

PIONEER

CONNECT

NOVEMBER 19, 2016



WELCOME

to Pioneer

I'm privileged to welcome you.

Indeed, today is a feast in many different ways.

First, it's a feast musically. This occasion in the year is called the "Feast of Hymns." It's a time set aside in the calendar in which we unite for a special service of hymn singing. There's something about singing together that has that effect on us, doesn't it?

Second, it's a feast of thanks. It's the time of the year in which we reflect a little more on what we're thankful for. We want to give you an opportunity, through the included card, to write to someone you're thankful for. We'll cover the postage. Really. So take a few moments today to think through how God has blessed you, and what you're thankful for. Welcome.

—Rodlie Ortiz

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|  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 | |

FIND IT HERE

CONNECT • GROW • SERVE • GO



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**RESPONSE OF
REJOICING**
Love Divine

BY REBECCA COLEMAN

It's that time of year again. The leaves have fallen, the temperature is dropping; the holiday season is upon us. To most, the holiday season is a time of connection and bonding. When I think of Thanksgiving, I think of food, family, and gratitude. I asked a few of my friends what Thanksgiving means to them and most of the answers that I got had to do with favorite Thanksgiving dishes or family. Ironically very few of the answers had to do with giving thanks. Now while Thanksgiving might mean something different to all of us, let's look at what it means to God, and thus, what it should mean to us.

In my opinion, one of the most powerful verses in the Bible is found in 1 Chronicles 16:34, "*Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.*"

This verse almost seems to state the obvious, that God's love will endure forever. After reading this verse again, something struck out at me, God wants us to be thankful for the "constants" in our lives. For the things like His love, that we take for granted. Yes, healing and miracles and job opportunities are special gifts from God that should not be overlooked. However, God wants us to recognize and to be thankful for the "little things." For the air that we breathe, for the unconditional love of our parents and spouse. God wants you to thank Him for your best friend, for the cooks at your favorite restaurant, for things that most of us don't think of, but that impact our lives every day. At the very essence of gratefulness, God wants us to thank Him for Him.

As odd as the question may seem, how many times have you thanked God for being God, for being love and peace and joy and endurance? When we recognize God's undeniable presence in our lives,

our eyes will be opened to so many things that we might have previously overlooked in the chaos of our lives. Taking on the spirit of gratitude allows us to see the positive aspects in our lives instead of dwelling on the negative. Oh, so you have a headache? Be thankful for the Tylenol that you have that makes it go away. Ugh, you have to fill up your tank again? Well it's a good thing you have a car to put gas into!

According to an article published in *Psychology Today*, the attitude of gratefulness can actually improve health, making the body less susceptible to illness and promoting a healthier disposition. How great is that? Thus, being grateful strongly influences your metabolism and stress levels. Start making it a point to be grateful and you could get rid of that constant stress headache!

Let's decide to thank God, and the ones who surround us for the way they have touched our lives. You can trust your mom will go shopping and keep the refrigerator full. Thank her. Your husband always mows the lawn and shovels the snow. Thank him. Your three-year-old is always there to offer a smile or a cuddle. Thank her. Thank the people around you who do everyday, ordinary things because if they weren't there, you would miss them.

This Thanksgiving, take a moment between the stuffing and the pie to recognize all of the things that you are thankful for, the little things, the essentials. Instead of making it a once-a-year event, make Thanksgiving last all year. Make gratefulness a habit and see how it will change your life. ■

Rebecca Coleman is a graduate from Andrews University.

Thanks
GIVING

ALL YEAR LONG





PRAY WITH THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE

BY ANDREA GIBBS

Do you find it easy to pray? I once heard it said that prayer is like breathing. If you don't breathe you will die; likewise, if you don't pray you will die spiritually. Ellen White says it this way: "Prayer is a necessity; for it is the life of the soul. Family prayer, public prayer, have their place; but it is secret communion with God that sustains the soul life" (*Education*, p. 258).

Do you wonder what to pray for? Pavel Goia, who spoke at PMC last spring, admonished us to ask God "what to pray for before you pray what you pray for." 1 John 5:14-15 tells us that if we pray according to God's will, He hears us and we will have the petitions that we desired of Him. Scripture is a powerful way to pray His will.

