# CONNECT

## JANUARY 16, 2016



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## WE ARE ONE!

The Body of Christ is diverse. Paul, however, when he describes the Body of Christ, focuses on the fact that we are all one in Christ rather than our diversity. Galatians 3:28 reads, "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus."

As one looks around this morning at Pioneer Memorial Church he or she can see a wide range of ethnic backgrounds, ages, and every other demographic variable, and yet Paul has written that these things no longer exist.

The Cross of Christ takes all of these divisions or differences and puts them in divine perspective. If the God of the universe would come and become a human and die for us, then how could anyone presume to be better than someone else? As we worship this God this morning let us remember, in Christ Jesus we are one! –*Ben Martin* 

#### **GRADUATE CONSECRATION**

Erica Everett provided special music during the Graduate Consecration on Friday night. (Photo credit: Tanya Ebenezer)



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# "LOOK WHO'S GOT THE WINNING TICKET!"

#### **BY DWIGHT K. NELSON**

othing like a Powerball jackpot frenzy to warm a frigid winter's night! Americans (and Canadians) are still queuing up by the tens of thousands for a chance to win a record \$1.5 billion-plus at tonight's 10:59 Powerball drawing. Chances of winning the grand prize? One in 229,000,000. And yet by Monday this week Michiganders were spending \$156,000 per hour on lottery tickets!

In case you were wondering how to spend \$1.5 billion, USA TODAY offers five suggestions. (1) Buy a fleet of Gulfstream G650 private jets (@ \$65 million apiece

you can take home 23 of them). (2) Match the gross domestic product of the island nations of St. Vincent and Grenadines combined (spend the remaining \$200 million on that large stone mansion for sale in the Windy City). (3) Buy the new Tesla Model S ecofriendly

electric car for \$71,100 (then do the same for 21,096 of your closest friends). (4) Rent the royal two-bedroom suite at the Burj AI Arab Jumeirah Hotel in Dubai for \$34,555 a night (with \$1.5 billion you'll be able to stay for 42,320 nights or 116 years—if you have the time!). (5) Purchase a flotilla of five "super yachts" (100-meter-long cabin cruisers with an onboard staff of 50 for roughly \$275 million apiece). (<u>usat.ly/1Pr96MF</u>)

But let's get serious. Uncle Sam will take 25% (30% if you're Canadian) off the top, with Michigan state receiving an additional 4.25%. Then consider this laundry list of warnings from financial investors and previous lottery winners: (1) **your friends will take advantage**–"Once word gets out that you have the winning ticket, you can expect everyone to try to cozy up to you, from the college roommate you ha-

ven't heard from in 20 years and the kid who tortured you on the kindergarten playground, to fellow carpool parents and 'friends' you barely recognize"; (2) **your relationship could fail**-the unimagined stresses of managing windfall money, as re-

cords show, place immense pressures on heretofore happily married couples; (3) **you'll have an increased risk of bankruptcy**–"Winners are much more likely to make significant impulse purchases far beyond their previous means. So the pur-

IN CASE YOU WERE WONDERING HOW TO SPEND \$1.5 BILLION, USA TODAY OFFERS FIVE SUGGESTIONS.

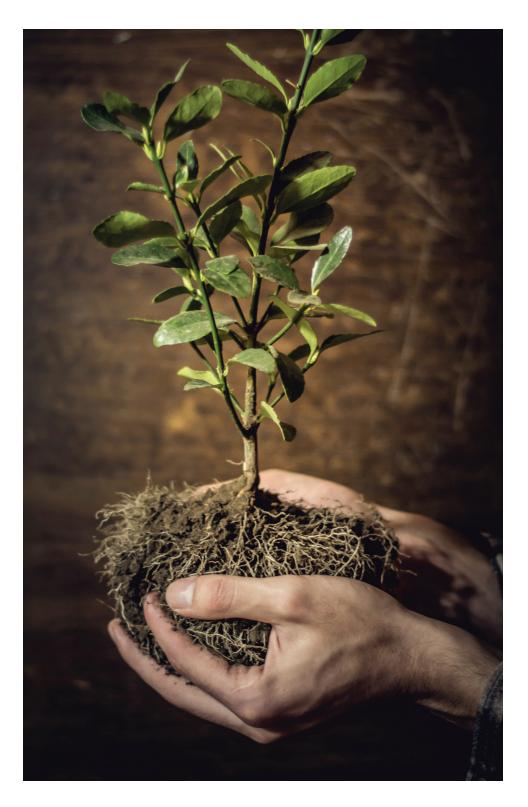


chase amounts will be much higher, making the interest accrued on those credit cards much higher. And because they don't stop to think the money could run out, winners don't generally think they need to create or live by a monthly budget," says Scott Dillon, a senior bankruptcy attorney at Tully Rinckey in Albany, New York: (4) **vou'll** have to fight off a host of long-lost family members-even distant family members with credit card, medical or foreclosure bills will learn of your largesse; and (5) you'll be a target for a litany of lawsuits and scams-"Hoping to carve out a chunk of your fortune, financial advisor Jeff Motske says lottery winners are often targets for bogus lawsuits because everyone starts to come after them" (for more details see bit.lv/1mVGIRo).

