

# PIONEER

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# CONNECT

JUNE 9, 2018



## GONE TO THE BIRDS

Lessons from the Divine Ornithologist—2

# WELCOME

*to Pioneer*

On behalf of all of us at Pioneer Memorial Church: welcome! We're glad you're here. We've been expecting you. So make yourself comfortable. You're not a visitor. You're our guest. But, of course, we would like to be more than that. We'd love to be family.

You see, being family is a promise, isn't it? It's a promise that we won't let go; that we'll hold each other up; that we'll support and accept each other just as we are. Yup, that's a family. And that's what we invite you to today. You may have thought you were just coming to be a visitor, or even a guest. But the really great thing is the reality that, though you may have come as a first-timer, you can leave as family. So we'll see you next week.

—Rodlie Ortiz

 <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.pmchurch.org">www.pmchurch.org</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>CONNECT CARD</b> Scan this code to receive this week's Connect Card.		 <b>FIND A SABBATH SCHOOL</b>

# FIND IT HERE

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# THE DISAPPOINTMENT OF LEBRON JAMES AND GOD

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BY DWIGHT K. NELSON

**G**iven the National Basketball Association (NBA) finals that are in progress as I write—a contest between the Cleveland Cavaliers and the Golden State Warriors (who are meeting in a record fourth consecutive finals matchup)—you can forgive the sports world for obsessing over facial expressions. Such was the case in Game 1 a few days ago. Taking cues from Yahoo Sports, let's set up the picture.

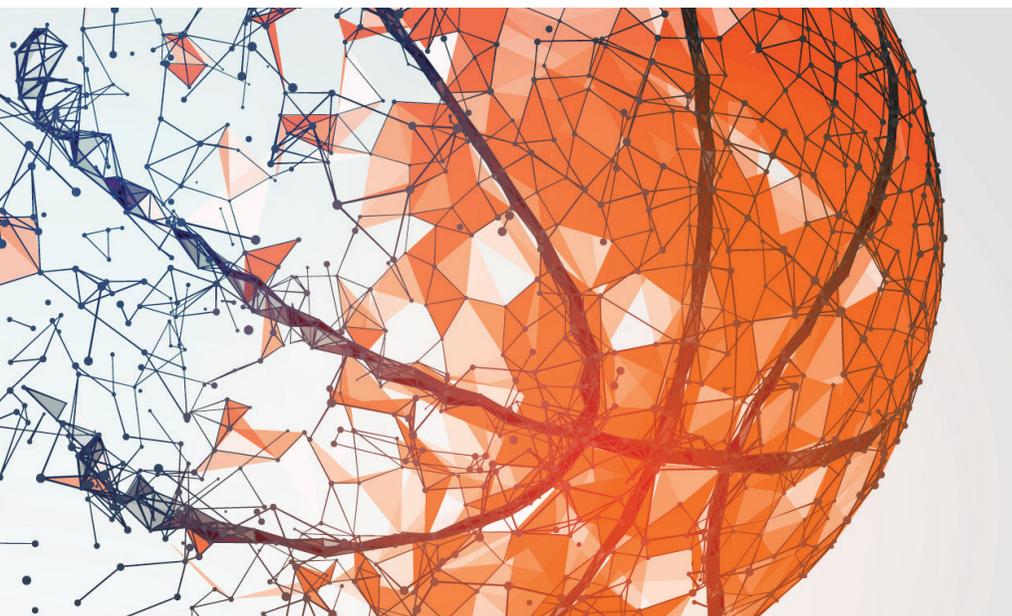
Game 1—the teams are tied. With 4.7 seconds to go the Cavaliers' J. R. Smith offensively rebounds the ball and—instead of a quick pass to an open teammate or a shot at the basket himself or even calling for a timeout—Smith dribbles the ball away from the hoop. But in a major gaffe, he forgets the score is tied. The buzzer sounds. The tied teams go into overtime, whereupon the Warriors surge ahead and win Game 1.

A now gone viral video clip ([www.sports.yahoo.com/lebron-james-in-](http://www.sports.yahoo.com/lebron-james-in-credulous-bench-j-r-smiths-game-1-gaffe-video-153826487.html)

[credulous-bench-j-r-smiths-game-1-gaffe-video-153826487.html](http://www.sports.yahoo.com/lebron-james-in-credulous-bench-j-r-smiths-game-1-gaffe-video-153826487.html)) of Cavs superstar LeBron James' facial express of incredulous disappointment says it all. What can a crestfallen superstar say? A mindless gaffe can be a very costly mistake.

