

PIONEER

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# CONNECT

DECEMBER 2, 2017



# WELCOME

*to Pioneer*

We are living in one of the busiest traveling seasons of the year! Reunions at the train or airport terminal are so fun to watch. They are made up of the newly arrived travelers wearily scanning the space, a sudden look of recognition and smiles as arms of welcome and kisses envelop them. Most of us know what it is like to wait for someone we have longed to see arrive. One day we will experience the fulfillment of a forever reunion with Christ and our loved ones. Isaiah speaks of this deep spiritual longing:

*Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down,  
that the mountains would tremble before you!*  
Isaiah 64:1

Thank you for being part of the Pioneer family as we worship together in the hope of Christ's glorious return. Welcome.

–Sabine Vatel

 <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>

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# “LEAVE HER ALONE!”

BY DWIGHT K. NELSON

**T**he list of the high and mighty who have been recently named in sexual harassment charges is stunning. From politicians to entertainers to media icons—it seems America now awakens each day with some new hitherto undisclosed revelation or charge of sexual abuse or harassment. Women victims, who have long been shamed or cowed into submission and silence by powerful male perpetrators, have found new voice and courage to speak out. And men, who once lived with wanton disregard for the women they mistreated with sexual abandon, now stand before the court of public opinion, their sexual libidos in full display. Even the secular press now touts sexual accountability, justice, and morality.

However, this sudden outbreak of sexual disclosure should hardly be unexpected, given the ancient prediction: “But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. People will be lovers of themselves . . . lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God—having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with such people” (2 Timothy 3:1-2, 4-5 NIV). Perhaps the operative word from Scripture for today’s headlines should be: “How the mighty have fallen!” (2 Samuel 1:27).

But what would Jesus say to the girls and the women who have been wounded and shamed by workplace or campus sexual abuse or harassment? Remember Mary (the sister of Martha and Lazarus) at the

feast of Simon, the healed leper? There she was, kneeling beside Jesus, sobbing as she splashed expensive perfume over both His head and feet. Here *Desire of Ages* draws the veil aside with a disclosure not unlike the headlines of late. As it turns out, “Simon had led into sin the woman he now despised. [Mary] had been deeply wronged by him” (566). He (who was her uncle, no less [*Daughters of God* 239]) had led her into the shame of his own sexual sin.

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## BUT WHAT WOULD JESUS SAY TO THE GIRLS AND THE WOMEN WHO HAVE BEEN WOUNDED AND SHAMED BY WORKPLACE OR CAMPUS SEXUAL ABUSE OR HARASSMENT?

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So when Jesus responds to the hisses of disapproval for Mary’s outpouring (from the nearly all-male) dinner guests around that table, He speaks cryptic but forceful words still addressed to every male abuser: **“Leave her alone” (John 12:7).**

The church and this faith community stand beside all victims of unwanted sexual abuse—for there is no place in either Kingdom or church for this predatory immorality. If you are a victim of



such abuse, then seize the new freedom that many victims are now sensing and speak up regarding your woundedness. Find a spiritual counselor you can trust, and share your story of pain. And if you're a student on this campus, go this website for instructions on how you may report the harassment ([www.andrews.edu/life/health-safety/title-ix/universitypolicy/](http://www.andrews.edu/life/health-safety/title-ix/universitypolicy/)). If you are in a workplace in this country, here is a website to assist you in reporting this illegal action to the authorities ([www.aauw.org/what-we-do/legal-resources/know-your-rights-at-work/workplace-sexual-harassment/](http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/legal-resources/know-your-rights-at-work/workplace-sexual-harassment/)).

Does Christ forgive sexual sin? Of course He does. *Desire of Ages* responds: "You may say, I am sinful, very sinful. You may be; but the worse you are, the more you need Jesus. He turns no weeping, contrite one away. He does not tell to any all that He might reveal, but He bids every trembling soul take courage. Freely will He pardon all who come to Him for forgiveness and restoration" (568).

But can Jesus heal the victims of sexual sin? The story of Mary offers a resounding Yes. *Desire of Ages* promises: "The plan of redemption has invested humanity with great possibilities, and in Mary these possibilities were to be realized. Through His grace she became a partaker of the divine nature. . . . The souls that turn to Him for refuge, Jesus lifts above the accusing and the strife of tongues. No man or evil angel can impeach these souls. Christ unites them to His own divine-human nature. They stand beside the great Sin Bearer, in the light proceeding from the throne of God" (ibid).

