PIONEER CONNECT

JANUARY 20, 2018

Two Fatal Flaws of a Church-Going Christian

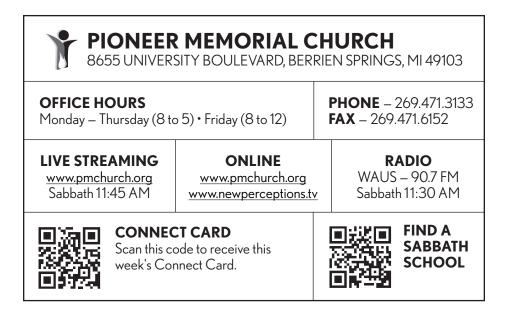
WE WORSHIP • PAGE 6 | WE WORSHIP 2 • PAGE 9

WHO WE ARE

WELCOME to Pioneer

Welcome to the third week of the new year! Already it's clear that 2018 didn't get the memo for how things are suppose to happen. I invite you to lean into the teachings of Jesus to get through the unexpected. When you do, you "are like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when a flood arose, the stream broke against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built" (Luke 6:48). Take our time together to affirm and refine God's plan for you this year. Then put the storms on notice, Jesus will make a way.

–José Bourget



CONTENTS

FIND IT HERE CONNECT · GROW · SERVE · GO







PIONEER LIFE Religious Liberty and Social Justice - Are They Related?

SABBATH SCHOOL

God or Mammon

10 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

WE WORSHIP 9:00 AM Service

WE WORSHIP 2 11:45 AM Service

CONTACTS

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE – ARE THEY RELATED?

BY JOHN R. NAY

dvocates for religious freedom face a conundrum in our secular Western world. On one hand, we have genuine concerns about religious freedom. For well over a century the Adventist Church has advocated for people of all religions to be able to live, dress, and work in conformity with the dictates of their conscience. That must not and will not change.

On the other hand, many peopleprobably a majority in the Western world -are no longer really listening. That is particularly true of people in their thirties and younger.

Just twenty years ago the Religious Freedom Restoration Act and similar acts at the state level received support from across the political spectrum and often were most strongly supported by liberals. Now, unfortunately, efforts to pass such laws at the state level often are perceived and portrayed as simply an effort to support and legalize renewed discrimination against same-sex couples and others.

Too often advocates for religious freedom are perceived as only being interested in their own rights and as having little if any interest in helping others who are less fortunate than they or who face unjust hostility for any of a wide range of reasons. And, tragically, in some cases that has been true.

We-all of us from across the political

and religious spectrum-need to work to turn this perception around and to make it clear that indeed we ARE interested in equal rights and the welfare of all, and that although advocacy for religious freedom does include resistance to an overreaching secular agenda, it is not just a stalking horse for the angry right wing to oppress the vulnerable.

FREEDOM OF RELIGION IS A MATTER OF HUMAN DIGNITY, AND SUPPORTING IT IS ONE PART OF THE EFFORT WE MUST MAKE ON BEHALF OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL PEOPLE

Both the Old and the New Testaments speak more than half a dozen times about bringing liberty to the captives and binding up the broken-hearted. The Lord tells us to "act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with [our] God" and to "look after orphans and widows in their distress." Israel was told to treat foreigners justly, recalling that they also had been foreigners in the land (see Isaiah 61:1; Luke



4:18; Deuteronomy 10:19 and 27:19; Micah 6:8; James 1:27).

There is no question that we must remain active on religious liberty. At the same time, it would be wrong to use our religious liberty as a justification to treat others unfairly or to exclude them from the same societal benefits that we all cherish. Individually and collectively we must aim to always reflect the sort of inclusive Christlike ideals embodied in the Golden Rule.

As society changes, we need to carefully determine which issues are basic to religious liberty. Freedom of religion is a matter of human dignity, and supporting it is one part of the effort we must make on behalf of social justice and human rights for all people, but it is not the only part.

This month is religious liberty month and next Sabbath, January 27, the annual religious liberty offering will be accepted.

In addition, Dr. Ganoune Diop, General Conference Director for Public Affairs and Religious Liberty and others will take part in a special panel discussion titled "Speaking as a Dragon? Religious Liberty & Social Justice Today" (January 27 at 3:30 PM at Newbold Auditorium, located in Buller Hall).