Prayer became my lifeline during a very difficult trial. I remember crying out to Him, "Can't You give me any peace?" He responded immediately, with Scripture: "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee" (Isaiah 26:3). Then another quote: "Man's extremity is God's opportunity" (Ellen White, *Selected Messages*, p. 373). It was God's opportunity to work in my life. I needed to focus on Him, and not on the circumstances around me, in order to have peace (just as Peter was able to walk on water when he focused on Jesus).

God calls all of us to pray (with thanksgiving and praise). Pray for our heart's

desires, and intercede for Andrews University, our students, PMC, and for our country and its leaders. Ask the Lord to give us hearts "of tender sympathy for others as Jesus had" (*Prophets and Kings*, p. 189), to see others the way God sees them, and for opportunities to witness with boldness. Pray for wisdom, discernment, understanding, a clean heart, and for unity among believers. Pray to keep your spiritual life enlivened.

One opportunity to pray is our weekly prayer ministry at PMC. We intercede for those participating in the worship services, as well as for special requests and personal needs. Come, pray with us Sabbath mornings, at 9:00 or 11:45 AM (or both) in the room behind the glass on the youth-chapel side of the sanctuary. For more information email jenrennie63@gmail.com ■

Andrea Gibbs is the director of the Prayer Ministry here at PMC.

SUPPORT THIS MINISTRY

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

BRING JOY! GIVE THANKS!

A FEAST OF HYMNS

* the congregation is invited to stand

- Preparation for Joy** *Rejoice, All Christians • Ernst Pepping*
- Invitation to Joy** *Bring Joy! Give Thanks! • Kenneth Logan*
- *Call to Joy** *Psalm 100 NKJV • Rodlie Ortiz*

LEADER: Make a joyful shout to the LORD, all you lands!

**PEOPLE: Serve the LORD with gladness;
Come before His presence with singing.**

LEADER: Know that the LORD, He is God; It is He who has made us,
and not we ourselves;

PEOPLE: We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.

LEADER: Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts
with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.

**PEOPLE: For the LORD is good; His mercy is everlasting,
and His truth endures to all generations.**

- *Response of Rejoicing** *This Is a Time for Banners and Bells • Walter Pelz
(see insert)*
- *Words of Joy** *Psalm 98 NKJV*
- Anthem of Joy** *I Know My Jesus Lives • Nikolai Titov/L. Nickel*
- Prayer of Rejoicing** *Jessica Yoong*
- Response of Rejoicing** *Love Divine • Walter Pelz
(see page 11)*
- Homily** *“Rain on Me: Experience Joy Like It's the First Time” • José Bourget*
- Hymn of Thanksgiving** *Now Thank We All Our God • 559*
- Letters of Thanksgiving** *When the Stars • Traditional Spiritual/F. J. Allen*
- Invitation to Giving** *What Gift Can We Bring? • Donna Kasbohm/Kenneth Logan
(see insert)*

Procession of Thanksgiving

Gifts of Food, Song, Tithes and Offerings

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart • 27, stanzas 1-2

The Lord Is My Light • 515, stanzas 1-2

For the Beauty of the Earth • 565, stanzas 1, 3

'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus • 524, stanzas 1, 3

To God Be the Glory • 341, stanzas 1, 3

**Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow* • 695

*Benediction in Thanksgiving

José Bourget

*Choral Response

Now Thank We All Our God • Kenneth Logan

*Final Thanksgiving

Now Thank We All Our God • Wilhelm Teschner

PRESIDING PASTOR: Rodlie Ortiz; ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan

Andrews University Choral Union; Stephen Zork, director

PMC Sanctuary Choir; Jeannie Pedersen-Smith, director

Andrews Academy Select Strings; Héctor Flores, director

BRASS QUINTET: Eric Lofgren, Brittany Ronto, Ryan Gooden, Jonathan Penrod, Andrew Walayat

TIMPANI: Zachary Verhelle

PMC Evergreen Pathfinders, Maureen Raj, director

Scripture taken from the New King James Version.