And where better to stand than beside the One who can both heal our wounds and forgive our guilt? No matter the headlines—abuser or victim—the light shining from Calvary offers hope to us all. ■

You can follow Pastor Dwight's blog at [www.pmchurch.org/blog](http://www.pmchurch.org/blog).



*God's  
Abundant  
Pantry*

## BY CHUCK PECK

This is the season to give thanks to God for showering us with multitudes of blessings—especially His Son, who gave up His Co-regency of the Universe to become one with mankind. Soon we celebrate His birth which was recognized and honored by a wide variety of people from lowly shepherds to royalty from far countries who presented the Christ Child with expensive gifts.

One of the ways we celebrate this event is by giving gifts to people and organizations that we want to recognize, honor, or support. Many PMC members choose to support God's Abundant Pantry (GAP) with small monthly donations. Others give larger donations annually.

GAP donors help reduce the financial stress our students experience. Your monthly \$10 donation is multiplied to equal

\$150 to \$250 retail value depending on the source of the food distributed to the international and graduate students. A \$240 annual donation will supplement a student family's food budget every month of the year for a total value of up to \$6,000.

Below is a testimonial from a regular donor who wants to share why she donates to GAP. ■

*Chuck Peck is the director of God's Abundant Pantry (GAP).*

### SUPPORT THIS MINISTRY

Please write  
"GAP or God's Abundant Pantry"  
on your tithe envelope.

My mother grew up hungry. In fact, when she first met my father at a Methodist church social, upon learning he was a farmer, she said, "I bet farmers never go hungry."

My grandmother was a single parent at the height of the Great Depression. She moved to Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, with her three daughters to teach grades K-12. Pay was small and she was paid only during the school year, so summers were very lean. They would pick raspberries to sell door to door. But my mother remembered being hungry too often.

So—knowing that many students have very lean budgets, it's important to me to give to GAP routinely. Part of my offerings budget always goes to GAP. Jesus tells us to feed the hungry and care for those in need (Matthew 25:35). Remember that monetary donations can be used to buy food from the food bank at dramatically reduced prices.

Consider allocating some of your offerings budget to GAP. It will be appreciated more than you can imagine. I find it very fulfilling to know these students are leaving Andrews to serve others around the world and my greatest reward is in heaven.

**Alice Williams**

# WE WORSHIP

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## Opening Voluntary

*Rest • Samuel Hazo*

## Introit

*O Come, O Come, Immanuel • French Processional*

## Call to Worship

José Bourget

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

*O Come—A Carol Cycle • Kenneth Logan*  
*O Come, O Come, Immanuel • st. 1, 3 of 115*  
*Angels We Have Heard on High • st. 1-3 of 142*  
*O Come, All Ye Faithful • st. 1-2 of 132*  
*Gloria • chorus only of 142*

## Congregational Prayer

José Bourget  
*Lord, Speak to Me • st. 1 of 541*

## Worship in Music

*And the Mountains Echoed: Gloria! • Robert Longfield*

## Children's Story

Ana & Marina Slavujevic  
*Festival Fanfare for Christmas • John Wasson*

## Scripture

Galatians 4:4-7 NIV • Woodrow & Margaret Whidden

But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.

**Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father."**

So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

**Hymn of Preparation**

*The Advent of Our God* • 117

**Sermon**

"Have Yourself a Windy Merry Christmas" • Dwight K. Nelson

**Connect Card, Tithes & Offerings**

PMC Operating Expense

**Hymn of Commitment**

*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* • 204

**Benediction**

**Closing Voluntary**

*Gloria in Excelsis Deo* • Allan Greenway

PRESIDING PASTOR: José Bourget; ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan  
WORSHIP IN MUSIC: Andrews University Wind Symphony; Byron Graves, director

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## MUSIC ALIVE

### "GLORIA!"

"Gloria in excelsis Deo" resonates in today's worship services and through the annals of music history. The rich ring of the Latin is unmatched in any tongue, with a transcendent meaning: "Glory to God in the Highest." These words have marked the start of the lengthy "Gloria" section in traditional worship for centuries. The German Lutheran tradition also had a hymn, "Alone to God in the

Height Be Glory," that enjoyed frequent use in worship. And there are striking choral settings of the "Gloria" text by such diverse composers as the Italian Baroque composer Antonio Vivaldi and the contemporary English composer John Rutter. The refrain of "Angels We Have Heard on High" consists totally of these four words "Gloria in excelsis Deo." Its melody prolongs the first syllable of "Gloria," lending a special fervor. ■

