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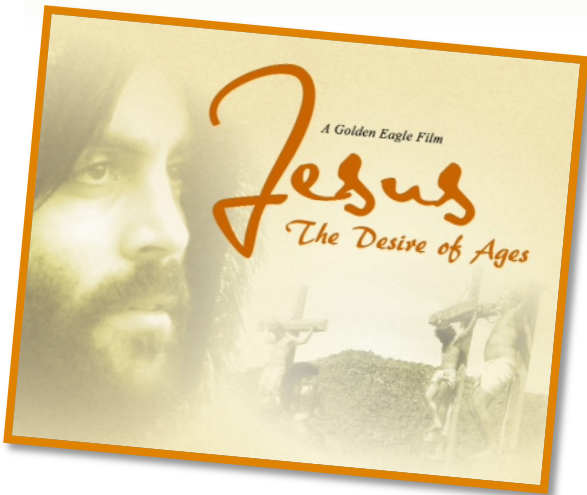
Focal Point

Centered on activities of Toledo First Seventh-day Adventist Church

New Movie, *Jesus - The Desire of Ages* to be shown at Toledo First

Bring a friend to this must-see movie @ 7pm Friday April 18 or 7pm Saturday April 19

Jesus said: "And I, if I be lifted up, I will draw all men unto Me." That's the goal this Easter when we host the new



award winning movie *Jesus - The Desire of Ages* on Good Friday APR 18 @ 7pm and Saturday night APR 19 @ 7pm. One of the oldest and most prestigious film festivals in the world, the Houston Worldfest Film Festival, recently selected it for an honored Remi Award. It's director, Nancy Hamilton Myers says this film "Packs a punch of theological and emotional power with all the soft, warm fuzzies that make family viewing so enjoyable." Within the framework of the walk to Calvary and the crucifixion are interwoven numerous flashback sequences portraying the transformation of ten individuals whose lives were transformed by the power and love of Christ. Personal and powerful, moving and heart-wrenchingly beautiful, this film will leave you feeling like you've had an intimate encounter with someone you thought you always knew, but really didn't. *Jesus - The Desire of Ages* is a must see for every family member, every church member and every human being no matter

what their religion or creed. For a \$20 donation, you can take a copy of the DVD (while supplies last) home with you to give as a gift. *Jesus - The Desire of Ages* tells the "Old, Old Story" in an amazingly fresh and living way through the eyes of the people who knew and loved the man of Calvary. Plan to bring a friend and join us! —Pastor Mike Fortune ##

Our Lord has written the promise of the resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime.—Luther

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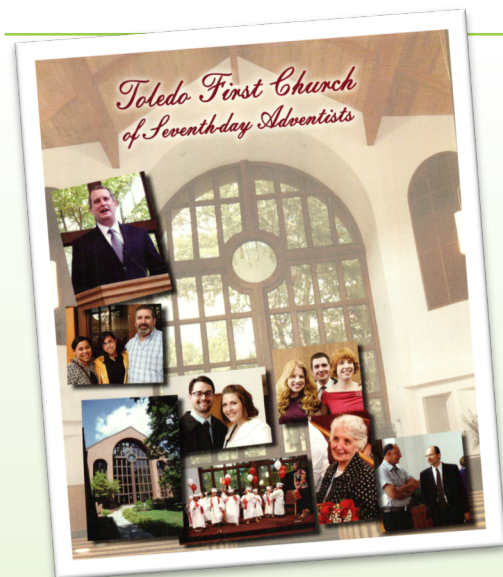
Snapshots from February and March

“He gives snow like wool; he scatters the frost like ashes.”
 (Psalm 147:16) Most Sabbaths this winter we saw this snowy scene from the church foyer. In photo 2 the youth prepare for “customers” at the annual International Food Fest in February. Photo 3: Trina Schone presented a benefit concert for Haven of Hope

Toledo in our Valentines for Toledo Concert series. In the final photo Pastor Mike is shown with two of our young people who read the scripture during a worship service in March. Our thanks to Jeff Batchelder for taking these photos we share with you. ##

Calendar of Events	APR 18 & 19 Jesus-Desire of Ages movie, 7pm	APR 22, 7pm Town Hall Meeting	APR 26, 11am Youth Day @ Worship	MAY 20, 6:30pm Elders meet; Church Board @ 7pm	Graduations JMLC-May 27 @ 7pm TJA-May 29, 6:30
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Through Christ we understand God as far as our human nature could bear and our human vision endure. Looking at him, we do see God. Through him we understand God as far as the finite can understand the infinite. He is the one Word that makes God intelligible to us. —Anonymous



We need your photo!