But it was more than a just a gaffe that chilly, very early Friday. The night air turns blue with fisherman oaths as the man swears he never knew this Jesus of Nazareth. A rooster crows. And the Prisoner turns, disappointment and hurt etched all over his pained face. No video clip needed. Just the terse recitation: **"The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: 'Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times.' And he went outside and wept bitterly"** (Luke 22:61-62).

How many times, I wonder, have I left that look of painful disappointment all over God's face? He was counting



on me to stand for Him in that circle of chatter. He was hoping against hope that I'd man-up to my moral responsibility as a disciple of His. But forgetting the time left on the clock, I dribbled that opportunity away, when if I'd only been thinking (praying) instead of laughing, I could have changed the score for Team Heaven. Instead, I blew it.

You know the scenario.

Of course, for J. R. Smith, LeBron James, Steve Curry it's just a game. A billion-dollar game, to be sure, but nevertheless just a game. But not so this business of living. It's life or death, it's war, it's for keeps, and the stakes are eternal. Which only jacks even higher the painful disappointment my fumbled gaffes must cost my dearest Friend, my God.

So where is hope for me, gaffe-prone sinner that I am? "Peter's eyes were drawn

to his Master. In that gentle countenance, he read deep pity and sorrow, but there was no anger there. The sight of that pale, suffering face, those quivering lips, that look of compassion and forgiveness, pierced his heart like an arrow" (Desire of Ages 713). So look into that Face—it can tell you a lot: pity, sorrow, compassion, forgiveness, but "no anger there." No wonder His very next prayer is my only hope, "**Father, forgive them, for they do know not what they are doing**" (Luke 23:34).

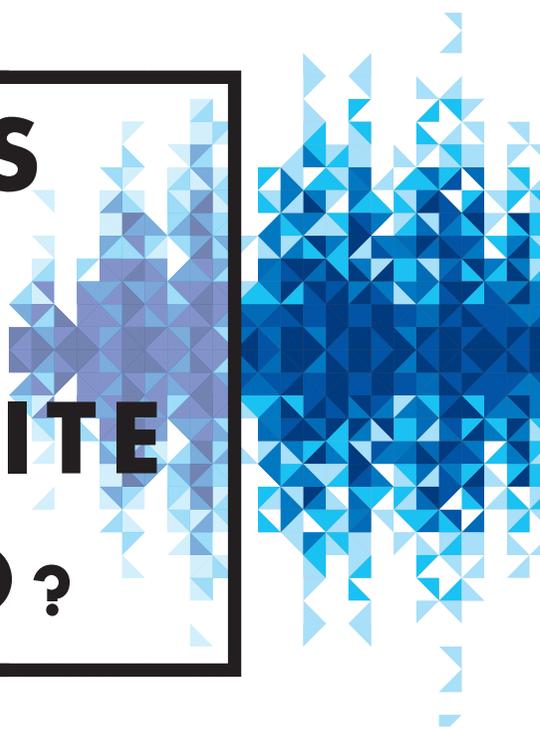
Forgiveness. Compassion. No video replay necessary. Because nothing in that Face has changed. And everything in this heart *can still change*. "[Peter] said, 'Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you'" (John 21:17).

What a game-changing difference the Cross can make.



THE FOURTH WATCH BLOGS ARE FOUND ONLINE  
AT [WWW.PMCHURCH.ORG/BLOG](http://WWW.PMCHURCH.ORG/BLOG)

# WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE SOUND?



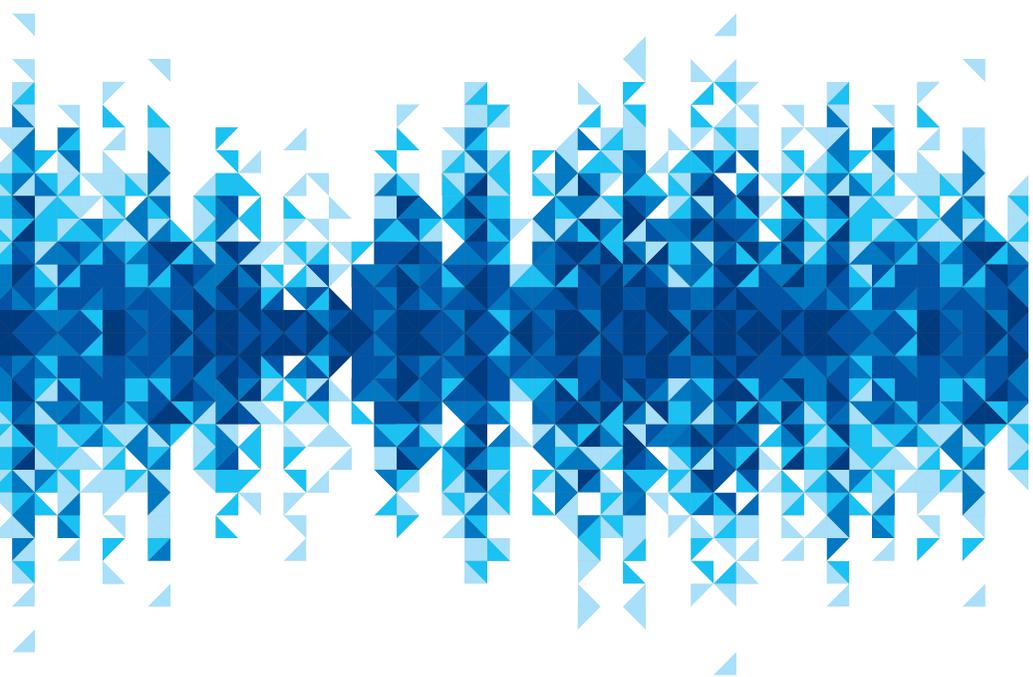
BY RICHARD A. PARKE

**W**hat is your favorite sound? Take a minute to think about it. Maybe it's a bubbling stream, or the summer birds chirping, or perhaps the melody of a symphony. Me, I love the sound of tight vocal harmonies. I will always remember a high school choir tour experience when we sang in a stairwell of all places. Yes, that's right, a stairwell! The reverberation of the harmonies was a marvelous sound!

My mother always made an effort to instill in me an appreciation for different types of music. Whether it be attending a concert, those 6 years of piano lessons, or the sounds of Christmas music in July, she was successful at introducing a plethora of music, and a love of it (except when it comes to Country music – sorry mom). What I love about music at Pioneer is its diversity. Here, you can experience the

joy of congregational praise, the sweet melody of a vocal, choral, or orchestral piece, and the power of a band exemplifying the might of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We do it all here at Pioneer. Every group requires different methods of amplification, and that's part of what the Media Team does.

Although the local worship experience is always our primary concern, we are privileged here at Pioneer to extend a global reach through our live streaming and New Perceptions ministries. Our live stream and radio audiences double our Sabbath morning reach, and our television audiences, literally across the world, has a significant evangelistic reach. Recently, through your support and that of these global audiences, we have made some significant updates to our sound equipment. This allows us to stay relevant



with current technology trends and continue to strive for excellence.

We now have in-ear monitors for many of our musicians. This helps control the unwanted extra noise on the stage that often gets bounced around and prevents clarity to the listener. It allows us to discontinue the use of many of our on-stage speakers. Musicians have found these to also aid in their ability to hear themselves and make their own worship a more positive experience.

We also have replaced all wireless microphone systems in the Sanctuary, Youth Chapel, and Commons. Due to a recent frequency sale by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), we were required to make this update. The new microphones look better, have more efficient charging methods with rechargeable batteries, are, more impor-

tantly, sound better.

Finally, we now have several t-coil hearing aid neckloops, available at the welcome centers. These devices work with many hearing aid devices and allow you to use them as the assistance device, rather than separate earbuds. We hope these will provide an increase in the user experience.

*Richard Parke is the Director of Media Ministries here at PMC.*

## **SUPPORT THIS MINISTRY**

Please indicate  
*"Media Ministry"*  
on your tithe envelope.

# WE WORSHIP

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## Opening Voluntary

*We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight* • James Biery

## Introit

*Come, Holy Spirit* • Marguerite Samuel

## Call to Worship

Rodlie Ortiz

The Lord is our shepherd

**We have everything we need.**

He gives us new strength. He guides us in right paths as he promised.

**He welcomes us as honored guests and fills our cups to the brim.**

His goodness and love is with us at all times and his house shall be our home forever.

