

August/September 2017

FOCAL POINT

Centered on activities of Toledo First Seventh-day Adventist Church

MAD ABOUT MARRIAGE

Helping Couples Stay Madly in Love Forever

Most couples have been “mad about marriage” because they’ve been madly in love with each other. But many of us have also been just plain mad. Mad About Marriage, a series of seminar presentations taught by Mike Tucker, speaker for Faith for Today, is about marriage education, not marriage counseling. He will be here in Toledo First FRI SEPT 22 @ 7pm and SAT SEPT 23 @ 11am and 2pm to share lots of stories – some from his own life – and lots of practical advice that you and our community friends can really use.

This ordinary outreach examines some of the issues that can derail marriages, drawing on current research and the expertise of a variety of scholars, authors, and psychologists to find solutions to the problems. There are some “big” issues that have a very destructive effect on marriage. Some of these issues are easily identified, but some of the most destructive may be present in marriages without couples recognizing their existence. Couples struggle along, trying unsuccessfully to create a positive relationship, not realizing why their efforts at marital bliss seem thwarted. It’s important for the success of the marriage to identify and deal with negative issues.

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“Two men please God—who serves Him with all his heart because he knows Him; who seeks Him with all his heart because he knows Him not.”—Pamun

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JUNE/JULY Snapshots

We thank Jeff Batchelder for the photos above. In June we celebrated with our graduates, Kloey from Kindergarten at TJA among them. In photo 2, a prayer for our new elders, Gary & Katie Swackhamer. Ray & Judy Riley are moving to Michigan and in photo 3 we bid them

farewell at potluck. In photo 4 we welcome Joel & Melissa Arakaki to our church. Photo 5 shows “Sandy Claws” giving gifts to girls and boys at Christmas in July social. Photo 6 shows children and Pastor Mike singing The Blessing at the end of worship. ##

<i>Calendar of Events</i>	AUG 11 & SEPT 29	AUG 12 & 26 SEPT 16 & 23	AUG 16 / AUG 17	SEPT 13	SEPT 22-23
	Mission Opportunities in Toledo	Fellowship Potlucks	School starts / Back to school night @ TJA	Faith for You & Soup for You resume	Mad About Marriage, 7pm (22nd) 2pm (23rd)

Calling all girls ages 10 - 18

N'Couraged Praise Dance has resumed practice on Sundays, 2 - 3pm in the sanctuary. If interested in joining, please contact Karen Simpson at 419.708-6443. ##

Teens and Youth: You are invited

Pastor Mike is teaching a Bible Class at his home (6008 Alexa Ln, Sylvania) on Sabbaths at 4pm and Wednesdays at 7pm. It's a summary of Adventist beliefs similar to an academy Bible class. All teens and youths are invited. Class resumes AUG 2. ##

When are church lunches?

Vegan Challenge Potlucks are scheduled the 4th Sabbath of each month, but additional potlucks are scheduled to accomodate other activities. In August Sabbath lunches are: AUG 12 & 26 (Vegan Challenge); in September, Sabbath lunches are SEPT 16 (Education Day) and SEPT 23 (Mad About Marriage - also Vegan Challenge). ##

Scrapbooking? Crafting? Cardmaking?

Your next opportunity for creative fun is Sunday, OCT 1, at Toledo First. Find registration sheets on the table in the foyer and sign up early! ##

School Bells Ring / Children Sing!

Toledo Junior Academy opens it's doors to eager students for the 2017-2018 school year on Wednesday, AUG 16. Back to School Night will be AUG 17, 6:30pm. Education Sabbath will be SEPT 16. ##

Church meets in business session SEPT 19

At church business meetings we review finances, consider new decisions, and Pastor Mike gives reports of what has happened since the last meeting along with plans for the future.

Join Pastor Mike, and the other 20 or so members who now attend, on Tuesday, SEPT 19, from 7:00 - 8:30pm in the fellowship room. —Dee Caulder ##

Come away and rest awhile. . .

This year's Ohio Conference Women's Retreat will be at Mohaven Retreat and Conference Center SEPT 29 - OCT 1 with Pastor Lori Farr as guest speaker.

