

# PIONEER

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# CONNECT

DECEMBER 31, 2016



# WELCOME




*to Pioneer*

"Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice. Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always" (1 Chronicles 16:9-11 NIV).

What a privilege and joy is granted to us to assemble and worship our God and Saviour on this communion worship service. We welcome you and we wish you God's rich blessings as we worship together.

"For he is our God. We are the people of his pasture, and the sheep in his care. Today, oh that you would hear his voice" (Psalm 95:7 WEB!)

—Don Dronen

 <b>PIONEER MEMORIAL CHURCH</b> 8655 UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD, BERRIEN SPRINGS, MI 49103		
<b>OFFICE HOURS</b> Monday – Thursday (8 to 5) • Friday (8 to 12)		<b>PHONE</b> – 269.471.3133 <b>FAX</b> – 269.471.6152
<b>LIVE STREAMING</b> <a href="http://www.newperceptions.tv">www.newperceptions.tv</a> Sabbath 11:45 AM	<b>ONLINE</b> <a href="http://www.pmchurch.org">www.pmchurch.org</a> <a href="http://www.newperceptions.tv">www.newperceptions.tv</a>	<b>RADIO</b> WAUS – 90.7 FM Sabbath 11:30 AM
 <b>NOMINATING REPORT</b> Scan this code to view the most recent Nominating Committee Report.	 <b>FIND A SABBATH SCHOOL</b>	

# FIND IT HERE

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# FEAST OF LIGHTS: GIVING BACK TO YOU

BY BYRON GRAVES

If you have lived in Berrien Springs for any length of time, you have probably attended or at least heard of the the annual Andrews Academy Feast of Lights Christmas program. I still remember the feeling of awe I felt hearing the music and seeing the candles in such a huge and beautiful church during my first Feast of Lights experience as a teenager freshly arrived from our much smaller church in Virginia. Little did I know that fifteen years later I would be helping lead this inspiring event.

Feast of Lights was first conceived by longtime Andrews Academy principal Richard Orrison in 1972. Dr. Orrison had attended a different Feast of Lights put on annually by the University of Redlands in southern California while he was dean at La Sierra University, and he was so impressed by it that he decided to borrow the idea for Andrews Academy. An

Andrews Academy tradition was born and this year we celebrated our 44th annual Feast of Lights program on Friday, December 9.

There have been many small traditions within the larger one; for many years, every student at Andrews Academy sang in the Chapel Choir at Feast of Lights, and a guest alumnus was invited to perform. A more recent addition is the presentation

of large scale choral and orchestral works such as Vivaldi's Gloria and Handel's Messiah. Some old traditions continue still, such as the live nativity, student-drawn cover artwork for the program (visit [www.facebook.com/andrewsacademyAA](http://www.facebook.com/andrewsacademyAA) to see a selection of Feast of Lights covers over the years), and of course, singing the Hallelujah chorus and Silent Night to close the evening.

Along with my friend and fellow music director, Héctor Flores, I am often the public face of Feast of Lights. Even my son Asher had a cameo role as baby Jesus last year. But what the audience does not see is that every one of our faculty and staff is involved

behind the scenes, along with many parents and students who are not performing onstage. Whether it be decorating the church in the days leading up to the concert, choreographing the nativity, running the spotlights, or vacuuming the floor

after the program, I am extremely grateful for the countless hours these individuals spend creating an atmosphere that reminds us of years past and points us to the infant King.

As you can see, Feast of Lights is more than just a school Christmas program. Besides the nearly 1000 people in onsite attendance, nearly 3000 people watched it on Facebook Live this year, with many

**FEAST OF LIGHTS WAS FIRST CONCEIVED BY LONGTIME ANDREWS ACADEMY PRINCIPAL RICHARD ORRISON IN 1972.**



others watching via the website live-stream and later on YouTube ([https://youtu.be/5h-EGoSAZ\\_o](https://youtu.be/5h-EGoSAZ_o)). The PMC Media Team and the University's Department of Telecommunications have been instrumental in helping us add the technological elements to make this a worldwide concert. But beyond its production value, Feast of Lights has always been about something deeper. As Dr. Orrison envisioned it nearly half a century ago, this program is about the academy giving something back to the community. Through the musical retelling of Christ's birth, we strive to live up to the subtitle on the program, "Honoring God's

Gift to the World," as we give this Christmas gift to you. ■

*Byron Graves is the band and handbell director at Andrews Academy and Ruth Murdoch Elementary School.*

## **SUPPORT THIS MINISTRY**

Please indicate  
"Christian Education"  
on your tithe envelope.