**Let us worship God!**

## Doxology

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

## Invocation

Dwight K. Nelson

## Hymn of Praise

*All Things Bright and Beautiful* • 93

## Congregational Prayer

Rodlie Ortiz  
*Spirit of the Living God* • 672

## Worship in Music

*A Mighty Fortress* • Duane Funderburk

## Baby Dedication

Hunter Grant Bell presented by Matthew & Breanna Bell  
with Dwight K. Nelson

## Children's Story

*God Will Take Care of You* • Stillman Martin / Kenneth Logan

## Scripture

Matthew 6:25-27, 33 NIV • Chuck and Beverly Peck

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes?"

**Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?**

continued. . .

Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?"  
**But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.**

**Hymn of Preparation** *Seek Ye First the Kingdom* • 224 (st. 1,2,4)

**Sermon** "Gone to the Birds: Lessons from the Divine Ornithologist–2"  
Dwight K. Nelson

**Connect Card**

**Tithes & Offerings** World Budget

**Hymn of Commitment** *God Will Take Care of You* • 99

**Benediction**

**Closing Voluntary** *O God, Faithful God* • Johannes Brahms

PRESIDING PASTOR: Rodlie Ortiz; ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan  
MUSICAL SELECTIONS: PMC Sanctuary Choir; Marguerite Samuel, director

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## MUSIC ALIVE

"HUSBAND AND WIFE TOGETHER"

"**G**od Will Take Care of You" is an outgrowth of husband-and-wife collaboration. The words' author, Civilla Martin, told the story: "I was confined to a sickbed in a Bible school in Lestershire, New York. My husband was spending several weeks at the school, making a songbook for the president of the school. [I wrote this hymn] one Sunday afternoon while my husband

went to a preaching appointment. When he returned, I gave the words to him. He immediately sat down to his little [portable] organ and wrote the music. That evening he and two of the teachers sang the completed song." The scriptural allusion indicated in the hymnal (top left corner of no. 99) is 1 Peter 5:7: "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you" (KJV). ■

# WE STUDY

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**Song Service**

Rachel Sauer

**Opening Hymn**

*In the Garden* • 487

**Prayer & Welcome**

Philip Giddings III

**Scripture**

Joel 2:28-29 NIV

**Mission Feature**

"The Dream" • Beatriz Ritzenthaler

**Offertory**

**Lesson Study**

*Classes* • "America and Babylon"

**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**

Rachel Sauer

ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan

OFFERTORY: Katia Nikolaus, flute; Ronnie Zanella, piano

# WE WORSHIP 2

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## As We Begin

*We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight* • James Biery  
*Come, Holy Spirit* • Marguerite Samuel

## Praise

*All Things Bright and Beautiful* • *We Fall Down*  
*Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)* • *Falling in Love with Jesus*

## Prayer

Rodlie Ortiz

## Baby Dedication

Laural Annelie Brown presented by Adam & Beverly Brown  
with José Bourget

## Children's Story

*God Will Take Care of You* • Stillman Martin / Kenneth Logan

## Worship in Music

*A Mighty Fortress* • Duane Funderburk

## Sermon

"Gone to the Birds: Lessons from the Divine Ornithologist—2"  
Dwight K. Nelson

## Connect Card

## Tithes & Offerings

*God Will Take Care of You* • 99

## As We Depart

*O God, Faithful God* • Johannes Brahms

WORSHIP COORDINATOR: José Bourget; ORGAN: Kenneth Logan  
PRAISE LEADER: Jamila Silvester; VOCALS: Michelle Odinma, Sinegugu Katenga  
DJEMBE: Trevor Furst; PIANO: Joshua Goines, SAXOPHONE: Carlon Nyack  
BASS GUITAR: Lorian Guillaume; ACOUSTIC GUITAR: Randall Ulangca  
MUSICAL SELECTIONS: PMC Sanctuary Choir; Marguerite Samuel, 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**  
PMC Operating Expense

**SUNSET TODAY** • 9:18  
**SUNSET NEXT FRIDAY** • 9:22

## PIONEER PULPIT

| 06 • 16 |

### DWIGHT K. NELSON

"Gone to the Birds: Lessons from the Divine Ornithologist"—3

| 06 • 23 |

### DWIGHT K. NELSON

"Gone to the Birds: Lessons from the Divine Ornithologist"—4

## FINANCIAL FEATURE

### WORLD BUDGET

As Seventh-day Adventists we are blessed that we are a global church. From week to week we have brothers and sisters in Christ who are also enjoying a Sabbath rest. As part of our connection we are able to bless those who are worshiping in other countries through our offerings today which goes to the World Budget. If you happen to travel outside the US this summer and visit one of our sister churches, please give them a greeting from Pioneer Memorial Church. If you are visiting us today from another country we say—Welcome!

