

PIONEER CONNECT

MARCH 10, 2018



*Teach Your
Heart to Sing
Again*

WELCOME

to Pioneer

When I look at my life, it is a tapestry of thoughts and feelings that comprise who I am. Our memories are dotted with experiences and events that have been logged away to be relived over and over again. There is always a mix of happy memories that bring a smile out of nowhere and painful memories that haunt us. Often our memories are tied less to tangible events but rather to how we felt or how we made someone else feel.

As I think back over this sermon series, I find myself asking how I can be more loving. As I think about the people I have crossed paths with over the years, who gave me a glimpse of the love of Christ, these are also my happiest memories. Whether you are visiting for the first time or if you have been coming to this church for as long as you can remember, we invite you to join us in loving others the way Christ loves us! Welcome!

—Ben Martin



PIONEER MEMORIAL CHURCH

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OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday (8 to 5) • Friday (8 to 12)

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FAX – 269.471.6152

LIVE STREAMING

www.pmchurch.org
Sabbath 11:45 AM

ONLINE

www.pmchurch.org
www.newperceptions.tv

RADIO

WAUS – 90.7 FM
Sabbath 11:30 AM



CONNECT CARD

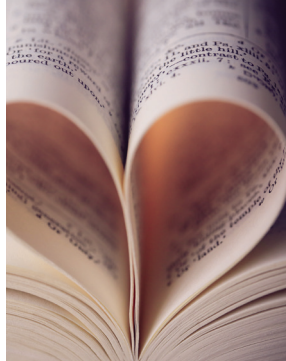
Scan this code to receive this week's Connect Card.



**FIND A
SABBATH
SCHOOL**

FIND IT HERE

CONNECT • GROW • SERVE • GO



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TIPTOEING THROUGH LIFE

BY DWIGHT K. NELSON

Shane Claiborne, the young and radical Christian activist, popular particularly among millennials, made an observation that is worth pondering: "I am convinced that if we lose kids to the culture of drugs and materialism, of violence and war, it's because we don't dare them, not because we don't entertain them. It's because we make the gospel too easy, not because we make it too difficult. Kids want to do something heroic with their lives, which is why they play video games and join the army. But what do they do with a church that teaches them to tiptoe through life so they can arrive safely at death?" (quoted in Philip Yancey's *Vanishing Grace* 83).

Is the church guilty as charged—you and I? Are we somehow inadvertently (certainly not intentionally, I presume) communicating a no-risk, no-cost, no-peril, no-fun brand of Jesus to the young today? Cautious, calculating, conservative (as in never thinking outside the box—is that our shtick?)

A campus friend dropped by the church

this week, and in the course of our conversation it comes up that he has found profound blessing in serious, extended seasons of fasting. You read that right—fasting. Profound blessings from fasting? You've got to be kidding me. Every time I venture into that foreboding spiritual discipline I can hardly wait for it to be over!

But in response, my friend tells me that Jesus' call to discipleship in fact strongly hints at the value embedded in fasting (a practice referenced 77 times in Scripture, as it turns out): **"If any want to become My followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow Me"** (Mark 8:34 NRSV). No hint of a no-risk, no-cost, no-dare brand of religion here! Plain and simple (which Jesus usually was), if you want to follow Me it'll cost you some major self-denial—meaning you're going to have to push away the natural inclination to preserve your self, to promote your interests, to protect your appetite, to presume life is a zero sum game where winning is the ultimate value. And then, He goes on, take up the cross and



follow Me. One thing's for sure—nobody can accuse Jesus of offering a tiptoe-through-life-safely brand of religion!

Which begs this question: What would happen if you and I signed on to that no-tiptoe dare from our Lord? What if we plunged into the discipline of fasting as an expression of our desire to deny our self (whose loudest clamorings are always linked to appetite) and thus open up our minds, our hearts, our bodies to the radical lordship of Christ? My friend even went so far as to suggest that fasting is actually a divine gift intended to draw us closer and more intimately to God. Just look at those who fasted in Scripture, he reminded me—Moses ends up practically face-to-face with God through his fasting, Jesus is catapulted into a ministry of profound healing and deliverance after His intimate prayer and fasting with His Father, Paul—who frequently fasted—is granted visions of heaven no human had experienced. Which doesn't mean we'll all become Moseses and Pauls and Jesuses—but it does strongly hint that something deep

transpires between God and the human who voluntarily chooses to fast as part of his/her prayer walk with the Eternal.