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MUSIC ALIVE

ANNE, ANNA, ERNST, LARRY AND NIKOLAI

It seems that no fewer than five writers may have had a hand in the text and music of the hymn-based anthem "I Know My Jesus Lives." Anne Steele wrote most of the text. Her life was marked by an exceptional string of trouble: death of her mother when she was 3, hip injury resulting in lifelong disability when she was 19, and the death of her fiancé by drowning the day before they were to be married when she was 21. Anna Warner was the author of "Jesus Loves Me," which Larry seems to quote. Ernst refers to

Ernst Gebhardt (1832-1899), Methodist minister in Germany and both a writer of original hymns and translations, who wrote a version of Steele's hymn in German. And finally, Dr. Larry Nickel (born 1952) of Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada had a hand in adapting text for this as well as being the musical arranger of music by Russian Nikolai Titov (1800-1875). The hymn-based anthem is a testament to faith in the living Jesus, in contrast to anxious fears. ■

WE STUDY

CONNECT • GROW • SERVE • GO

Song Service

Christina Carroll

Opening Hymn

I Will Sing of My Redeemer • 343

Welcome

Josip Horonic

Prayer & Scripture

Vanja Panigot

Special Feature

"Why Do We Need Sabbath School?
Let's Stop and Think About It" • Josip Horonic

Offertory

Bible Study

"Innocent Blood" • 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
©1924, Renewed 1952 Word Music, LLC; Used by Permission. CCLI License #392652

Benediction

Christina Carroll

ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan

Love Divine

ALL 1. Love di - vine, — all love ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
WOMEN 2. Breathe, oh, breathe Thy lov - ing Spir - it In - to ev' - ry trou - bled breast;
CHOIR 3. Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; Let us all Thy life — re - ceive,
ALL 4. Fin - ish then — Thy new cre - a - tion; Pure and spot - less let — us be;

MEN: Fix in us — Thy hum - ble dwell - ing, All Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
 Let us all — in Thee in - her - it; Let us find the prom - ised rest.
 Sud - den - ly — re - turn, and nev - er, Nev - er - more Thy tem - ples leave.
 Let us see — Thy great sal - va - tion Per - fect - ly re - stored in Thee.

Je - sus, Thou art all com - pas - sion, Pure, un - bound - ed love — Thou art;
ALL: Take a - way — the love of sin - ning; Al - pha and — O - meg - a be;
 These we would be al - ways bless - ing, Serve Thee as — Thy hosts a - bove,
 Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, Till in heav'n we take — our place,

Vis - it us — with Thy — sal - va - tion, En - ter ev' - ry trem - bling heart.
 End — of faith, as its — be - gin - ning, Set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 Pray — and praise Thee with - out ceas - ing, Glo - ry in — Thy per - fect love.
 Till — we cast — our crowns be - fore — Thee, Lost in won - der, love, and praise.

Text and tune public domain

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 • 5:22
SUNSET NEXT FRIDAY • 5:18

PIONEER PULPIT

| 11 • 26 |

SABINE VATEL
Friendsgiving

| 12 • 03 |

DWIGHT K. NELSON

FINANCIAL FEATURE

PMC OPERATING BUDGET

Thanksgiving is right around the corner. Each Thanksgiving many families across the nation sit down together after eating a delicious home-cooked meal and reflect on the things in their lives that they are thankful for. In that same spirit of gratitude let us all take a moment to reflect on how God has blessed us in our lives and how awesome it is to be constantly filled up with the Lord's love. Today, let's return a fraction of that blessing to the Lord so that He may use it to bless others through the Local Combined Budget.

Understanding Religious Extremism

TODAY • 3:30 PM
CHAN SHUN HALL

The Michiana Adventist Forum presents "Toward an Understanding of Religious Extremism" presented by Rachel Williams-Smith, Graduate Program Director in Andrews University's Department of Communication. For more info visit michianaadventistforum.wordpress.com.

Pathfinder Food Drive

Delivery drivers are needed. Please come this afternoon at 4:30 to the PMC main entrance (green awning) and pick up names and boxes to deliver throughout the community. Thank you for being a part of this PMC family service opportunity.

Adventurers Induction

TODAY • 5:00 PM
PMC SANCTUARY

The Adventurer club will be having their induction service this afternoon. Families and church members are invited to join us.

Family Vespers

TODAY • 5:00 PM
YOUTH CHAPEL

Join us for a post-election-prayer-filled vespers entitled "Running with the Footmen."

AU Wind Symphony Holiday Concert

TODAY • 8:00 PM

HOWARD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

The AU Wind Symphony, under the direction of Alan Mitchell, will present a holiday concert. Tickets are available online at howard.andrews.edu or by calling the Box Office (269.471.3560).