Still want that easy money? Consider some sage counsel embedded in this personal testimony: **"For I have learned** to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want" (Philippians 4:11-12). Paul was onto something, wasn't he? Or rather he was onto Someone. "For I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (v 13). When my life focus shifts from gaining to giving, from easy money to hard work, there is an inner quiet that all the money in the world can't buy. "Contentment" is what Paul called it. "Peace" is what Christ calls it: "My peace I give to you—not as the world gives do I give to you" (John 14:27).

70% of lottery winners lose or spend all their winnings in five years or less. Apparently you can go broke trying to buy happiness. So here's the winning ticket for your New Year: "Godliness with contentment is great gain" (1 Timothy 6:6). ■

You can follow Pastor Dwight's blog at <u>www.pmchurch.tv/blog.</u>



# HOW GROW GROUPS ENRICHED MY LIFE

#### **BY AUTUMN MINCINOIU**

y fiancé, Sorin, had been in the U.S. only a couple of months. We were sitting in church looking at the new GROW Group catalog for the summer of 2015 and saw the group Maximum Marriage that would be led by Roger and Peggy Dudley, good friends of my family. We thought that would be a wonderful group for us to join together, as our wedding was going to take place about two months later. We both signed up that Sabbath afternoon. Three more married couples ended up attending that group with us. At the beginning, as Roger was explaining to the group that we were engaged and getting married that summer, he said he was sure the whole group would be invited to our wedding. He knew that we would all form strong friendships in that group, but I was just starting to send out my wedding invitations at that time and I thought, I hardly know these couples right now, and right now is when I'm doing the invitations! However, what he said turned out to be prophetic.

Sorin had moved here from Spain and his good friends who were able were trying to come from Europe to be his groomsmen. Shortly before our wedding, most of his groomsmen fell through for one reason or another and weren't able to come. At the last minute, two of the guys from our GROW Group, Terrence Umali and Neat Randriamialison, agreed to be groomsmen and stand with us on our wedding day. Everyone in the GROW Group attended the wedding and sat at the same table at the reception except for the two with us at the head table. What a wonderful time we all had sharing our wedding experience with our friends from the GROW Group! Our group, which started in June, ended the week after we came back from our honeymoon. We ended the group as a married couple.

What a blessing the Maximum Marriage group was to us! Not only did it give us valuable information to help make our marriage strong, it gave us wonderful new friends and was an integral part of our special day. But this is the nature of GROW Groups. They are a wonderful way to learn and grow together and also to form lasting friendships. I might also add that three members of a former GROW Group I had been in also attended our wedding. Being a part of a GROW Group enriches your life more than you can ever imagine, and I would encourage you to ioin one this semester. You never know what friendships you might discover, what new things you will learn, or how it might change your life for the better!

Autumn Mincinoiu is GROW Group member.

# WE WORSHIP

CONNECT · GROW · SERVE · GO

**Opening Voluntary** 

Adagio • Josef Rheinberger

Introit

Most Lovely Lord Jesus • Hermann Schroeder

#### Call to Worship

Ben Martin

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. **Come, then, let us worship him.** 

Doxology	Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow $ \cdot  2$
Invocation	Dwight K. Nelson
Hymn of Praise	Holy, Holy, Holy • 73
Congregational Pray	er Ben Martin Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee • st. 1 of 241
Worship in Music	Deep River • Spiritual / Samuel Coleridge Taylor
GROW Groups	Annie Benoit
Children's Story	Ev Millner O Lamb of God, Unspotted • Carl Piutti, George Kauffmann
Scripture	l John 3:1-3 <i>NIV</i> • Beverly Matiko & Nadia Nosworthy

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Hymn of Preparation

Jesus Is All the World to Me • 185

PMC Operating Expense

Jesus Paid It All • 184

Sermon

"Charmed into Righteousness: The Purest Life" Dwight K. Nelson

**Connect Cards, Tithes & Offerings** 

Hymn of Commitment

Benediction

**Closing Voluntary** 

O Lamb of God, Unspotted • Johann Sebastian Bach

PRESIDING PASTOR: Ben Martin; ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan WORSHIP IN MUSIC: Dana Wilson, violin