Dr. Nicholas Miller will moderate a panel

that will include experts in law, prophecy, and ministry and will discuss America's current religious liberty situation, whether traditional Adventist advocacy for religious liberty is sufficient, and where we might be going on this issue. We hope you all will come!

We need your involvement in advocating for religious liberty. We need your involvement in considering how to advocate for it most effectively in today's world. And we need your involvement in suggesting how we, as Christians who believe in the dignity and liberty of conscience of all human beings, can help ensure that we treat everyone as the Bible calls us to – in accordance with the Golden Rule.

John R. Nay is Religious Liberty Director for PMC and President of the International Religious Liberty Association.

SUPPORT THIS MINISTRY

Please write "Religious Liberty" on your tithe envelope.

WE WORSHIP CONNECT · GROW · SERVE · GO

Opening Voluntary Sing Out, Earth and Skies! • Mary Beth Bennett Come to the House of the Lord • Charles McCartha José Bourget We come seeking the face of the Lord. Let us gather together and wait for God. God will be for us a shelter and a stronghold. We will look to the Lord and take heart. Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow • 2 Doxology Rodlie Ortiz Invocation Praise to the Lord • 1 Hymn of Praise José Bourget Lord, Speak to Me • st. 1 of 541 Worship in Music Bring Us Hope • Ruth Elaine Schram Children's Story Humility / Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy • Kenneth Logan Pioneer I ife GROW Groups/Elders' Ordination • Sabine Vatel Luke 18: 9-14 (NIV) • Melchizedek & Josephine Ponniah Scripture

To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people-robbers, evildoers, adulterers-or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.'

"But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.'

"I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

Introit

Call to Worship

Congregational Prayer

Hymn of Preparation

Fill My Cup, Lord • st. 1& 2 of 493

Sermon "Two Fatal Flaws of a Church-Going Christian" • Rodlie Ortiz

Tithes & Offerings

Hymn of Commitment

Benediction

Closing Voluntary

PMC Operating Expense

Just As I Am • st. 1, 2, 4 & 6 of 313

Rodlie Ortiz

Allegro Moderato • Felix Mendelssohn

PRESIDING PASTOR: José Bourget; ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan WORSHIP IN MUSIC: PMC Sanctuary Choir; Marguerite Samuel, director Jamison T. Moore, cello; Dr. James North, piano

MUSIC ALIVE

hristian worship often expresses aspects of "coming": word given up to God, that He "come;" word given out to people, that they, or we, "come." In the Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal, more than one-fourth of the musical texts include the word "come"! Both aspects occur at the opening of today's worship services. The text underlying the opening organ voluntary, is by Marty Haugen, and includes many aspects of "coming": "Come, O God" prefaces "...of wind and flame...," "...of flashing light...," "...of snow and rain...." The final stanza starts, "Come, O Justice, Come, O Peace...." The refrain starts cheerfully, "Sing out, earth and skies! Sing of the God who loves you!" For today's organ offertory, please refer to the first three stanzas of hymn 280 as context, in preparation for today's sermon. ■

WE STUDY CONNECT · GROW · SERVE · GO

Song Service	Christine Carroll
Welcome	Qaisar Ayaz
Special Feature	"If I Had a Thousand Lives" • Angy Plata
Prayer	Julia Leacock
Scripture	Luke 16:8-9 • Tiffany Steinweg
Offertory	Be Thou My Vision • arr. James Curnow
Bible Study	Classes • "God or Mammon"
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 ©1924, Renewed 1952 Word Music, LLC; Used by Permission. CCLI License #392652

Benediction

Christine Carroll

ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan OFFERTORY: Ricardo Reyna, trumpet; Ana Lozano, piano

WE WORSHIP 2

CONNECT · GROW · SERVE · GO

As We Begin

Sing Out, Earth and Skies! • Mary Beth Bennett Come to the House of the Lord • Charles McCartha