# WE WORSHIP

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## THE CALL

### **The Meditation**

*What Wondrous Love Is This?* • Traditional American

### **The Introit**

*Come, Every Soul by Sin Oppressed* • John Stockton

### **The Invocation**

Sharon Terrell

## THE CELEBRATION

### **In Praising**

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* • 154

### **In Baptism**

Chaiwa Chende & Sarah Brown Chende  
*with Sharon Terrell*

### **In Praying**

Don Dronen  
*O Come, All Ye Faithful* • st. 1 of 132

### **In Giving**

PMC Operating Expense • John Youngberg  
*I Know a Fountain* • Benjamin Harlan

### **In Proclaiming**

"A Sign of Love Complete" • Sharon Terrell

## THE CLEANSING

After he washed the disciples' feet, he put on his robes and returned to his place at the table. He said to them, "Do you know what I've done for you? You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and you speak correctly, because I am. If I, your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you too must wash each other's feet. I have given you an example: Just as I have done, you also must do. I assure you, servants aren't greater than their master, nor are those who are sent greater than the one who sent them. Since you know these things, you will be happy if you do them. -John 13:12-17 CEB

## THE COMMUNION

### In Reading

Millie Youngberg

While they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take and eat. This is my body." He took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many so that their sins may be forgiven. I tell you, I won't drink wine again until that day when I drink it in a new way with you in my Father's kingdom." Then, after singing songs of praise, they went to the Mount of Olives. -Mark 14:17, 22-25 CEB

### In Praying

John Youngberg

### In Partaking

*Come to the Table of the Lord • J. Althouse*

## THE COMMITMENT

### In Singing

*Sent Forth by God's Blessing • 407*

### In Blessing

### In Giving

PMC Assistance Fund

### In Leaving

*O God, Our Help in Ages Past • Jan Bender*

PRESIDING PASTOR: Don Dronen; ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan

OFFERTORY: Elizabeth Wilson, soprano

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# MUSIC ALIVE

## "OUR"

The year that is concluding has occasioned many issues of individuality versus community. What a word of power "our" is in hymns of Christian faith! Yes, many hymns are meaningfully in the first person singular, using "I," "my," "mine." Those occupy an important place as hymns of personal devotion. But what is the profound message of a hymn like "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" (hymn

no. 103), having four occurrences of "our" in its first stanza alone! In fact, an alternate version has even the first word as "Our:" "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past!" The "ours" communicate subtly, yet importantly, a message of community. For God not just to be one's own help, but "our" help, should be a profound encouragement as we begin a new year. ■

# WE STUDY

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## Song Service

Jimmer Mun

## Scripture & Prayer

John 1:14 • Mordekai Ongo

## Special Feature

"The Year in Review"  
Focus Group with Sabbath School Superintendents,  
Council, & Class members

## Offertory

## Bible Study

"Some Lessons From Job" • Classes

## 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

Jimmer Mun

ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan  
OFFERTORY: Ryan Clough



**| TRANSFERS IN |**

ATISME, Glimps  
 BARNUM, Alexandra  
 BRAMUCCI, Madison  
 BRAMUCCI, Mekhi  
 EDWARDS, Aileen  
 HARVEY-BRAMUCCI, Nicole  
 JAMES, Michael  
 JAMES, Sarah  
 MBAIWA, Galaletsang

**| TRANSFERS OUT |**

ANDRADE, Cristiane  
 ANDRADE, Erick  
 ANDRADE, Nicole  
 ANDRADE, Rodrigo  
 DUBOV, Alexander  
 HEISEY, Dean  
 HEISEY, Deborah  
 MNGO, Zachary  
 NAMIREMBE, Angeline  
 ORDAZ, Heidi  
 SHOCKEY, Brian  
 THUMBALAMOTO, Jedidah  
 VILLANUEVA, Elia Lopez  
 WEBBER, Ashley  
 WEBBER, Jeff  
 WESTON, Camille

**| FROM |**

College Heights • Lacombe, AB Canada  
 Village • Berrien Springs, MI  
 Mount Vernon, NY  
 Mount Vernon, NY  
 Paradise Valley • National City, CA  
 Mount Vernon, NY  
 Alamosa, CO  
 Alamosa, CO  
 Broadhurst • Gaborone, Botswana

**| TO |**

Luso Brazilian • Corona, NY  
 Luso Brazilian • Corona, NY  
 Luso Brazilian • Corona, NY  
 Luso Brazilian • Corona, NY  
 City • Glendale, CA  
 Brayton • Graysville, TN  
 Brayton • Graysville, TN  
 Al-Khobar, Saudi Arabia  
 Mt Tacoma • Tacoma, WA  
 Village • Berrien Springs, MI  
 Meriden, CT  
 Southeast • Cleveland, OH  
 Spanish • Eau Claire, MI  
 Holland, MI  
 Holland, MI  
 Sligo • Takoma Park, MD

**SUBMIT** announcements by emailing [bulletin@pmchurch.org](mailto:bulletin@pmchurch.org) or by going to [www.pmchurch.org/announcements/submit](http://www.pmchurch.org/announcements/submit). Requests must be received **Monday by 5:00 PM** for consideration.

