

PIONEER

CONNECT

JANUARY 2, 2016



*Charmed
into Righteousness*

THE **ONLY** SAVIOR

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

Happy New Year, and welcome to the Pioneer Memorial Church. We're so excited to have you as a part of our family as we look forward to 2016. Last year, about this time, NASA's Hubble Telescope finished its three-year mission to photograph the Andromeda galaxy (our nearest galactic neighbor) in unprecedented detail. The 1.5 billion pixel image reveals over 100 million stars, like grains of sand at the beach. Talk about some New Year's resolution!

As you join us in worship today, we hope you'll take a moment to reflect on the enormity of the God we serve. A God who orders the galaxies, and shapes the stars, and yet still cares so deeply about each one of his children here on this little planet. Last year has passed, a new one lies ahead. Let's start it hand in hand with the God of the Universe.

—Jonathan LaPointe

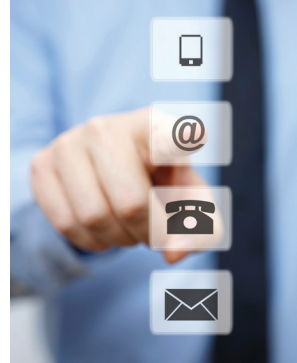
SABBATH SMILES

*Three young ladies wait for Youth Sabbath School to start.
(Photo credit: Ben Martin)*



FIND IT HERE

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AMAZON'S NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

BY DWIGHT K. NELSON

"Return that gift before you get it." Leave it to Amazon.com to "solve" our gift-receiving woes! The mega online mail-order giant reportedly has come up with a solution to those gifts from "Aunt Mildred" you've never known what to do with—from "The Stallion Stable Music Box" that must have been a beauty on the computer screen but turned out to be a White Elephant under the Christmas tree, to "The Thread and Bobbin Sewing Kit" that, truth be known, will never see the light of day. "These gifts sent via some warehouse many miles away are not only unwanted, but also a multimillion-dollar headache: They have to be repacked, labeled, dropped off and shipped back to Amazon's Island of Misfit Toys." After which a new present will have to be "packed, labeled, and shipped again. Efficient, the process is not" (*South Bend Tribune* 12-28-2010).

So Amazon has "quietly patented" a way whereby you can return your gifts before you even get them. This new option, apparently planned in time for next Christmas, will allow you to designate individuals who consistently send you what you don't want or need—so that if they order another gift for you through Amazon it will be "vetted before anything ships." I.e., you'll have the option to "convert" the gift to one of your liking. The patent says: "The user may specify such

a rule because the user believes that this potential sender has different tastes than the user" (Ibid).

THE MEGA ONLINE MAIL-ORDER GIANT REPORTEDLY HAS COME UP WITH A SOLUTION TO THOSE GIFTS FROM "AUNT MILDRED" YOU'VE NEVER KNOWN WHAT TO DO WITH...

You can imagine the uproar from the etiquette crowd! Anna Post, the great-great-granddaughter of the proper-manners queen, Emily Post, warns of a major backlash, and hopes Amazon abandons the notion: "This idea totally misses the spirit of gift giving. The point of gift giving is to allow someone else to go through that action of buying something for us. Otherwise, giving a gift just becomes another one of the world's transactions" (Ibid). Well put, Miss Post.

"Just another one of the world's transactions." Which, of course, can't be said for the Gift Heaven gave Earth long, long ago, can it? That Gift first borne on a barnyard trough... and eventually spiked to a Roman cross. Return the Gift to the Giver? And yet the small print of this in-



tergalactic struggle still called “the great controversy” includes an opt-out proviso—a provision acted upon, sadly enough, time and again: **“He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him” (John 1:11).** I.e., they turned down the Gift.

On this New Year Sabbath we gather at the foot of the cross, at the feet of the Gift. Because it surely dawns upon our collective consciousness that in the words of F. F. Bruce, “the total adequacy of Christ” is our truest vision in the year before us, and our only hope in the life that is left.” But God forbid [this New Year] that I should

boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world” (Galatians 6:14). ■

Since mine eyes have gazed on Jesus
I’ve lost sight of all beside
So enchained my spirit’s vision
Gazing on the Crucified.
—Oswald Chambers

