

PIONEER CONNECT

JULY 30, 2016



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11 weeks until *Hope Trending*

WELCOME




to Pioneer

It has been a difficult summer. The media have relentlessly jumped from one tragedy to the next with no time for one to catch his or her breath in between. This past week has brought the pain closer to home with the loss of a staff member at Camp Au Sable.

In this world full of suffering, one can read Psalm 100:4, “Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name.” Paul also writes in 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 urging us to always give thanks no matter the circumstances.

This task seems impossible until one can recognize his- or herself as the child of God. This perspective is what brings us together each week in worship. So here at Pioneer Memorial Church, regardless of what your summer has seen, we welcome you as part of the family.

–Ben Martin

 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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THE BURDENSOME NEIGHBOR

BY FELECIA DATUS

Right at the time when we are learning how to be good neighbors, we are blindsided by this verse, “Don’t visit your neighbors too often, or you will wear out your welcome” (Proverbs 25:17 NLT). Another translation says, “Otherwise, he will see too much of you and hate you.” Is it possible to know when you are visiting your neighbor too often? Here are a few things to remember when working with the Holy Spirit to be a better neighbor.

❶ “GIVE ME A BREAK!”

Too much of anything is not good. A portion of the fruit of the Spirit is temperance, and this should be exercised even when it comes to visits. Be mindful that those you visit need to have quality time with their families or have other work to do. Even if the neighbor you visit does not have a family, do not allow your presence to be a distraction and hinder them from getting important work done.

Your neighbor may insist that you stay longer or come earlier, but then the next day complain that they don't have enough time to complete tasks. Ask the Holy Spirit to impress you with an appropriate leaving time, and then gracefully excuse yourself. This shows that you are considerate of your neighbor's time, energy, resources, and quiet time with God. "Have you found honey? Eat only as much as you need, lest you be filled with it and vomit" (Proverbs 25:16).

② DON'T MEDDLE

Matthew Henry's commentary on our main verse says, "It is wisdom, as well as good manners, not to be troublesome to our friends in our visiting them, not to visit too often, nor stay too long, nor contrive to come at mealtime, nor make ourselves busy in the affairs of their families; hereby we make ourselves cheap, mean, and burdensome." As you spend more time with your neighbors, you will begin to notice quirks and flaws. You will learn to distinguish subtle tension between the couple you visit, a carpet you would've vacuumed better, or the sharp tone with which the teenager answers his mother. You may be tempted not only to judge and abruptly correct, but also to hang your neighbor's dirty laundry on the church walls without regard to their feelings. Paul had to deal with this issue in the early church. Concerning certain widows he said, "Besides that, they learn to be idlers, going about from house to house, and not only idlers, but also gossips and busybodies, saying what they should not" (1 Timothy 5:13 ESV). Addressing this, the Lord says, "You shall not go around as a slanderer among your

people, and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the Lord" (Leviticus 19:16 ESV).

③ KNOCK ON GOD'S DOOR

Unfortunately, many have cultivated the habit of turning to their neighbors for the kind help that only God can provide. While it is not God's intention for every man to be an island, neither does he want us to form an archipelago independent of Him. There is a limit to how much support a neighbor can give emotionally, spiritually, or financially. While God wants us to support each other and bear each other's burdens, we are to remember that He is our first Source of help. He works through others to aid us when we are in need but many of us become so dependent on

our neighbors that we offend God and transform our neighbor's house into a shrine. The parable of the persistent friend at midnight reminds us that even though we can tire our neighbors and run the risk of being turned down

**"IT IS WISDOM,
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by them, God promises to leave His door open wide for us. We can never be too often at His house. He longs to provide for all of our needs and is never weary of our heartaches and pains. Rather than turning a neighbor into your personal psychiatrist, remember that God is always ready and willing to talk with you. Knock and His door will open to you. There's not another neighbor quite like our God. ■

Felecia Datus is the Copy Editor here at Pioneer Memorial Church.

DIVIDENDS OF ADVENTIST EDUCATION

*“All your children will be taught of the LORD,
and great will be their peace.” (Isaiah 54:13)*

BY EVELYN P. SAVORY & JULIETTE HORTON

August is just around the corner, and with it, the start of a new school year. As many of you are trying to decide where your child will attend school in the fall, it is our hope that you will read to the end of this article.