# MUSIC ALIVE

n this Sabbath immediately before Martin Luther King Jr. Day, today's Worship in Music is excerpted from a violin arrangement of the African-American spiritual "Deep River" by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912). The concept of a "spiritual" is widely understood as a song with African-American roots, particularly practiced among those who were enslaved in the United States of America. Spirituals are thought to

have often had both obvious and veiled meaning levels, in which case they could be especially useful for communicating among slaves. "Deep River" may well have been among these multi-layered ones, with crossing over the "river" representing crossing over a border from slavery to freedom. Coleridge-Taylor was the son of an African father and an English mother, and he composed many creative piano settings of spirituals. ■

## **WE STUDY** CONNECT · GROW · SERVE · GO

Song Service	Ed Higgins
Opening Hymn	Wonderful Words of Life • 286
Welcome & Prayer	Sabine Vatel
Special Feature	Growing Together
Offering	
Bible Study	"Global Rebellion and the Patriarchs" $\cdot$ Classes
Theme Song	Make Me a Blessing
C Mak	me a blessing; make me a blessing. Dut of my life may Jesus shine. e me a blessing; O Savior, I pray. me a blessing; to someone today.
©1924, Renewed 195.	"Make Me a Blessing," Ira Bishop Wilson 2 Word Music, LLC; Used by Permission. CCLI License #392652
Benediction	Ed Higgins

ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan

See page 18/19 for Sabbath School directory & map

# **WE PRAISE**

CONNECT · GROW · SERVE · GO

#### As We Begin

Adagio • Josef Rheinberger

#### Praise

Holy Spirit • Come Thou Fount • You're Beautiful

**Prayer** Chad Angasan

#### GROW Groups Annie Benoit

#### "By the Word of Their Testimony"

Miles & Ariana Lopes with Ben Martin

#### **Children's Story**

Ev Millner O Lamb of God, Unspotted • Carl Piutti, George Kauffmann

#### Worship in Music

Deep River • Spiritual / Samuel Coleridge Taylor

#### **Sermon** "Charmed into Righteousness: The Purest Life" Dwight K. Nelson

#### **Connect Card, Tithes & Offerings**

#### **Hymn** Jesus Paid It All • 184

#### As We Depart

O Lamb of God, Unspotted • Johann Sebastian Bach

WORSHIP COORDINATOR: José Bourget; ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan BASS GUITAR: Austin Cassell; CAJON: Andrew Krause; CELLO: Yewon Kim ELECTRIC GUITAR: Nathan Verrill; PIANO: Danielle Aka VOCAL: Taylor Bartram, Iris Peter, Melody Rurangirwa WORSHIP IN MUSIC: Dana Wilson, violin **SUBMIT** announcements by emailing <u>bulletin@pmchurch.org</u> or by going to <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 • 23 |

#### JOHN GONZALEZ

AUSA Religious Vice President

| 01 • 30 |

#### **DWIGHT K. NELSON**

"Charmed into Righteousness: The Fairest Judge"

# FINANCIAL FEATURE

#### PMC OPERATING

LINE 2 IN YOUR TITHE ENVELOPE

Today's offering is for Pioneer Memorial Church Operating. When God can create limitless resources with only a word, why does He ask you to help support this church? It is challenge enough to meet all the financial responsibilities of your own world! Right? He does this because He wants you to grow spiritually, and one of the best ways for this to happen is to ask you to trust Him with your material goods and to focus on needs other than your own. Those who test Him in this way can confidently say that He has never failed them! SUNSET TODAY • 5:38 SUNSET NEXT FRIDAY • 5:46

Thousand Man March TODAY • 3:00 PM HARBOR OF HOPE SDA CHURCH

Greater Young Men is organizing a peaceful march and rally. We are tired of seeing the cycles of poverty, fatherlessness, gun violence, drug abuse, mass incarceration, baby mama drama, and high school dropouts in our community. Anyone who shares the desire to see men and young men in our community live up to their full potential and break the cylce invited to join.

#### **Discovery Space Lab**

TODAY • 4:00 PM ANDREWS ACADEMY

Join the Captain as he and his crew go explore God's amazing universe! This ministry targets kids K-5th grade and is free and open to all. If you have questions email <u>RichAguilera@gmail.com</u>.

#### Educational Toys for Cambodia

Closets overflowing after Christmas? ASAP Ministries operates three Feed & Read Schools in Cambodia that help poor children have food and an SDA education. They would be greatly blessed if they had quality toys like Lego® sets, play-mobiles, wooden puzzles, etc. Bring your donation to the ASAP office (105 Cass St., Berrien Springs) **by January 18**.