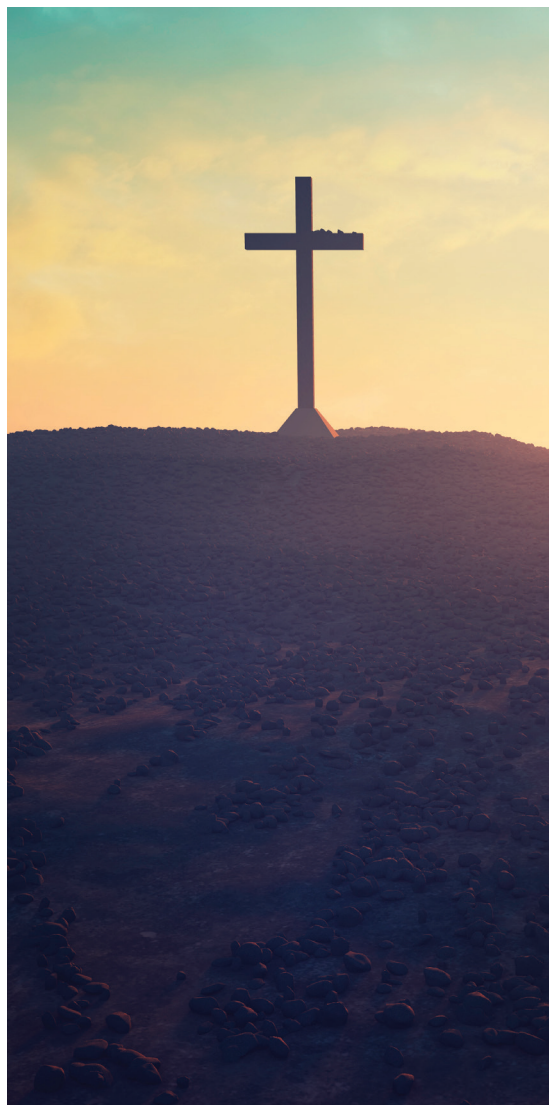
You can follow Pastor Dwight’s blog at www.pmchurch.tv/blog.

LESSONS ON FORGIVENESS

BY JACQUELINE DOHNA

After talking with some friends here on campus I have discovered a common theme regarding forgiveness. It seems as though everyone here struggles with the consequences of unresolved hurt, me being the first to admit my conflict. But how can this be? Since becoming a Christian I have been under the impression that as a follower of Christ it should be easy to let go of the past. So often this is reinforced by our lack of understanding of the full biblical context of forgiveness. A verse that I have wrestled with is found in Ephesians 4:31-32 which states, "Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." However, in my experience forgiveness can be a bit more complex than we imagine it to be.

There is something about being personally hurt by another human being that cuts us deeper than any weapon ever could. Personally, I have battled with an immense load of guilt because of my lack of forgiveness. This guilt magnifies when I think of Jesus' forgiveness for me. This Man literally came down from Heaven to experience the ultimate humiliation and torture so that I can have a chance at living free from the bondage of sin. My selfishness is what nailed Him to the



cross and He still finds me valuable. This is a concept that I still can not fully grasp in its entirety. This lack of understanding has become a hindrance in my journey to forgiveness.

Notice I mentioned the word journey, insinuating that there is no magical teleportation to the land of forgiveness, but a period of traveling in between. This was my first of three major "Oh wow" moments pertaining to the idea of forgiveness. I had this image in my head of forgiveness



being similar to a light switch that instantaneously exerted power to the bulb once flipped upward. Forgiveness has to be a conscious and continuous process. Intentional effort is needed in order to forgive people who have caused any suffering in our lives. We must choose daily to forgive just as we choose daily to love.

My second "Oh wow" moment took place when I realized all of my recollections regarding my unforgiven past hurts were related in a specific way. They all

replayed in my head with me as the star victim of all the scenes. I was so caught up with my own hurt that I left no room in my mind for the other person and their potential feelings about the situation. I saw that this selfish thinking also left no room for God to heal any of these injuries.

There is one more shift in my perspective that I have encountered while continuing on my uphill road to forgiveness. Initially, forgiveness to me seemed weak. I felt that if I forgave someone for hurting me that this made the other person think their behavior was correct. This would mean that I let them off the hook and they are now free to continue their ways of maltreatment. However, my thinking couldn't have been farther from the truth. To forgive someone takes bravery, courage and all other synonyms that you can possibly think of. "Forgiving does not erase the bitter past. A healed memory is not a deleted memory. Instead, forgiving what we cannot forget creates a new way to remember. We change the memory of our past into a hope for our future" (Louis B. Smedes).