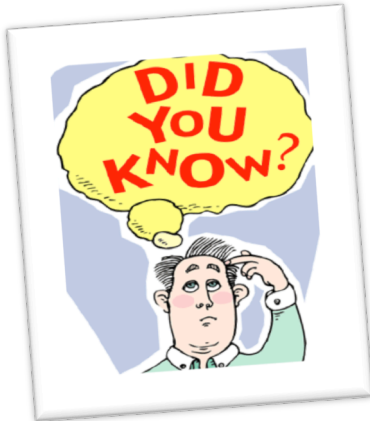
Photo dates are April 30 & May 1, 2:00-8:30pm

Our last photo directory (at left) was completed in 2010. It's time to update! Please sign up at church March 29, April 5 or April 12 to have your photo taken or sign up at www.ucdir.com. Use our church code OH1552 and password: toledofirst1. Choose your appointment time and follow

the prompts. Don't say, "I don't want my picture taken." Because it's not for you!! Have your photo taken for your loved ones. Your picture is precious to them now and will be in years to come. Every family/individual photographed receives a free 8x10 and free directory. ##

Celebrate Youth Day April 26

Worship on Sabbath, April 26, is all about reaching out to the youth of our church, their friends, and all youth. “Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young,” said Paul in I Timothy 4:12 (NIRV) Let’s follow Paul’s lead and lift up our youth, encouraging them as they follow Jesus! Worship will be led by youth, and we want to include as many as possible, so if you know someone (in church or not) who would like to participate, please contact Glendon Cross or the church office (419.882.6200 or dee@toledofirstadventist.org) soon. Plan to come and support all youth on April 26. ##



Here’s news from Ohio Conference

Elementary Music Festival Concert (including TJA students) will be held **April 5 @ 3:30pm** in Mount Vernon Academy Gymnasium. Everyone’s invited. ••Town Hall Meeting with Ohio Conference personnel will be at Toledo First **April 22, 7pm**. All Constituency **delegates are urged to attend**. ••Ohio Camp Meeting will be **June 8-14**. ••New Leaf Market takes over the former ABC on **April 1st**. The healthy food store will carry bulk, frozen, and canned products. When open, you may call the store at the old ABC number 740-397-4675 for more information. ••Summer camps begin at Mohaven **June 15**. For more information or to register online, go to www.ohiosdayouth.org/camp-mohaven. ##

Come to Sabbath lunch!

On **April 5** you are invited to lunch prepared by Carla Szczechowski and her Friendship Dinner team. Plan to stay! We’ll have a Fellowship Potluck on **April 26** following the Youth Worship service. Please bring food to share. **May 3** is also a potluck day. Plan to bring an entrée and salad or vegetable and visit with Pastor Yoon and family. On **May 17** a Safety & Security meeting follows Fellowship Potluck. Plan to come for both! On **May 24** we know you’ll enjoy Eat ‘n Greet in the foyer. ##



Women’s Ministries plan Tea

It’s official! We’re having a Mother’s Day Tea on Sabbath afternoon, May 10, so find your favorite teacup, dig out your spring-iest outfit, and call your friends to invite them to attend one of our most popular events! Plans are being made as you read this, so watch for details in our weekly bulletins. ##

Help us help you

We’re fortunate to live in an age when communication is fast and easy. One of the best ways to get detailed information to you quickly and inexpensively is by email. If you have not done so, would you share your email address with Pastor Mike and myself at the church office? Simply send an email to: dee@toledofirstadventist.org. —Dec Caulder ##



The Pope and Church Unity – How Close are We?

Posted on March 18, 2014 by Mark Finley

Recently, I viewed a moving video clip of Tony Palmer, an Anglican/Episcopal bishop, addressing a gathering of Pentecostal ministers with a message from Pope Francis appealing for unity and reconciliation. In a heartwarming message the Pontiff reached out to the pastors present inviting them into the warm embrace of the Catholic Church. Kenneth Copeland, a popular Pentecostal minister, responded extremely positively to the Pope's call for unity. Only time will tell where these overtures will eventually lead. How should Seventh-day Adventists respond to these and other rather striking world events? Here is my take on all of this. We should neither ignore these developments nor overreact to them.