Want a getaway on a budget? Build your own retreat package! Early Bird prices (until AUG 31), range from \$40 (no meals, materials, gift) to \$95 (includes five meals, materials, and gift); lodging available at Mohaven (\$15 - \$50/night) and Holiday Inn Express is \$99/night. Pick up a brochure at church or check out the details online at www.ohioadventist.org / call 740.397.4665, ext 128. ##

Mad About Marriage *Continued from page 1*

And even if you're not married, the scriptural principles upon which this content is based are timeless. They are therefore useful for all kinds of other communication issues and work place expectations and problem solving. So save the date and plan to share the invite cards with as many people as possible this summer.

—Pastor Mike ##

Faith for You / Soup for You resume SEPT 13

The book, "Beyond Common Ground: Why Liberals and Conservatives Need Each Other" will be the focus of Wednesday study groups. Faith for You meets at 1:30 in the afternoon beginning SEPT 13, while Soup for You begins with soup at 6pm with book discussion following at 6:30pm.

In the book, author Alden Thompson examines the common ground that both liberal and conservative Adventists share. He believes that in order to have a more complete, accurate picture of God's truth we need to consider different viewpoints and that we don't have to agree; neither do we have to be enemies.

Join your friends beginning SEPT 13 for "Beyond Common Ground." ##

53 and counting!

Many thanks to all of you for giving generously to our July giving emphasis — Military BibleSticks. As of July 15, we had enough donations to purchase 53 BibleSticks for 53 heroes! May God bless each soldier who receives one and may each one be drawn closer to God — our Stronghold and Refuge. ##

Mission Trip, Summer 2018

Adventist research from Value Genesis 1 and 2 revealed that grace-based, Christocentric, service-oriented churches help teens develop a positive view of church. To provide our teens additional opportunities to serve, we are planning a mission trip for Summer 2018. Financial assistance is available. Please see Pastor Mike for more information. ##

End It Now - Adventists Say No to Violence

Abuse of any kind, whether perpetrated against women, men, girls or boys, is evil. Besides gender, abuse crosses all cultural, racial, socioeconomic, and religious or denominational boundaries. End It Now emphasis is part of the Department of Women's Ministries at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Further information may be found at enditnow.org ##

Help your neighbors

Love compels us when we see a neighbor in need. Love compels us to do the right thing even when it's inconvenient. God's love urges us to action.

On Friday, AUG 11, an elderly woman in Toledo will be getting a new roof thanks to Christians who learned of her need. Our part is to help with the cleanup of the yard. (No climbing!) Can you give a few hours that day to pick up shingles and get her yard looking shipshape as the roofing is done? Please see Pastor Mike to volunteer.

Another mission opportunity comes on Friday, SEPT 29 at Mosaic Ministries (Orchard St at Broadway). Take a vacation day to serve others. Help clean and paint the building where Mosaic ministers to South Toledo families. ##

Letter from Highland View Academy

A letter from Erik Borges, Principal, at Highland View Academy, Hagerstown, MD, reads in part:

Dear Fellow Church Members,

"We are excited to be able to work with the Ohio Conference in providing a top notch quality Seventh-day Adventist education. This next year we want to make things as easy as possible for you. We will be providing free transportation to and from HVA to Columbus, free of charge. We will have a designated meeting spot in Columbus, where families can meet instead of driving to Maryland. . ."

Ohio Conference is offering a subsidy. Application must be made by AUG 31. Forms are available in the church office. Questions may be directed to Erik Borges at 301.739.8480 or eborges@highlandviewacademy.com ##

Many thanks to all of you

Thanks for coming to Christmas in July, for bringing food, helping with preparations, for participating in the program, for hamming it up during The Twelve Days of Christmas and for keeping a secret from Pastor Mike, Jackie, Josh and Lydia! Way to go, everyone!