I would like to end with two important thoughts. First, I have found it to be both reasonable and acceptable to be angry towards others when our emotions are hurt. We are wired emotionally and shouldn't feel guilty for expressing these feelings as long as we do so in a loving way. Secondly, what helps me through this journey is telling all of these feelings to the One who can relate the most—Jesus. I'm still trying to understand forgiveness and working through this trouble area in my life, but I no longer am doing it alone. ■

Jacqueline Dohna is studying Psychology here at Andrews University.

WE WORSHIP

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THE CALL

The Meditation

The Old Year Has Passed Away • Johann Sebastian Bach

The Introit

O God, Our Help in Ages Past • William Croft

The Call

Sabine Vatel

Gather us into this New Year, O God of the ages.

The scattered, the lonely, and the lost look to you for your lead.

Bring us together from far and from near.

Let us hear the voice of our Christ and we will rejoice and be satisfied.

The Invocation

Dwight K. Nelson

THE CELEBRATION

In Praising

Lift High the Cross • 362

In Prayer

Sabine Vatel

Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne • st. 1 of 140

In Giving

PMC Operating Expense • *Duane Covrig; **Bob Johnston

Give Me Jesus • African-American Spiritual

In Proclaiming

"Charmed into Righteousness: The Only Savior"

Dwight K. Nelson

THE CLEANSING

After washing their feet, he put on his robe again and sat down and asked, "Do you understand what I was doing? You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and you are right, because that's what I am. And since I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash each other's feet. I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you. I tell you the truth, slaves are not greater than their master. Nor is the messenger more important than the one who sends the message. Now that you know these things, God will bless you for doing them." -John 13:12-17 NLT

THE COMMUNION

In Reading

*Xaioming Xu; **Madeline Johnston

While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." -Matthew 26:26-29 NIV

In Praying

*Duane Covrig; **Bob Johnston

In Partaking

'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus • Johann Sebastian Bach

THE COMMUNION

In Singing

Sent Forth by God's Blessing • 407

In Blessing

Dwight K. Nelson

In Giving

PMC Assistance Fund

In Leaving

Fugue on "Lift High the Cross" • Kenneth Logan

PRESIDING PASTOR: Sabine Vatel; ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan
OFFERTORY: Ryan Clough, tenor

MUSIC ALIVE

LIFT HIGH THE CROSS

Today's Hymn of Praise, "Lift High the Cross," references at its top left corner a scriptural allusion to John 12:32, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." The hymn en-joins us to "Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim / Till all the world adore His sacred name." The text is a revision of its author's original. Sidney Nicholson's

stirring musical refrain, which here begins and ends the hymn (as sometimes occurs particularly in hymn melodies from England), strongly supports the text's striding strength, even though the rhythm is quite varied in the music of the refrain melody. Of particular interest is that the refrain states "Unison" at its beginning, while the stanzas states "Harmony." ■

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 • 5:24
SUNSET NEXT FRIDAY • 5:30

PIONEER PULPIT

| 01 • 09 |

DWIGHT K. NELSON

"Charmed into Righteousness:
The Truest Friend"

| 01 • 16 |

DWIGHT K. NELSON

"Charmed into Righteousness:
The Purest Life"

FINANCIAL FEATURE

PMC OPERATING

LINE 2 IN YOUR TITHE ENVELOPE

Today, New Year's resolutions are on many people's minds. Most resolutions center on our education, health, finances and relationships. These are not bad things, but what if you kept God and others foremost in this year's resolutions? What would your giving resolution be for 2016? Are you willing to test the Lord on this? Today we have an opportunity to give in support of God's work here locally through our **PMC Church Budget**. May the Lord pour His blessings upon you in 2016 as you resolve to be a good steward through your tithes and offerings.

Family Vespers

TODAY • 5:00 PM
PMC YOUTH CHAPEL

Join us for a special session of prayer.

Health & Wellness Fest

JANUARY 12 & 13

AU Health & Wellness is proud to present the first 'Health & Wellness Fest' to celebrate the power of wellness to transform, change and save lives! Join us in the many fun, engaging and educational opportunities to start the new year off well! **READY. SET. GO. 2016.—LIVE WHOLLY!** For a schedule of events or to register, check <http://bit.ly/1lsqutj>. Have questions? Email wellness@andrews.edu.