If we with our young today could be challenged by the very nature of Christ's radical calling—to a life daring but not entertaining, difficult and not easy—might we and they not find in Jesus' church a cause and a Kingdom worth dying for, worth living for? But if all we offer ourselves and our children is entertainment, then Clai-borne is right—we breed a generation that will turn elsewhere to satisfy the God-embedded longing for risk and the heroic—a longing most deeply fulfilled by the way of the cross. And by fasting.

PS—after my friend left, I found these two helpful links on fasting—check them out for yourself: www.allaboutgod.com/common/printable-biblical-fasting.htm and www.christianity.com/bible/9-reasons-fast-other-than-swimsuit-season.html. ■



THE FOURTH WATCH BLOGS ARE FOUND
ONLINE AT WWW.PMCHURCH.ORG/BLOG



BY STEVEN ATKINS

We look forward to that day when we get to Heaven and people from all nations of the world will gather together to worship and praise God. Andrews Academy is blessed with having so many nations and cultures represented that we can experience a little taste of what the worship experience might be like in Heaven.

International Appreciation Week was recently celebrated at Andrews Academy with over 58 countries being represented. This is a week to celebrate the diversity of Andrews Academy and an opportunity for each student and faculty to learn more about the many cultures we have at AA. Each day we incorporated traditional songs and worship traditions as we worshiped together. We had guest speakers present insights from their culture or discuss spiritual insights learned from their culture or international experience.

On the concluding day we enjoyed our traditional International Festival. For many students and faculty it is their favorite day of the school year. The majority of students dressed in their traditional attire as stu-

dents expressed their national heritage. The program began with Scripture being read in different languages, then prayer in French, followed by the International Flags entrance. A skit was presented by students from the Spanish class. An international cultural fashion show highlighted traditional attire from many countries from which the students are from. Groups from various cultures presented their cultural music and traditions.

Following the International Assembly, the students, parents, community members, and faculty enjoyed foods from around the world as students and their families brought in their country's traditional treats for all to sample. The program, which demonstrated the beauty of cultural differences in multiple ways, was coordinated by Keila Sanchez, Andrews Academy's Spanish teacher. We truly celebrated the cultural diversity that the Andrews Academy Family enjoys each day. ■

Steven Atkins is the Biology & Earth Science teacher at Andrews Academy.

Appreciating the Diversity of Cultures at Andrews Academy



WE WORSHIP

CONNECT • GROW • SERVE • GO

Opening Voluntary

How Sweet the Sound • J. Bullock

Introit

Sing Them Over Again to Me • Philip Bliss

Call to Worship

Ben Martin

Sing to the Lord a new song, sing to the Lord all the earth!

For the Lord takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with victory!

Let the high praises of God be in our throats, let his song fill the assembly of the faithful!

So let all the people worship the Lord!

Let us sing a new song to him.

Doxology

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow • 2

Invocation

Dwight K. Nelson

Hymn of Praise

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun • 227

Congregational Prayer

Ben Martin
Spirit of the Living God • 672

Worship in Music

Jesus Loves Me • R. Flauding

Children's Story

Ben Martin
Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen • James Ployhar

Scripture

Eph. 4:30; 5:1,2, 18-20 NIV • Davide Sciarabba and Sonia Badenas

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord,

always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Hymn of Preparation

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me • 624

Sermon

"Teach Your Heart to Sing Again" • Dwight K. Nelson

Connect Card

Tithes, Offerings

World Budget

Hymn of Commitment

Holy Spirit, Gracious Guest
589 (st. 1,3,5 each with refrain from 305)

Benediction

Closing Voluntary

Glory to God in the Highest • Allan Greenway

PRESIDING PASTOR: Ben Martin; ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan
WORSHIP IN MUSIC: Andrews Academy Symphony Orchestra; Héctor Flores, director

MUSIC ALIVE

"JESUS LOVES ME"