#### Important Changes to UPC/Label Guidelines for Investment

Please take note of this important change regarding the type of UPC codes eligible for investment. Cedar Lakes Foods remains unaffected by this change. Please continue to submit those UPC codes as before. The only eligible UPC codes from labels are for the Loma Linda, Worthington, and Caroline's *canned* food items. UPC codes from any **frozen** foods and **any** Morningstar products are no longer eligible for investment. Therefore, please do not submit labels or UPC codes from any frozen foods or Morningstar products. The only UPC codes now accepted are for *canned* products with the UPC codes of 28989 or 45561. Even though frozen foods may begin with this number, they are no longer being accepted. Money received from ANF for labels is sent to the Michigan Conference, not to the churches from which the labels are sent. The Conference office distributes the funds they receive from ANF at their discretion within the Michigan Conference.

#### The Horn Lectureship Series JANUARY 25 • 7:00 PM

SEMINARY CHAPEL

Our next lecture will be "The Battle Over King David: Excavating the Fortress of Elah," by Dr. Michael Hasel. Co-curricular credit will be offered. The event is free and open to the public.

#### **More Announcements**

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

#### Shop to Share the Gospel! JANUARY 29 • 7:00 AM TO 5:00 PM APPLE VALLEY

Come support Andrews Student Missions Program as we shop to share the gospel! Bring your AU ID and shop at Apple Valley on Friday, January 29! 5% of your total purchases will go to AU Student Missions. This includes Hallmark and Cafe 31.

#### WANTED: A Few Good Men

Join the Michigan Conference annual Father-Son Retreat at Camp AuSable January 29-31 with speaker Rod Boothby. Activities include horseback riding, hay rides, sledding, cross country skiing, ice skating, and more. Register online today at www.ultracamp.com/clientlogin.aspx?id-<u>Camp=43</u>. For additional information call 571.316.1570 or email jramos@misda.org.

#### Aliens, UFO's, and the Bible

JANUARY 30 • 7:00 PM HOWARD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Rich Aguilera presents this family-friendly event where he will present with a 30foot screen, special FX and audience participation. 3D glasses provided. Tickets available from the HPAC box office.

#### Swim & Gym

JANUARY 30 • 7:00 TO 9:00 PM ANDREWS UNIVERSITY BEATY GYM

Join your PMC family for a night of fun at the pool, rock wall, and racquetball courts. This event is FREE. Children must be at least 10 years old and have written permission to use the rock wall. You're encouraged to bring your own racquetball equipment. Contact Alina Baltazar at <u>baltazar@andrews.edu</u> for questions.

#### We Mourn

Today we mourn with the following families: Tedd Martin, Tim Martin and Merri-Lynn Miller lost their mother, Betty Martin, on Thursday, January 7, following a brief illness. Betty served PMC and AU for a number of years before moving to Tennessee last summer. A memorial service will be held today at 3:30 PM in the PMC sanctuary. Carlene and Glenn Johnson lost their son, Gary, on Monday, January 11. Gary served the worldwide SDA church. A memorial service will be held in Oregon. With their families and friends, we look forward to the resurrection morning. "Even so, come Lord Jesus."

#### **Nominating Committee**

**FIRST READING** 

#### Assistant Head Elder:

Debbie Michel Jean Michel

#### Elder:

Ann Benoit Andrew Burrill Jon Campbell Andrea Gibbs Jeannie Pedersen-Smith Harold Smith Timetta Wilson

#### Nominating-Large Committee

The individuals below were selected by the church board to serve on a committee to nominate the nominating committee. This committee will meet on February 3 from 7 to 8 PM in the PMC Board Room. Some of these may indicate they are not willing to serve.

Karl Bailey Aron Balorda Joshua Baltazar Joan Banks Darlene Barnhurst Erica Bradfield Andrew Burrill Russell Burrill Celesta Burt Ashleigh Burtnett Cynthia Caballero Lori Covrig Carol Curry Chris Davisson Dorothea Gallos Philip Giddings Vanna Giddings Dionne Gittens David Grellmann Jennifer Hibler

Angela Holmes Mateia Horonic Eleanor Howell Bervl Johnson Grant Johnson Anjela Katenga Sinegugu Katenga David Kipp Joel Kitchen Katherine Koudele Norita Lachica Debbie Michel Zelda Mottley Susan Murray Chris Ngugi Joseph Njau **Richard Parke** Kelsev Perrv Marit Petersen Jack Proctor

Darlene Puymon Lucy Randall Lynette Reichert Julie Reid Brittany Ronto Davide Sciarabba Paul Smith Ranko Stefanovic Pavel Tomenko Rhonda Tomenko Milan Vajdic Bryan von Dorpowski Michael Wahlen Dominique Wakefield Keith Wakefield Mateja Wheeler Rachel Wilson Peter Wona Jessica Yoona Dillon 7 immerman



# **BENTON HARBOR SOUP KITCHEN**

#### **BY DANIEL DRAZEN**

t isn't the easiest thing to write a "testimony article" about working at the Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen.