We Mourn

Today we mourn with Tami Condon on the death of her father, LeRoy "Bud" Goss, on Monday, December 7. The funeral was held on December 11 in Altoona Wisconsin. With Tami and her entire family we look forward to the soon return of the One who is the Resurrection and Life. "Even so, come Lord Jesus."

More Announcements

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

WE STUDY

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Song Service

Christina Carroll

Welcome

Ben Martin

Prayer & Scripture

Malachi Regis

Special Feature

Illiana Mun

Offertory

Bible Study

"Crisis in Heaven" • 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

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Benediction

Christina Carroll

ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan

See page 14/15 for Sabbath School directory & map

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Vida Giddings • 473.2175
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growgroups@pmchurch.org

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health@pmchurch.org

Pathfinders

Matthew Johnson • 240.755.2661
evergreenpathfinders@gmail.com

Public Address

Joel Kitchen • audio@pmchurch.org

Sanctuary Choir

Jeannie Pedersen-Smith
269.277.0488
jean.pedersen.smith@gmail.com

| SABBATH SCHOOL |

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adultss@pmchurch.org

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bg1@pmchurch.org

Grade 2 - Earliteen

Robert Barnhurst • 473.1613
g2teen@pmchurch.org

| OUR SCHOOLS |

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leiterma@andrews.edu

Andrews University

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Ruth Murdoch / K-8

Evelyn Savory • 471.3225
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PIONEER MEMORIAL CHURCH

