

PIONEER

CONNECT

NOVEMBER 5, 2016

2ND HAND FAITH

#RxF4Now



Faith

WELCOME

to Pioneer

We welcome you to Pioneer Memorial Church this morning. As we begin the month of November, we turn our hearts toward Thanksgiving. It truly has been a plentiful year. God has blessed and continues to bless. This however does not negate the hard truth that there has been pain, there has been loss, and there have been trials this year. Each Sabbath however is celebration of the great things God has done and reminding us that He has much more in store.

We welcome you this Sabbath to join us in worship as we celebrate our Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, and Savior. After all, let us remember Philippians 1:6, "I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ." This is our thanksgiving. He is our Hope!

–Ben Martin

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

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A BIBLICAL CASE FOR WHY YOU SHOULD VOTE IN THIS ELECTION

BY DWIGHT K. NELSON

Last Sabbath we considered the question, “If ‘Righteousness Exalts a Nation,’ What’s Going 2 Happen 2 the USA?” (see www.newperceptions.tv). Even in a fractured nation with crumbling morality, God is still in control—He rules. We don’t have to fear what lies ahead for America. We can trust His omniscient wisdom. But for those who are considering not voting at all (as a way to avoid or protest a distasteful choice), let me share why I believe the Christian should vote in the 2016 presidential election:

❶ IT IS A CHRISTIAN’S DUTY TO EXERCISE CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY.

Attempting to trap Jesus in this regard, the Pharisees accosted Him, “Is it lawful to pay taxes or not?” Recognizing their duplicity, Jesus asked someone for a coin (He was that poor) and held it up. “Whose image is on this coin?” Obviously the emperor’s, they replied. To which Jesus retorted, “Then give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s” (Matthew 22:21). All citizens owe their government the taxes it assesses. Paul echoes the Master: “Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. . . . This is why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God’s servants” (Romans 13:1, 6). I.e., Chris-

tians are citizens of the land. Voting is the method in a democracy whereby citizens freely elect their leaders. Thus, voting is a civic responsibility a democracy requires in order to remain a democracy. Consider the millions on this planet who would give anything for the privilege of exercising the freedom to vote.

❷ IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF CHRISTIANS TO HELP SHAPE THEIR NATION’S FUTURE.

Paul again: “I urge first of all that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority . . .” (1 Timothy 2:1, 2). God Himself appeals: “If My people, who are called by My name, will humble themselves and pray and seek My face . . . then I will hear from heaven . . . and will heal their land” (2 Chronicles 7:14). Prayer is a potent divine strategy to effect change in a nation and its leaders. Voting is a human strategy to also effect change. To the best of our ability while maintaining our moral values and spiritual commitments, we must exercise the ballot box, along with the prayer closet, to influence our homeland’s future.

❸ BUT REMEMBER—THE BIBLE SUPERSEDES THE BALLOT.

When push comes to shove, as it does in some nations of earth today and as it will one day in this nation, the principle Peter



declared to the authorities of his day is our guiding light, too: "We must obey God, rather than human beings" (Acts 5:29). Political correctness, popular persuasion, cultural majorities—none of that must influence the follower of Christ's radical loyalty to the Master. If our conscientious stand is forbidden, we must make that stand irrespective of its cost.

④ DON'T FORGET—GOD IS THE ULTIMATE KING-MAKER (SEE DANIEL 2:21-22).

His will will "be done on earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10). Note the use of the Hebrew divine passive (often in the Bible when a passive verb appears with no stated subject, the subject is understood to be God) in the critical apocalyptic prophecy of Revelation 13: "It was granted to him [by God] to make war . . . it was granted to him [by God] to give breath to the image" (Revelation 13:7, 15). Who granted these geo-religio-political powers the authority and power to force their rule on the world? God, of course. Why? Because "in the word of God the curtain is drawn aside, and we behold, behind, above, and through all the play and counterplay of human interests and power and passions, the agencies of the all-merciful One, silently, patiently working out the counsels of

His own will" (*Education* 173). All political power and authority are borrowed from the ultimate King of kings and Lord of lords.

