

PIONEER CONNECT

DECEMBER 10, 2016



CHILDREN'S
Celebration
OF CHRISTMAS

WELCOME

to Pioneer

There is no question this is an exciting time of year for children, and even for some of us who are no longer 'children'. There are gifts and carols. There are treats and celebrations. There is family.

So often we get caught up in the excitement of the gifts and we lose sight of the greatest gift! So this holiday season as we slow down and reflect on the gift given 2000 years ago, let us celebrate!

We welcome you this morning to our family celebration of Christmas. We invite you to join us in the giving of gifts and the singing of carols. We invite you to join us in the wonder of celebrating the most incredible gift that could ever be with the wonder and excitement of a child. This Sabbath and this holiday season let us celebrate together.

—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

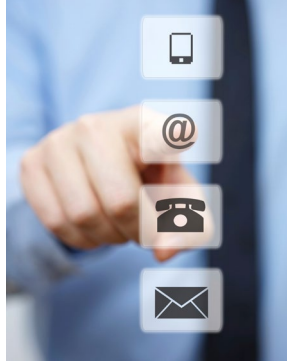
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CONNECT • GROW • SERVE • GO



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PIONEER LIFE
The Gift of Time



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THE GIFT OF TIME

BY BRIANNA MARTIN

It's the season of concerts, parties, and gifts. If you have children, or simply love children, you probably have in mind a list of gifts that you'd like to give them. Brightly wrapped presents beneath the Christmas tree may certainly bring joy, but one gift we should all think about giving our kids this year is the gift of time.

We probably all wish we had more time for our children, but time is a resource that seems all too scarce, especially at this time of year. There is some good news, though. A study by Melissa Milkie, a sociologist at the University of Toronto, showed that the quantity of time you spend with your kids matters much less than the quality. Even if you have only an hour to spend with your kids, you can still make a significant difference in their well-being.

Life gets in the way. Work, school, homework, music lessons, sports, and even church activities and duties often pull parents and kids in different directions. So, here are some ideas for giving the gift of time to your kids (or kids you care about) in the coming year:

- **Worship.** Be sure to set aside time for worship, both for you alone and for family worship. Your kids need to see that you spend personal time with God so that they learn to do the same.
- **Practice with them.** Dust off your clarinet (or whatever you have) once in awhile and play along while they practice their instrument. You'll exercise your

brain and set a great example for your budding musician, not to mention you'll make practicing more fun just by making it a special one-on-one time.

- **Volunteer where they are.** Join the Pathfinder or Adventurer team, and get to know your child (and his or her friends) in a new context. Or, find out if you can volunteer in a Sabbath School class, or even in your child's school classroom. If you can't volunteer regularly, take one day and chaperone a field trip or find out how you can help organize a special event.

- **Join (or start) a family-friendly GROW Group.** Find a GROW Group that your whole family is excited about, and if there isn't one, start it!

- **Give quality time Christmas/birthday gifts.** Purchase a family membership to the Curious Kids' Museum, Fernwood Botanical Gardens, Sarett Nature Center, or a Berrien County Parks Pass and use it! If you have a membership, you can use it whenever you have a few free hours, and you don't have to feel as much pressure to see everything each time. A picnic at Love Creek Nature Center during a lunch break once in awhile would be a special way to spend valuable minutes.

- **Exercise together.** Go for a family walk/bike ride each evening or get a family AU Pool membership. Go cross-coun-



try skiing! Form good habits together, and spend some quality time improving your physical health.

- **Turn off the noise.** Make meal times screen-free (for both parents and kids). If your time spent together is shuttling from place to place in the car, turn off the radio and talk during the commute! Stay off your screens in the evenings and play a board game together. Break out the Legos and build something with your child. Read books together!

Of course, the ultimate gift of time that you can both give and receive is the gift of the Sabbath. An entire day to spend

with God and our families is truly a gift of which each of us should be taking full advantage. ■

Brianna Martin is an educator and mother of Emmett Elijah Martin.

SUPPORT THIS MINISTRY

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

WE WORSHIP

CHILDREN'S CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS

Opening Voluntary

Angels in Royal David's City • Carrie Lane Gruselle

Welcome

Ben Martin

Hymn of Praise

Angels We Have Heard on High • 142
William Helbley, Diane Helbley, Ariana Helbley,
Migdali Glanz, Lilianora Bailey

Congregational Prayer

Jerianna Horton, Aiden Little,
Luciana Press, Sarah Ayaz

Worship in Music

O Come, All Ye Faithful • K. L. Fishburn

Scripture

Luke 2:7 • Briana Skinner

Part 1

"Babbling" • Ben Martin

Carols of the Season

Away in a Manger • 124
Silent Night, Holy Night • 143
Adventurer Club

Scripture

Matthew 19:14 • Adrien Mun

Part 2

"Beckoning" • Ben Martin

Praise in Song

Jesus Loves the Little Ones Like Me Me Me
Adventurer Club

Hymn

Jesus Loves Me • 190
Adventurer Club

Scripture

1 John 3:1 • Ben Clough

Part 3

"Becoming" • Ben Martin

Scripture in Music

Behold What Manner of Love
Adventurers

Congregational Hymn

Children of the Heavenly Father • 101

Call for Gifts, Tithes & Offerings

Sounds of the Season • James Swearingen

Carol of Commitment

Joy to the World • 125

Benediction

Closing Voluntary

Christmas Fanfares • Todd Stalter

ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan
RMES Band; Byron Graves, director
RMES Strings; Héctor Flores, director