The original text of this widely-known hymn appeared close in time to the American Civil War's beginning. It is credited to Anna Warner, a New Yorker who lived near West Point Military Academy as a late teenager and onward. For years Warner and her sister Susan convened Sunday school sessions of Military Academy cadets. She lived to be age 95, and one commentary says that "the military

academy gave her a funeral as though she had been one of the soldiers." Curiously, although the hymn text seems to be quite simple and direct, it appears with "a number of alterations and rewrites published in different hymnbooks," including the one in the Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal. "Jesus loves me": Is there any thought more basic to Christian hope than that? ■

WE STUDY

CONNECT • GROW • SERVE • GO

Song Service Vladomir Slavujevic

Scripture Colossians 1:21-22 • Jonathan Burn

Prayer Laurence Burn

Welcome Qaisar Ayaz

Mission Feature "...Was Blind, But Now I See" • Jony Hajaj and Laurence Burn

Offertory

Bible Study *Classes • "The Role of Stewardship"*

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 Vladomir Slavujevic

ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan
OFFERTORY: Joshua Goines, piano

WE WORSHIP 2

CONNECT • GROW • SERVE • GO

As We Begin

How Sweet the Sound • J. Bullock

Praise

*The Blood • Days of Elijah • He is Exalted
Because He Lives/How Great Thou Art*

Prayer

Ben Martin

Baby Dedication

Laura Elaine Oliveira with Rodlie Ortiz

Thank You and Bless You

Debbie Weithers

Children's Story

Ben Martin

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun • Duane Funderburk

Worship in Music

Jesus Loves Me • James Ployhar

Sermon

"Teach Your Heart to Sing Again" • Dwight K. Nelson

Connect Card

Tithes & Offerings

Holy Spirit, Gracious Guest • 589 (st. 1,3,5 each with refrain from 305)

As We Depart

Glory to God in the Highest • Allan Greenway

WORSHIP COORDINATOR: José Bourget; ORGAN: Kenneth Logan
PRAISE LEADER: Jamila Sylvester; VOCALS: Joiliana Lecointe, Vivian Raimundo
PIANO: Adriana Perera; DJEMBE: Smerdis Fuentes; ACOUSTIC GUITAR: Maxwell Aka
ELECTRIC GUITAR: Abel Morrobel; BASS GUITAR: Jerry Wasmer
WORSHIP IN MUSIC: Andrews Academy Symphony Orchestra; Héctor Flores, director

SUBMIT bulletin announcements by visiting our form online at www.pmchurch.org/announcements/submit. Requests must be received Monday by 5:00 PM for consideration.

NEXT WEEK'S OFFERING
PMC OPERATING BUDGET

SUNSET TODAY • 6:44
SUNSET NEXT FRIDAY • 7:52

PIONEER PULPIT

| 03 • 17 |

"HEART STORIES:

A Celebration of Praise, Testimonies and Prayer"

| 03 • 24 |

JOSÉ BOURGET

Celebration of the Cross

FINANCIAL FEATURE

WORLD BUDGET

Want to be a light for Jesus?

This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, Let it shine
Let it shine!

Do you want to let your light shine?
Giving to today's offering, for World Budget, will allow your light to shine brightly all around the world.

"Heart Stories: A Celebration of Praise, Testimonies and Prayer"

NEXT SABBATH—BOTH SERVICES

Come March 17 and be inspired at either worship service with something new at Pioneer—a Sabbath morning worship service devoted entirely to spirited praise, live testimonies and interviews, and collective prayer. For months we have shared a conversation about the daily baptism of the Holy Spirit and His call to love, acceptance and forgiveness. Now let's share the "heart stories" as we prepare for God's "next steps."

Visitors' Dinner

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

Family Vespers

TODAY • 6:00 PM
YOUTH CHAPEL

Come close the Sabbath with sacred music and Scripture.

The Ties That Bind?

TODAY • 3:30-5:00 PM
GARBER AUDITORIUM,
CHAN SHUN HALL

Andrews professors will present "The Ties That Bind? Exploring the Impact of SDA Family Response to LGBT+ Children."

Adventist Retirees March Meeting

MARCH 11 • 1:00 PM
VILLAGE SDA CHURCH

This month's speaker will be Pastor Taurus Montgomery from the Harbor of Hope church in Benton Harbor. Come enjoy the fellowship of a potluck meal and program. Persons 55 and over are eligible to join our group as members.