⑤ NO MATTER HOW THIS ELECTION FARES, REMEMBER HOW THE STORY ENDS.

"In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever" (Daniel 2:44). God rules—God wins. In the end Love triumphs.

Who has not thrilled to the Hallelujah chorus of Handel's Messiah? "And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Halleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth" (Revelation 19:6). But until those Hallelujahs are sung (on a day sooner perhaps than we once thought), we the citizens of the great King have the opportunity to exercise our privilege as citizens of this land. May God rule and overrule on Tuesday . . . until we hear the Hallelujahs in eternity. ■

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

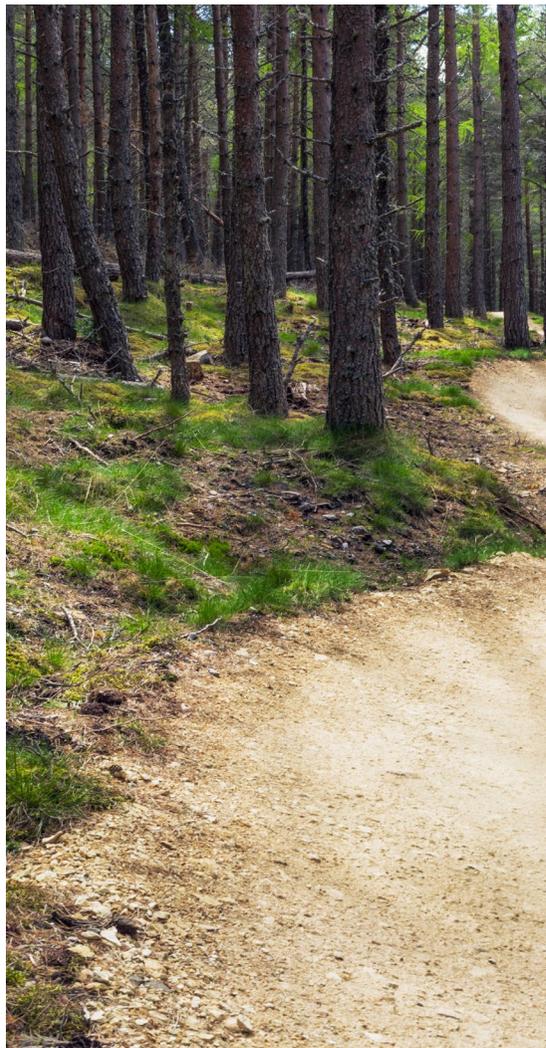
FINDING THE RIGHT PATH

BY REBEKAH AMAYA

Pathfinders. The word associated with, if not synonymous to, Adventist youth. My journey with Pathfinders has been a rather unconventional one, but a journey nonetheless that has helped me find my purpose within the church and forge a path that has led me to Christ. I have been in three Pathfinder clubs, and in each learned distinct indispensable lessons.

My pathfinding journey began at the Indiana Conference at a rather large club in South Bend. From them I learned the spirit of being joyful, of creating genuine friendships, the amiability and the warmth associated with being a part of a Pathfinder club. Through that social environment I was able to make new friends from an array of different backgrounds but above all I came to find a friend in Jesus.

From a sizeable group setting I went to a Pathfinder club with only five members. It was in this close-knit group that I was able to make the most significant decision of my life, which was to be baptized. At the International Camporee in Oshkosh I gave my life to Christ and was baptized. It is an experience I will never forget, and I can say with certainty that it was one of the happiest moments of my life. I never would have thought that through Pathfinders I would have been able to make such close friends, become closer through Christ and give my life fully to Him.



Some might say that it was coincidence or fate but I still say that it was God working on a certain morning when I was visiting PMC and I happened to see one of the directors of the Evergreens smiling in her green Master Guide uniform. I found out that registration was that week and I decided to join, awaiting eagerly the new adventure that was to come. In PMC I learned the value of structure, of organization, of responsibility, what it truly meant to be a leader and an example to others. In the Evergreen club I also became more involved in the Pathfinder Bible Experience



which gave me confidence to share my faith more openly with others through the Scriptures. I can without any shame or shadow of a doubt speak of my faith, of my involvement in Pathfinders and how it has truly shaped who I am today. Today, more than ever are young people in need of spiritual revival, of that uplifting atmosphere, an atmosphere like Pathfinders. In the end, "a failure to listen to and understand the needs of young people will only erect barriers to real spiritual growth and development and may prove to be a contributing factor in making the church

and its mission attractive to the youth" (Philosophy and Objectives of Pathfinders).