# WE STUDY

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<b>Song Service</b>	Elizabeth Wilson
<b>Prayer</b>	Krissy Savage
<b>Welcome</b>	Sinegugu Katenga
<b>Scripture</b>	Galatians 6:8 • Alex Wilson
<b>Special Feature</b>	Alexy Gatica
<b>Offertory</b>	<i>Children of the Heavenly Father</i> • arr. Ovid Young
<b>Bible Study</b>	Classes • "No Condemnation"
<b>Theme Song</b>	<i>Make Me a Blessing</i>

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

<b>Benediction</b>	Elizabeth Wilson
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ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan  
OFFERTORY: Megan Mocca, soprano; Katia Nikolaus, mezzo soprano; Heidi Ordaz, piano

# WE WORSHIP 2

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## **As We Begin**

*Rest • Samuel Hazo*

## **Praise**

*Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne • Bread of Heaven • O Come Let Us Adore Him*

## **Prayer**

*José Bourget*

## **Children's Story**

*Festival Fanfare for Christmas • John Wasson*

## **Worship in Music**

*And the Mountains Echoed: Gloria • Robert Longfield*

## **Sermon**

"Have Yourself a Windy Merry Christmas" • Dwight K. Nelson

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

*O Come—A Carol Cycle • Kenneth Logan*

*O Come, O Come, Immanuel • st. 1, 3 of 115*

*Angels We Have Heard on High • st. 1-3 of 142*

*O Come, All Ye Faithful • st. 1-2 of 132*

*Gloria • chorus only of 142*

## **As We Depart**

*Christmas Variants • Elliot Del Borgo*

WORSHIP COORDINATOR: José Bourget; ORGAN: Kenneth Logan

ACOUSTIC GUITAR: Ray Stephenson; BASS GUITAR: Jerry Wasmer

CAJON: Smerdis Fuentes; PIANO: Joshua Goines

VOCALS: Annelise Berghardt, Ivana Ticar, Jamila Sylvester, Sinegugu Katenga

WORSHIP IN MUSIC: Andrews University Wind Symphony; Byron Graves, director

**SUBMIT** bulletin announcements by visiting our form online at [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**  
World Budget

**SUNSET TODAY** • 5:15  
**SUNSET NEXT FRIDAY** • 5:14

## PIONEER PULPIT

| 12 • 09 |

**DWIGHT K. NELSON**

"In the Presence of a King,  
Don't Ask for Small Gifts"

| 12 • 16 |

**BEN MARTIN**

*Children's Celebration  
of Christmas*

## FINANCIAL FEATURE

**PMC OPERATING EXPENSE**

How amazing that we have a God who has set aside 24 hours so that we can worship and rest and be recharged to face another week. What a blessing to worship together as a congregation with other believers—a refreshing break in the busyness of the week. If you feel blessed week after week by worshipping within the walls of PMC please consider a gift today toward PMC expenses and add to your blessings of worship.

**Family Vespers**

TODAY • 5:00 PM  
YOUTH CHAPEL

We will watch and discuss Scott Ritsema's film on education "Undoctrinated," part 3.

**Laughing All the Way!**  
**AU Wind Symphony**  
**Christmas Concert**

TODAY • 8:00 PM

HOWARD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Get in the Christmas spirit as the Andrews University Wind Symphony performs its annual holiday concert! Performing under the direction of new director, Byron Graves, they will present familiar favorites such as Leroy Anderson's "Sleigh Ride," selections from Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Suite," as well as some lesser-known works such as Percy Grainger's "Sussex Mummer's Christmas Carol." Bring the whole family and enjoy the festive music!

**Andrews Academy**  
**Play Presentation**

TODAY • 8:00 PM

TOMORROW • 5:00 PM

ANDREWS ACADEMY CHAPEL

Andrews Academy's Literary Interpretation class presents "Cheaper by the Dozen," dramatized by Christopher Sergel. Show times are listed above. Tickets will be available at the door the night of the performance. See you there!

## **Adventist Forum Today**

TODAY • 3:30 PM  
CHAN SHUN HALL  
(GARBER AUDITORIUM)

Dr. Reinder Bruinsma will present the background for writing his recent book "Facing Doubt: A Book for Adventist Believers 'on the Margins.'"

## **Holiday Arts & Crafts Fair**

DECEMBER 3 • 11:00 AM-5:00 PM  
CHAN SHUN HALL.

The 4th Annual Holiday Arts & Crafts Fair exists primarily to provide Adventist artists and crafters a venue at which to sell their hand-crafted creations. Over 20 vendors will be showcasing hundreds of beautiful and useful items. For more information, contact Diane Helbley at [simplestirrings@yahoo.com](mailto:simplestirrings@yahoo.com).