To ignore the significant events taking place in the religious, political, social, and economic world is to deny the reality that we are living in incredibly unusual times. To be lethargic on the knife edge of eternity may be eternally fatal. To echo with the slothful servant, *"My Master is delaying His coming"* is a recipe for spiritual disaster. (Matthew 24:48) Ellen White writes, *"Those who place themselves under God's control, to be led and guided by Him, will catch the steady tread of the events ordained by Him to take place."*

(7T, 14) There is no one sign that the coming of Christ is imminent but if we view our world with spirit-anointed eyes we will see the "steady tread of events." We will avoid both the extreme of apathy in the light of eternity and its opposite, end time sensationalism.

There are those conscientious, but misguided, Adventist Christians who see in almost every news headline an omen that Christ is coming this year or next. Some have the prophetic timetables all calculated to forecast their opinion of just when Jesus will come. The one thing that matters above all else is not so much the exact time of Christ's coming but preparation for His coming. The only way to be ready for our Lord's return is to love Christ supremely, know Christ intimately, obey Christ willingly and share Christ passionately. As Luther Warren, a powerful Adventist preacher from yesteryear, once said, "The only way to be ready for Christ's second coming is to get ready today and stay ready." The purpose of all of the signs of Christ's coming is not to make us sign-watchers. The purpose of the signs is to lead us to a deeper, richer, fuller relationship with Jesus. May it be so with each one of us. ##



Our church budget needs your help

This winter was especially harsh, with record snowfall and severe cold. Not only has each of us experienced the effects personally, but our church budget has been battered as well. The cold weather has escalated our gas heating bills, while the repeated snowfalls tripled our snowplowing allocation. Ice buildup on the roof throughout the winter led to water damage of walls that will have to be repaired this spring, due to water seepage under the shingles from ice dams as the snow on the roof melted. And with church services cancelled several weeks because of snow emergencies, offerings were down at the same time our expenses were rising.

For the first two months of 2014 (Jan-Feb) our Combined Budget giving (both designated and loose offerings) is seventy percent of the budgeted amount, already inadequate because of the severe winter. Or to put it in real numbers, we fell short by \$7386. With the help of each and every Toledo First member we can make up this shortfall during the remainder of 2014. Thanks for your help! —Jerry Marsa ##

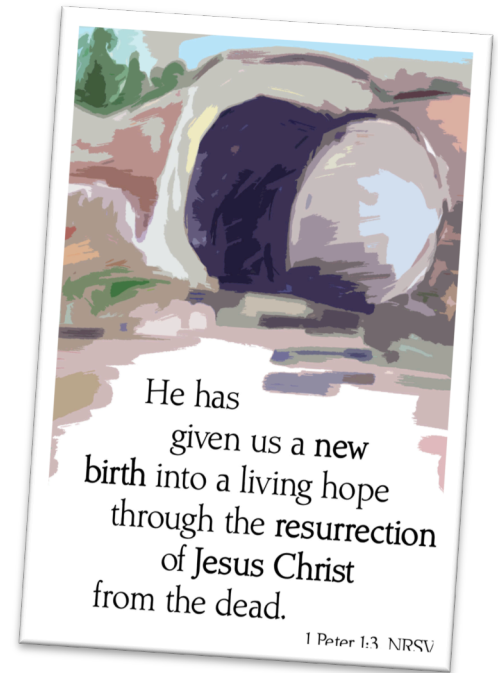
I come to the garden alone . . .

In 1912, as Charles Austin Miles grabbed his Bible, it opened to John 20. Reading the account of Mary Magdalene outside the garden tomb where Jesus' body had been laid, Miles felt powerfully that he was there. Inspired, he quickly wrote the poem *In the Garden* and later composed the music.

This hymn might seem sentimental and trite, if understood to refer to just any garden. But the song takes on profound meaning when recognized as Mary's personal encounter with the living Lord.

And he walks with me, and he talks with me,
And he tells me I am his own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
None other has ever known!

—reprinted from The Newsletter Newsletter ##



Time for a chuckle

The best hymns contain strong expressions of faith. Sometimes, though, our faith falters. In those times, these retitled hymns may more accurately reflect how we feel:

- There Shall Be Sprinkles of Blessings
- I Love to Mumble the Story
- I'm Fairly Certain My Redeemer Lives
- What an Acquaintance We Have in Jesus
- Spirit of the Living God, Fall Somewhere Near Me
- My Faith Looks Around for Thee

Let's pray for the strengthening of our trust so that the original words of these hymns can truly be expressions of our faith. ##

Bulletin Briefs

Experience Loma Linda University Health's mission as inspiring stories come to life in your living room. "**Life on the Line**," Loma Linda's first national TV show, premieres on PBS's WORLD Channel on April 4 at 6:00 p.m. ET/PT. For more information visit www.lifeontheline.tv.