Pathfinders has been for me the glue that holds my life together. My greatest prayer is that our clubs can be the bridge that closes the gap between older and younger generations. Amidst the turbulence that life through adolescence brings, with school, peer pressure, and the ever-changing trends of society, Pathfinders has been the reminder in my life of the original goal which is spreading God's word, and by keeping that spirit of Pathfinding in the forefront of our minds as children, adolescents, and adults we can all strive towards the ultimate destination, the quintessential Pathfinder club that awaits us in heaven.

As we all keep the spirit of generosity in our hearts, let us not forget those who are less fortunate. You're probably wondering, how can you contribute to bridging that gap between the older and younger generations? This Thanksgiving, the PMC Evergreens, your local Pathfinder club, is asking for a simple donation of non-perishable food items to give to needy families for their Thanksgiving dinner. It can be boxed, canned, or packaged. We are also accepting baby food! Remember that by supporting the Evergreens, you are not only supporting the youth in your church, but also those in your community who are impacted by the youth. Make your contribution of generosity, and spread the gratitude through the spirit of Pathfinding. ■

Rebekah Amaya is a TLT in the Evergreen Pathfinder club.

SUPPORT THIS MINISTRY

Please indicate
"PMC Operating Expense"
on your tithe envelope.

WE WORSHIP

CONNECT • GROW • SERVE • GO

Opening Voluntary

Acclamation • Arnold Sherman

Introit

O God, Our Help in Ages Past • William Croft

Call to Worship

Ben Martin

We sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever;

Give us faith, O God, that we may be courageous and strong.

Let us praise the name of the Lord.

Doxology

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow • 2

Invocation

Dwight K. Nelson

Hymn of Praise

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven • 4

Congregational Prayer

Ben Martin
My Faith Looks Up to Thee • st. 1 of 517

Worship in Music

Within the Darkest Night • Derek Hakes

Tithes & Offerings

PMC Operating Expense
Festive Psalm of Gladness • Hart Morris

Children's Story

Scripture

Romans 4:1-5 NIV • Jose & Joseph Diaz

What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, discovered in this matter?

If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about—but not before God.

What does Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness."

Now to the one who works, wages are not credited as a gift but as an obligation.

However, to the one who does not work but trusts God who justifies the ungodly, their faith is credited as righteousness.

Hymn of Preparation

I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus • 535

Sermon

#RxF4Now—2nd Hand Faith • Dwight K. Nelson

Connect Card

Hymn of Commitment

I Know Whom I Have Believed • 511

Benediction

Closing Voluntary

Guide Me: Strong Deliverer • Kenneth Logan

PRESIDING PASTOR: Ben Martin; ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan
WORSHIP IN MUSIC: Andrews Academy Handbell Ensemble; Byron Graves, director

MUSIC ALIVE

DARKEST NIGHT

Music by composer Derek Hakes, "Within the Darkest Night," exists both in settings with and without words. Consequently, as today's handbell presentation is wordless, what is this music about? Curiously, we begin with the reference to "night" in the title, which may be a figure of speech rather than a literal. The text is about elements of events on Calvary,

including the crown of thorns placed on Jesus' head. It asks, "Do we understand?" Indeed, this is a poignant question today. The text speaks of Jesus' love for us, asking, "Do you doubt the love He had for us?" A question for meditation is clear: "Do we really see all the pain and suffering that He endured to set us free?" ■