### Visitors' Dinner

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

### Family Vespers

TODAY • 8:00 PM  
YOUTH CHAPEL

The video on education, "Undoctrinated" by Scott Ritsema, will be shown and discussed this evening.

### Profession of Faith— First Reading

Zionna "Tision" Getahun is to be accepted for membership in the Pioneer Memorial Seventh-day Adventist Church, based on Profession of Faith.

### Adventist Seniors Monthly Meeting

JUNE 10 • 1:00 PM  
VILLAGE CHURCH

A haystack meal will be provided—cost \$5.00/person. There will not be a potluck meal, so do not bring any food items. All seniors, members or not, are invited to come fellowship with us.

### We Mourn

We have just learned of the death of Kirsten LaBianca who passed away on Monday, May 28. With the LaBianca family we pray, "Come Soon, Lord Jesus."

## Sanctuary Flowers

Flowers today are in honor of Ben and Sandy Chilson's 50th wedding anniversary, June 9. Join their children: Cyndy and Kevin Shelley, Terry and Becky Chilson, Kim and Greg Taylor, and Jay and Kelly Chilson in congratulating them on this special day of celebration.

## We GROW Better Together

We're pressing pause for the Summer but it's not too early to start planning what GROW Group you might want to lead for the Fall Semester between September 30 to December 9, 2018! Register your group at [www.pmchurch.org/grow](http://www.pmchurch.org/grow) and help us build an intergenerational community where people can grow together in friendship with God and each other. Here are some ideas for groups: Happily Single, Pickleball, Baking Desserts, Women's Prayer Studies, Dads and Prayer. What's your idea? For more information, please contact Gracie Gaytan at [growgroups@pmchurch.org](mailto:growgroups@pmchurch.org) or 471.3133.

## Volunteers Needed!

AUGUST 19 • 7:00 AM-5:00 PM  
BENTON HARBOR HIGH SCHOOL,  
BENTON HARBOR, MI

You are invited to participate in a free health care event. All volunteers are needed! Dentists, hygienists, eye doctors, and dental assistants are vital. To register as a volunteer for this rewarding event, please go to: [www.harborofhealth.org](http://www.harborofhealth.org). For general questions please contact Cathy Coleman at [cathyycole@gmail.com](mailto:cathyycole@gmail.com). For all other inquiries please contact Randy Griffin at [randy.griffin@lakeunion.org](mailto:randy.griffin@lakeunion.org). Hope to see you there!

## Toys for Foster and Adopted Kids

God's Hands 4 Kids ministers to foster and adopted kids and their families working closely with Berrien County Courts and Foster Care, filling needs they present and providing support to workers and families. We are currently doing a toy drive to gather toys to be given to each kiddo present at two upcoming events this summer and fall. Toy suggestions and drop-off locations in addition to PMC can be found at [www.gh4k.org](http://www.gh4k.org). God bless as we all strive to live James 1:27.

## Andrews University Health and Wellness

Andrews University Health and Wellness invites you to take advantage of our state-of-the-art 3-D Massage Chair, figure out your real body age and body composition with our full-body sensor, and discover various ways to become A healthier U! Visit: [www.andrews.edu/wellness](http://www.andrews.edu/wellness) for more information and to schedule appointments! Contact [wellness@andrews.edu](mailto:wellness@andrews.edu).