And thanks, Pastor Mike, for 10 1/2 "fortunate" years at Toledo First. In our 129 year history, you are our longest-serving pastor. Way to go! —Dee Caulder ##



AUG & SEPT 2017 CALENDAR

Birthdays

August 2 Marcene Marsa
 August 6 Joshua Fortune
 August 7 Laura Frey
 Alex Jessop
 August 8 David Kawakami
 August 9 Flynn Choti (Moses)
 August 10 Nolan Hood
 August 11 Deb Bening
 Kay Kermode
 August 14 Lanetta Cross
 Kim Stanley
 August 15 Gail Flack
 August 17 Teresa Moses
 August 19 Chad Rieger
 August 21 Ron Szczechowski
 August 24 Mary Snowberger
 August 26 Becky Godie
 Laura Williams
 August 27 Mary Ann Osinski
 Cody Rieger
 August 31 Cole St. Clair



Birthdays

Sept 2 Dr. Burgess Bills
 Shirley Smith
 Sept 4 Nicole Rieger
 Sept 6 Pastor Mike
 Claire Jakubowski
 Joyce Jenkins
 Sept 10 Vickie Wintersmith
 Sept 14 Glendon Cross
 Joy Reams
 Sept 15 Jeff Batchelder
 Sept 16 Troy Leibengood
 Sept 18 Camile Sluder
 Sept 19 Pam Frey
 Sept 20 Shawn Flack
 Sept 21 Karen Conkle
 Sept 22 Andrea Orr
 Elaine Mitchell
 Sept 23 Gloria Clark
 Sept 27 Emily Bills
 Luann Ostrander
 Sept 29 Al Landeros

Sabbath Events

Sabbath School Sing @ 9:30am followed by classes. Worship @ 11am

AUG 5 Sabbath School & Worship
AUG 12 Sabbath School & Worship; Fellowship Potluck
AUG 19 Sabbath School & Worship; Visit Genesis Nursing Home on Whiteford @ 3pm
AUG 26 Sabbath School & Worship; Vegan Challenge Potluck; Visit Elizabeth Scott Care Center @ 3pm

Sundays - N'Couraged Praise Dance practice @ 2pm

AUG 6 Fellowship Room rented in afternoon

Mondays - Bells practice 5:30 - 7:30pm in Fellowship Room starting AUG 14

AUG 7 Bell Choir "Boot Camp"

Tuesdays - Church office open 9am-4pm

AUG 8 Bell Choir "Boot Camp"

Wednesdays - Church office open 9am-4pm

AUG 9 Bell Choir "Boot Camp"

AUG 16 First day of school at Toledo Junior Academy, early dismissal at 1pm

Thursdays - Bells practice 5:30 - 7:30pm in Fellowship Room starting AUG 24

AUG 10 Bell Choir "Boot Camp"

AUG 17 Back to school night at Toledo Junior Academy

Fridays - Worship Practice @ 5:30

AUG 11 Mission Work Day - cleanup of shingles during repair of roof for elderly Toledoan.

AUG 11 Bell Choir "Boot Camp"

Sabbath Events

Sabbath School Sing @ 9:30am followed by classes. Worship @ 11am

SEPT 2 Sabbath School & Worship
SEPT 9 Sabbath School & Worship
SEPT 16 Sabbath School & Worship (Education Day); Fellowship Potluck; visit Genesis Nursing Home on Whiteford at 3pm
SEPT 23 Sabbath School & Worship with speaker, Mike Tucker; Vegan Challenge Potluck; Mad About Marriage @ 2pm
SEPT 30 Sabbath School & Worship

Sundays - N'Couraged Praise Dance practice @ 2pm

Mondays - Bells practice 5:30 - 7:30pm in Fellowship Room

SEPT 4 Labor Day holiday

Tuesdays - Church office open 9am - 4pm

Wednesdays - Church office is open 9am - 4pm

SEPT 13 Faith for You begins @ 1:30pm; Soup for You @ 6pm

SEPT 20 Faith for You @ 1:30pm; Soup for You @ 6pm

SEPT 27 Faith for You @ 1:30pm; Soup for You @ 6pm

Thursdays - Bells practice 5:30 - 7:30pm in Fellowship Room

Fridays - Worship Practice @ 5:30

SEPT 22 Mad About Marriage Seminar with Mike Tucker, 7pm

SEPT 29 Mission Work Day - painting and cleanup at Mosaic, Orchard St. @ Broadway, Toledo