WE STUDY

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Song Service	Rachel Sauer
Opening Hymn	<i>Rock of Ages</i> • 300
Welcome & Prayer	Philip Giddings III
Special Music	<i>Blessings</i> • Laura Story Michael & Melissa Gibson
Special Feature	Forgive & Forget • Melissa DePavia Gibson
Offertory	<i>Oh, How He Loves You and Me</i> • arr. Mark Hayes
Bible Study	"The Curse Causeless?" • Classes
Theme Song	<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
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Scripture	Job 4:17 NKJV
Benediction	Rachel Sauer

ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan
OFFERTORY: Joshua Goines, piano

WE WORSHIP 2

CONNECT • GROW • SERVE • GO

As We Begin

Acclamation • Arnold Sherman

Praise

Open the Eyes of My Heart • How Marvelous • Take My Life

Prayer

Ben Martin

Tithes & Offerings

Festive Psalm of Gladness • Hart Morris

Children's Story

Baptism

Jaden Nicolas Leiterman with Ben Martin

Bible Reading

Romans 4:1-5 *NIV*

Worship in Music

Within the Darkest Night • Derek Hakes

Sermon

#RxF4Now—2nd Hand Faith • Dwight K. Nelson

Connect Card

I Know Whom I Have Believed • 511

As We Depart

Guide Me: Strong Deliverer • Kenneth Logan

WORSHIP COORDINATOR: José Bourget; ORGAN: Kenneth Logan
MUSIC DIRECTOR: Joshua Goines; ACOUSTIC GUITAR: Michael Gibson
VOCALS: Melissa Gibson, Michael Gibson, Vivian Raimundo
WORSHIP IN MUSIC: Andrews Academy Handbell Ensemble; Byron Graves, director

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
World Budget/Global Mission

SUNSET TODAY • 6:36
SUNSET NEXT FRIDAY • 5:29

PIONEER PULPIT

| 11 • 12 |

DWIGHT K. NELSON
#RxF4Now—2 Smart 2 Sin

| 11 • 19 |

JOSÉ BOURGET
"Rain On Me: Experience Joy
Like It's the First Time"
Feast of Hymns

FINANCIAL FEATURE

PMC OPERATING BUDGET

Jesus calls us to be the "light of the world" (Matthew 5:14-16). PMC is a light to this community and to the world through its services and outreaches which include Grow Groups, Health Ministries, Pathfinders, Pioneer Media Evangelism, Harbor of Hope and more. However, for a light to shine it needs electricity flowing through it. Your support is the electricity of the PMC church and all of its outreaches. Today your generosity will fuel the PMC light, allowing it to shine even brighter and to attract those in the darkness with the good news of the Gospel.

Family Vespers

TODAY • 6:00 PM
YOUTH CHAPEL

Come and receive a blessing as we engage in special prayer this evening.

Classical Seminary

TOMORROW • 4:00 PM
SEMINARY CHAPEL

You are invited to Classical Seminary, a free concert featuring the students, staff, faculty, and friends of the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. A light reception will follow.

Pathfinder Apple Pies

The Evergreen Pathfinders will again be offering apple pies this holiday season. We will be taking orders for gluten-free apple crisps and crumb-topped apple pies. **Pies will be available on November 6, 13, and 20.** Email evergreen.pathfinders@gmail.com with your order or any questions.

Horn Lectureship Series Presents Paul Z. Gregor

NOVEMBER 7 • 7:00 PM
SEMINARY CHAPEL

The next Siegfried H. Horn Lectureship Series event is entitled "The Waters of Jalul" by Dr. Paul Z. Gregor. This event is free and open to the public.

Family Vespers (Next Week)

NOVEMBER 12 • 6:00 PM
YOUTH CHAPEL

Join us next week as God's Hands 4 Kids presents "We Are Your Family Too"; a powerful evening of stories, music and video testimonies of foster care and adoption. "We Are Your Family Too" traces the lives of some who've been touched by the Scripture James 1:27. At 7:00 PM the program will move to the Commons where we'll put our hands to work for an hour making some useful items for foster children. Please come and invite a friend.