Pathfinder Apple Pies

There are still apple pies available from the Evergreen Pathfinders. **Pick yours up tomorrow, November 20, in the Commons from noon to 8 PM.** Email evergreen.pathfinders@gmail.com with your order or any questions.

ToBoFit Class Holiday Break

ToBoFit class will not meet on November 21 and 23. Will resume on November 28.

PMC Office Closed

The PMC office will be closed Wednesday through Friday, November 23-25, for the Thanksgiving holiday. We will be open at 8:30 AM on Monday, November 28, and look forward to serving you.

GROW More Hope in 2017

Lead a GROW Group between February 20 and April 30, 2017! It's as simple as 1, 2, 3. (1) Think of a subject or activity that you are passionate about. (2) Invite at least 2 others to join you. (3) Sign up at www.pmchurch.org/grow so that more can join. Help us grow more hope, community and friends for Christ in 2017! For questions or ideas, contact Pastor Sabine at growgroups@pmchurch.org or 269.471.6153.

Wrap-a-Gift for Refugees

DECEMBER 1 • 6:00 PM

105 SOUTH CASS STREET

ASAP Ministries will be participating again in the "Berrien Springs Christmas Open House." During that time we will be accepting donations of new blankets, hats, socks, scarfs and gloves for refugees from Southeast Asia. Come by and help wrap these much-needed Christmas gifts and enjoy refreshments inside and roasting marshmallows outside. At 6:30, 7:30, and 8:30 PM, there will be a Christmas Piñata Bash on the driveway—always a crowd favorite! For more information, call 269.471.3026 or email office@asapministries.org.

Adult Sabbath School Visitor's Day

DECEMBER 3 • 10:30 AM

The Adult Sabbath School Superintendents have planned a Visitor's Day program. The featured presentation will be on educating people about the local and global contributions of Seventh-day Adventists. Bring your guests to a special dinner in the Commons following 2nd Service. To be involved or for more information, please contact Judy Aitken (judy.aitken@asapministries.org) or Pastor Sabine (471.6153).

Soup for Students

On December 6 let's give some bowls of love to students during finals week. We need commitments for at least 25 pots of soup. We also need volunteers to help clean up after the event. **Let us know by November 30** if you can help by calling Lailane Legoh at 269.471.3543.

Adopt a Family for Christmas

Experience the joy of bringing smiles and deep appreciation from families who may be struggling to meet basic needs as well as bring some pleasure to their children during the holiday season. In addition to helping some international student families on campus, we would like to include a few non-Adventist families in Berrien Springs, and also assist Harbor of Hope Church in Benton Harbor as they reach out to their immediate neighbors. We are looking for people who would like to adopt a family, give a donation (money, gift cards, food, toys, etc.), or help in other ways. Donations can be made through PMC—note “Adopt a Family for Christmas Program.” 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 about how you can help, call Katherine Smith 269.471.1502 or Deby Andvik 269.471.6648.

Pathfinder Mentors

We are looking for mentors who can spend 1 hour twice a month with our Pathfinders. The specific Squad meets Mondays 7 to 8 PM. For questions, email evergreen.pathfinders@gmail.com

Adventist Retirees of Michiana Christmas Banquet

DECEMBER 11 • 1:00 PM
VILLAGE SDA FAMILY CENTER

Join us for our annual Christmas Banquet and an excellent program as we enjoy the spirit of Christmas! Please **RSVP by December 5** to the PMC church office 269.471.3133.

Church Business Meeting

DECEMBER 13 • 7:00 PM
PMC COMMONS

You're invited to attend our year-end business meeting. It will be a joint meeting with the church board the board of elders. Come share the life of this congregation with a holiday flair for Christmas.

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.

More Announcements

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

THANKSGIVING CARDS

THANK YOU ALL OVER THE WORLD

Thanksgiving cards are placed inside this bulletin . . . giving you the perfect opportunity to write a special personal word of gratitude, or love, or friendship, or forgiveness this morning. Simply write your message, fold it only once, write the address on the designated side, and bring your letter forward. We'll do the rest, mailing your letter anywhere in the world you want to send it. (If it's a campus address, write "Campus" under the name on the outside). ■

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TRANSFORMING
THIS **GENERATION**



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