Health Ministries Conference is at Worthington SDA Church April 13, 9am – 2pm. Free of charge, the focus will be on developing and growing local health ministries. For details or to register, email Dan Thorward (new Ohio Health Ministries. Coordinator) at rdthorward@gamil.com.

Next **Scrapbooking** Class is April 27, 2-10pm. Pick up a flyer in the foyer to register for the class. The \$25 fee includes dinner, half a round table or 4 foot of table space, make & takes, tools available for your use and more. You may also register by calling 419.882.6200 or email dee@toledofirstadventist.org.

You are invited to **Soup for You** each Wednesday with soup @ 6pm and Community Book Club @ 6:30pm, currently reading "Luke—Salvation for All" by Elizabeth Viera Talbot (a great book!) ##

Calendar of Events...April & May 2014

Birthdays

- April 2 Mary Ann Bagoisan
- April 3 Tom Sandy
- April 6 Tiffany Kidd
- April 8 Robert Ostrander
- April 9 Kimiko Kawakami
- April 11 Kelly Gustrowsky
- April 18 Greg Justice
- April 20 Tyler Leibengood
- April 22 Arden Brion
- April 24 Taryn Landeros
- April 25 Loni Orlet
- April 26 Ray Riley
- April 27 Lewis Simpson Jr
- April 28 Don Marsh

Sabbath Events

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

APR 5 Sabbath School & Worship; Friendship Lunch w/ Carla & friends hosting

APR 12 Sabbath School & Worship (*Community wedding in afternoon*)

APR 19 Sabbath School & Worship w/communion; visit nursing home on Whiteford at 3pm; Jesus - Desire of Ages movie @ 7pm

APR 26 Sabbath School & Youth Day @ Worship; Fellowship Potluck; Visit Elizabeth Scott Care Center @ 3pm

Sundays

APR 27 Scrapbooking Class, 2-10pm. Everyone invited.

Mondays

Tuesdays - Church office is open 9am - 4pm; Pathfinders, 6:30pm

APR 22 Town Hall Meeting w/ new Ohio Conference President and other conference personnel, 7pm

Wednesdays - Church office is open 9am - 4pm; Soup for You @ 6pm; *Luke, Salvation for All!* @ 6:30pm

Thursdays

APR 10 Wedding rehearsal, 6:30-8:30pm (*Community wedding*)

Fridays - Worship Practice @ 5:30pm

APR 18 Jesus - Desire of Ages movie @ 7pm



Birthdays

- May 1 Austin Jessop
- May 3 Gary Gooden
- May 8 Lori Marsh
- May 11 Kelly Maxwell
- May 12 Linda Ostrander
- May 14 Tina Polzin
- May 15 Eric Polzin
- May 18 Linda Bilby
- May 22 Derrick Polzin
- May 25 Raymond Kawakami
- May 26 Janell Ashley
- May 27 Cindy Leibengood
- May 30 Sharon Crosby, Julie Larimore

Sabbath Events

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

MAY 3 Sabbath School & Worship w/Pastor Kirk C.J. Yoon speaking; Fellowship Potluck

MAY 10 Sabbath School & Worship; Women's Tea

MAY 17 Sabbath School & Worship; Fellowship Potluck; Safety & Security meeting; visit nursing home on Whiteford at 3pm

MAY 24 Sabbath School & Worship; Eat 'n Greet; Visit Elizabeth Scott Care Center @ 3pm;

MAY 31 Sabbath School & Worship

Sundays

MAY 11 *Happy Mother's Day!*

MAY 18 Ohio Constituency Meeting for delegates, leaving 7am.

Mondays

May 5-9 TJA students participate in Outdoor Ed @ Mohaven

MAY 26 Memorial Day

Tuesdays - Church office is open 9am - 4pm; Pathfinders, 6:30pm

MAY 20 Elders' Meeting @ 6:30pm
Church Board Meeting @ 7:00pm

MAY 27 James Meade Learning Center Graduation, 7pm

Wednesdays - Church office is open 9am - 4pm; Soup for You @ 6pm; *Community Book Club* @ 6:30pm

Thursdays

MAY 29 TJA Graduations - Kindergarten & Eighth Grade beginning @ 6:30pm

Fridays - Worship Practice @ 5:30pm

MAY 2 Pathfinder Fair begins

MAY 23 TJA Field Day

MAY 30 Last day of school @ Toledo Junior Academy