It's not that nothing happens there. On the contrary, we have more opportunity than we know how to handle. Where we once saw an average of 80 to 90 meals served, that number has crept upward into the 110 to 120 range. We do our best to meet that need, sometimes pulling together leftovers from other groups when we run out of our own dishes.

No, the hard part is our inability to see clearly what is going on there. We can express it mathematically, breaking down the total into children's portions and adult portions served, but that doesn't give us the whole picture.

That's not really a problem; after all, we were warned it would be that way. In the parable of the sheep and goats in Matthew 25, it's interesting to note that neither the saved nor the lost ever knew when it was that they did (or didn't) render service to Jesus as they were dealing with the people around them. We serve the people who come and some of them have become familiar faces, but we don't know what brought them to the Soup Kitchen in the first place, nor do we know what happens to them when they leave and we clean up the kitchen for the next group of volunteers on the next day.

But God knows, and that should be sufficient.  $\blacksquare$ 

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Daniel Drazen drazen@andrews.edu

16 PIONEER MEMORIAL CHURCH

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> Pastoral Care Don Dronen • 471.3133 dronen@pmchurch.org

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> GROW Groups growgroups@pmchurch.org

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| SABBATH SCHOOL |

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**Birth - Grade 1** Claudia Davisson • 269.208.7081 bg1@pmchurch.org

**Grade 2 - Earliteen** Robert Barnhurst • 473.1613 g2teen@pmchurch.org

| OUR SCHOOLS |

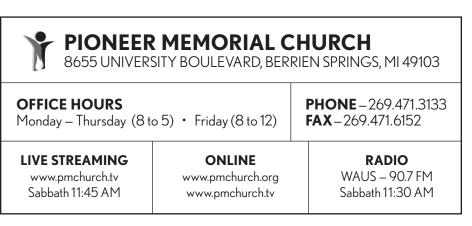
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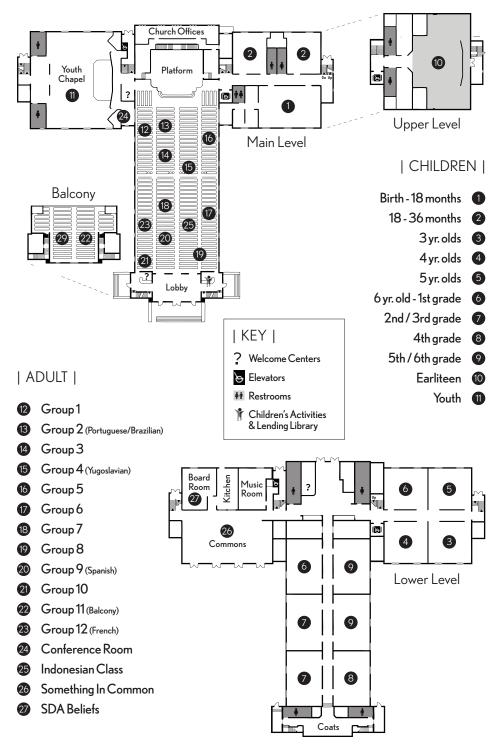
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enroll@andrews.edu

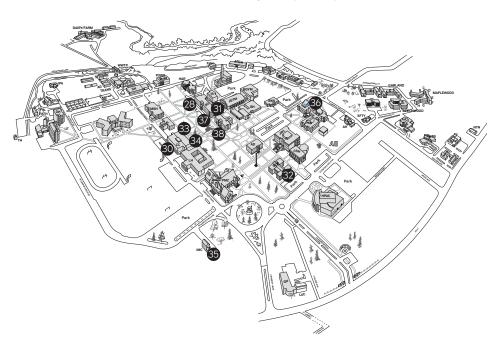
#### Ruth Murdoch / K-8

Evelyn Savory • 471.3225 esavory@andrews.edu





#### 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 |

- 33 Main Lounge
- 34 Faculty Lounge
- Back to Basics
- **1** Living Word Fellowship
- 37 Current Events (Buller 135)
- **Bible Journey** (Nethery 143)