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OFFICE HOURS

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

PHONE – 269.471.3133

FAX – 269.471.6152

LIVE STREAMING

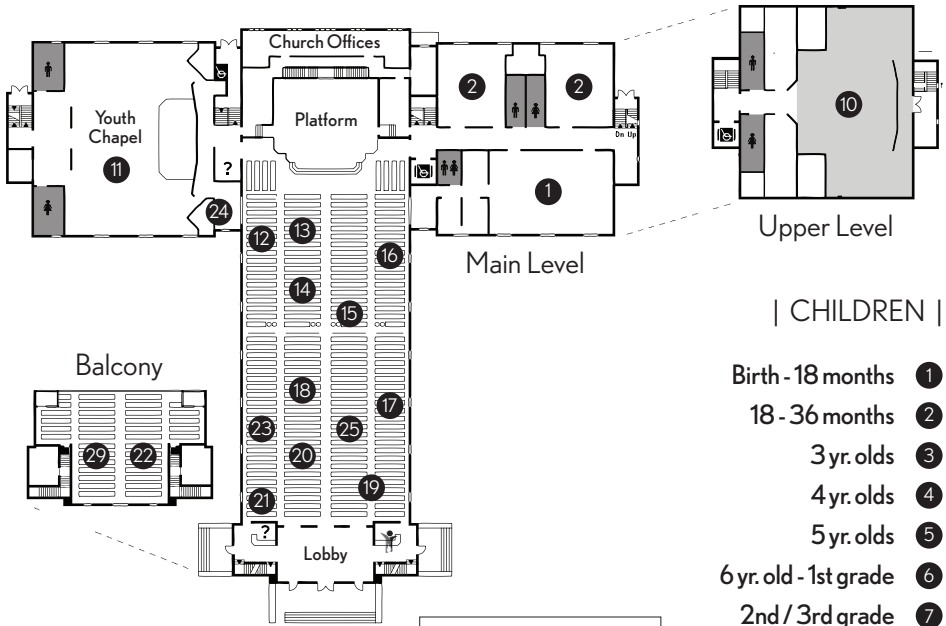
www.pmchurch.tv
Sabbath 11:45 AM

ONLINE

www.pmchurch.org
www.pmchurch.tv

RADIO

WAUS – 90.7 FM
Sabbath 11:30 AM



| CHILDREN |

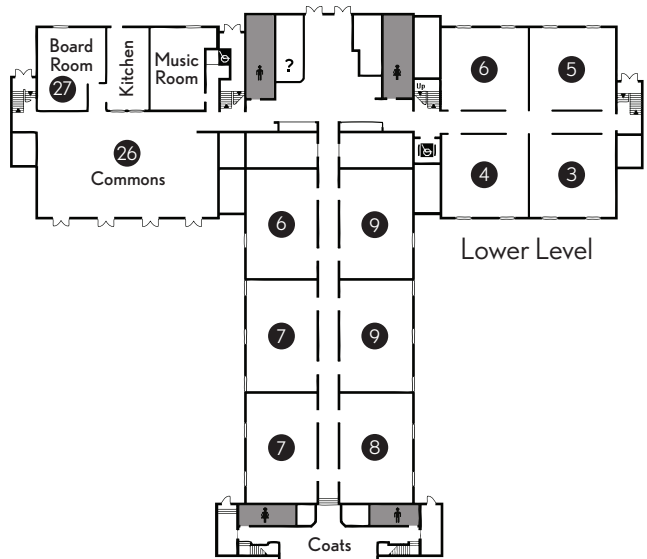
- Birth - 18 months 1
- 18 - 36 months 2
- 3 yr. olds 3
- 4 yr. olds 4
- 5 yr. olds 5
- 6 yr. old - 1st grade 6
- 2nd / 3rd grade 7
- 4th grade 8
- 5th / 6th grade 9
- Earliteen 10
- Youth 11

| ADULT |

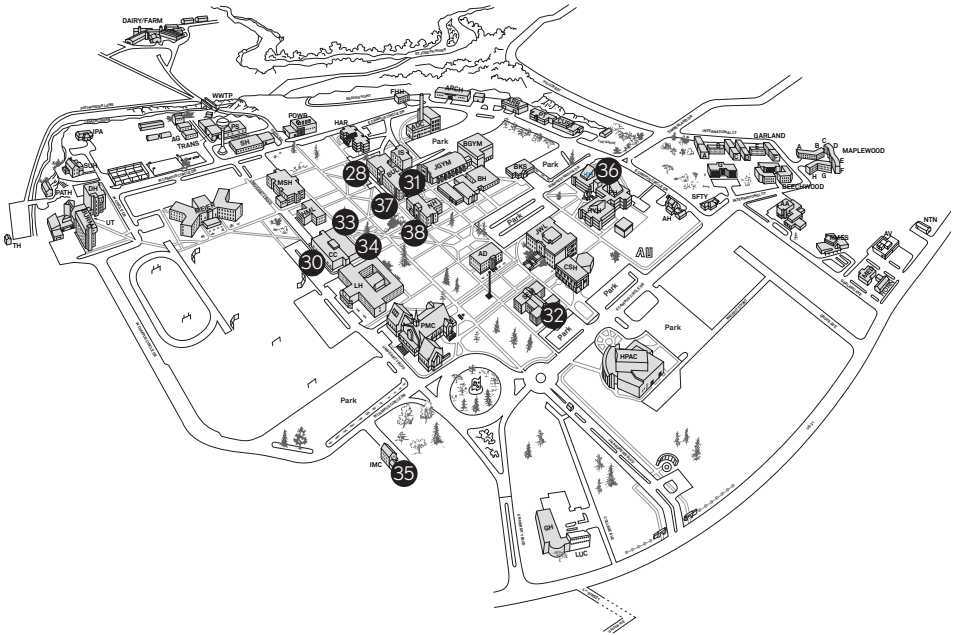
- 12 Group 1
- 13 Group 2 (Portuguese/Brazilian)
- 14 Group 3
- 15 Group 4 (Yugoslavian)
- 16 Group 5
- 17 Group 6
- 18 Group 7
- 19 Group 8
- 20 Group 9 (Spanish)
- 21 Group 10
- 22 Group 11 (Balcony)
- 23 Group 12 (French)
- 24 Conference Room
- 25 Indonesian Class
- 26 Something In Common
- 27 SDA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

| KEY |

- ? Welcome Centers
- E Elevators
- Restrooms
- Children's Activities & Lending Library



Andrews University Campus Map



| COLLEGIATE |

- 28 H&M (Hispanic - Religion Amphitheater)
- 29 People on the Move (PMC)
- 30 University Sabbath School (Dining Services)
- 31 Compass Sabbath School (Buller - Religion Dept.)

| SEMINARY |

- 32 N108 (Collegiate)
- N110
- N120 (New Life Church Choir)
- N150
- N211 (Small Group)
- N235
- N310 (Russian)
- N335 (Spanish)
- S340 (Upper Room)

| ADULT @ AU |

- 33 Main Lounge
- 34 Faculty Lounge
- 35 Back to Basics
- 36 Living Word Fellowship
- 37 Current Events (Buller - 135)
- 38 Bible Journey (Nethery - 143)

TRANSFORMING
THIS **GENERATION**



CONNECT·GROW·SERVE·GO