You have probably been questioning and praying about your options: “Why does my child need a Christian education? Should I enroll my child at Ruth Murdoch Elementary School even on a tight budget? Do I take my chance with the public school?”

While we do have to count the cost of Adventist education, I pray that your focus is not only on the immediate rewards but the eternal dividends. How gratifying it is when a child makes the decision for baptism because of what they learned in school!

Sam is a good example. He is the first born in the McKay family. His parents were not practicing Christians and, according to Mr. McKay, attended church “once in a while.” However, they wanted a school where their son would learn about God. Their criteria included that of a private school, small class sizes, and a good reputation. After exploring their options, they enrolled him at an Adventist school.

Sam started at age five in Kindergarten. When he got to 2nd grade he requested baptism during Week of Prayer. His parents and teachers did not encourage his decision, but he persisted the following year. Again he requested baptism. He said he wanted to give his heart to Jesus. When his parents realized they could not change his mind they asked what they needed to do. The pastor was informed and, at age eight, Sam was baptized.

After completing 8th grade with the second highest GPA, his parents planned to enroll him in a public high school. This was not Sam’s plan. He was set on going to the Adventist academy. Because of Sam’s dedication, his parents attended church from time to time. When his baby sister was born they dedicated her at the Adventist church. Best of all, when Sam was in the 9th grade both of his parents accepted Jesus and were baptized. The McKays continue to invest in Adventist education. Sam’s sister is now in Grade 5 at his alma mater.

Here, then, are 7 important reasons why not just a Christian education, but Adventist education is essential for our children.



1 Adventist education provides a holistic approach to education—the development of mental, spiritual, social, and physical capabilities.

2 By virtue of this whole-person development model, curriculum and instruction are inclusive and differentiated to meet the diverse needs and capabilities of learners. At RMES the STEAMS curriculum (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts/ Agriculture, Math, and Spirituality) provides opportunity to engage, empower, and challenge students to become creative critical thinkers and life-long witnesses.

3 Teachers intentionally integrate faith and learning across the curriculum.

4 There are many opportunities for life skills such as leadership, public speaking, teamwork and self-direction.

5 Our children experience safety and security as a result of the partnership of home, church, and school.

6 Students develop life-long friendships with peers and families who share similar faith and values.

7 Adventist education makes an eternal difference!

Adventist education is an investment that yields long-term benefits. Make the eternal investment in your precious gifts from God and reap the long-term benefits of peace! ■

Evelyn P. Savory (Principal) and Juliette Horton (Teacher) of Ruth Murdoch Elementary School.

SUPPORT THIS MINISTRY

Please indicate
"Christian Education"
on your tithe envelope.

WE WORSHIP

CONNECT • GROW • SERVE • GO

Opening Voluntary *Jesus Calls Us; O'er the Tumult • Emma Lou Diemer*

Introit *Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak • Robert Schumann*

Call to Worship Ben Martin

Jesus told his disciples to bring what they had to fill the need.

We bring what little faith, hope and love we have to Christ.

Then let us ask God to bless and use it to be enough.

Let us worship God in trust he will provide for his people!

Doxology *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow • 2*

Invocation Don Dronen

Hymn of Praise *O Thou in Whose Presence • 36*

Congregational Prayer Ben Martin
Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee • st. 1 of 241

Worship in Music *Meditation • Jules Massenet*

Tithes & Offerings PMC Operating Expense
The King of Love My Shepherd Is • Charles Stanford

Children's Story

Scripture John 1:35-36, 40-42 NIV • Elizabeth Adesina & Ope Adesina

The next day John was there again with two of his disciples.

When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!" Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus.

The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ).

And he brought him to Jesus.

Hymn of Preparation *Like Jesus • st. 1, 3 & 4 of 492*

Sermon

"God and Mister Rogers: Won't You Be My Neighbor?" –Part 6
Don Dronen

Connect Card

Hymn of Commitment

If Any Little Word of Mine

Benediction

Closing Voluntary

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah • Kenneth Logan

PRESIDING PASTOR: Ben Martin; ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan
WORSHIP IN MUSIC: Alejandra Castillo, violin

MUSIC ALIVE

GUIDED

Today's closing voluntary uses words from a hymn, "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah," as its title. Its striding hymn melody is indeed sung to the words of hymn no. 538. This hymn's images of "Bread of heaven," "the healing stream," "the fire and cloudy pillar," etc. are secured by fascinating historical anchors. But this melody often also is sung to the words of

hymn no. 607, "God of Grace and God of Glory." These words, too, may inspire us at this time of transition, including the first stanza: "God of grace and God of glory / On Thy people pour Thy power; / Now fulfill Thy church's story, / Bring her bud to glorious flower. / Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, / For the facing of this hour." ■