## Summer Exercise Classes

NOW THROUGH JULY 1

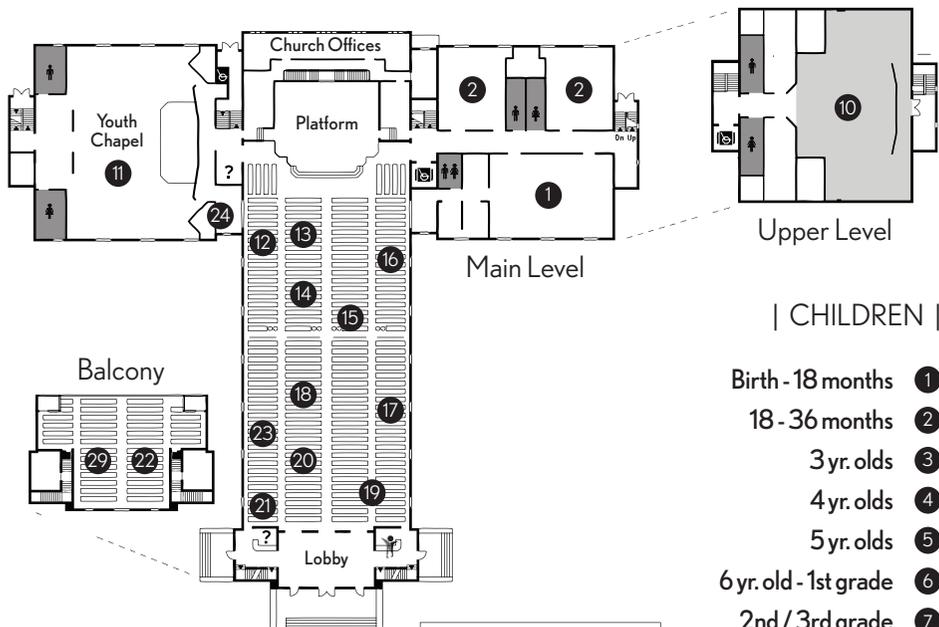
### H2OFit

*Monday & Wednesday • 7:30-8:15 AM  
Beaty Pool*

### ToBoFit

*Tuesdays & Thursdays • 5:00-5:50 PM  
Lamson Hall Health Club*

These FREE classes are co-ed and part of the PMC Health Ministries. They are open to anyone 18 years and older. Check out [www.HealthTent.org](http://www.HealthTent.org) for updated schedule postings.



| CHILDREN |

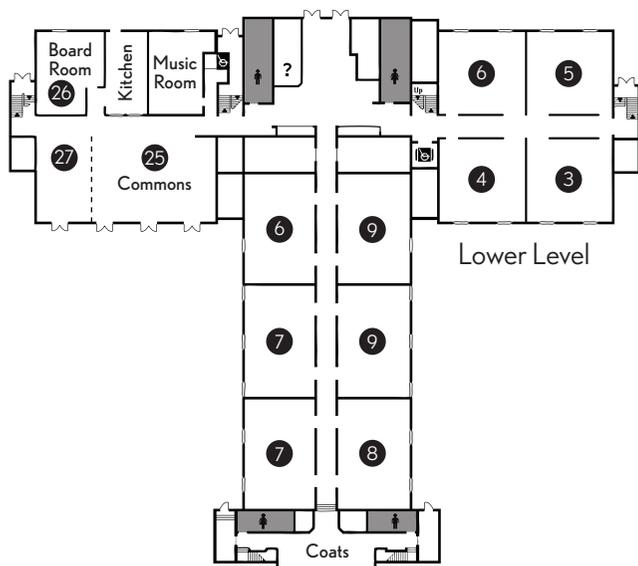
- Birth - 18 months ①
- 18 - 36 months ②
- 3 yr. olds ③
- 4 yr. olds ④
- 5 yr. olds ⑤
- 6 yr. old - 1st grade ⑥
- 2nd / 3rd grade ⑦
- 4th grade ⑧
- 5th / 6th grade ⑨
- Earliteen ⑩
- Youth ⑪

| ADULT |

- ⑫ Group 1
- ⑬ Group 2 (Portuguese/Brazilian)
- ⑭ Group 3
- ⑮ Group 4 (Yugoslavian)
- ⑯ Group 5
- ⑰ Group 6
- ⑱ Group 7
- ⑲ Group 8
- ⑳ Group 9 (Spanish)
- ㉑ Group 10
- ㉒ Group 11 (Balcony)
- ㉓ Group 12 (French)
- ㉔ Conference Room
- ㉕ Something In Common
- ㉖ Young Adults
- ㉗ SDA Beliefs

| KEY |

- ? Welcome Centers
- ⬇ Elevators
- ♂♂ Restrooms
- 👤 Children's Activities & Lending Library



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TRANSFORMING  
THIS **GENERATION**



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