MUSIC ALIVE

CHILDREN AND THE CHILD

How intertwined they are at Christmas! The Irish author of "Once in Royal David's City," Cecil Humphreys, wished that children would understand beliefs stated in the catechism, so in children's hymns she rephrased and amplified various beliefs. "Once in Royal David's City" flows from the passage, "Which was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary." But children figure further in this carol in its

famous traditional use in the international Christmas Eve broadcast "A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols" from the chapel of King's College, Cambridge, England. There, a solo boy soprano intones the first verse, unaccompanied, to start the service in the subtle splendor of that Gothic-style chapel. Today's Opening Voluntary combines this melody with fragments from "Angels We Have Heard on High." ■

WE STUDY

CONNECT • GROW • SERVE • GO

Song Service	Vladimir Slavujevic
Opening Hymn	<i>A Shelter in the Time of Storm</i> • 528
Welcome & Prayer	Philip Giddings III
Special Feature	"A Little to the North" • Marcia Kilsby
Offertory	<i>Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella</i> • Lyle Neff
Bible Study	"Out of the Whirlwind" • Classes
Scripture	Job 38:4 NKJV
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
©1924, Renewed 1952 Word Music, LLC; Used by Permission. CCLI License #392652

Benediction	Vladimir Slavujevic
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ORGANIST: Kenneth Logan
OFFERTORY: Brenton Offenback, organ

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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
PMC Operating Expense

SUNSET TODAY • 5:14
SUNSET NEXT FRIDAY • 5:15

PIONEER PULPIT

| 12 • 17 |

DWIGHT K. NELSON

#Rx4Now—The Ogre by the Manger

| 12 • 24 |

DWIGHT K. NELSON

#Rx4Now—The Christmas Robe:
A Meditation on the Swaddling Cloths

FINANCIAL FEATURE

WORLD BUDGET

This is the time of year when people are feeling especially generous, the time of year when we usually reflect on the blessings that God has bestowed on us over the past year. Let's give back by supporting our World Church budget. It may seem hard to get excited about giving to such a broad cause, not knowing the specifics of where the money is going but we may know that God knows and He blesses our efforts.

Visitors' Dinner

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

Family Vespers

TODAY • 5:00 PM

YOUTH CHAPEL

This evening we will close the Sabbath with a video on Christ's first advent.

Christmas Pops Concert

TODAY • 7:00 PM

HOWARD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Join us as we bring in the holidays with a variety of well-known Christmas songs and holiday favorites performed by the Andrews Academy's musical groups.

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.

Scrapbooking Together

TOMORROW • 1:00 – 6:00 PM
PMC COMMONS

Get those last-minute Christmas presents finished at our last get-together of 2016. Bring your favorite snack and we will provide chocolate and prizes.

RMES Christmas Concerts

DECEMBER 12 & 13 • 7:00 PM

HOWARD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

The Christmas Vocal Concert (Dec. 12) will feature Vivaldi's *Gloria* performed by the K-5 Singers and *Silent Night, The Birth of a Carol* by the RMES Singers. The following evening is the RMES Christmas Instrumental Concert featuring band, bells, and strings.

Church Business Meeting

DECEMBER 13 • 6:00 PM
PMC COMMONS

You're invited to Pioneer's year-end business meeting (along with the Church Board and the Board of Elders). With a holiday flair for Christmas, the evening begins with a light soup and bread supper, followed by caroling and the business session, which will include a report on our recent Hope Trending evangelistic event.

We Mourn

We mourn with Ami Hendrickson on the death of her husband, Robert, on December 3. A memorial service will take place on December 18 at 4 PM at the Riverside United Methodist Church in Benton Harbor. We also mourn with Christine & Ron Herr on the death of Christine's aunt, Bernice Lunz Taylor, on December 2. Services were held on December 9. With these families we look forward to the resurrection morning. "Even so, come Lord Jesus."

Happy Anniversary

We wish Jimmer and Ida Mun a happy 50th anniversary! May God bless them.

Pathfinder Apple Pies

Apple pies are still available while supplies last from the Evergreen Pathfinders. Email evergreen.pathfinders@gmail.com with your order and they will arrange a pick-up.

Knitting Hearts Together

DECEMBER 13 • 7:00 TO 8:30 PM
MACCARTY HOME

Through this "shawl ministry," we minister to the bereaved and seriously ill among us with a gift and prayer. For more info, contact Alice Williams (alicew@andrews.edu or 471.3373).

Nominating Committee

SECOND READING

Photographer:

Shiekainah Decano

Adult SS Superintendent:

Qaisar Ayaz

Handel's Messiah Sing-Along

DECEMBER 18 • 4:00 PM
PMC SANCTUARY

PMC and WAUS are hosting a sing-along performance of Handel's Messiah. Invite your friends and join us for marvelous music and a reception to follow. If you have experience singing Handel's Messiah, please join with the Sanctuary Choir for this festive community experience. There is one Wednesday rehearsal left (December 14 at 7 PM)! For info, contact director, Jeannie Pedersen-Smith (jean.pedersen.smith@gmail.com or 269.277.0488, voice or text).

Christmas Breakfast

IN CHURCH



DECEMBER 24 • 9:00 TO 10:00 AM • PMC COMMONS

Come and share
our most joy-filled
holiday tradition—
a delectable Christmas

Breakfast in Church

Bring your favorite holiday sweet rolls,
and we'll provide the rest.



If you want to help serve, please call 471.3150