Knitting Hearts Together

MARCH 13 • 7:00 PM
MACCARTY RESIDENCE

This group ministers to the seriously ill and bereaved through hand-created items. Please consider joining for fellowship, creativity, and personal visits. Contact Alice Williams 461-6815 or alicew@andrews.edu.

Paper Crafting Together

MARCH 18 • 11:00 AM-5:00 PM
PMC COMMONS

Scrapbookers and cardmakers are invited to bring their projects and their favorite snack. Come for the whole time or just a couple of hours. We provide prizes and chocolate. Questions, sherrie.davis@lakeunion.org.

PMC Youth Missions Lebanon

MARCH 15

The PMC Youth Missions team, led by Glenn Russell and Rodney Palmer, will depart for Beirut, Lebanon, where they will be involved in ministries on three campuses with students from many religions and cultures. They will spend some time at the Syrian refugee center. Your financial support for PMC Youth Missions Lebanon is vital and your prayer support is essential. More information contact glenn@andrews.edu.

Benefit Concert Featuring Jaime Jorge

MARCH 14 • 7:00 PM

HOWARD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Come for a wonderful night of violin music by the world-renowned artist, Jaime Jorge, and a special dedication for the Care for Cuba mission team leaving March 16. They will be spearheading evangelistic efforts in Cuba. A free-will offering will be collected to support Care for Cuba. Admission is free.

Get Your Life Back!

MARCH 15 • 6:30 PM
VILLAGE SDA CHURCH

Depression & Anxiety Recovery Seminar by nationally acclaimed depression recovery/research specialist, Dr. Neil Nedley (via video and with locally trained presenters). Thursdays, March 29–May 17, 6:30-8:30 PM (9 sessions). Info session will be held March 15. Register: 471.7795.

Opportunities to Love the Community

God's Hands 4 Kids provides many services for foster and adoptive families. They host a monthly support group for example. Could you help by providing soup or a treat or help with childcare? For more information on these and other needs email godshands4kids@gmail.com.

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.

Adventist Community Service Disaster Relief Introduction Training

MARCH 31 • 4:00 PM
PMC COMMONS

This 1-2-hour course is intended to help us prepare for disasters. Types of disasters are identified and basic information is presented. If individuals are prepared to survive a disaster, they may be able to assist others. The course is the first step to get your ACS Disaster Relief certification. If you are interested in attending this free training, email teela@andrews.edu or call 517.290.1518.

NOT ALL WOUNDS BLEED 5K

APRIL 15

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY TRACK FIELD

The Andrews University Psychology Club is hosting a 5K run/walk fundraiser for Not All Wounds Bleed. Through this run/walk, they hope to bring awareness to PTSD, provide an outlet for the expression of physical health, and bring both the AU students and community members together. Runners will be given a free t-shirt and wristband. Sign up at runsignup.com/notallwoundsbleed.

We GROW Better Together

Spring GROW Groups registration is now available. View the options and register online at www.pmchurch.org/grow or visit the Welcome Center on the lower level for a physical copy of our catalog.

Madagascar Project

AU's Community & International Development Dept. provides an opportunity for students to attend the Madagascar Study tour. The goal every year is to implement a humanitarian and development project. This year's project supports La Chretienne College, an Adventist school there. Students who attend are in need of supplies to make their education more successful. For more information about donating to these projects in Madagascar go to: www.andrews.edu/services/development

Nominating Committee

FIRST READING

Errol Prentice

More Announcements

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

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Heart Your Family

SUBMIT YOUR
FAMILY PHOTOS
[PMCHURCH.ORG/
HEARTYOURFAMILY](http://PMCHURCH.ORG/HEARTYOURFAMILY)

THEY SAY A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND
WORDS. SO TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT
YOURSELF AND SHOW US WHO IS CLOSE TO
YOUR HEART THROUGH A PICTURE. THIS PIC-
TURE CAPTURES A PART OF YOUR STORY,
AND YOUR STORY IS A PART OF THIS
CHURCH FAMILY. LET'S HEART OUR FAMILY.