Scrapbooking Together

NOVEMBER 12 • 6:00 TO 11:00 PM
NOVEMBER 13 • 9:00 AM TO 6:00 PM
PMC EARLITEEN LOFT

Have Christmas projects that you need to start or finish? Bring your supplies and enjoy pizza and chocolate on Saturday night. Leave your things and come back on Sunday morning for more fun. A special guest is coming at 11 AM to show us how to make 6 cards out of one sheet of 12 x 12 paper and cardstock. Email sherrie.davis@lakeunion.org if you have questions.

Adventist Retirees of Michiana

NOVEMBER 13 • 1:00 PM
VILLAGE CHURCH FAMILY CENTER

This month's speaker will be Dr. L. Fernando Ortiz, Director of the Master of Divinity Program for the SDA Theological Seminary. His topic will be "Cuba. The Time Is Now. If Not Now, When?" Music will be presented by pianist Chi Yong Yun, of the Andrews University Department of Music. For more information contact Ralph C. Wood, ARM President, at rcwood90@gmail.com

PMC Organ Recital

NOVEMBER 13 • 4:00 PM
PMC SANCTUARY

A diverse exploration across tonal colors and musical centuries describes this recital by Dr. Wendy Markosky. She will play music by American, Canadian, Czech, French and German composers. Dr. Markosky is faculty organist at Burman University in Alberta, Canada. Admission is free.

Pathfinder Food Drive

The Pathfinders are collecting food for those in need this holiday season. Plan to bring a bag of food to church on November 20 to contribute during Feast of Hymns. If you know of a family in need please feel free to submit their name to the church office by calling 269.471.6565.

We Mourn

Today we mourn with the Mottley family on the death of their Mother/Grandmother, Catherine Mottley. Catherine passed away on October 26. A private memorial service was held on Thursday, November 3. We look forward to the resurrection morning. "Even so, come Lord Jesus."

RMES Food Fair

NOVEMBER 13 • 12:00 TO 3:00
RMES CAFETORIUM

Join us and support our school as we celebrate what makes Ruth Murdoch unique! Enjoy food from Africa, India, Korea and more.

More Announcements

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

| TRANSFERS IN |

BOLANOS-WESTON, Ana
DAVIS, Amy
DAVIS, Benjamin
DAVIS, Paul
DAVIS, Samantha
GILLHAM, Debbie
KAUNDA, Ruth
VENTURA, Abigail
VENTURA, Cesar
VENTURA, Ismael
VENTURA, Jenny
WESTFALL, Kimberly
WESTON, Joy
WESTON, Robert

| TRANSFERS OUT |

CHADWICK, Kaylene
CHADWICK, Richard
CLOUZET, Lisa
CLOUZET, Ron
KUCELJ, Olga
KUCELJ, Ivan
LOUIS JEAN, Rosalie
LOUIS JEAN, Wilfred
LOURA, Anne
OGAWA, Harutsugu
OGAWA, Tomoko
VILLALBA, Daniele
VILLALBA, Edmilson
WHEELER, Mateja

| PROFESSION OF FAITH |

MAZUR, Kelber Z.
WILLIAMS, Barbara

| FROM |

Morris Park • Bronx, NY
Roseburg, OR
Roseburg, OR
Roseburg, OR
Roseburg, OR
Hillside-O'Malley • Anchorage, AK
Chibavi • Mzuzu, Malawi
Spanish • Benton Harbor, MI
Spanish Bay Ridge • Brooklyn, NY
Spanish Bay Ridge • Brooklyn, NY
Spanish Bay Ridge • Brooklyn, NY
Spencerville • Silver Spring, MD
Morris Park • NY, NY
Morris Park • NY, NY

| TO |

Fairplain • Benton Harbor
Fairplain • Benton Harbor
Ilsan English • Republic of Korea
Ilsan English • Republic of Korea
Village • Berrien Springs, MI
Village • Berrien Springs, MI
Capernaum French • Neptune, NJ
Capernaum French • Neptune, NJ
Ellicott City, MD
Japanese • Toronto, ON
Japanese • Toronto, ON
Camelback • Phoenix, AZ
Camelback • Phoenix, AZ
Japanese • Mountain View, CA

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PRAY FOR AMERICA THE DAY AFTER

"I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth." (1 Timothy 2:1-4)

**NOVEMBER 9
7 PM | PMC**