WE STUDY

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Song Service

Jimmer Mun

Welcome

Mordekai Ongo

Scripture

1 Corinthians 12:12 *NIV*

Special Feature

Finding Hope/Celeste AUCA

Offertory

Hymn Medley • Jon Schmidt

Bible Study

“Jesus on Community Outreach” • Panel Discussion
Renee Skeete, Vladimir Slavujevic, Lucy Randall,
Teresa Reeve, Trevor O’Reggio, Carlisle Sutton

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: Kellie Shelton, piano

BACCALAUREATE

SEEK. AFFIRM. CHANGE.

Opening Voluntary	<i>O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing</i> • Healey Willan
Processional	<i>Lift High the Cross</i> • Donald Busarow
Hymn of Praise	<i>Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart!</i> • 27
Congregational Prayer	Jo Ann M. Davidson Professor of Theology
Worship in Music	<i>Sonata No. 15</i> • Gottfried Reiche Charles Steck, trumpet; Analiz Lozano, French horn; Andrew Kroepel, MA, tuba; Alan Mitchell, Assistant Professor of Music, trombone
Offering	PMC Operating Expense
Dedication Prayer	Maximino Alfredo Mejia Associate Professor of Public Health, Nutrition & Wellness
Offertory	<i>Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!</i> • Kenneth Logan
Scripture	Mary Ngugi Assistant Professor of Nursing
Hymn of Meditation	<i>Be Thou My Vision</i> • 547
Introduction of Speaker	Andrea Luxton President
Baccalaureate Sermon	"A Message For Your Future" • Randal Wisbey President, La Sierra University
Hymn of Commitment	<i>Go Forth, Go Forth With Christ</i> • 377
Benediction	Felix H. Cortez Associate Professor of New Testament
Recessional	<i>Dialogue</i> • Gilbert Martin
Closing Voluntary	<i>Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah</i> • Kenneth Logan

ORGANIST: Kenneth D. Logan, Professor of Music
MARSHAL: Katherine A. Koudele, Professor of Animal Science

SUBMIT announcements by emailing bulletin@pmchurch.org or by going to 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 • 9:08
SUNSET NEXT FRIDAY • 9:00

PIONEER PULPIT

| 08 • 06 |

TAURUS MONTGOMERY

God and Mister Rogers:
Won't You Be My Neighbor?—Part 7

| 08 • 13 |

DWIGHT K. NELSON

"The Artesian Well: How to Live Wholly
in a Sun-scorched Land"
AU Fall Fellowship 2016

FINANCIAL FEATURE

PMC OPERATING BUDGET

Years ago a viral video showed a worshiper in a church during the offering time doing back flips and dancing to the beat of the music. As the believer made his way to the platform, in a gracious way, he brought his offering to the altar and then danced back to his seat. The title of the video was: "A Cheerful Giver." While this man's joyful display was a bit unusual, the Bible teaches that God loves a cheerful giver. Today, as you consider what Jesus did for you, may your heart dance with joy, too!

Family Vespers

We will not meet as usual this week. Instead we will join the Graduation vespers in the PMC Sanctuary at 8:30 PM.

Commencement Services

Please remember that tickets are required for seating at the Andrews University Commencement service tomorrow, Sunday, July 31. For guests without tickets, there will be overflow seating provided in the PMC Youth Chapel.

Thank You

Thank you for your participation in the Volunteers Informal Q&A last Sabbath. We'll see you back on August 27 at 4 PM. To join and get involved with Hope Trending as an on-site volunteer, sign-up via www.hopetrending.org/volunteer.

New Student Picnic

AUGUST 20 • AFTER 2ND SERVICE
BETWEEN PMC & THE LIBRARY

Help us welcome our new students with a picnic on the lawn immediately following second service on August 20. Sixty-five volunteers are needed to provide lunch and fellowship to our new friends. Call the church at 269.471.6565 or go to www.pmchurch.org/newstudentpicnic to sign up. You will be contacted with details.

Sun, Fun, & Faith

TUESDAYS • 6:30 PM
606 S. MECHANIC ST.