## **Paper Crafting Together**

DECEMBER 3 • 1:00-5:00 PM  
PMC COMMONS

Have last-minute paper craft gifts to finish? Bring your projects and favorite snack. We will supply the prizes and chocolate. If you have questions, call Sherrie Davis at 269.473.8274.

## **Directory Photos**

For those who wish to appear in the PMC Directory and did not have a picture taken by the LifeTouch photographers, you may submit your own photo (with everyone in the photo identified). It must be accompanied (even if emailed) by a release form (if the picture is commercially produced) and \$10. The deadline for all three items: photo, photo release, and \$10 fee is December 4. Drop them off at the church office during business hours or email them to [nowack@andrews.edu](mailto:nowack@andrews.edu).

## **Feast of Lights**

DECEMBER 8 • 7:00 PM  
PMC SANCTUARY

All are invited to attend the 45th annual Feast of Lights program presented by the Andrews Academy department of music. This spectacular night will be filled with music, Scripture, and drama honoring the King of Kings. Enjoy lights, bells, instruments, choral and congregational singing, a Nativity scene, and the retelling of a glorious Christmas story. Portions of Vivaldi's Gloria as well as Handel's Hallelujah chorus will be performed, along with many other familiar carols.

## **Christmas Pops Concert**

DECEMBER 9 • 7:00 PM  
HOWARD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Join us as we bring in the holidays with a variety of well-known Christmas songs and holiday favorites performed by the Andrews Academy band, handbell ensemble, strings, and choirs.

## **Adventist Retirees of Michiana Christmas Banquet**

DECEMBER 10 • 1:00 PM  
VILLAGE SDA CHURCH

Join us for our annual Christmas Banquet! RSVP by calling the Village Church at 269.471.7795 by noon on December 4.

## **Soup for Students**

DECEMBER 12 • 6:00 PM  
PMC COMMONS

Let's give some bowls of love to students during finals week. We need commitments for 25 pots of soup and some cookies or bread. We also need volunteers to help clean up after the event. Let us know by December 6 if you can help by calling Lailane Legoh at 269.471.3543.

## 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](http://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](mailto:growgroups@pmchurch.org).

## A Foster Care Christmas

Share some joy with a foster kid this Christmas! Donate items for mini stockings (a small toy, chocolates, or small candy canes), buy a gift, or sponsor a wish list. There are collection bins in the PMC lower lobby and the receptionist area, Berrien Springs Ameriprise, and South Shore Women's Health Care in St. Joe. For more information go to [gh4k.org](http://gh4k.org).

## David H. Bauer Memorial Service

Former PMC member, David Bauer, passed away on October 24, 2017, in Flat Rock, North Carolina. There will be a memorial service at PMC on Sabbath afternoon, December 9, at 3:00 PM, followed by a reception in the Commons. Condolences can be sent to Marilyn J. Bauer, 73 Fuchsia Rd., Hendersonville, NC 28792.

## Adopt a Family for Christmas

Experience the joy of bringing smiles to families struggling to provide basic needs as well as gifts to their children during the holiday season. We are looking for people to adopt a family, give a donation (money, gift cards, food, toys, etc.), or help in other ways. We hope you choose to get involved by bringing cheer and gladness to many families this Christmas. To choose a family, or for more information, call Deby Andvik (269.471.6648) or Carmelita Arthur (269.471.6651). Donations can also be made through PMC's online giving (Local Church/More Offering Categories) or write "Adopt a Family for Christmas Program" on the tithe envelope.

## Thank You

Thank you, PMC family, for your prayers, concerns, support, cards, flowers, and visits during my recent hospitalization. God has blessed. I am in recovery mode now. Thank you again.

—Pastor Dronen

Dear Fellow Believers, It was truly comforting to know that you are family, but your support of me during my recent stroke and at the death of my brother, Vern Baker. The flowers you sent on both occasions were very uplifting and comforting, knowing that you care. And, special thanks to those who called, visited, brought food, or let me know they are willing to be of help in anyway they are needed. I am on the mend and look forward to seeing you soon. God bless you!

—Katherine Smith

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# CHILDREN'S CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS

**DECEMBER 16**

We join with our community in collecting toys for families that need some extra kindness during this holiday season.

**BRING AN UNWRAPPED TOY TO CHURCH  
FOR A CHILD AGE 1-16**

Come and invite your friends!

