children's home operated by REACH International as well as distributed clothing and lots of food to over 30 neighborhood families in the community around the Hogar. Last Sabbath, they presented a live 90 minute television broadcast for the main television station in Santa Barbara, Honduras. To God be the glory, great things he has done. For more information contact Glenn Russell (glenn@andrews.edu).

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.

Grow Groups!

Thinking about leading a GROW Group between February 18 to April 29? Here are just a few ideas for activities or themes to hopefully inspire new ideas: hammocking, paying your student debt, single dads, speaking other languages, learning ASL, random acts of kindness, cooking on a budget, buying your first home, engaged—now what? And many more. To be included in the Spring 2017 semester catalog, sign up your group at www.pmchurch.org/grow and help others GROW new friendships with God and each other. Questions? Contact Pastor Sabine or Gracie Gaytan via growgroups@pmchurch.org.

Join Our Team

PMC is currently seeking candidates for the following positions:

Administrative Assistant/Receptionist
Housekeeper

For more information and to apply visit www.pmchurch.org/employment.

"Adopt" an Andrews Student in 2018!

Are you a Pioneer member, family, or GROW Group with a burden to help transform this generation and make disciples? Are you willing to offer spiritual support, encouragement, occasional care packages, and the feeling of home to a University student starting next semester? An instructional packet on your "adoptee" will be made available on Sabbath January 13, 2018. For more information, contact Pastor Sabine (vatel@pmchurch.org or 269.471.6153).

Madagascar Project

Andrews University's Community and International Development department provides an opportunity for students to attend the Madagascar Study tour each year. The goal every year is to implement a humanitarian & development project. Dr. Joel Raveloharimisy, director of the CID program, has coordinated and sponsored many projects such as Mantasoa Youth Center, Orphanage Hanitry ny Ala, and Orphanage Mampitasoa, and this year's project funds a Seventh-day Adventist school, "La Chretienne" College. Students who attend this school are in need of books, computers, and resources to make their education more successful. Your tax-deductible donations can be made as one-time gifts or through several donations over time. Please visit <https://vault.andrews.edu/vault/app/pages/advance-ment/login/development> select "Madagascar Study Tour Projects." In the text box titled "My Instructions" type in "Smart Future" and this will allow you to donate to La Chretienne College.

Winter Camp for the Blind

FEBRUARY 4-9
CAMP AU SABLE

Volunteers are needed for the Michigan Winter Camp for the Blind. If you are able to help, please contact Larry Hubbell at (248) 459-3165 or (248) 634-4379.

Family Prayer Needs

If you have a prayer request or change to the Family Prayer Needs list, please contact the church clerk at clerk@pmchurch.org, or call 471.3133

Thank You

Pastor Rodlie Ortiz and family would like to thank you for all the prayers, cards, and words of encouragement during the recent loss of his sister, Jesenie. Your love and support were definitely felt and appreciated. They look forward, together with you, to the resurrection morning.

Mommy (and Daddy) & Me

RESUMES JANUARY 17

This is a fun group for kids (0-5 years old) and their parent or caregiver to enjoy friendships and activities together. Each week will include playtime, songs/stories, and crafts. Come make new friends and have fun with your children!

More Announcements

For more PMC and community announcements, please visit our website at www.pmchurch.org/announcements. Requests must be received Monday by 5:00 PM for consideration.

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TRANSFORMING
THIS **GENERATION**



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