**NEXT WEEK'S OFFERING**  
PMC Operating Expense

**SUNSET TODAY** • 5:23  
**SUNSET NEXT FRIDAY** • 5:29

## PIONEER PULPIT

| 01 • 07 |

**DWIGHT K. NELSON**

“Storm: Finding Jesus in the Gathering Dark”—1

| 01 • 14 |

**DWIGHT K. NELSON**

“Storm: Finding Jesus in the Gathering Dark”—2

## FINANCIAL FEATURE

**PMC OPERATING BUDGET**

Tonight many will gather with family and friends to bring in the New Year. In the middle of celebrating and making New Year’s resolutions, some take time to recall how God led and intervened over the past 365 days. Has God blessed you during 2017? Have you been blessed through the ministries of PMC? It’s the last day of the year. Why not respond through a special thank offering today?

**Family Vespers**

TODAY • 5:00 PM  
YOUTH CHAPEL

Come to a hymn and prayer session to usher in the New Year!

**Ten Days of Prayer**

JANUARY 1-10 • 6:45 PM  
4731 GREENFIELD DR.

Come and join the Youngberg's at their home as we intercede for our families, church, and for the outpouring of the Latter Rain. Each night there will be a short presentation by a number of presenters. Start the New Year right—on your knees.

**New Year House of Prayer**

JANUARY 4 • 7:00 PM  
PMC SANCTUARY

Let’s join together to welcome the New Year with a prayer service on Wednesday evening, January 4, 7:00, in the Pioneer sanctuary. Given how 2017 is already shaping up to become, isn’t it high time God’s people band together in collective prayer? *“Call upon Me in the day of trouble and I will deliver you; and you will glorify Me”* (Psalm 50:13). *“We should pray as earnestly for the descent of the Holy Spirit as the disciples prayed on the day of Pentecost. If they needed it at that time, we need it more today”* (Prayer 119). So come with your Bible. Let’s pray.

## Instruments for Cuba

Do you have a small wind or string instrument that is not being used or is forgotten in your closet? Dozens of kids in Cuba would love to have it and learn how to play. Donate it today and make a child sing for joy as we will personally take it to Cuba. Simply drop the instrument at the MDiv office (Seminary building), or call 269.471.3538 or write to [mdivstudy-tour@andrews.edu](mailto:mdivstudy-tour@andrews.edu). Give the gift of Music. Donate an instrument today!

## PMC Office Closed

The PMC office will be closed on Monday, January 2, for the New Year holiday. We will be open at 8:30 AM on Tuesday, January 3, and look forward to serving you.

## PMC Youth Mission team in Honduras

Our PMC Youth Mission team has completed an outstanding Friendship Camp at the REACH International school in Honduras. As co-directors Josés Ngugi and Eliana Iller provided excellent leadership for the camp. Additionally many hours of service were provided to children's home. Glenn Russell, Mission team leader, reports that "We have seen many answers to prayers. The 22 member team also provides large Christmas food donations to over 50 families in the community. Thank you for your prayers and support of PMC youth missions."

## Church Kitchen

Some things are missing from our church kitchen. Please make sure any items you may have borrowed from the kitchen are returned. Thank you!

## Year-end Contributions

Today is the last Sabbath to return your tithe and offerings for 2016. Your donation needs to be postmarked no later than December 31 to be included in your 2016 tax deductible receipt. You can also make your contribution online. Go to [www.pmchurch.org](http://www.pmchurch.org) and click on Giving. Contributions made by 11:59 PM on December 31 will be included in your 2016 tax-deductible receipt.

## GROW More Hope in 2017

Lead a GROW Group between February 20 and April 30, 2017. It's as simple as 1, 2, 3. (1) Think of a subject or activity that you are passionate about. (2) Invite at least 2 others to join you. (3) Sign up at [www.pmchurch.org/grow](http://www.pmchurch.org/grow) so that more can join. Help us grow more hope, community and friends for Christ in 2017! For questions or ideas, contact Pastor Sabine at [growgroups@pmchurch.org](mailto:growgroups@pmchurch.org) or 269.471.6153.

## Get Our E-Letter!

Receive PMC's e-Letter, Pioneer Midweek, for weekly updates about church life, events, and more! Subscribe today at [www.pmchurch.org/newsletter](http://www.pmchurch.org/newsletter).

## More Announcements

For more PMC and community announcements, please visit our website at [www.pmchurch.org/announcements](http://www.pmchurch.org/announcements).

TRANSFORMING  
THIS **GENERATION**



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