Praise

He Is Exalted • I Will Early Seek the Savior • How Deep the Father's Love For Us

Prayer José Bourget

Pioneer Life

GROW Groups/Elders' Ordination • Sabine Vatel

Children's Story

Humility / Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy • Kenneth Logan

Worship in Music Bring Us Hope • Ruth Elaine Schram

Sermon

"Two Fatal Flaws of a Church-Going Christian" • Rodlie Ortiz

Tithes & Offerings Just As I Am • st. 1, 2, 4 & 6 of 313

As We Depart

Allegro Moderato • Felix Mendelssohn

WORSHIP COORDINATOR: José Bourget; ORGAN: Kenneth Logan ACOUSTIC GUITAR: Michael Gibson; VOCALS: Alex Wilson, Jessica Felicio, Kenric Rimoni PIANO: Jeremy Ahn; CAJON: Matthew Rajarathinam; BASS: Ryan Jarvis WORSHIP IN MUSIC: PMC Sanctuary Choir; Marguerite Samuel, director; Jamison T. Moore, cello **SUBMIT** bulletin announcements by visiting our form online at <u>www.pmchurch.org/announcements/submit</u>. Requests must be received Monday by 5:00 PM for consideration.

NEXT WEEK'S OFFERING Religious Liberty

PIONEER PULPIT

|01 • 27 |

DWIGHT K. NELSON

"Son Rise Over the Land of the Rising Sun: My Eyewitness Account"

02.03

DWIGHT K. NELSON

"The Fruit of the Spirit Is Love "

FINANCIAL FEATURE

PMC OPERATING EXPENSE

Stewardship is summarized as: Time, Talents, Temple, and Treasure. These four "T's" sound simple, but would be a harvest of joy in a person's life. When believers realize that absolutely everything one has belongs to God and that life on this earth is short, life begins! Solomon's wisdom: "Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the duty of all mankind" (Eccl. 12:13, NIV). As good stewards of God's gifts, let us reflect on how following the will of God will result in faithfulness in returning God's tithes and giving liberal offerings.

SUNSET TODAY • 5:43 SUNSET NEXT FRIDAY • 5:52

Visitors' Dinner

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

Family Vespers

TODAY • 5:00 PM YOUTH CHAPEL

Come and receive a blessing as we praise God at the close of this Sabbath.

Speaking as a Dragon? Religious Liberty & Biblical Justice Today

JANUARY 27 • 3:30 PM NEWBOLD AUDITORIUM BULLER HALL

Join us for this presentation by the General Conference Director of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty, Dr. Gaunoune Diop. Musical numbers will be performed by Journey and a panel of experts in law, prophecy, and ministry will discuss whether America speaks as a dragon today.

Join Our Team

PMC is currently seeking candidates for the following positions:

Administrative Assistant/Receptionist Custodian

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

Paper Crafting Together JANUARY 28 • 11:00 AM PMC COMMONS

Did you get some new paper crafting supplies for Christmas? Bring your projects and enjoy time with friends. We supply the prizes and chocolate; you bring your favorite snack. If you have any questions, contact <u>sherrie.davis@lakeunion.org</u>.

Adventist Retirees of Michiana Gathering JANUARY 28 • 1:00 PM

ANDREWS ACADEMY

Andrews Academy invites seniors (age 55+) to come and enjoy a vegetarian meal, mini concert, and student testimonials. Non-ARM members need to RSVP to the Academy by Wednesday, January 24, by calling 471.3140.

International Festival

FEBRUARY 2 • 10:45 AM ANDREWS ACADEMY

In celebration of International Appreciation Week, we invite you to celebrate our cultural diversity at the Andrews Academy International Festival. Come enjoy special performances, native costumes fashion show, Spanish class skits, a food fair, and more. You are invited to wear your national costume to this event and please bring your traditional vegetarian dish or dessert to share at the food fair!

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.

Septura in Concert FEBRUARY 4 • 7:00 PM HOWARD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Septura brings together London's leading players to redefine brass chamber music through the uniquely expressive sound of the brass septet. In music for voice and piano, Septura explores a great transatlantic relationship between Maurice Ravel and George Gershwin, whom despite their vastly contrasting musical worlds of French impressionism and American jazz, developed a deep mutual respect for each other. Septura will open the concert with Ravel's Mother Goose, charting a course from Fauré's Mélodies and moving on to Gershwin's Songbook. They will perform Gershwin's Three Piano Preludes and close with An American in Paris, especially arranged for brass and solo car-horns.