All high-school-aged students are invited to join us for fun water activities this summer! Each young person needs a signed permission slip. For more information call Janna Quetz at 269.471.3133.

Adventist Retirees Annual Corn Roast

AUGUST 14 • 1:00 PM
WOLF PRAIRIE PARK

Join us for our annual corn roast at our next ARM program. Bring your favorite dish and enjoy. The Wolf Prairie Park is located on the edge of Lake Chapin at the south end of Main and Cass Streets. For more information contact Cleon White at 471.5553 or whitekaa@gmail.com.

Volunteers for Health Tent

Every year PMC and other local SDA churches host the Berrien County Youth Fair Health Tent. Hundreds of people visit the tent during Fair Week (August 15-20) to learn about healthful living. Be a part and sign up with your name and contact information for a time slot (or two or three) at www.ichoosegreathealth.com.

Hope Trending: A Crash Course on How to Live Without Fear

OCTOBER 14-22

The Information Age has forever rewritten the way we think and the language in which we communicate. Hope Trending: A Crash Course on How to Live Without Fear will take you on a journey leading you to a life filled with purpose, meaning, and hope. Visit www.hopetrending.org.

District 9 Family Camp

SEPTEMBER 2-5
CAMP AU SABLE

The annual District 9 Family Camp at Camp Au Sable is just around the corner! Applications can be found at the PMC receptionist's desk or online at www.districtnine.wix.com/home. The deadline for reservations is Sunday, August 14, by noon. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ric Strelman at 269.208.7172. We look forward to seeing you there where you will be physically and spiritually blessed!

RMES School Cleaning-Bee

AUGUST 7 • 8:00 AM TO 12:00 PM
RUTH MURDOCH ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL

Join us as we beautify our building & grounds for the beginning of the new school year. Bring your cleaning supplies (buckets, cloths, soap, etc.).

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.

More Announcements

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

SABBATH VESPERS

SEEK. AFFIRM. CHANGE.

Opening Voluntaries	<i>Andante Moderato • Marcel Dupré</i>
Scripture & Prayer	Cynthia E. Barrett, MS
Introduction of the President	Vanessa E. Rivera, MSW
Welcome to Parents and Guests	Andrea Luxton President
Tribute to University	Neehall B. Pierre, MBA
Musical Selection	<i>Prayer • Ernest Bloch</i> Rachel Michaela Gray, BSM/BS, cello; Analiz Lozano, piano
Tribute to Students	Judith B. Fisher Director, Counseling & Testing Center
Tribute to Faculty	Perla Bastien-Larivaux, MA
Musical Selection	<i>Jesus Paid It All/O Sacred Head Now Wounded</i> <i>Arr. Brant Adams</i> Sebastian A. Serrano Ayala, MMus, saxophone; Analiz Lozano, piano
Tribute to Family and Friends	Jerome L. Skinner, PhD
Benediction	Yi Rebekah Liu, PhD
Closing Voluntary	<i>A Mighty Fortress Is Our God • Max Reger</i>

Graduates and their families are invited to a reception hosted by President Andrea Luxton immediately following in the Great Lakes Room of the Campus Center.

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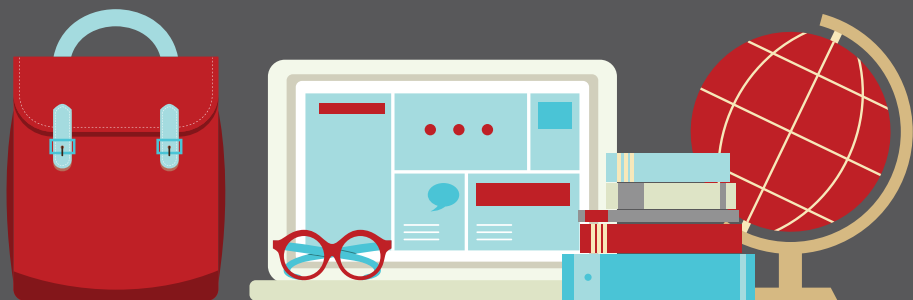
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JOIN OUR FAMILY

You will be blessed by what Andrews Academy has to offer.



We seek to inspire our students to think deeply, live fully, serve unselfishly and to honor God completely.



ANDREWS ACADEMY

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269.471.3138 • academy@andrews.edu

School starts August 22

Registration Day is August 17

www.andrews.edu/aa | Click on "apply now"