Family Prayer Needs

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

Pioneer & U Game Night

FEBRUARY 10 • 6:30 PM PMC COMMONS

All students and members are invited to join us for root beer floats, hot chocolate, nachos, and more. Bring your favorite game or just come for a fun and relaxed evening.

Blood Drive

FEBRUARY 20-21 • 1-7:00 PM PMC COMMONS

Sponsored by Andrews University and the American Red Cross. Contact Larry Ulery for more information: 471-3296 or ulery@andrews.edu.

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 2018 semester catalog, sign up your group at www.pmchurch.org/grow before Jan. 30 and help others GROW new friendships with God and each other. Questions? Contact Pastor Sabine or Gracie Gaytan via growgroups@pmchurch.org.

Thank You

The December 9 Memorial Service for David Bauer was a true "homecoming." My sincere thanks to all who came in loving support for the last good-bye. I am also grateful to PMC for the beautiful floral tribute, and to the hospitality team who provided a warm and welcoming ambiance for the reception following the service. Our "home church" family provided rich fellowship and the joy of long-time friendships, despite the storm that raged outdoors. My heart is set on the Resurrection and reunion in Rose Hill Cemetery, one day soon.

-Marilyn Bauer

Happy 99th Birthday

Bonnie Jean Hanna, one of our members, will be 99 years old on February 2. You are invited to share a birthday note or card by mailing it to 8876 Kephart Ln, Berrien Springs, MI 49103.

Nominating Committee

SECOND READING

Elder

Heaven Shin

Assistant Head Elder

Denis Kaiser Angelika Kaiser

Updated Health Events

For the new semester of health events, check out <u>www.HealthTent.org.</u>

More Announcements

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

CONTACTS I

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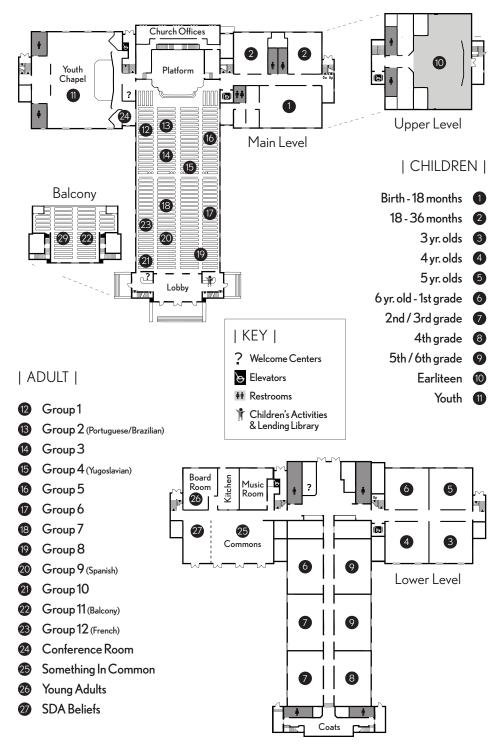
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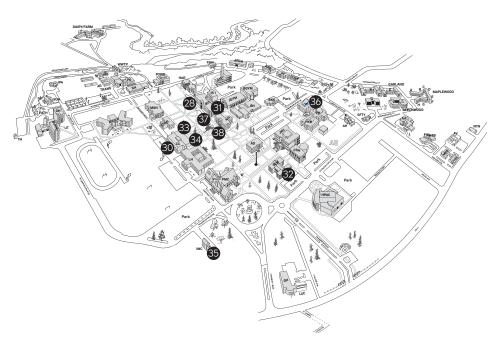
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Andrews University Campus Map



| COLLEGIATE |

- 28 H&M (Hispanic Religion Amphitheater)
- People on the Move (PMC)
- **30** University Sabbath School (Dining Services)
- 3 Compass Sabbath School (Buller-Religion Dept.)

| SEMINARY |

N108 (Collegiate)
N110
N120 (New Life Church Choir)
N150
N211 (Small Group)
N235
N310 (Russian)
N335 (Spanish)
S340 (Upper Room)

| ADULT @ AU |

- 3 Main Lounge
- 34 Faculty Lounge
- Back to Basics
- 3 Living Word Fellowship
- 37 Current Events (Nethery Hall-134)
- **Bible Journey** (Nethery 143)

GAME NIGHT FEB. 10 | 6:30 PM



